

TM FORUM LAUNCHES END-TO-END SMART CITY MATURITY & BENCHMARKING MODEL

Return to Yinchuan, China in September 2016 for the 2nd Annual Smart City InFocus Event; First 'Economy-of-Data' Model via FIWARE NGSI Implemented; New Collaboration With LABCITIES

NICE, FRANCE--(Marketwired - May 11, 2016) - TM FORUM LIVE! - TM Forum, the global industry association for digital business, today announced at TM Forum Live! 2016 a series of milestones related to the momentum of its Smart City Forum which officially launched in January 2016.

Smart City Maturity and Benchmark Model launch

The Smart City Maturity and Benchmark Model captures the key aspects of a city's transformation journey to become a smarter city. The model allows a city to quickly assess its strengths and weaknesses in five key dimension areas related to city 'smartness' and to set clear goals as to how it will transform over the next two to five years. The model also enables the city to benchmark itself against similar cities and identify other cities with whom it can partner to tackle similar challenges.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between TM Forum, the Smart Cities Council, Shanghai Academy and the World e-Governments Organization of Cities and Local Governments (WeGO) to promote the adoption of the TM Forum Smart City Maturity & Benchmark Model to over 300 cities worldwide.

"We are forging a broad international alliance to help shape the future of cities around the world," said Peter Sany, president and CEO, TM Forum. "Our role is to connect the right people to collaborate and co-create truly innovative solutions that benefit not only our members, but cities and society as a whole."

TM Forum's new Smart City model has become an important tool for cities wishing to take a holistic view of their smart city initiatives. "Cities cannot meet their climate and economic development goals without the help of smart technologies. But to put those technologies to work, they need to know where they are now and where they should end up. TM Forum's maturity model is a powerful tool for cities everywhere, especially since it takes advantage of the Forum's global knowledge base and its deep technology expertise," comments Jesse Berst, chairman of Smart Cities Council.

China has made urban innovation one of its top priorities and is in many ways leading the way in how cities can transform to become smarter. "Shanghai Academy will use the Smart City Maturity and Benchmark model for the 200 smart pilot cities in China. We expect to work closely with TM Forum to drive the evolution of the smart city maturity model," adds Professor Wen Xueguo, executive vice president, Shanghai Academy.

The model is getting broad support from multiple influential organizations. "As an international organization of cities and local governments for promoting sustainable urban development through ICT, the World e-Governments Organization of Cities and Local Governments (WeGO) is looking forward to working closely with TM Forum in supporting its worldwide network of WeGO member cities to pursue smart city innovation by deploying the first comprehensive Smart City Maturity and Benchmark Model," said Dr. Young-sook Nam, secretary general, WeGO.



Carl Piva, TM Forum's vice president and leader of the Smart City Forum, continues: "The model is grouped around five dimension areas spanning 250 individual statements that cities can rate themselves against. With this model, our goal is to make life easier for city leaders. We do this by offering an independent, end-to-end view of the city's journey towards smart city transformation, with detailed references as to how the city can improve in each of the statements."

Smart City InFocus returning to Yinchuan, China, September 7-9, 2016

TM Forum's Smart City InFocus event is returning to Yinchuan, China in September. Last year's inaugural event, a collaboration between the City of Yinchuan, ZTEsoft and TM Forum, attracted over 200 senior government and business officials from across the digital smart city ecosystem to network, learn and exchange ideas. Yinchuan, a city of some two million people, has taken an aggressive approach to turning itself into a new smart city hub for the region.

This year's exclusive, invite-only event looks at building sustainable smart cities and offering end-to-end smart services for citizens. Over 250 senior leaders are expected to converge in Yinchuan for the event, discussing key topics including building a strong smart city foundation, the important role of data and analytics, energy, waste management and more.

First instantiation of the 'Economy-of-Data' model via the TMForum-FIWARE Business Framework

The 'Economy-of-Data' initiative is an effort to develop a central platform for composing, exposing and monetizing data for smart city stakeholders to create and deliver innovative new services. The first example being applied in real-world scenarios is TM Forum's collaboration with FIWARE, which combines FIWARE's city contextual APIs that can access real-time city data and TM Forum's digital partnering APIs, thereby making it easy to create flexible urban digital ecosystems enabling data monetization. As demonstrated at Mobile World Congress earlier this year, this platform enables application developers to create services on the backend of available city data and commercially available datasets.

Smart cities can benefit from this new open source business framework and use it as the foundation for setting up dynamic marketplaces for smart city data. The TM Forum-FIWARE Business Framework provides capabilities for smart city IoT services to be onboarded, exposed, priced, billed and monetized using flexible revenue sharing agreements.

LABCITIES Collaboration

Complementing TM Forum's Smart City efforts, the Forum has signed a strategic collaboration agreement with LABCITIES -- a global marketplace for successful smart city projects connecting talented individuals and organizations from both the smart city supply and demand side. This collaboration adds more than 15,000 smart city experts, innovators and entrepreneurs from around the world to connect and crowdsource new urban solutions, digital trends and business models.

Get in on all of the exciting TM Forum Live! news and buzz by visiting and bookmarking www.tmforumlive.org for real-time conference updates. The action can also be followed on TM Forum Inform and Twitter using hashtag #TMFLive.

-ENDS -