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Newsletter #3

February 2015



Project status, Technical point of view

At a glance

Title:

Internet-Enabled Services for the CITIES across Europe

Instrument:

Pilot Type B - CIP-ICT-PSP-2012-6

Total Cost: **4,200,002 €**

EC Contribution: **2,100,000 €**

Duration: **3 years**

Start Date: **1 March 2013**

Consortium:

13 partners from 5 countries

Project Coordinator:

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Key Words:

Smart cities, open-platform, super prosumer, user-centred services, open application marketplace

IES CITIES is giving place to a fully validated urban apps enabling platform.

Such platform, assembling and integrating results obtained by consortium partners at earlier projects in the domains of Linked Data, Social Data Mining and Service Prosuming through mobile devices, will be available for any council willing to promote their citizens' and companies' open innovation, so that they can give place to a urban apps ecosystem that exploits both city's provided data, through open data repositories and wireless sensor networks, and user-generated data provided by the citizens themselves by interacting with their city by means of IES CITIES apps.

Several proofs of concept in the form of diverse nature IES CITIES apps are planned to be trialled in 4 different European cities, namely Zaragoza, Bristol, Rovereto and Majadahonda. The aim is to assess across 4 different European cities, medium and small size ones in three different countries, the economic and social impact of enabling Smarter Cities through user-driven urban apps. The list of identified apps to be deployed in the mentioned cities is as follows. The first two ones have already been developed and made available in Google Play so that the trials first phase can take place using them at each city.

Bristol	Majadahonda	Rovereto	Zaragoza
IES Cities App Store (IES Cities Player)			
MyBristol	Healthy City	Rovereto Explorer	Complaints & Suggestions
Democratree	Leisure & Events	Viaggia Rovereto	Collaborative Maps (DIY Maps)
Smart Office	Sport Networks	Complaints & Suggestions	ZGZ Apps
Collaborative Maps	Collaborative Maps	Rovereto Bike	Site Revival

Table 1. List of identified apps that will be deployed in the mentioned cities.





Since the beginning of the project, 1st March 2013, technical work has mainly been focused on WP1 – Definition of the scenarios and platform design, WP2 – Open Platform Implementation and Services Creation, WP3 – Execution of the Pilots and WP5 – User Engagement. In parallel with the technical work, several dissemination activities within WP6 – Dissemination, IPR and exploitation of the results have been accomplished trying to increase the impact and visibility of the IES Cities project and its first results.

As a consequence of this work, the following set of the deliverables have already been completed and submitted to the European Commission:

- D1.1 User Requirements
- D1.2 Scenarios and Services
- D1.3 IES Cities Platform Architecture v1
- D2.1.1 Report on the IES Cities Platform v1
- D2.1.3 IES Cities Platform v1
- D2.2 Report on Platform Components Integration
- D2.3.1 Report on the IES Cities Services Implementation v1
- D2.4 Report on the IES Cities Platform Validation
- D3.1.1 Pilots Planning v1
- D4.1 Evaluation Plan
- D5.1.1 Global Engagement Plan v1
- D5.1.3 Zaragoza Engagement Plan v1
- D5.1.4 Bristol Engagement Plan v1
- D5.1.5 Rovereto Engagement Plan v1
- D5.1.6 Majadahonda Engagement Plan v1
- D5.2.X Zaragoza, Bristol, Rovereto and Majadahonda Questionnaires.
- D6.1.1 Dissemination Plan v1

- D6.1.3 Dissemination Plan v3
- D6.2 Factsheet, Logo and Presentation v1
- D6.5 IES Cities Website
- D6.6 Social Network Profiles
- D7.1.1 Consortium Operating Procedures v1
- D7.2.1 Periodic Progress Report v1
- D7.3.1 Technical Progress Report v1
- D6.1.2 Dissemination Plan v2
- D6.3.1 Publishable Summary v1
- D6.4.1 Dissemination Materials v1 and,
- D6.8.1 Clustering Activities v1

From a technical point of view, the deliverables completed have allowed us to:

