



Barcelona participates in the European competition Open Cities App Challenge

Eight European cities organise the app competition in order to solve the urban-life problems with the use of Open Data

The Barcelona City Council leads, together with seven more European capitals, the **Open Cities App Challenge, a competition of mobile apps** involving the creation and design of apps that address the use of Open Data, in order to solve the needs and everyday problems of urban living. The eight participating cities (Amsterdam, Berlin, Bologna, Helsinki, London, Paris and Rome) have opened up their data for private and commercial use, making them available through the projects Open Data and Open Sensor Networks platforms.

Co-funded by the European Union, the [Open Cities](#) project was created to bridge the gap between the public sector and open and user-driven innovation. The project aims to improve the quality of city-life, through the more efficient use of urban spaces, advanced networks, citizens' ideas and the involvement of residents in the creation of the Smart Cities of tomorrow.

The [Open Cities App_Challenge](#) was officially presented in Barcelona during the [mobile premier awards](#), one of the events organized during the Mobile World Congress (MWC).

The **Open Cities App Challenge** competition runs until September 15th, 2012. A short-list of ten finalists will be chosen to present their app live in front of a Jury during the Smart City Expo World Congress, which takes place in November 2012 in Barcelona. The winner will receive the Best Open Cities App award and a prize of €3,000.

Additional to this, the Open Cities project has also launched three more European competitions focused on the areas of Crowdsourcing (proposals of ideas to improve city life through the crowdsourcing platform), Urban Lab (projects focused on energy efficiency to be implemented in a real building in Barcelona) and Advanced Broadband Networks (use of advanced networks like Fibre-to-the-home for testing apps with real users). All competitions are free of charge and aimed at app developers, SMEs, start-ups, associations and the general public.

More information: http://www.opencities.net/app_challenge

<http://www.barcelonaskyline.com/>

