

30 November 2023



Smart Cities
Marketplace

Newsletter

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Editorial

Dear Smart Cities Marketplace Community,

Smart Cities Marketplace is just coming back from the last Smart City World Expo Congress in Barcelona with over 50 new connections established with local public authorities and stakeholders interested in accelerating their ongoing investment projects in net zero and three more project proposals that are now being assessed.

Since its open call launch in March 2023, the Smart Cities Marketplace has actively engaged with cities, especially smaller ones, showcasing benefits of its tailored support services. Through local promotions and online sessions, it has already made significant progress, fostering over 50 new connections at the Smart City World Expo Congress and by the end of the SCEWC received 130 investment projects valued at 668 million Euros, confirming its ability to be a central hub for informing shaping and facilitating the financing of sustainable city projects. With an expanding Investor Network, it is becoming a financial cornerstone in the smart cities landscape, seeking collaborations with other EU initiatives, exemplified by its recent Joint Engagement Plan with the Covenant of Mayors Europe.

As this is the last newsletter of 2023, the Smart Cities Marketplace Team wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Luigi Lo Piparo, Smart Cities Marketplace Matchmaking Team

Smart Cities Marketplace News

Explore & Shape: Launch of the Green Cities Wiki on the Smart Cities Marketplace Website



The Smart Cities Marketplace is excited to announce the launch of the online version of the Smart City Guidance Package on its website called Green Cities Wiki.

[more](#)

Explore & Shape: Smart Cities Marketplace Financing Masterclass



The Smart Cities Marketplace's next financing masterclass will take place on 25 January 2024, in an online format. Join us!

[more](#)

Explore: Urban Reverb - What's new?



In this episode of Urban Reverb, important changes to the Smart Cities Marketplace such as the online wiki, Focus- and Discussion Groups as well as the matchmaking process are discussed.

[more](#)

Explore: Successful SCWEC showcases climate e-neutral and smart cities initiatives



The Smart Cities Marketplace played a pivotal role, hosting a 120 square metre booth that brought together a diverse array of partners, totalling 31 platforms, initiatives, projects, and seven EC services – literally being the single booth bringing together the European dimension.

[more](#)

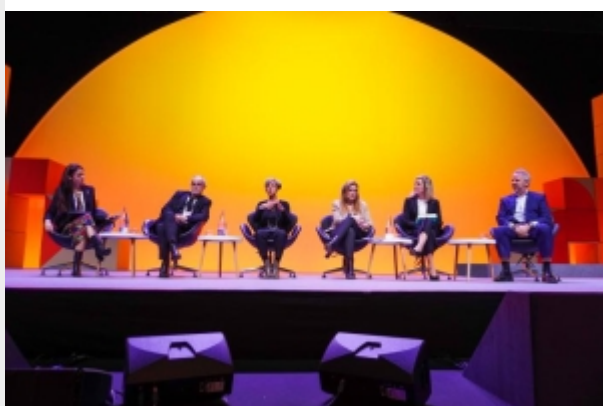
Explore: SCEWC 2023 congress session - Creating irresistible climate-neutral cities



Speakers from European cities and organisations discussed the pivotal role of cities in climate action. They highlighted the need for local-level initiatives and emphasised the importance of financial support.

[more](#)

Explore: SCEWC 2023 congress session - Cities fighting to curb the climate emergency



The panellists discussed the importance of integrated approaches, regulatory frameworks, and governance in driving climate action at the city level. They underlined the need for policies that prioritise climate neutrality and funding mechanisms for climate projects.

[more](#)

Explore: SCEWC 2023 agora session - Cities challenges 2023



During the agora session, speakers from European cities and organisations discussed the crucial role of cities in climate action. They emphasised the need for local-level initiatives.

[more](#)

Explore: SCEWC 2023 booth session - Matching needs with solutions



The booth session began with discussions on the EU Green Deal and the Smart Cities Marketplace's role in aiding smaller cities. Various presentations highlighted success stories and challenges in decarbonisation efforts, followed by group discussions to identify needs and potential solutions in digital mobility and energy-related topics.

[more](#)

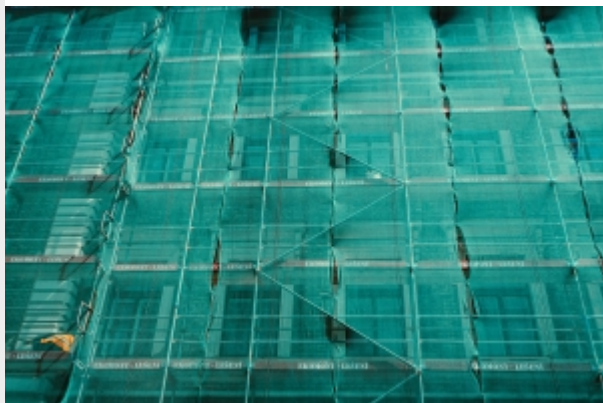
Explore: SCEWC 2023 booth session - Quick wins through collaboration



This discussion stressed the importance of collaboration and cooperation among organisations dedicated to creating smart and climate-neutral cities, to foster more sustainable urban environments.

