

Smart Towns in CEE Conference

November 29th- 30th, 2017

Ljubljana, Slovenia

The conference is organized by the **Strategic Research & Innovation Partnership (SRIP) for Smart Cities and Communities**, with over 150 Slovenian companies and organizations that are *coordinated by the Jožef Stefan Institute*.

Most of the “Smart Cities” investments today are in big metropolitan cities in the Western Europe. However, the majority of cities in the area of Central and Eastern Europe are smaller in size and therefore have different issues and challenges. We see **the need and opportunity to connect these smaller cities**, to allow them to introduce more innovations as well as digital technologies, share basic “smart infrastructure” and enable SMEs to test, deliver proof-of-concepts and reference installations in specific citizen service areas. This would certainly speed-up and facilitate the implementation process for the industry, while improving the capacities and the public image for the cities as well as increase the competitiveness of these regions.

*The overarching goal of the **Smart Towns Conference** is to **connect** representatives of **Central and Eastern European towns** and their public service companies in order to **facilitate the exchange of best practices** between them and to **find synergies and possibilities for future development**. The conference will also give them the **opportunity to connect with solution providers (SMEs)** from different areas, to **generate long-term collaboration** among them and to **accelerate the development and implementation of smart solutions in towns across the region**.*

Slovenia is a perfect testbed and is being suited as the reference country for new solutions. Its size and important geo-strategic position – lying on the crossroad of several macro regions such as **Danube, Alpine, Adriatic-Ionian** and **Mediterranean** region, on the crossroad of different transport routes and corridors as well as on the crossroad of different cultures – will also facilitate the transfer of results **across other European regions**.

Preliminary agenda:

Day 1

Wednesday, November 29th 2017

10:00 – 12:00 Keynote speakers

13:00 – 15:00 Panel discussion- Challenges of Smart towns

15:00 – 17:00 Smart towns- Best practices and solutions

17:00 – 19:00 Visit of Ljubljana

19:00 – 21:00 Mayor’s Reception at the Ljubljana Castle

Day 2

Thursday, November 30th 2017

9:00 – 13:00 Watify Matchmaking session: Presentations of various solutions / Parallel – B2B, Working groups meetings

14:00 – 17:00 Visit of the Ljubljana Smart areas – Novo Brdo, Technology park, BTC “Innovative city”

<http://www.smarttowns.eu/>