

GROW.SMART.TOGETHER

Summary of the application by the City of Tampere, Finland, to the contest for the European Capital of Innovation Award – iCapital 2017

Tampere Co-creating Urban Future for Citizens

"Tampere is committed to the development of a "city-as-a-platform" -based urban innovation ecosystem. The key aims of the new 2017 Tampere Mayoral Program are to strengthen communality and co-creation, and to make Tampere a model city of urban digital economy focusing on citizens' wellbeing and urban economic competitiveness.

Tampere's Grow.Smart.Together approach enhances the generation of a city where smart city solutions, related jobs and firms and attractive urban environment are co-created together with citizens, communities, universities and companies. Tampere is determined to apply co-creation community based urban development culture in the whole city based on the creative capabilities of its citizens.

I'm confident that our rich innovation tradition, citizen-led smart city initiatives and unique spirit of co-creation can serve as inspiration for other European cities."

Lauri Lyly, Mayor of the City of Tampere

EXPERIMENTING

The transformation of Tampere into an open and agile co-creation ecosystem is facilitated by the new Smart Tampere economic and urban development program Grow.Smart.Together (2017-2021). Smart Tampere aims to make the everyday life of citizens easier by facilitating new digital services, providing open access to all information resources on urban development and everyday living and by engaging citizens in service, business and urban development processes.

Tampere's policy approach has fostered a unique co-creation and collaboration culture in the city. Tampere has been a forerunner in creating inspiring physical environments - campus area- and urban district-based open innovation platforms - for universities, companies, communities and citizens to interact, learn and experiment, and to co-create new businesses, innovations and sustainable and usable urban areas together.

Demola is a prime example of an agile open innovation platform for students and companies. Demola is a unique, inspiring and internationally recognised method to organise demo-oriented co-creation with multidisciplinary university student teams. Key urban district-based innovation platforms of Tampere are a future residential area and a current industrial refurbishment program Hiedanranta, a healthcare hub and urban district Kauppi, and Oma Tesoma - My own Tesoma program in a diverse city district Tesoma.

ENGAGING

In Tampere, the city has become a natural innovation laboratory for its citizens in their everyday surroundings. Making urban environment of growing cities more usable based on citizens' daily needs requires new ways of involving citizens as active users of urban services, and also as producers of urban data. As an example, in current CityTrack project, Tampere is piloting data-driven mobile crowdsourcing for the design and implementation of location-based services.

The new Hiedanranta city district aims to be a smart district providing easy living in sustainable and communal way. Since 2016, the Hiedanranta process has been developed in close cooperation with citizens, NGOs, universities and companies using innovative processes and methods enabling everyone to take part in urban planning and co-create the future inclusive, smart and sustainable city together. During the process, the old industrial area has been taken into active use by citizens and communities.

Examples of citizen-led urban development projects in Hiedanranta include a large-scale indoor skate hall and a culture facility for grass-roots cultural events and activities. A participatory urban planning process "Dwellers in Agile Cities" has engaged citizens with city planners and architects at the early stage of Hiedanranta planning.

EXPANDING

Tampere wants to make sure its current and future investments (6 billion € by 2030) are used to build a smarter city, to co-create and test urban innovations, to secure economic growth and enhance the wellbeing of its citizens. Light Rail Transit (LRT) system as an innovation platform for smart urban mobility solutions, IoT-based smart lighting system, smart and sustainable residential areas and other ongoing smart city projects in Tampere are based on innovative public-private partnerships in which the city can be either a partner, a test platform, an enabler or a buyer. By summer 2017, Tampere has attracted over 30 companies and other organisations as Smart Tampere ecosystem partners, incl. companies like Nokia, Telia, Microsoft, CGI, Deloitte, Cisco, Accenture, SAP and Huawei.

In Hiedanranta, the city opened an old industrial district and invited people to get involved and to influence the development of a new city district, and to enable the versatile use of old industrial premises as agile infrastructure for urban job creation, business and culture. The city has made Hiedanranta a platform for creative and innovative experiments not just for large-scale businesses but also for new forms of digital economy and urban entrepreneurship.

Tampere's excellent talent pool with 36.000 university students in three universities, to be merged into Tampere New University* in 2019, and with 34.000 employees in technology industry is among Tampere's key assets in smart city development and investment attraction. Part of Nokia's legacy in Tampere is a strong pool of ICT talent, now introducing the latest technologies also to Smart Tampere projects. Talent attraction, facilitated by key Smart Tampere ecosystem partners and talent-driven city marketing, is emphasised in Tampere's innovation and urban development policies.

EMPOWERING

The expected impact of Smart Tampere by 2019 is more than 100 new companies and 2000 new jobs, as well as 5 additional international companies investing in Tampere. All in all, Smart Tampere aims at creating 10 000 new jobs.

Smart Tampere projects such as Hiedanranta and LRT system are good examples of Tampere's Grow.Smart.Together approach to doing things together to make a better city. The synergetic planning and implementation processes of Hiedanranta and LRT contribute to the development of a new urban innovation ecosystem and land-use policies based on the mobility needs and participation of citizens, and to the creation of more usable and attractive urban environment.

In 2016-2017, 25 companies and NGOs have started in Hiedanranta, creating some 50 jobs. Some 20 000 people have visited the area in 70 events, and as many as 4000 citizens have participated in co-creative urban planning activities in Hiedanranta. The planning and construction phase of the new urban district will be based on the results of the Hiedanranta interaction processes. Hiedanranta methods and experiences will be also used in other new city districts in Tampere.

With the Grow.Smart.Together approach, the urban innovation ecosystem of Tampere is developed into a system and culture of effective, open and agile service and co-creation models and tools that generate new jobs and companies, and smart, sustainable and attractive urban environment and services in connection with the city's urban development projects. As a result, Tampere will have better capacities to manage the ongoing structural change and rapid growth, and to use the full potential of its talent pool and knowledge base - citizens.

Tampere iCapital promotion video: <https://youtu.be/vPj1vBOBJRg>

Video greeting by M. Teppo Rantanen, Executive Director, City of Tampere, growth, innovation and competitiveness: <https://youtu.be/GkKuF00BVjs>

Further evidence on the Tampere iCapital 2017 applicant city website: <http://innovationcapital.fi>