METACITIES

Info Day
20/10/25

Joint Hackathon: Innovative technology-driven solutions for smart cities and Metacities: Shape the future of European Municipalities

Turning ideas into winning projects

METACITIES overall objective

PARTNER #	PARTNER NAME	PARTNER SHORT NAME	COUNTRY
1	UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS	UPAT	GR
2	UNIVERSITY OF PELOPONNESE	UoP	GR
3	P-NET NEW GENERATION EMERGING NETWORKS & VERTICALS PRIVATE COMPANY	P-NET	GR
4	HELLENIC AMERICAN EDUCATION CENTER	HAEC	GR
5	BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT	BPM	GR
6	MUNICIPALITY OF PATRAS	MPAT	GR
7	ROAD SAFETY INSTITUTE	RSI	GR
15	REGION OF WESTERN GREECE	RWG	GR
16	YODIWO	YDW	GR
8	CYENS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	CYENS	CY
9	eBOS TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED	eBOS	CY
10	UNION OF CYPRUS MUNICIPALITIES	UCM	CY
11	UNION OF CYPRUS CONSUMERS	CCA	CY
20	DEPUTY MINISTRY OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND DIGITAL POLICY	DMRI	CY
21	PRIMETEL	PTL	CY
12	BURGAS MUNICIPALITY	BUR	BG
13	INNOVATION SYSTEMS BURGAS	ISBUR	BG
14	SOUTHEAST DIGITAL INNOVATION HUB	DIGIHUB	BG
17	TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOFIA	TUS	BG
18	FOUNDATION CLUSTER INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES	ICTC	BG
19	SMARTAVATAR	SMAV	ND

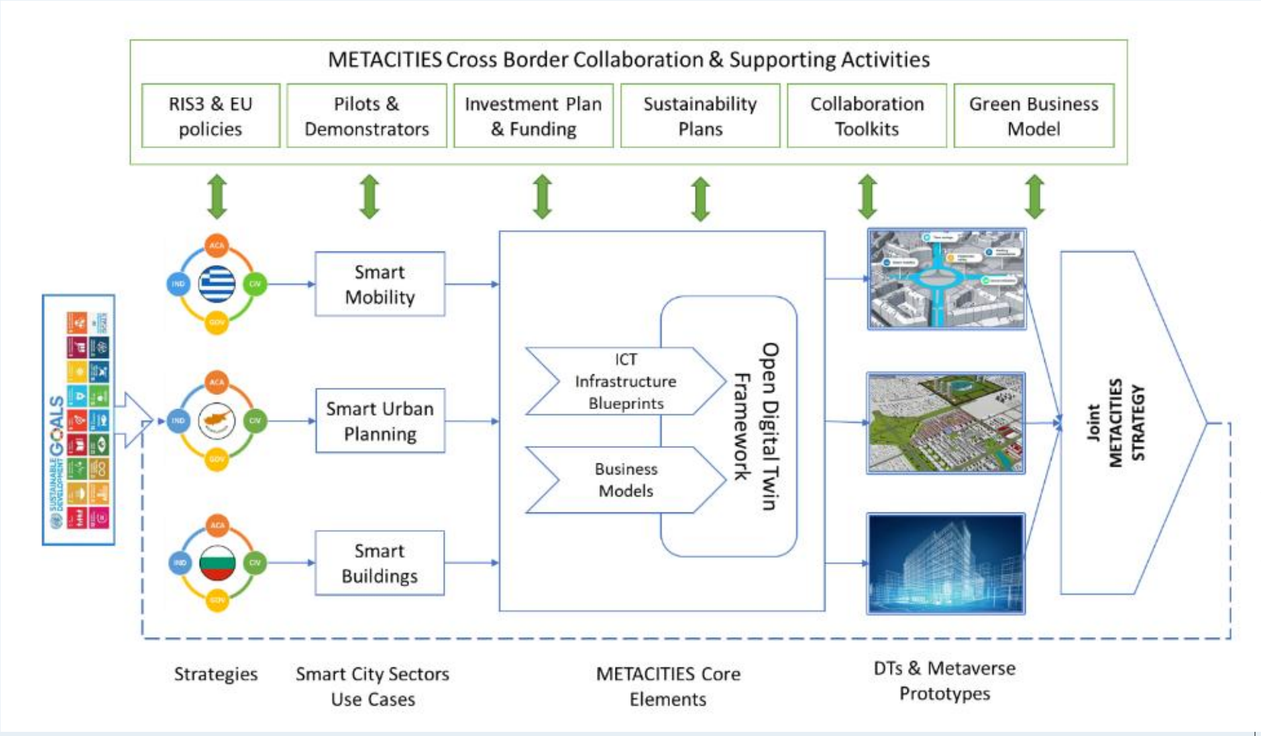
Establish an Excellence Hub for future cities and regions in Southeast Europe

