A great buzz at „Futur-en-Seine": The Smart City

CyberForum represented the UPSIDE-project within the IT-Festival in Paris

At June12th, 2015, CyberForum was on the spot at the major IT event „Futur-en-Seine" together with its European-partners of the UPSIDE-project. Futur-en-Seine is a "Festival of Innovations", which takes place in Paris every year in June and is organised by the cluster Cap Digital, a partner cluster of CyberForum. A colourful program consisting of conferences, presentations of innovative projects, booths, exhibitions and festivities attracts up to 80,000 visitors annually to the French capital.

Within a 90-minute slot, the UPSIDE partners could introduce to and intensively discuss their current Smart City projects and initiatives with a very interested audience. More than 60 participants had come – notwithstanding the early summer trip weather - to catch up on the innovative concepts of UPSIDE consortium. The broad ranging topics illustrate how various European cities have been taken up the subject "Smart Cities". Thus the Smart City Lab in Tartu (Estonia) was presented by representatives of the City of Tartu. This is a project that intensively promotes the development of an innovative ecosystem in order to strengthen the competitiveness of local companies, but also to make urban life more livable. Representatives of the City of Maribor (Slovenia) presented their approach of a Smart City, which in addition to various local activities includes an easy-to-use tool that allows citizens to interact greatly simplified with the administration. The CityRegion Eindhoven presented "TopClass eHealth", a masterclass at Fontys University for multi helix experts in health, with the aim to develop a shared language in a quadruple helix, to build up knowledge on eHealth solutions and to create a formal and informal network.

Kista Science City and the Interactive Institute (both from Stockholm) showed how to use participatory methods to focus more on citizens and generate more benefits for them in contrast to previous highly technology-heavy urban innovation projects. The completion of the event was the presentation of CyberForum: "Smart Quarter - A flagship project of SmarterCity Karlsruhe". It depicted how to identify the actual needs of citizens and at the same time to include their own problem-solving ideas by an open innovation approach. This citizen-oriented approach ensures that

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mainly the challenges are tackled, which have to be solved most urgently out of the citizen's perspective.

Overall, the event was a great success for everyone involved - not only as a marketing platform for the respective cities, but also in terms that by intensive discussions with the audience new ideas were gained for future projects.

About UPSIDE

The project UPSIDE – User-driven Participatory Solutions for Innovation in Digitally Centred Eco-Systems aims at delivering economic and societal benefits by fostering the emergence and development of User-driven Participatory Solutions for Innovation in Digitally-centred Ecosystems. The project aims at promoting the development of cooperation frameworks and synergy linkages between research, innovation activities within the companies, urban development policies and open user-driven innovation ecosystems "which are close to the interests and needs of cities and their stakeholders, including citizens and businesses, and which may bridge the gap between short-term city development priorities and longer term technological research and experimentation."[1]

Project Facts

Project Acronym: UPSIDE

Project Title: User-driven Participatory Solutions for Innovation in Digitally Centred Eco-Systems

Project Reference: FP7-REGIONS-2012-2013-1, Grant agreement no: 319962

Project Type: Coordination and supporting actions

Project Duration: 36 months from 01.07.2013 – 30.06.2016

Budget: €2,791,323 (total, EC Funding: €2,601,967)

Web: http://www.upside-project.eu/

Project Partners

- CyberForum e.V. (LEAD partner / coordinator)(Germany)
- Wirtschaftsförderung Karlsruhe - Economic Development Department Karlsruhe (Germany)
- inno AG (Germany)
- Stiftelsen Elektronikcentrum i Kista (Sweden)
- eGovlab ,Stockholm University (Sweden)
- Interactive Institute Swedish ICT (Sweden)
- Bevel (Sweden)
- Baltic Innovation Agency OÜ (Estonia)
- Tartu City (Estonia)
- E-Zavod (Slovenia)
- Mestna Obcina Maribor / City of Maribor (Slovenia)
- Samenwerkingsverband Regio Eindhoven (The Netherlands)
- Vereniging EIT ICT Labs Eindhoven (The Netherlands)
- Technische Universiteit Eindhoven (The Netherlands)

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[1] Hans Schaffers et al.: Smart Cities and the Future Internet: Towards Cooperation Frameworks for Open Innovation. SpringerLink.com

- Living Labs Global (Denmark)

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