

Model Projects Smart Cities:



Use the opportunities provided by digitisation and link them to the requirements of integrated urban development and the model of the sustainable European city.



Follow the normative guidelines defined under the Smart City Charter of the National Dialogue Platform Smart Cities, which focuses on people and the common good.



Use a two-phase approach: First, cross-sectoral spatial smart city strategies are developed in a participatory process, then customised measures and projects are implemented according to local goals.



Can be used as diverse learning examples whose findings and results are transferred to all municipalities as part of a comprehensive knowledge transfer.

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Federal Ministry
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Smart Cities made in Germany –

Model Projects Smart Cities





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Digitisation is shaping all our lives, and the structure of our cities and municipalities is also significantly affected by it. Citizens, business, science and administration must shape this fundamental transformation together. With the Model Projects Smart Cities, the Federal Government, together with the KfW banking group, has been promoting a strategic approach to the diverse opportunities and challenges that digitisation poses for urban development since 2019. The basis for this is the Smart City Charter of the National Dialogue Platform Smart Cities. The model projects are intended to show how the qualities of the European city can be translated in the age of digitisation.

The Smart City guideline: The public interest of urban society

Integrated, networked and aimed towards the common good: This is the focus of all model projects with their digitisation ideas. In order to identify local concerns and public interests in the best possible way, a strategic and participatory approach to digitisation is needed. For this reason, we do not promote individual, sectoral digitisation projects, but smart strategies that involve everyone. We rely on the problem-solving capacity of integrated approaches and activities that involve citizens and businesses alike - even those who are not digitally savvy.

Central knowledge transfer for model projects

Intensive exchange and cooperation between municipalities: In this way, many people can benefit from the experience of individuals. Good approaches are made feasible, and everyone learns together from successes and failures. To this end, there is a constant exchange of experience both within the model project community and with non-funded municipalities. This exchange not only includes processes, methods and strategies, but also access to promoted open source or free software solutions. The Smart Cities model projects promote digitisation at the local level in terms of integrated sustainable urban development. Funded by the federal government, they develop Smart City strategies and implement them together with local stakeholders and networks.