Built upon Digital Twins & Metaverse technologies

Motivate cross-border innovative collaboration: 3 ecosystems – Greece, Bulgaria, Cyprus

Small-scale proof-of-concept activities as validation means of DT pilots & strategies

METACITIES comprehensive framework

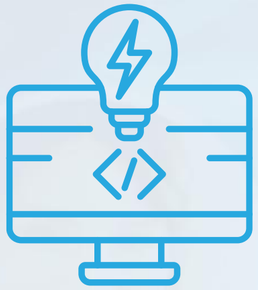


Integration of technical, societal, and business elements

Structured methodologies and guidelines for cities to develop their digital twins and enter the Metaverse

Offer the competencies and skills developed for knowledge enrichment and upskilling in R&I intensive domains

Create an entrepreneurial culture and mind-set and empower future entrepreneurs



Hackathon = Hack + Marathon

Creative problem-solving marathon

1 problem/ challenge

Individuals with different skills

1 innovative idea

Timeline:
1 month+

Date of final event: 27 or 28th of November

Type of hackathon: technological (mind the social aspects)

What do you need?

Knowledge, creativity, cooperation

→ **Strengthened linkages between science and business, Poles of attraction for talents in catching up regions and countries, Improved knowledge transfer and development of entrepreneurial skills**

Hackathon challenges/ use cases

- **Smart Mobility:** make mobility safer, cleaner, more efficient, more accessible (e.g. Digital and Intelligent Transport Systems, Connected and Cooperative Mobility, Sustainable and Green Mobility, Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) and User-Centered Innovation, Urban and Regional Mobility Planning, Social Innovation and Human-Centered Aspects)
- **Smart Buildings & Energy Efficiency:** optimize comfort, safety, and energy use (e.g. Intelligent Energy Management Systems, Integration of Renewable Energy Sources, Building Automation and IoT Infrastructures, Cybersecurity and Data Governance in Smart Buildings, Smart Grids and Energy Flexibility, Digital Twins and Simulation for Energy Optimization)
- **Smart Urban Planning:** sustainable cities, data-driven governance, and citizen-centered urban development (e.g. Sustainable Land Use and Infrastructure, Citizen-Centered and Participatory Planning, Mobility and Accessibility Integration)

Rules & Timeline

1

Teamwork

- Individuals will be matched in teams
- New members may be added in already-existing teams
- Interculturality & Interdisciplinarity

2

Idea - solution

- Agreement on a concept
- Decide on the name of your project idea
- Try to keep it relevant to one of the use cases

3

Steps & deadlines

- Team allocation: October 24th
- Provide a description/ concept note: October 31st
- Template: November 4th

