



## **Smart cities and communities - a step towards more balanced and sustainable EU regional development?**

*What kind of challenges and obstacles are we facing when deploying smart solutions?*

*Have the already implemented projects contributed to regional development?*

*Are they justifying the implementation costs and how?*

29<sup>th</sup> of November 2018,  
Poligon, Tobačna 5, Ljubljana, Slovenia

### **ABOUT THE EVENT**

In the brave new digitized world smart solutions, based on new technologies and inter-connectivity, are the next logical stepping stones and platform which will drive the regional development. Although population growth and urbanization in EU are currently not a serious issue, certain regions and cities are becoming more aware of smart solutions and how they can economically, environmentally and socially improve QoL (quality of living) of population and consequently diminish regional disparities on both EU and national level.

In past decade, we've witnessed many different approaches under the same name and towards the same goal. Although Smart Cities, as a complete and whole concept are still in the early stages, we already have examples of communities and cities who benefited from implemented smart solutions. Advancement of communities and cities through inter-connectivity of new technologies transcends local, affects regionally and has a great potential to impact EU as a whole.

During workshop participants will be presented with an example of smart solutions - bike sharing systems, examples of their implementation in Slovenia, their impact and obstacles cities face with their deployment. During the Round table, with the help of our guest speakers we will try to assess the potential of current implementation of smart solutions in Slovenia and EU within the EU Cohesion policy framework. How are they already shaping the present? How far are we from full integration of smart solutions into Smart Cities? We will also try to address the potential obstacles and possible solutions for faster and more widespread implementation of smart solutions, locally and regionally.



## EVENT SCHEDULE

Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018

12:30 Registration and welcome coffee

13:00 Workshop: "Smart solutions for regional development: the case of "Bike-Sharing"

**Mladen Bjeljac** | SC Bikes

**Nina Tomažević** | University of Ljubljana

14:15 Towards common findings: Sharing of ideas and solutions in the field of smart and sustainable regional development at home and abroad

15:30 - 16:30 LUNCH

16:30 Registration and welcome coffee for the round table

17:00 Address by the organisers

**Aleksander Aristovnik** | Director, Zavod I4

**Goran Neralić** | Member of the Board of Directors, ELF

**Simon Zajc** | State Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

17:15 Presentation of the upcoming ELF & Zavod I4 publication "European Regional Development: Fate, Fortune or Good Policies?"

**Rok Spruk** | University of Ljubljana

17:30 Presentation of the conclusions of the workshop: Smart solutions for regional development: the case of "Bike-Sharing"

**Mladen Bjeljac** | SC Bikes

17:40 - 19:15 **Panel session:** "Smart cities and communities - stepping stones towards smart regional development and a future foundation for better quality of living in the EU"

**Mladen Bijeljac** | Smart City Bikes

**Nevenka Cukjati** | SRIP Smart Cities and Communities

**Miha Juvan** | City Municipality Kranj

**Marko Maver** | Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

**Dan Podjed** | ZRC SAZU

**Klemen Potisek** | former State Secretary at the Ministry of Infrastructure, Expert for energy issues

**Zina Zlatanova** | LIPA

**Moderator:** Gregor Plantarič



19:15 - 20:00 Refreshments

Event moderated by: Mojca Krajnc

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