

Smart City Forum for the Central and Eastern European (CEE) Countries

Concept and Program

1. Introduction

The Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME) organized a Smartpolis Workshop on the 3rd of May. Smartpolis is a Horizon 2020 Teaming proposal aiming to establish a Smart City Centre of Excellence. The goal of the Centre is to provide services not only in Hungary but in the neighbouring countries, as well.

BME initiated the setup a Smart City Forum for the CEE countries.

The participants of the Workshop strongly supported the idea and signed the Declaration of Intent to establish this Forum.

Today 16 organizations from seven countries joined the Forum and more members are expected.

Today the following countries are represented:

Czech Republic

Germany

Hungary

Romania

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

We expect organizations from Croatia and Poland.

There are several Smart City Forums in the EU.

One in Germany and another is the “6-Nations Smart City Forum” for the most developed western countries. Both can be a model for us.

The cities in our region lag behind the western ones in the level of Smart City developments.

Our Forum will provide opportunity to:

- Represent the region’s needs towards the EU.

- Show the results and challenges of the CEE region.
- Exchange good practices.
- Inform each other about the status of Smart City developments in the various countries.
- Provide information about the plans of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) and the various Horizon 2020 calls.
- Inform about the smart city market in the CEE countries.
- Look for partners in the various calls in the EU.
- Provide technical information of new solutions.
- Inform Members about the various conferences and workshops organised in the CEE countries.

The 6-Nations Smart City Forum has close cooperation with their governments, giving them advice about their development plans.

We are open to such cooperation with the governments of the CEE region and especially for the V4 countries.

The countries of some Members who joined the Forum have National Forums. This means these Members have an overall picture of their country.

Such organizations exist in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

The organization from Germany plays an advisory role and is an interface to EIP.

We expect similar organizations to join from Croatia, Poland and Serbia.

We decided at the Workshop to have a three-member Board to organize the activities of the Forum.

The members of the Board are:

Péter Bakonyi	BME	Hungary
David Bárta	CityOne	Czech Republic
Eduard Dumitrascu	Romanian Smart City Association	Romania

We agreed upon in Budapest to organize two meetings per year.

In 2017 the first meeting was in Budapest and the second one originally planned in Brno but David asked to postpone it to April 2018.

So In 2018 the first meeting will be in Brno in April and if Eduard agrees the second one in Bucharest.

We will organize a Smart City Conference and Exhibition in Budapest at the 8 and 9 in November, so maybe for those members who participate we can have a short meeting.

We are waiting your opinion about the concept and the program of the Forum.

You will find all the information in the Smartpolis website:

<http://smartpolis.eit.bme.hu>

17-05-2017

Péter Bakonyi, BME