

The European Commission's

# Digital Cities Challenge

Make your city more liveable, more productive, and more innovative



The Digital Cities Challenge is funded by COSME, the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs

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# The Challenge



## European Cities

The Digital Cities Challenge is a **tailored programme of coaching and facilitation** launched by the European Commission to help **15 European cities** develop and implement **digital policies that can transform day to day life for residents, businesses, workers, and entrepreneurs.**

# Who can apply

The Challenge is aimed at cities or towns with a strong will to change and **unreleased potential**

Applicants must be:



From EU Member State



Local authority representative involved in the funding or implementation of a policy or programme of a city related to digital transformation and industrial modernisation



Able to submit application in English

# Objectives



## European Cities

- Help European cities to improve the quality of life of their citizens
- Put advanced technologies at the service of the citizens
- Transform production and services to boost productivity and create growth
- Create and attract talents and entrepreneurs
- Investments in critical infrastructures, technologies, open data.

# How it works



Successful cities will enter into a **14-18 month programme** to help develop and implement a digital strategy through **tailored advice and support from high-level experts in their local language**



Innovative training including **peer to peer learning and knowledge sharing with other European cities**



Access to **European networks and specific tools** to assess digital maturity

# What are the benefits

## Participating cities will gain:



A powerful action plan to move towards digital transformation and policies that make residents healthier and businesses stronger



Exposure at European level, and a network of European peers and partners to offer mutual support and advice



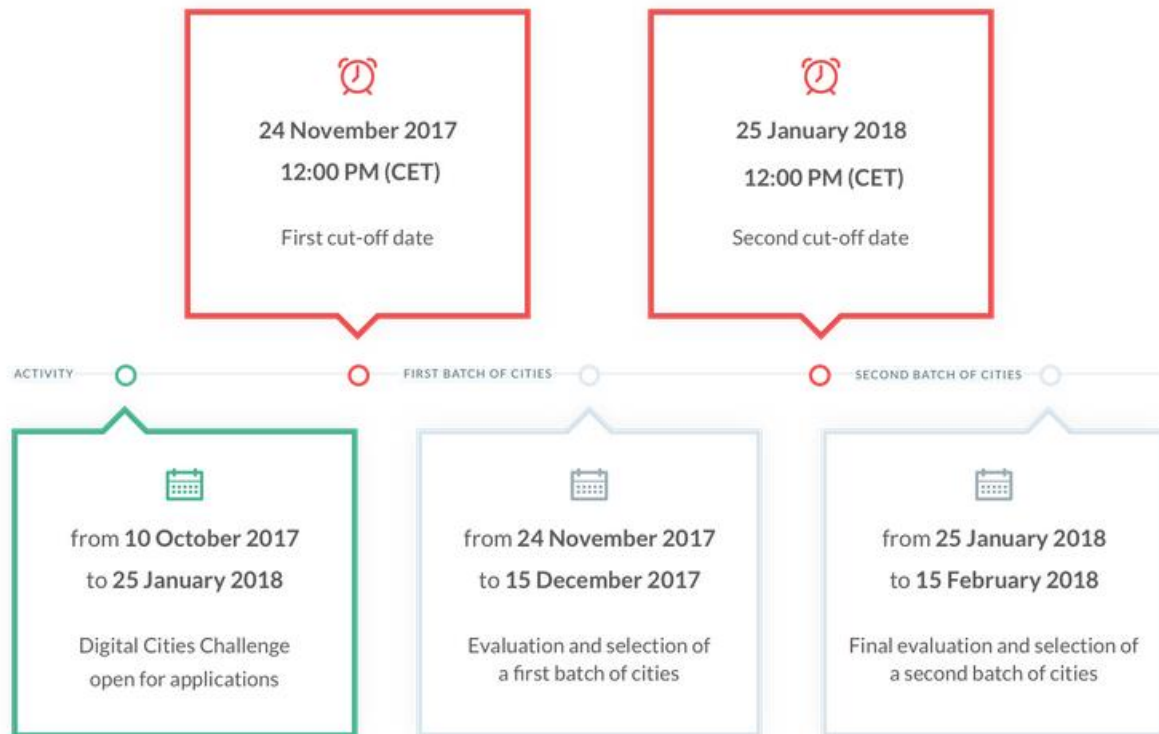
A hub for digital talents and entrepreneurs

# Commitment of the city or town



- Strong will to digitaly transform
- Dedicated project manager
- Engagement of local stakeholders
- Participation in training and networking sessions
- Implementation of the digital strategy

# Timeline





# Application form

1. Presentation of the city and its ecosystem
2. Digital ambition
3. Impact
4. Resources

Annexes:

- Letter of intent of stakeholders
- Additional documentation

The image shows a sample application form titled "Expression of Interest". At the top, it says "SMARTER CHALLENGE" and "Smart Cities 2016". Below that, it says "FIRST PAGE". There are several input fields: "City", "Organization", and "Project Name (Title, Roll, Area)". Below these fields, the title "Expression of Interest" is centered. At the bottom, there is a section for "Signature" with a line for the name and a box for the signature.

# Support available

- Guide for Applicants
- Expression of Interest template
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Blueprint for cities and regions as launch pads for digital transformation
- Online and telephone-based helpdesk

# Thank you!

**Francisco Buján, CARSA**

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