

# Open & Agile Smart Cities – Membership Information

## Open & Agile Smart Cities

Open & Agile Smart Cities (OASC) is a non-profit association based in Brussels, Belgium. OASC is a global network of cities and communities whose common purpose is to improve the quality of life of their citizens through innovation and technology.

The mission of OASC is to unite cities and communities around the world to build a global market for smart city data and services from the demand side and based on the needs of cities and communities.

As a non-profit organisation, OASC will support cities and communities in their digital transition. Concretely, OASC will support them by means of a list of recommended open and lightweight standards – the so-called Minimal Interoperability Mechanisms (MIMs) – supporting cities and communities to procure digital services and to exchange data and services.

The MIMs are developed by the OASC Technology Council and governed by the Council of Cities and the Board of Directors. The initial set of MIMs has been formally approved and adopted by the OASC Council of Cities on 16 January 2019 and has been expanded and curated since in a continuous and transparent process.

OASC was founded as an initiative in March 2015 and has seen a steady increase of member cities ever since. It was incorporated as a non-profit organisation in December 2017. The founding members are Aarhus University (DK), Business Tampere (FI), Connected Places Catapult (UK), and imec (BE).

## Becoming a Member

To become a member of Open & Agile Smart Cities, a city or community has to take the following steps:

- Sign the *Letter of Intent* that states the principles of OASC.  
*Note: The actual signee differs from city to city and from community to community. While in some cities the mayor signs this document, in others it is the CIO, CTO or head of a smart city department who is responsible.*
- Send the signed *Letter of Intent* to the OASC secretariat ([info@oascities.org](mailto:info@oascities.org)).
- Upon approval of the OASC Board of Directors, the city or community becomes officially a member.

## About Membership

- Membership for cities and communities to OASC, its Council of Cities, its General Assembly, and the Working Groups is **free**. Optional training and service packages are offered by OASC

to its member cities and communities as tiered membership packages.

- Member cities and communities are organised in so-called chapters. One city or community cannot constitute a chapter. **A chapter is founded by at least two cities and/or communities.**
- Once a chapter is established, **single cities and/or communities can join subsequently.**
- **A chapter nominates a representative** – the so-called network coordinator - to the Council of Cities.

Note: The OASC secretariat does not take part in the nomination of the chapter's Council of Cities representative. It is up to the Chapter to organise a model for elections.

- Cities and communities signing the *Letter of Intent* become **Members** of Open & Agile Smart Cities as defined in the organisation's Articles of Association.
- Members **agree to follow the majority decisions** (50% + 1 vote) of the Council of Cities.

## Member responsibilities

- Experimentation with and (within a reasonable timeframe) implementation of OASC principles and OASC Minimal Interoperability Mechanisms.
- Active participation in the network, particularly in the regular Council of Cities meetings  
*Note: Remote participation will be available to participate in Council of Cities Meetings.*
- Active participation in annual elections of the Cities' representative (and vice-representative) to the Board of Directors and of the Council Coordinator (and vice-coordinator).
- Sharing of best practices and solutions with the OASC Working Groups.
- Active participation in OASC community webinars, as audience or contributor.
- Partners are encouraged to participate in OASC's annual conference, the Connected and Sustainable Smart Cities & Communities Conference, and other OASC-endorsed events.

## Become a member and join the global movement

OASC connects around 170 smart cities and communities globally, organised in national networks from over 30 countries and regions. Check the OASC website (<https://oascities.org/>) for a full overview of the members.