CONNECTED
SMART CITIES

Overview of the *Open & Agile Smart Cities* (OASC) initiative[1]
and its relation to the *Digital Single Market* (DSM) strategy[2]

Ref.	DSM	OASC
4.2. p. 15	*DSM supports the interoperability of new technologies: The Free Flow of Data initiative*	OASC promotes interoperability of systems based on the free flow of data, between cities and within cities, by adopting a shared set of simple, wide-spread, open and freely available mechanisms. This enables the development of better and more effective smart city applications and solutions which can reach many cities once created. OASC is an enabler, providing a loose coupling between many systems and stakeholders. The mechanisms of the initiative do not in themselves deliver solutions for smart cities and communities, nor do they constitute formal standards as developed through established standards developing processes and organisations. However, OASC can help close the gap between the slower development processes and the need for more agile experimentation, while still being driven by actual implementation as part of operations in cities.
1 p. 3	*The digital economy can expand markets and foster better services at better prices, offer more choice and create new sources of employment.*	While OASC supports the specific development of more efficient municipal services, its primary contribution is to support the digital transition of European cities and societies into platforms with thriving ecosystems, enabling development of demand-driven innovative technologies and services. Cities and local governments constitute a formidable buying power when combined, and as such, the demand side – the cities and communities – need mechanisms which combine a level playing field for global service providers with a direct role of local SMEs. OASC delivers a starting point for the avoidance of vendor lock-in, while at the same time giving specific opportunities to local service providers, when catering for the local context of specific cities and communities and their needs for integration and localisation.

---

[1] http://connectedsmartcities.eu/open-and-agile-smart-cities/
[2] http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/digital-single-market/docs/dsm-communication_en.pdf

www.connectedsmartcities.eu

4.2. p. 15	*DSM aims at a better connection along the supply chain or between industry and services sectors.*	OASC is about creating a demand-driven smart cities market. By establishing simple de facto mechanisms which every city and community in the world may follow, and incorporate in the relevant strategies and procurement processes, OASC delivers the minimal loose coupling that is necessary for service providers to have a sizeable market to target. A single city is not a market; 100 cities in Europe and worldwide, following a few simple principles, are.
4.2. p. 15	*Industry stakeholders decide 'bottom-up' in which areas to develop standards and this is increasingly taking place outside of Europe, undermining our long-term competitiveness.*	Being demand-driven, OASC boosts the necessary development of open standards, avoiding vendor lock-in and monopolisation. Cities will use and improve standard data models based on experimentation and actual usage, which in turn is what creates a global smart city market. While global in scope, OASC is "born in Europe". This is an important aspect, both pointing to previous European successes grown out of experimental platforms (GSM, Wi-Fi), and with an outlook on how the global smart city market is currently dominated by North American and Asian industry players. A holistic, European perspective on mechanisms for a level playing field, supported by a Digital Single Market at home, would be an enormous benefit for the promotion of European values and business strengths in this global market. And smart cities and communities are the most prominent testbed for such mechanisms.
4.2. p. 15	*Standard essential patents (standards that are based on patents as proprietary rights) are an increasingly important feature in standardisation and an important element of the business model for many industries in terms of monetising their investment in research and innovation, but a balanced framework for negotiations between right holders and implementers of standard essential patents is needed.*	OASC creates a link between operations and experimental platforms, reaching back to the successes like the GSM standards.
4.2. p. 15	*Availability of standards is often not sufficient to ensure interoperability, if existing standards are not integrated by suppliers in their solutions.*	OASC promotes simple, free mechanisms, which any supplier can implement, avoiding market fragmentation at EU level.

4.3. p. 16	*The aim is to support an inclusive Digital Single Market in which citizens and businesses have the necessary skills and can benefit from interlinked and multi-lingual e-services, from e-government, e-justice, e-health, e-energy or e-transport.*	OASC will lead to the empowerment of citizens. Citizens will be trained and educated through their participation in co-creation processes for the development of technologies and services based on open data. Furthermore, OASC provides easy access for use of and experimentation with data and digital tools in educational settings.
5.1. P. 17	*DSM aims at establishing a supportive investment climate for digital networks, research and innovative business.*	The digital transition of cities is a multifaceted process with a clear focus on the citizen, i.e. quality of life and jobs. OASC supports a holistic approach to urban and regional development, creating attractive interconnected platforms for optimal cross-sectoral collaboration.
5.3. p. 18	*A completed Digital Single Market will help companies to grow beyond the EU internal market and make the EU an even more attractive location for global companies.*	OASC creates a global smart cities market by interconnecting national networks of cities on a global level, thereby supporting the growth of European companies beyond the EU-internal market and attracting global companies and foreign investments to the EU.

11-MAY-2015 / Prepared by Martin Brynskov, Chair, Connected Smart Cities / OASC Task Force, and Adriënne Heijnen, AU Smart Cities.