

Oulu Boost Event 2019: Upscaling Digital Solutions in Cities

Place: Oulu Finnkino and Scandic Oulu City Hotel, Finland

Time: **December 10 – 11, 2019,**
December 9, 2019 at 16.00 Pre-Event Session: Digitalization and Creative Industries
Welcoming reception Monday 9th December, at 19.00

WHAT THE EVENT IS ALL ABOUT

Europe's digital transformation happens locally. With about 75% of EU citizens living in urban areas, cities and communities are hubs of growing collaboration and innovation. They are innovation ecosystems where governments, researchers, businesses and citizens are joining forces to design, develop, test and operate smart and sustainable solutions.

Despite the high level of investments and activities, the impact on society across Europe in terms of a citizen-driven digital transformation remains limited. Replication and a large upscaling of innovative digital solutions in cities are not happening. This undermines the EU's and cities' ability to effectively tackle urgent challenges, including the growing urban populations, climate change, security and social inequalities, while leveraging economic growth for all ecosystem players, including SMEs. It is time to join forces to boost upscaling of digital solutions so that at least 300 million citizens can benefit from better quality of life by 2025.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT OULU BOOST EVENT 2019

In the spirit of the Urban Agenda for the EU, The Finnish Presidency and City of Oulu join forces with European cities, networks and institutions to build shared ideas on digital innovation. The agenda will consist of high-level contributions, first signing of the European declaration of Upscaling Digital Solutions in Cities, and sessions on how to proceed with upscaling the digital solutions for the benefit of European citizens, cities and growth.

Thematic sessions will focus on:

- How to recognize upscalable solutions and platforms?
- How to upscale citizens' digital skills to enable usage of the digital solutions?
- Upscaling the future: what are the still-not-invented upscalable solutions?
- Defining the common roadmap for upscaling – How to make it happen?

The first day will end with a Dinner Reception at the Oulu City Hall. The second day of the event, Wednesday 11th December, will provide concrete insights into digital innovation and its potential within cities. The focus is on presenting upscalable solutions and examples of state-of-the-art projects exploiting digitalization as well as highlighting promising cities and national approaches that make the best out of digitalization.

Northern technology hub Oulu, place of distinctive culture and home for numerous digital solutions from the early days to the present is the inspirational setting for the Event.

The speakers will be introduced shortly.

In collaboration with:

