



Uniting Europe's leading local government organizations with Living Lab experts, ICT specialists and expert SMEs.

Project Coordinator: CORVE (Brussels)
Contact Person: Geert Mareels
Tel: +32 475 728 292
Email: geert.mareels@bz.vlaanderen.be

Position paper on: Citadel on the Move

Enabling Smart City Services through Open Data, Mobile Applications and Common Data Formats

INTRODUCTION

In most European countries, local government has the greatest contact with citizens and businesses, and is at the forefront of service delivery to them.

In recent years, we are witnessing the emergence of new technologies which act as enablers for local government to create 'smart', innovative citizen-generated services and deliver those services in the most effective way, across the whole of Europe. The availability of easily accessible public service data and information, to be delivered through innovative mobile applications, is paramount in order to achieving these goals.

Opening up government data will empower citizens to create 'smart' mobile applications that can be potentially shared across European cities. Much, if not most, of this data is however locked into organizational silo's, in specific applications or formats, and therefore difficult to access or to integrate into new uses.

Citadel on the Move is a project which aims to make it easier for citizens and application developers from across Europe to use *Open Data* to create the type of innovative *mobile applications* they want and need. At present, Open Government Data is often difficult to access and use by the developer community, let alone the average citizen. *Citadel on the Move* aims to fulfill this need by:

- Creating formats that make it easier for local government to release data in useable, interoperable formats;
- Creating and providing templates that make it easier for developers and citizens to create mobile applications that can be potentially used and shared across Europe.

BACKGROUND

1. The Malmö Ministerial Declaration

On November 18, 2009, EU Ministers signed the "*Malmö Ministerial Declaration*" outlining a forward-looking eGovernment vision to be achieved by 2015.

A key platform of the Malmö Declaration was to empower businesses and citizens through:

- eGovernment services designed around user's needs;
- Better access to information;
- Active citizen involvement;
- Facilitate mobility in the single market.

Despite numerous policy documents and 'how to' manuals focusing on local eGovernment, one year on, the 'Malmö Vision' was still not being translated down to the local level. Smaller communities in particular were finding it difficult to implement innovative ICT projects that would enable them to 'work smarter'.

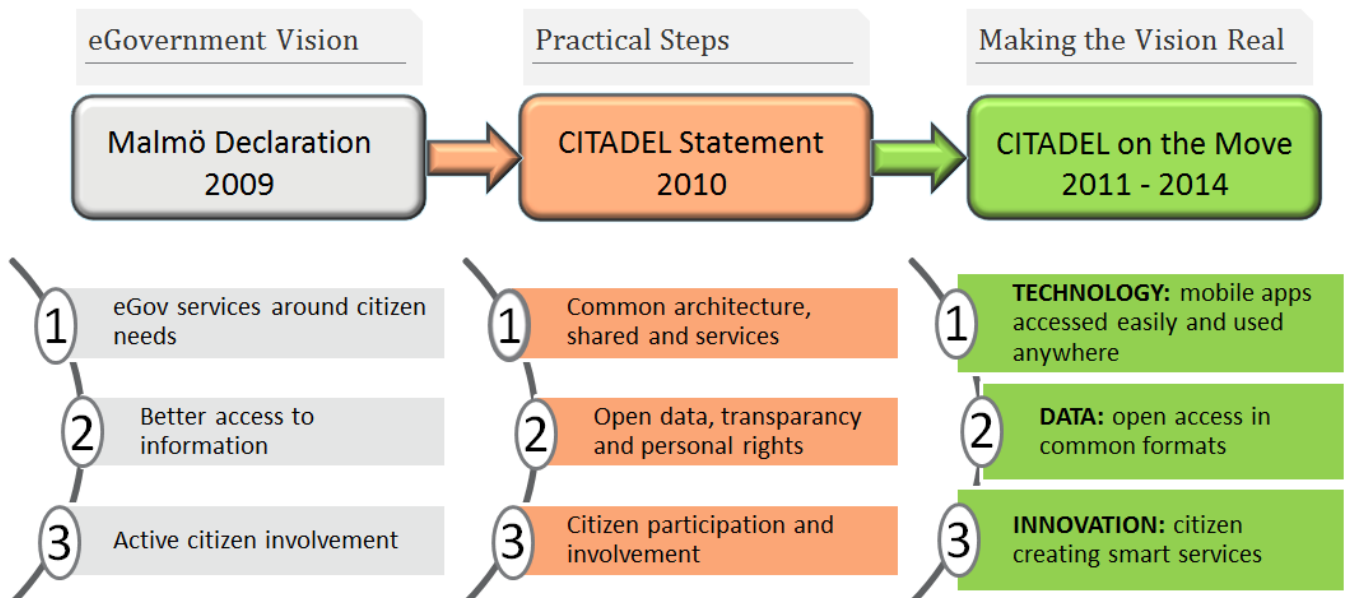
2. The Citadel Statement

December 2010, during the Belgian Presidency of the EU, the Flemish government and a host of European local government partner organizations launched the "*Citadel Statement*" at an open government conference in Ghent, in order to help local government deliver on the key objectives of the Malmö Ministerial Declaration. The Statement emphasized the role of local government and encouraged European and national decision makers to stimulate the improvement of local eGovernment in the area of making public data open and accessible in areas such as public service lists, standard information on businesses and citizens, travel and tourism and environmental and geographical data.

