



# High Capacity Digital Societies – make it happens!

## UPSIDE Project Final Conference

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The UPSIDE Project ended its activities in Bled, Slovenia on Tuesday June 21<sup>st</sup> with the “High Capacity Digital Societies – make it happens!” conference. The conference was organised by CyberForum e.V., co-ordinator of the project within the bled e-conference on digital economy.

The conference was open for the e-conference participants and project partners. In addition, UPSIDE mentoring regions were invited and Trento and Rijeka joint the final conference.

The morning was dedicated to two hands-on workshops, based on participatory methods, developed within the project. Interactive Institute and eGovLab co-facilitated a 90 minutes rapid prototyping workshop on the e-health topic “How can we support people in everyday situations of accessing healthcare?”. The workshop led 5 teams through a rapid design process starting from qualitative user research leading up to teams building and representing future concepts in tangible future scenarios recorded with smartphones (you can download [here](#) the outcome). CyberForum organised the World Café, where three different groups discussed about: Open Innovation, Technology *for* Stakeholders and Circular Economy in Smart Cities. The topics were pre-selected based on the audience suggestions.

The afternoon session was opened by Bror Salmelin (Innovation Adviser at DG Connect) which highlight the needs to involve end-users (smart users) towards innovation 2.0, suggesting a PPPP model, where in addition to “private” and “public”, people are in the centre of the system. He also highlighted how “great we are in planning... planning for yesterday” and that we should upgrade from think tanks to “do-tanks”. Joan Marti Estevez (ACCIO, Catalonia) focused his talk on the role of cluster for innovation, economic growth and prosperity and introduced the Catalanian case as a successful model.

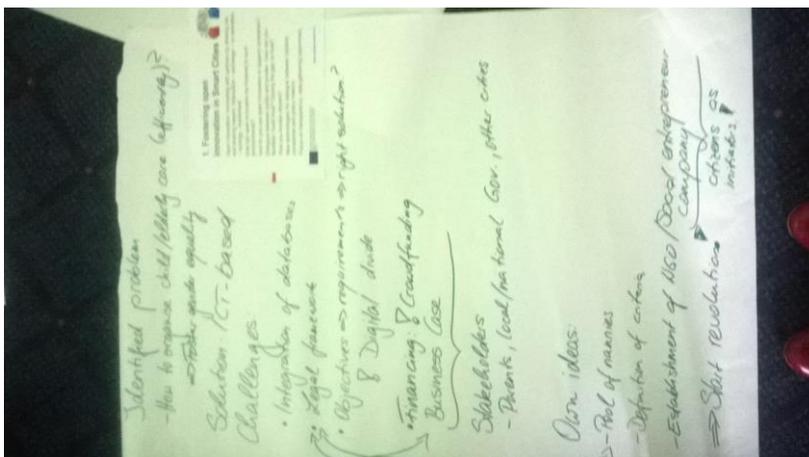
UPSIDE Partners took advantage of the occasion to present some success stories, such as the ICT Urban Arena in Kista, presented by Petra Dalunde (COO, Urban ICT Arena) and the city benchmarking analysis, a fresh result of Kadri Uus (Baltic Innovation Agency).

The conference was visited by c.ca 50 participants, among innovation and cluster experts, policy makers and researchers. Some of the UPSIDE results and experiences will be the basis for a just



started project, called URBAN INNO (funded by the Interreg Central Europe), where UPSIDE partners and mentored regions from central Europe are involved.

**Impressions of the two workshops:**



*Open Innovation in Smart Cities.*



**Impressions from the conference:**