- Understand, through several workshops in each pilot city, better the needs of the different user collectives that will make use of the IES Cities platform and the apps developed on top of it. As a result, an exhaustive definition of the citizens' requirements for each pilot city has been provided.
- Taking as a basis the citizens' needs and requirements, we have defined a list of IES Cities apps (services) on which the different city trials will be based.
- Specify the software architecture of the IES Cities solution, both its client and server-side, integrating contributions achieved through the participation of consortium partners in earlier European and national projects. A methodology was elaborated as well as a schematic high-level view of main building blocks of the IES Cities solution.
- Implement, integrate and publish a first version of all the back-end components required for the IES Cities platform taking as mandatory premise the idea of using

and adapting at maximum the components developed in previous national and European projects.

- Implement a first completed version of two different services (IES Cities apps) per pilot site which run on top of the IES Cities mobile player (known as IES Cities Player) installed on Android mobile devices. The android native or HTML5-based hybrid mobile app (also delivered as Android apps) front-ends enable users and citizens to access to Internet-based services based on their own and external linked data related to the cities.
- Involvement of users or citizens is critical for the project success. During the first year of the project, we have been working on the design of the general and specific engagement plans in order to include and increase the participation of citizens in each pilot site. From M13 to M18 we focused on the execution of different engagement activities in order to achieve the necessary critical mass of users. We also focused on the preparation of the questionnaires to be used to evaluate the platform within WP4
- Detailed definition of the program for executing the pilots in two different phases and the framework and methodology to be used for the evaluation of the IES Cities concept.
- And finally, give place to the dissemination plan and generate the first dissemination artefacts, namely Factsheets, Logo and Presentation, website, newsletter and creation and population of social network sites.

The first phase of the trials is currently taking place since M16 (June 2014) and will last

until M25 (March 2015). Several events are taking place in each of the cities involved in the project in order to foster and promote the platform and services usage. By means of these events different stakeholders (citizens, developers and third parties) are providing us feedback through online and offline questionnaires, face to face interviews and data analysis. Using as a basis this feedback a revision of the platform will then take place to accommodate amendments and potential improvements before the beginning of the second phase of the trials, which is planned for M17 (July 2015).

As commented, IES CITIES pilot is ongoing. If you would like to participate testing the services and giving us feedback, please access to www.iescities.com and start downloading the IES Cities Player.

First outcomes of the pilots

• BRISTOL pilot

MyBristol One of our apps

MyBristol, a city wide social media app which encourages people from different communities to connect also has a child web-app MyKnowleWest (MyKW). This is a more localized version of MyBristol which is more focused on a specific neighbourhood in Bristol to support the needs of a community.

Many local residents and community organisations within the area of Knowle West which is in the south of the city are using MyKnowleWest regularly to share stories, tips, images and inspiration with people in their neighbourhood – and find out what others are up to.

As of October 2014, there are 150 registered users of MyKW, who have shared 800 photo updates. Many local organisations are incorporating it into their work: a youth charity used MyKW to chart its fundraising efforts and an expedition to climb Mt Snowdon; growers on the allotment photographed their 'edible hanging baskets' on their way to their new homes. MyBristol was used during Bristol Food Connections, a ten-day festival in May 2014, when the Bristol Food Network used the app as a platform for their 'Good Food Diaries'. They invited people to show what they were doing 'towards making Bristol a truly sustainable food city' – and users uploaded

stories and images to chart their progress in a variety of food challenges.

<http://kwhathegardener.mykw.org.uk/?page=1>



Our new clay oven

• ROVERETO pilot

Our two apps, “**Rovereto Explorer**” and “**Viaggia Rovereto**” are very important and useful tools offered to the citizens.

The first one contains a rich list of the events programmed in the town and gave the citizens the possibility to obtain all the information they need in order to decide if to participate or not.



“**Rovereto Explorer** “ App

The second app allows an easy planning of trips in the town and in a quite large area around Rovereto, with information about train and bus timetables, parking occupation and offering many solutions to reach the destination searched.

Many local residents and community organisations of Rovereto regularly use the

two apps to search events and search for mobility solutions alternative to the use of private cars or motorbikes.



