

## **2022 WITSA Global ICT Excellence Awards Nomination Form**

The 2022 WITSA Global ICT Excellence Awards will be presented to select individuals, academic institutions, corporations, NGOs or governments whose use and applications of digital technologies exhibit exceptional achievement within the following broad categories:

Private Sector/NGO	Public Sector
Digital Opportunity/Inclusion Award	Digital Opportunity/Inclusion Award
Smart Cities Award	Smart Cities Award
Sustainable Growth/Circular Economy Award	Sustainable Growth/Circular Economy Award
Innovative eHealth Solutions Award	Innovative eHealth Solutions Award
Public/Private Partnership Award	Public/Private Partnership Award
E-Education & Learning Award	E-Education & Learning Award
Emerging Digital Solutions Award	Startup Ecosystem Award

In addition, a *Chairman's Award* will be presented to a nominee selected from the entire pool of candidates from all award categories.

Candidates for these Awards are nominated by ICT experts from around the world who span over 80 countries/economies. The 2022 WITSA Global ICT Excellence Awards will take place in conjunction with the September 13-15, 2022 World Congress on IT in Penang, Malaysia (<https://wcit2022.com/>).

### **Smart City Award**

**Award Criteria:** A smart city is an urban area that uses different types of electronic methods and sensors to collect data. Insights gained from that data are used to manage assets, resources and services efficiently; in return, that data is used to improve the operations across the city (ref. Wikipedia). This includes data collected from citizens, devices, buildings and assets that is then processed and analyzed to monitor and manage traffic and transportation systems, power plants, utilities, water supply networks, waste, crime detection, information systems, schools, libraries, hospitals, and other community services. The smart city concept integrates information and communication technology (ICT), and various physical devices connected to the IoT (Internet of things) network to optimize the efficiency of city operations and services and connect to citizens.

Smart city technology allows city officials to interact directly with both community and city infrastructure and to monitor what is happening in the city and how the city is evolving. ICT is used to enhance quality, performance and interactivity of urban services, to reduce costs and resource consumption and to increase contact between citizens and government. Smart city applications are developed to manage urban flows and allow for real-time responses. A smart city may therefore be more prepared to respond to challenges than one with a simple "transactional" relationship with its citizens.

**Award #1: Corporations:** This award will recognize outstanding Smart City industry solutions, including in digital administration, best industry solutions in civic and community engagement and transparency, including Open Data, city portals, and emergency services, best industry initiatives in the area of digital equity and accessibility including technologies for disability compliance, innovations in accessibility services, public Wi-Fi, and other projects focused on underserved communities, automation and systems integration to measure, monitor, control, and optimize building operations and to use energy in the most efficient and cost-effective way, reducing challenges and costs related to water stress, systemic inefficiency, and water loss while improving asset management and customer services, industry initiatives in the field of transportation, including autonomous cars, connected vehicles, and smart public transit, smart parking, smart infrastructure, intelligent traffic management, multi-modal transport hubs, journey planning and ride-hailing/ride-sharing services.

**Award #2: Government authorities** This award will recognize outstanding Smart City government projects, including the best projects in digital administration, best projects in civic and community engagement and transparency, including Open Data, city portals, and emergency services, best initiatives in the area of digital equity and accessibility including technologies for disability compliance, innovations in accessibility services, public Wi-Fi, and other projects focused on underserved communities, automation and systems integration to measure, monitor, control, and optimize building operations and to use energy in the most efficient and cost-effective way, reducing challenges and costs related to water stress, systemic inefficiency, and water loss while improving asset management and customer services, initiatives in the field of transportation, including autonomous cars, connected vehicles, and smart public transit, smart parking, smart infrastructure, intelligent traffic management, multi-modal transport hubs, journey planning and ride-hailing/ride-sharing services.

**YOUR NOMINEES (limit three nominations per award category).**

Municipality of Rethymno- Greece, for the Smart Parking and the city's Digital Twin

Public Sector – Smart Cities

## **REASONS FOR NOMINATION**

The city of Rethymno, Greece, is now offering its citizens an improved experience in their daily transportation.

The administration that makes use of the smart parking solution and the digital twin becomes the owner of rich data-sets. Those can be used to identify trends, peak-times and other metrics for forecasting and reporting.

The Smart Parking Solution (ParkaLot) is the first large scale application in Greece for smart parking with 649 parking sensors in the center of Rethymno. The smart parking application includes parking spots for people with reduced mobility, special parking spaces for loading bays, indoor parking spaces, parking spaces for permanent residents and it communicates with

electronic signage and VMS (Variable Message Signs). It therefore constitutes one of the most complete smart parking solutions a city could benefit from.

Offering a 360° view of the city, a digital twin of Rethymno provides the administrator, among other data, with a real-time information on the status of the parking sensors that have been placed. The information varies from the technical status of the sensor (battery, faulty function etc) to the actual occupation of the parking space.

A smart city digital twin relies on a number of layers of data that can be built on top of each other, layering in information about the terrain, buildings, infrastructure, mobility, and IoT devices. The digital twin uses the data generated in the virtual smart city layer to perform additional simulations; this information is fed back through the layers of the model, where it can be implemented in the physical world.

The cities aspiring to become “smart” in Greece are eagerly parenting technologies and IoT solutions in order to continuously improve the everyday lives of people.

Traffic congestion is largely avoided, thus helping the citizens enjoy a quicker route to their destination. Environmental benefits include reduced CO<sup>2</sup> emissions and other pollutants and lower noise levels in the urban area.

The aforementioned make the City of Rethymno a pioneer in the smart city field.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION:** Please send any supporting information to the address above, including information from candidate (i.e. excerpt from program description, web site print-out, press release, etc.)

**NOMINEE CONTACT INFORMATION** (for award follow up and coordination)

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