

UPSIDE Events

Mayor's Symposium, February 29th and March 1st, in Graz, Austria

The Mayor's Symposium was organized by the World Bank Austria within the [Urban Partnership Program](#) (UPP). The symposium aims to support cities and local authorities in South East Europe through the process of modernization and reforms. It seeks to promote local development for inclusive, sustainable growth and better urban governance. The event was attended by 150 representatives from several countries, including mayors, representatives of municipal services, urban planning, local government associations, non-governmental organizations and the media.

Under the theme of integrated and sustainable development, Municipality of Maribor (UPSIDE Partner) presented examples of good practices, such as the mobile app “Let’s improve Maribor”, which was created in the framework of the project. Purpose of “Let’s improve Maribor” is to establish citizens and visitors interaction with Municipality by using modern technology which allows easy communication of initiatives and issues relating to living in Maribor.

[EUREKA Global Collaboration Day @EUREKA Innovation Week - April 26th - Stockholm](#)

The theme of the EUREKA Innovation Week 2016, was [Smart Cities](#). Close to 1100 participants spent the week mingling, interacting, and listening to the impressive list of speakers and keynote addresses. In all, 44 countries were represented, with 24 of these taking part in the 871 bilateral industry matchmaking meetings organized within the conference between more than 300 companies. The matchmaking event was arranged by Enterprise Europe Network as an opportunity for companies to meet potential partners for collaboration, broaden their global network and identify new innovations. Meetings focused on many smart city themes, including ICT, new materials, energy, transport and life sciences. A major part of the week centered on [international collaboration](#). In continuing the exchanges between Sweden and Canada, and between Stockholm/Kista and Montréal in particular, a large Canadian delegation was present at the event with more than 25 companies represented. The UPSIDE project was represented by Kista Science City and Bevel. Åke Lindström, ICT Director at Kista Science City presented UPSIDE with the Smart Cities Initiatives Networks and R&D Enablers session. In addition to presenting what the UPSIDE project is about, Kista’s newly set up [Urban ICT Arena](#) was also discussed in the context of this Canada-EUREKA Smart Cities Partnering event. Connectivity of people and of things will play a crucial role in smart cities of the future.

Download [here](#) a complete report!



UPSIDE Innovation Workshop, April 29th Eindhoven

On 29 April 2016, [Eindhoven University of Technology](#) and [Metropolitan Region Eindhoven](#) (MRE) organized a first UPSIDE Innovation Workshop on 'data-driven smart solutions' for improving the accessibility of the southern part of the Netherlands. At the beginning of the UPSIDE Innovation Workshop, Mr. Berry de Jong (MRE) provided an extensive introduction to the specific context and scope as part of the superregional agenda reflected by the bid book "[Bereikbaarheid Zuid Nederland](#)". After this excellent introduction, the various individual participants from regional government, industry, academia and civil society presented their own perspectives on the specific problems/challenges as well as their own vision on possible directions for solutions. Participants were asked before the UPSIDE Innovation Workshop to indicate their position on both their perspectives and vision and to prepare a series of slides to support their presentation. After the various individual presentations, the participants were split into groups and then the groups were confronted with a series of questions they had to answer related to technological and social innovations related to preventing/solving problems of accessibility of the cities in the region of/around Eindhoven.

Upcoming UPSIDE Events

[Futur en Sein: "Testing Smart Cities of Tomorrow"](#), June 9th, Paris

Also this year, UPSIDE project results will be presented at the [Futur en Sein Festival!](#) CyberForum, eGovLab, Baltic Innovation Agency will showcase UPSIDE's impact on some European cities: Karlsruhe, Kista-Stockholm and Tartu. In addition the Swedish Interactive Institute will "test" participative approaches within the audience through a "flash" workshop.

Learn more: <http://www.futur-en-seine.paris/programme/cyberforum-upside>

["High Capacity Digital Societies – Make it happen!"](#), June 21st, Bled

The UPSIDE project will showcase its results in the final conference "High Capacity Digital Society – Make it happen!" in a one-day track within Bled eConference "Digital Economy" (<http://bledconference.org/>).

In the morning, two hands-on workshops with current cities challenges will be addressed, by using open innovation approaches. In the afternoon, the conference will address the topic "The role of clusters in innovation", besides some very interesting presentations related to project results. Confirmed speakers: Juan Marti Estevez, Director of Cluster Development Division at ACCIÓ and Bror Salmelin, adviser for Innovation Systems at the DG CONNECT. Check out the [programme!](#)