“**Viaggia Rovereto**” App

At the end of December 2014, there are 91 registered users of Rovereto Explorer, 120 events have been edited, and there are 373 registered users of Viaggia Rovereto, with 1.337 trips planned on the app.

Many local organisations are very interested in incorporating the agenda of their events in the Rovereto Explorer calendar. Both the application have been promoted during the Christmas Markets in Rovereto, with the hope to reach an important number of active users, who can contribute in improving the apps with comments and suggestions.

• MAJADAHONDA pilot

By now, two apps have been implemented: “Majadahonda Leisure & Events” and “Majadahonda Healthy City”. The former aims to encourage citizens and traders to share their activity, whereas the latter will let people know about environmental parameters and share how they perceive them.

Majadahonda Leisure & Events provides the citizens with the opportunity of getting to know all the activity within their town. Also, they are encouraged to rate and share via social networks (facebook, twitter...) any of the events taking place in the city. By now, the app is available for download on Google Play, but it is also intended to be so in other platforms in the near future.



Majadahonda Healthy City shows the environmental status of the municipality

through data gathered from sensing stations distributed throughout the city. However, citizens are also invited to collaborate by providing geographic information from both their perception of temperature and other feelings.



The success of the IES Cities apps will be evaluated both quantitatively and qualitatively. Majadahonda Healthy City will measure its success according to the number of times the app is downloaded and used, while Majadahonda Leisure & Events will pay special attention to the number of events uploaded and the citizens' feedback through questionnaires and rating methods.

By the end of December 2014, there were 183 registered users of Majadahonda Leisure & Events and 115 of Majadahonda Healthy City, and more than half of them were actively using the Apps.

• ZARAGOZA pilot

We are finalizing the details for schools to visit eTOPIA_ during the months of February and March 2015. A total of 800 students will come to visit our facilities and projects that are underway. Framed in the visit, the school will know firsthand the "Open Urban Lab", the physical space where they carry out the activities of interaction with citizens. It is in this area of innovation, where we show children and young people the two "IES Cities apps" and where we try to capture their opinion on them. To do this, we have prepared two videos and different merchandising materials to give them after the training activity and a survey with which we want to gather their views and cooperation.

The launch of the applications has been made known to the public through our Open Urban Lab blog:

<http://openurbanlab.es/2014/10/09/apps-para-reforzar-el-vinculo-digital-entre-ciudad-y-ciudadania/>

The two applications have been posted on the corporate website of the municipality and are available for download:

- http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/risp/buscar_Aplicacion?q=Zaragoza+tu+opini%F3n+importa

- http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/risp/buscar_Aplicacion?q=Zaragoza+mapas

Links to videos of IES Cities to promote applications Zaragoza (Zaragoza Maps and Your opinion matters):

<https://vimeo.com/114115475>

<https://vimeo.com/116947255>

A couple of pictures of pretesting schools visits and coordination meeting to establish the contents of the activities related to apps:



Majadahonda pilot site description

The apps developed by Majadahonda and its partners aim to give a new image of the city, showing how it is gradually becoming into a Smart City. This is part of the action that has been carrying out in this area in order to attract technology companies to the city. These apps will involve citizens, developers, traders and entrepreneurs, allowing them to cooperate in order to change the current city concept.

But, apart from the apps, among the activities carried out which included some promotion or engagement regarding the IES Cities Project, we can highlight:

Majadahack

In June 2014, the Majadahonda City Council held a hackathon-like event called “Majadahack”, throwing the challenge of developing an app in one day in which a jury was in charge of selecting the best app attending the following criteria: originality, technical difficulty, feasibility, the app design and its usefulness.



The participants were organized into multidisciplinary teams by the event committee. They started sharing and showing their ideas

and, finally, each team had to decide which app they were going to implement. At the end of the session, the teams were given the opportunity to present their project explaining the problem the app was trying to solve, the solution adopted, which was their market and the advantages over their competitors, and where to find investment or funds to maintain the app. A short bio of the members and a little demo were also included in each presentation.

During the event, dissemination and advertising action was done to let the people know about the IES Cities project, and particularly, about the Majadahonda apps.