The '**Citadel Statement**' is at present supported by 64 organizations representing more than 200 cities on five continents.

3. Citadel on the Move

Building on the widely supported Citadel Statement, the "*Citadel on the Move*" initiative was officially launched in Ghent, Belgium, on February 1th, 2012. *Citadel on the Move* unites all of Europe's leading local government organizations with 'Living Lab' experts, specialist technology researchers and expert SME's in a common effort to harness the power of user-driven open innovation, to develop citizen generated 'smart city' mobile applications that can be used and shared in any European city – large or small.



THESIS

Citadel on the Move - APPROACH

In line with the *Digital Agenda for Europe*, *Citadel on the Move* will use the Living Lab approach to engage end-users/citizens in the creation of innovative, new mobile applications in the pre-agreed areas of *travel and tourism*. In so doing, *Citadel on the Move* will help to bolster the creation and use of *shared, citizen-generated mobile applications* by using *open source / open platform technologies* for applications that can be built using open access data.

The Flemish eGovernment Authority, CORVE, under the direction of the Minister for eGovernment and Tourism will drive the overall innovation effort and ensure that the legal and technical lessons, which the Authority learned in establishing its pioneering MAGDA platform for integrating and sharing data in a "classical way", can be transferred to an open innovation environment.

Citadel on the Move - USAGE

Citadel on the Move solution components will be available for use by anyone in a city to create a new mobile smart service.

Mobile apps and access to open data will be available:

- On the Citadel project website;
- Through Living Lab infrastructures;
- On any existing innovation platform chosen by the pilot City.

Citadel on the Move - TECHNOLOGY

Citadel on the Move will facilitate the development and use of smart mobile applications that can potentially be used anywhere and on any handset by:

- Deploying a mobile web approach (based on HTML5) that will allow applications to be used on most handsets;
- Addressing IOT/geo-location developments that provide advanced, value-added data sharing mechanisms.

Citadel on the Move - INNOVATION

Citadel on the Move will help unleash the full potential of Open Innovation Systems by:

- Developing template mobile web applications that can be used by 'citizen developers' to create their own applications;
- Using the Living Lab methodology to help 'citizen developers' understand and use these templates.

Citadel on the Move - DATA

Citadel on the Move will help empower 'citizen developers' to create the type of 'smart city' services they want and need by:

- Creating and promoting the use of a common method for aggregating, transforming and publishing government data from differing sources into a more easily accessible format;
- Providing an easy way to link the use of mobile web app templates and "open access data" for use by developers and 'citizen developers' alike.

CONCLUSION

Citadel on the Move will change the way cities communicate and collaborate with stakeholders to develop public services, as well as partnering with each other to truly share services. The *Citadel on the Move* open innovation solution provides all the facilities necessary to support the process of building and delivering innovative public services via mobile applications.

General benefits of the *Citadel on the Move* open innovation approach for cities are:

- Agility improves by opening up data to enable users to rapidly and inexpensively create mobile applications that cover public service gaps and needs;
- Costs for delivering public services are greatly reduced as citizens contribute their R&D talents for free;
- Device and location independence enables users to access systems using a web browser regardless of their location or whatever handheld device they are using (e.g., iPhone, iPad, Android, Blackberry etc.);
- Scalability increases as all citizens can create public services without the need for highly skilled programming skills. Innovation is thus shared across cities;
- Facilitates economic growth and innovation because Open Data enables SMEs to create new market products;
- Delivery of Added value delivered through the sharing of new innovative services between cities – mobile service apps that work anywhere.

Citadel on the Move consists of Partners from five European Countries - Belgium, France, Greece, Portugal and the United Kingdom. In addition to combining the requisite technological, business and academic skills, the Consortium has been intentionally designed to facilitate knowledge sharing and information transfer across Europe.

Citadel on the Move will create a European *open innovation environment* using *common data formats and mobile app templates* to help citizens generate the 'Smart City' services they want and need. *Citadel on the Move* will use its extensive network to generate buy-in and take up of the solution across Europe.