SLOVAKIA

1. Smart cities in the EU

The European Commission and its regional & urban development department define smart cities as "cities using technological solutions to improve the management and efficiency of the urban environment."
"A smart city is a place where traditional networks and services are made more efficient with the use of **digital solutions** for the benefit of its inhabitants and business."

A smart city goes beyond the use of digital technologies for **better resource use and less emissions**. It means **smarter** urban transport networks, **upgraded** water supply and waste disposal facilities and **more efficient** ways to light and heat buildings. It also means a **more interactive and responsive** city administration, **safer** public spaces meeting the needs of an ageing population.

Smart cities in Slovakia

In Slovakia, the Ministry of Investments, Regional Development and Informatization plays a role of a national coordinator of the development of smart cities and regions. Through various support programmes, it provides cities with opportunities to transform them to more modern, greener and more competitive local places. In addition, the Ministry of Economy particates in the development and implementation of the strategies and policies in the field of smart cities.

Smart cities topic remains one of the priorities for Slovak Republic for a new programming period 2021-2027).

Smart cities components defined by the Ministry of Economy:

- **Government / municipalities** (digital public administration, participative governance, e-services, etc.)
- **Buildings** (smart homes, intelligent construction, interconnected device management, etc.)
- **Mobility** (intelligent system traffic management, intelligent public service transport, smart urban logistics, etc.)
- **Energy & environment** (smart energy, smart water management, smart waste management, etc.)
- **Education** (learning platforms for citizens, digital learning formats, digital skills, etc.)
- **Health** (telemedicine, integrated medical information systems, extended care for disadvantaged persons, etc.)

Key areas of financing the activities for Smart cities in the period 2014-2020:

- Smart Infrastructure
- Smart City infrastructure
- Smart Energy
- Smart Environnement
- Smart Services
- Smart Housing
- Smart Education and Social services
- Smart Economy

2. The main actors

There are multiple actors involved in the process of smart city development and implementation:

- Public sector
- Private sector (big and medium sized companies, smart-ups)
- Citizens (active and involved citizens)
- Municipalities (city mayors)
- Academic & research institutions
- Non-governmental organisations, e.g.:

Smart Cities klub
The Smart Cities klub is an informal platform for sharing experience and collaboration between city leaders and experts in preparing strategies and programs on the road to Smart City. Smart Cities klub was inspired by more than 20 years of cooperation with cities in Slovakia and more than 10 years of cooperation with Scandinavian partners.
https://smartcitiesklub.sk/en/about-us/

Slovak Smart City Cluster
Our mission: Integrate the capacities of the whole range of institutions, self-governing bodies, business entities in favor of development and implementation Smart City concept and urban regions in Slovakia.
http://smartcluster.sk/

Smart Mobility Slovakia
Platform for cooperation between the public, private, academic sectors and civil society, bringing together the ecosystem of transport, industry, services and digital and technological innovation
https://smartmobility.gov.sk/en/about-us/members/
https://smartmobility.gov.sk/en/smart-mobility/relevant-market-actors/

Smart City Index in Slovakia
https://inteligentnemesta.sk/

3. Useful links and sources

Conference in February 2022: https://smekonferencie.sk/podujatie/race-to-zero/
https://ec.europa.eu/info/eu-regional-and-urban-development/topics/cities-and-urban-development/city-initiatives/smart-cities_en
"Support of innovative solutions in Slovak cities": https://www.mhsr.sk/uploads/files/n5m7duxS.pdf
https://www.mirri.gov.sk/aktuality/cko/tema-smart-city-je-jednou-z-priorit-slovenska-pre-nove-programove-obdobie/index.html