Robocampeones

Robocampeones Majadahonda is a competition of school robots fostered by the Majadahonda City Council which main goal is the promotion of a scientific & technological culture among the students. The event is open for not only any school or educational centre of Majadahonda, but also similar institutions in the Madrid Area and other spanish regions. This event enabled a better awareness of the IES Cities Project by the youngest population of Majadahonda, where the IES



Cities apps were showed as an example of the technological and collaborative initiatives within the EU between companies and municipalities.

Majadahonda Smart Week

In September 2014, the Majadahonda City Council held the first “Majadahonda Smart Week” event, which hosted several activities and workshops to promote technological culture.

The emphasis of the program was on citizen participation, so the event had multiple initiatives for families such as introduction activities to robotics and video games, programming with “scratch” or Minecraft map design.

Under the IES Cities project, outreach activities such as lectures and presentations



were made, promoting the project and the implemented apps. Participants at the event were invited to download the applications, and raffle prizes were drawn among the people who did so.

Meeting with the Federation of Madrid

Region Municipalities

Majadahonda City Council held this meeting in order to exchange views on the development of Smart Cities, that exploit new technologies for a better municipal administration and can remarkably improve the services that citizens receive.



During the event several presentations by representatives from various municipalities were conducted, among which a specific presentation dedicated to the participation of Majadahonda in the IES Cities project is highlighted. This presentation dealt with the objectives and results achieved in this city.

Promotional material

In order to enhance visibility of IES Cities project, some promotional material has been made to accompany presentations. Also, IES Cities project-specific roll-ups were produced and have been shown during the mentioned events.





Smart City Roadshow: a tour through Italy with the purpose to enhance and to pool experiences in progress by municipalities and public administrations - of all sizes - in terms of Smart Cities, understand how to decline projects on different territories and inquire about possible funding available to achieve them.

March 19-20, 2014

ForumPA fosters meetings and debates among public administration, companies and citizens about innovation themes through the creation of communities, studies researches, multimedia communication, events, meetings and training.

May, 2014

ICWS 2014 has been a prime international forum for both researchers and industry practitioners to exchange the latest fundamental advances in the state of the art and practice of Web-based services, identify emerging research topics, and define the future of Web-based services.

June 27, 2014

Smart City Exhibition also relying on the vast network of relationships in FORUM PA and experience in the construction of events leading BOLOGNAFIERE, presents an Italian and European level which incorporates the most advanced realities of urban living and communications, offering a model of participation highly interactive centered not only on activities of awareness, but moments of restricted work in order to influence public opinion and holders of strategic decisions at local and central levels.

October 22-24, 2014

ITS World Congress

More than 10,000 of the main political leaders from around the world of transport, researchers, innovative high-tech, and professionals from the United States, Europe and Asia came together to share the latest applications of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) from all the world.

November 7, 2014

Past events

Activities organised at FIRE**Future Internet Research and Experimentation.**

There is an increasing demand from both academic and industrial communities to bridge the gap between visionary research and large-scale experimentation, through experimentally-driven advanced research consisting of 'iterative' cycles of research, design and experimentation of new networking and service architectures and paradigms addressing all levels, including horizontal research on issues such as system complexity and security.

EnoLL (European Network of Living Labs) events and conferences is the international federation of benchmarked Living Labs in Europe and worldwide. A Living Lab is a real-life test and experimentation environment where users and producers co-create innovations. Living Labs have been characterised by the European Commission as Public-Private-People Partnerships for user-driven open innovation.

IES Cities 7th quarter meeting
Trento, Italy

March, 2015

REAL Corp 1015

20th International Conference on Urban Planning and Regional Development in the Information Society.

May 5-7, 2015

IES Cities 2nd Review meeting
Bristol, UK

June 2-4, 2015

ICWS 2015: International Conference on Web Services has been a prime international forum for both researchers and industry practitioners to exchange the latest fundamental advances in the state of the art and practice of Web-based services, identify emerging research topics, and define the future of Web-based services. All topics regarding Web-based services lifecycle study and management align with the theme of ICWS.

June 17, 2015

Future events

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