



The underlying condition to smart cities... CONNECTIVITY

Connected Smart Cities Conference 2019
17 January 2019, Brussels

WOUTERS Rodolphe
Policy Officer - Unit B5
Investment in High-Capacity Networks
DG CONNECT
European Commission

Follow us on:

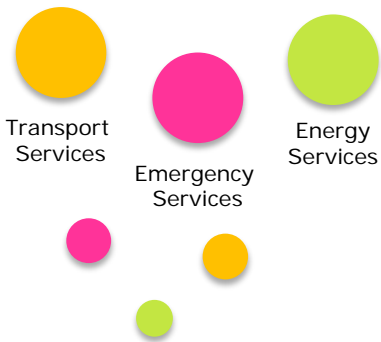
#WIFI4EU @broadband_eu



Web sites:

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/policies/wifi4eu-free-wi-fi-europeans>
<https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility/cef-telecom/wifi4eu>

Connect
Anywhere
Anytime



- **Smart cities need any service to be able to connect anywhere at anytime.** We cannot afford lost connectivity. This requires planned network densification, high bandwidth, coverage, no interruption, all within city budget and with long-lasting investments.
- **Connectivity must be planned around socio-economic drivers.** Economic/business, tourism, and city services and areas.

There is a NEED FOR city connectivity PLANNING
across CITIES, COMMUNITIES & STAKEHOLDERS
as part of the national broadband plans

*Join Futurium to exchange
on city connectivity*

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/wifi4eu>

EU funding - Complementary sources

Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- **€ 6 billion for digital networks**

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) – Telecoms strand

- **EUR 17.5 million** commitment under the **CEF Debt Instrument** reserved for broadband
- **Connecting Europe Broadband Fund (CEBF)** with an expected leverage of € 1-1.7 billion
- **WiFi4EU initiative** € 120 million for equipment

European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)

- As of July 2018, **EUR 2.54 bn EFSI guarantee** having unlocked **total related EFSI investments of EUR 8.82 billion** into pure broadband projects

The European Union is bringing free Wi-Fi to the public parks, squares, libraries, town halls...

€120 million of EU investments in vouchers

At least 6,000 to 8,000 local communities

WHO WILL BENEFIT?



Everyone: WiFi4EU will give free internet access to local residents and visitors throughout the entire EU in the main centres of community life (parks, squares, libraries, public buildings, etc.).



WHO CAN APPLY?

Municipalities or groups of municipalities:

Who would like to offer digital public services such as eGovernment, eHealth, eTourism, etc.

Who seek funding for equipment and installation and can provide free connection to their community for at least 3 years.



one voucher per municipality
= €15,000

- **Promote high-speed city services and secure Wi-Fi of public spaces**, with a single authentication for EU citizens to connect seamlessly across the EU
- **Call November 2018. 2800 municipalities financed for a total of EUR 42 million. Next call coming soon..**

ANNEX

CEF DIGITAL

€3 billion

**Focus on
infrastructure:**

- deployment of **very high capacity digital networks and 5G systems**
- **increased resilience and capacity of backbone networks on EU territories**
- **digitalisation of transport & energy networks**

Strong alignment with Gigabit Society Strategy objectives

- Gigabit connectivity for **socio-economic drivers** (schools, hospitals, etc.)
- **Very high capacity networks to households** in mild market failure areas
- **High quality wireless connectivity for local communities** (WiFi4EU)
- **5G cross border corridors** along major transport paths
- **Key international connectivity** / cross border backbone networks of strategic importance (e.g. submarine cables)
- **Digital operational platforms** for energy and transport networks

Complementary to ESIF, InvestEU and Digital Europe Programme

Broadband Competence Offices (BCO) Network

- ✓ **Member States have been invited to designate BCOs**
 - ❑ ***Contact points* informing and giving advice to citizens and businesses on broadband.**
 - ❑ **They provide *technical support* to representatives of local and regional authorities** on ways to plan and invest effectively in broadband networks.
 - ❑ **BCOs can therefore contribute to support ERDF/EAFRD/EFSI and CEBF broadband investment.**
 - ❑ **They are set up at NATIONAL and REGIONAL level: 28 national BCOs (one for each Member State) and 85 regional BCOs**
- ✓ **Launch of the Network was: 20 November 2017 (Broadband-Days conference)**