[more](#)

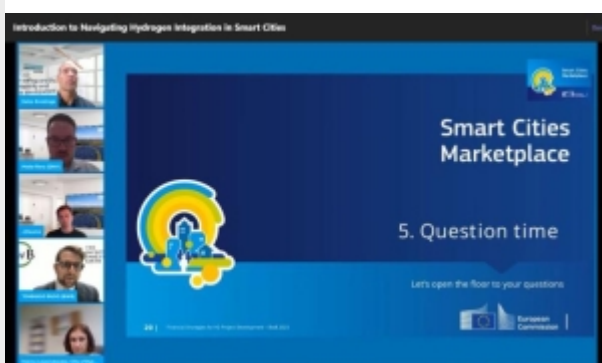
Explore: SCEWC 2023 Deep Retrofit Focus Group



This is a summary of the on-site meeting of the Smart Cities Marketplace's Deep Retrofit Focus Group at the Smart City World Expo in Barcelona in October 2023.

[more](#)

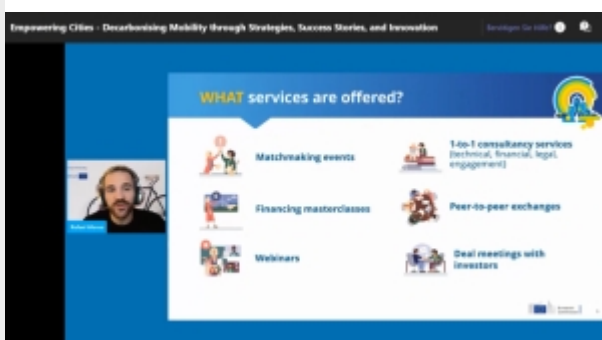
Explore: SCM webinar explores hydrogen integration



In response to the pressing challenges of urban decarbonisation, a recent webinar delved into the potential of hydrogen in city energy frameworks. It was organised by the Smart Cities Marketplace as part of the Urban Transition Challenge for Smart Cities 2023.

[more](#)

Explore: SCM webinar explores strategies for decarbonising mobility



On 24 October, in an insightful webinar "Empowering Cities - Decarbonising Mobility through Strategies, Success Stories, and Innovation" hosted by the Smart Cities Marketplace, experts and city representatives came together to discuss innovative strategies for decarbonising urban mobility.

[more](#)

Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace @ European Urban Resilience Forum



In addition to a stand presence in the EURESFO Marketplace, the Smart Cities Marketplace hosted a session titled 'How to Finance Smart and Climate-Resilient Projects', which took place during EURESFO's Resilience Investment and Financing Forum on 19 October 2023. It was organised by consortium partner ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability.

[more](#)

Explore: Empowering Cities: Smart Cities Marketplace and EDIHs Drive Digital Transformation



In a session held in October at the EU Week of Regions on 10 October 2023, the Smart Cities Marketplace, and the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) converged to present their roles as driving forces in the city journey towards climate neutrality.

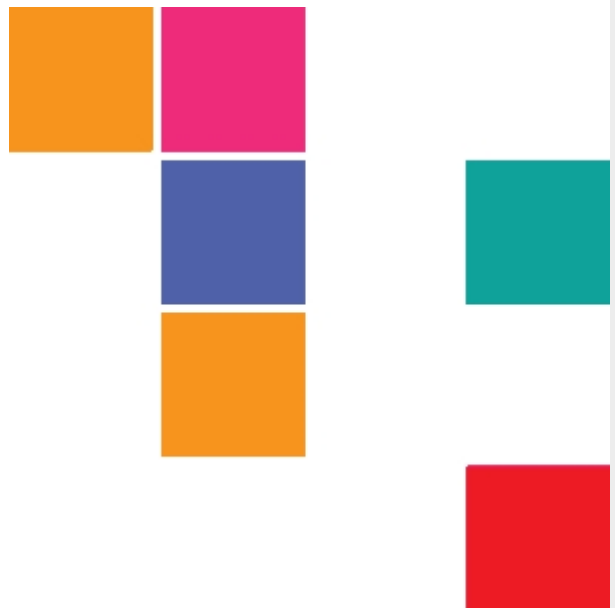
[more](#)

News from the Community of the Smart Cities Marketplace

Shape: The 3rd Call for Proposals of the Scalable Cities Action Grant is now open!

The Scalable Cities Action Grant is a financial tool to support the replication of measures already successfully tested in Smart Cities and Communities projects.

