

# Smart Cities Labs for India

## Origins

Smart City Lab India<sup>1</sup>, originally set up in Mumbai is a collaborative initiative aiming for development, delivery and export of smart ICT and mobile based services and products in the following priorities areas - smart cities, e-health, energy, environment, agrifood, mobility and logistics. Smart City Lab India is actively promoting FIWARE<sup>2</sup> technologies and cooperation of Indian companies, universities and clusters with relevant counterparts. Although borne in Europe, the open community FIWARE platform has been promoting international markets in the last years.

The main focus of our partners initiative is on the area of smart cities. In this context, Sven-Ove Wähling, CEO of Netzlink ICT GmbH, Germany, said:



*„It is our ambition to import, or to adapt, specific solutions, or to develop them from scratch, if necessary. Our goal is to improve the efficiency, health and sustainability of as well as the quality of life in cities and communities. From our point of view, this holds added value for communities and citizens alike, be it benefits for individual citizens or in the form of climate protection, conservation of resources and sustainability. To make sure that the way for efficient solutions is paved together and early on, we also support cities with competent advice throughout the process.“*

**Olaf-Gerd Gemein, Co-Founder of Smart Cities Lab:**

*„We address the specific challenges of large metropolitan cities (including government authorities, citizens, universities and corporates) and provide well-defined solutions to the different and various stakeholders' problems. Smart City Lab India is committed to the promotion of open source technologies in general as well as to the promotion of both FIWARE API's as a technology agnostic platform and OpenStack in particular.“*



---

<sup>1</sup> <http://fiware.in>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.fiware.org/>

## Benefits

Smart City Lab India, the first of its kind, is currently building an open source community with the FIWARE technology and platform for developing new and innovative solutions for making cities smart. Today, state-of-the-art technologies are leading us into a new digital revolution resulting in generating new context aware applications that will be hosted in the Cloud, connected to the Internet of Things (IoT) and ability to manage or analyze data on large scales never envisaged before. Cities are striving to earn a spot into this global and competitive market and must quickly get on board this train to survive. This is where FIWARE, as open source software platform, can help them by easing their transitions to a innovative businesses and solutions. FIWARE will help cities to build and manage innovative apps and services by making complex processes simple, cost effective, high quality and secure. All of the FIWARE technology are already available and ready to use via Smart City Lab India, the free of charge experimental environment, where developers and web entrepreneurs can find the means to build their projects and test applications with real data and real users.

In the past, with open source everyone has their doubt of having "insecure" data. It is one of the goals of Smart City Lab India to demonstrate this concern is not warranted. These days, open source software is regulatory compliant and ready to be used by enterprises and cities. Moreover, there are other major benefits with open source and among them, for example, that with an open source approach, a proprietary single-vendor lock-in is avoided. Today, there are many great analytics tools, services and heavy products that are built on top of open source platforms and widely used in large cities and industries.



Rui A. Costa from Ubiwhere, Portugal:

*"Ubiwhere is looking forward to support the SmartCities Initiatives in India with Ubiwhere's Urban Platform and Citibrain Unified Smart Cities' solutions, consisting of Smart Parking, Smart Traffic Management, Smart Air Quality Monitoring and Smart Waste Management. Interoperable with FIWARE, we are ready to adapt and customize our solutions for the Indian context and quick start the implementation on the SmartCities Lab."*

## What to expect

Smart City Lab India, in collaboration with its network and infrastructure partners, has started to develop a huge ecosystem aiming to accelerate the innovative ideas of citizens. How? First, the Smart City Lab India offers the infrastructure resources that entrepreneurs and web-developers need to build their solutions. They can deploy these solutions or services to one or more nodes within Smart City Lab India and even create their private cloud depending on the resources they need. Entrepreneurs are not alone whilst our experts will help them to connect, adapt or migrate their service and solutions to the platform and train them how to get most out of it. Furthermore Smart City Lab node has access to business experts and mentors. Entrepreneurs need real user feedback to validate their ideas and make

decisions. Smart City Lab India opens the door to communities of testers and even early adopters.

**Poul Jensen, Head of EBTC, India:**

*“I see FIWARE as a powerful enabler for cities to develop and entrench ‘smart’ characteristics in the day to day life of its citizens. The FIWARE approach combines international experience in Smart Cities, with an approach that ensures an open, quick, inclusive and interactive adoption of Smart City elements, and can pave the way for a fast paced and continuous Smart City development process.”*



**Andrea Cruciani, Co-Founder of TeamDev, Italy:**



*““In TeamDev we focus on daily human activities: in the towns’ life and in agriculture. Our work want to improve the efficiency and the comprehension of the daily facts. So we built „WiseTown“ as the ecosystem to improve the interaction between citizens and municipalities giving them insights on the real time situation of the town and supporting them on enhance the citizens’ quality of life. On the agricultural side, we developed Agriculus suite, an award-winning platform that make precision farming easier for farmers, union farmers and government. We are proud to be part of SmartCities Lab and to launch with them our products in the Indian market.”*

## How to participate

For Smart City Lab India, it is very important to encourage partners to provide services, applications and hardware that make it easier for customers to consume the platform while engaging with stakeholders in cities and citizen. Therefore, we are welcoming partners from India who are involved in building solutions ranging from sensor or mobile communication systems to cybersecurity and/or new analytics and reporting solutions, but not limited to. While Smart City Lab India themselves do not offer these kind of solutions, the role of Smart City Lab India is to offer its partners an environment and supplies within a stable and highly scalable platform to run these applications on top and support and educate our partners. The kinds of partners should include smart cities, or cities interested in smart technologies, including villages, corporate customers, small & medium sized entities and web entrepreneurs. Finally, Smart City Lab India will help partners in identifying use cases, pilots and apps that are best suited to the city data platforms and really roll-out successful deployments with high impact and level of innovation.

James Clarke of Waterford Institute of Technology, Ireland:



*“My significant interest in this initiative is twofold - as coordinator of the EU-INDIA FI-MEDIA project, whose main aim is to establish partnerships between EU and India, and also an advocate of the EU’s FIWARE program spread into international countries, including India. We have already successfully established two Cluster2Cluster partnerships: 1st Smart Villages Ecosystems, and 2nd bringing EU’s FIWARE program to India, in areas related to Smart cities. The Smart City India Lab initiative seems to be a natural platform to take this work forward in a more commercial setting.”*

Prof. M.P. Gupta, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD), India:

*„Government of India (GoI) initiatives towards developing 100 smart cities triggered enormous interest as it opened up vast opportunities to connect, collaborate and co-create a new landscape of living. To many of us, ‘smart’ refers to deployment of massively integrated ICTs & intelligent systems creating huge capacity to enhance quality of human life. We recognize the ‘FIWARE’ repository of API’s and already existing applications portfolio have great potential in feeding to not only accomplish smart cities objectives but also fostering of innovation and creation of economic opportunities. It is our understanding that the Smart Cities Lab India invites all interested stakeholders from students’ community, academics and professionals world to join hands and spread the FIWARE platform to the advantage of a new ‘smart’ living. We are committed to expand the group and promote FIWARE by working closely with corporates, start-ups incubated within Institutions of higher learning (IITs/IIMs), and college students via workshops, internships, lab and competitive schemes”*



**To become involved, please visit our new website [fiware.in](http://fiware.in) and contact us.**