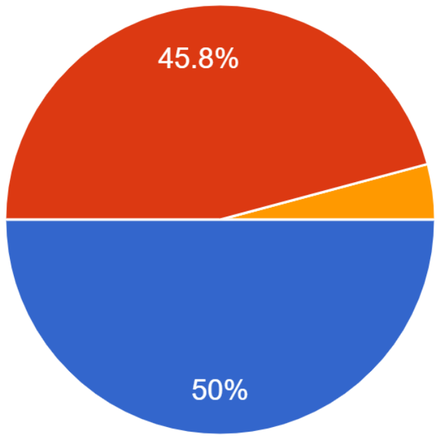
4

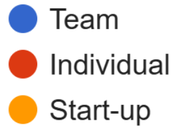
Pitch preparation & presentation

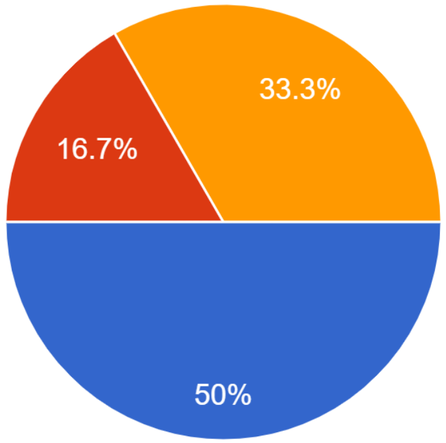
- Use the template
- Ask your mentors
- Focus on business, not on technical, matters
- Keep it short – 4 mins.

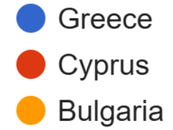
Strategy: Honesty, clarity, positive response to the weakness of the proposal

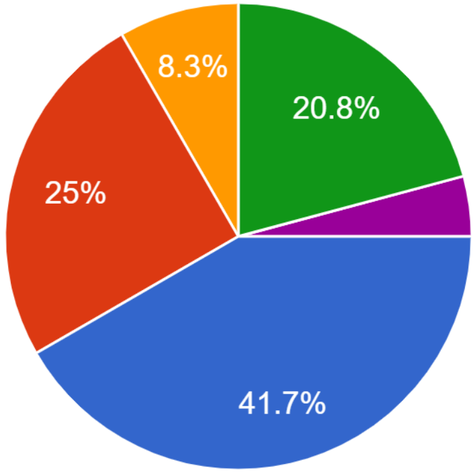
Applications statistics

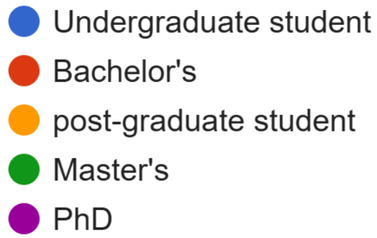


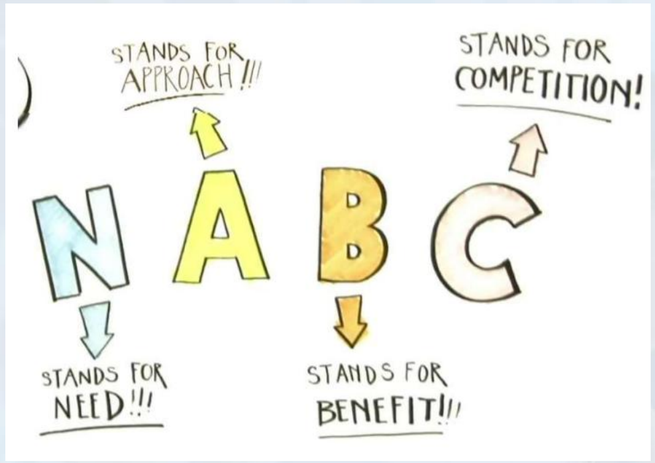












Supportive activities

Mentoring

Technical & business mentors

Suggested meetings: 2

a) initial: present your idea

b) Test your pitch deck

Infrastructure & tools

(if need be, upon request)

Provided by the University of Patras and CYENS (i-Nicosia)

Guidelines & Tips

SmartAvatar presentation on competitive pitching

Guidelines attached to the call for applications

→ Focus on: 1. Clear communication 2. Problem solving ability 3. Business case value and risk

Evaluation criteria*

Relevance to METACITIES Challenges
Innovation & Creativity
Technical Feasibility (with radical efficiency test)
Impact & Value Creation (economic + societal)
Quality of Presentation (3-word pitch, clarity, 10/20/30 rule)
Teamwork & Communication (including intercultural collaboration)
Scalability & Network Effects
Ethics, Safety & Long-Term Alignment
Bonus: Intercultural Proposals

*** To be rated by an external judging committee on the day of the final event**

Hackathons are like video games: you start without a map, find allies and win when you enjoy the journey—not just the destination!

Good luck!