[more](#)



Explore: The First Scalable Cities Café

On October 30th, The Scalable Cities Secretariat hosted a "Scalable Cities Café", the first of a series of online events aimed at exploring the activities that the Secretariat coordinates to foster cross-collaboration between stakeholders and cities.

[more](#)



Explore: Scalable Cities at the Smart City Expo World Congress

Between the 7th and 9th of November, a large delegation from the Scalable Cities Secretariat, alongside several projects from the SCC community attended the Smart City Expo World Congress in Barcelona.

[more](#)



Explore: Wondering what the ASCEND project has been up to?

November brought a highlight as ASCEND proudly participated in the joint EU representation at the Smart City Expo World Congress in Barcelona from 7 to 9 November. Alongside 30 other projects, initiatives and DGs, the event provided a fantastic opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, engage in knowledge sharing, and learn from other projects' experiences.



[more](#)

Explore: Photo contest - Every1 can contribute to the energy transition

The EU-funded Every1 project has launched a photo contest under the motto "Every1 can contribute to the energy transition". The project is calling for people to participate in the energy transition, green digital technologies and further energy transition motifs.



[more](#)

Beyond the Smart Cities Marketplace

Explore: Mobility data spaces are taking off



Data spaces are transitioning from research projects, use case Proofs of Concept (PoCs) and limited demonstrations, to deployable and operational platforms. But what are these data spaces?

[more](#)

Explore: Empowering small and medium-sized cities



In the global pursuit of a sustainable future, small and medium-sized cities (SMCs) are stepping into the spotlight as key players in achieving net-zero emissions.

[more](#)

Explore: How can you measure innovation in a city ?



Statistically, 80% of you will be reading this as a resident of a city. So, think of the city you are in – does it have a net zero target? And if so when does the city plan to be net zero? A highly ambitious 2030, or a more relaxed 2050?

[more](#)

Shape: SPARCS unveils comprehensive toolkit



Are you gearing up to host a startup competition and feeling overwhelmed by the many details that you need to manage? Look no further than the Startup Competition Toolkit from SPARCS, your comprehensive guide to organising a successful event that meets your objectives.

[more](#)

Deal: CEF Digital – A third call opening

NEW Calls for proposals
INFO DAY
26 OCTOBER 2023

- 5G coverage along the transport corridors
Budget: €100 million
- 5G and edge for Smart Communities
Budget: €51 million
- Backbone connectivity for Digital Global Gateways
Budget: €90 million

#HaDEA #DigitalEU #CEFDigital

European Commission

A third CEF Digital call, worth over €240 million, opened with a deadline to apply by 20 February 2024. It aims to strengthen the deployment of ultra-fast, secure and sustainable digital infrastructures.

[more](#)

Events

Explore: Launch of Focus Group on Smart Heating and Cooling

On behalf of the European Commission's Smart Cities Marketplace, Euroheat & Power, ICLEI Europe and the RHC-ETIP Platform are launching a Focus Group on the topic of 'Renewable Heating and Cooling' in Smart Cities.



date

01/12/2023

[more](#)

Explore: Webinar - Business models and financing for PCEDs

The primary aim of the webinar is to boost the collaboration and knowledge sharing on financing between ASCEND and NEUTRALPATH cities and enhance the EU-level collaboration with Scalable Cities and the SCC community. The registration for the webinar will be available through ASCEND and NEUTRALPATH social media channels.



date

05/12/2023

[more](#)

Explore: Scalable Cities Roadshow - Financial Language for Public Administrations within the Smart City

Get ready for the Roadshow! Scalable Cities is launching an empowering financial capacity-building programme designed to support cities to acquire the knowledge they need to scale up their projects, obtain funding to boost their climate neutral strategies.



date

11/01/2024

[more](#)

Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace Financing Masterclass

Once your project is submitted, you have the opportunity to participate in a free Masterclass focused on the bankability of the projects, and you will receive relevant insights and expertise from different stakeholders, including investors.



date

25/01/2024

[more](#)

Explore: Conference for Mayors

The Government of Flanders will gather 550 mayors and representatives of local governments to the conference "Translating the EU green deal to local action" in Brussels, within the framework of the Belgian EU Presidency.



date

15/03/2024

[more](#)

Explore: European Sustainable Energy Week 2024

EUSEW returns in 2024 in a hybrid format, in Brussels and online. It comprises a high-level Policy Conference, the EUSEW Awards, and the fifth European Youth Energy Day as well as opportunities to forge connections with the EUSEW community at the Energy Fair.



date

11/06/2024 - 13/06/2024

more

Explore: SPARCS Project Final Event

SAVE THE DATE! Scalable Cities and SPARCS project are eager to announce the date of the final event that will be jointly organised in Espoo, Finland.



date

11/09/2024 - 12/09/2024

more

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