Smart Cities
Innovation Accelerators

www.theinnovatorsforum.org

Co-design sessions with NYC, Toronto, San Jose, Kansas City, San Diego, and Dublin CIOs and Expert Partners

The Innovator's Forum brings you an initiative of the Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard

Smart Cities Innovation Series

THE INNOVATION SERIES PROVIDES UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN FROM AND CO-DESIGN THE NEXT GENERATION OF SMART CITY SOLUTIONS WITH THE WORLD'S LEADING CITY INNOVATORS, RESEARCHERS, AND SELECT EXECUTIVES FROM THE INDUSTRY AND THE STARTUP COMMUNITY.

The Smart Cities Innovation Accelerator series was created by Dr. David Ricketts of the Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard to enable multi-disciplinary discussions between senior leaders across the gamut of topics that make modern cities smart.

Events in the Accelerator series include a full, 2-day Accelerator event that covers a range of topics. Deep-dives are full-day events focusing on a particular major topic. Harvard Summits are yearly events that emphasize big learnings and scaling your city plan.

By inviting city CIOs, their senior staff and other key city stakeholders from multiple cities, actionable solutions developed at the events can be put into place with both the know-how and the buy-in to make things happen. Expert partners work with the Chair and city CIOs to develop topical focus sessions where the CIOs, their staff and expert partners roll up their sleeves in peer-to-peer workshops to tackle some of the most difficult challenges the cities face.

"This is the best smart city event I have ever been to — and I have been to many!"

–Kevin O'Malley, City Innovation Team Manager, Bristol, England

"It's like going to the large Smart City Events, but the 2000 people you didn't need to see left the room, and the top CIOs and staff were left to work with you."

— Stan Schultes, Spark Growth.

Through the Smart Cities Innovation Series, you will explore the critical needs required to drive innovation in your community. You will take a deep dive into questions concerning infrastructure, education, community involvement and economic programs. Topics for the Accelerator are proposed by the expert partners and by the city CIOs, through an open call for city challenges. Based on these challenges directly proposed by the cities, a custom program is developed by the Chair to enable an actionable co-design session between cities and partners at the event.

The program is structured with interactive sessions that use Harvard's proven case study model where participants learn from real life examples and work with peers to solve problems. This format is complemented by in-depth discussions where participants share their own personal experiences, best practices, and the key challenges they have faced. With plenty of networking and socializing opportunities, the program is an immersive experience that allows you to learn as well as connect with like-minded senior leaders.

The Smart Cities Innovation Series are invitation-only programs. Other applicants will be reviewed and accepted on a case-by-case basis. The Accelerators are provided complimentary to city leaders with no tuition fee to attend, and some Series events may also include a subsidy for travel and hotel expenses.

Invitations are limited to 20 cities with up to 3 staff members each to ensure an intimate working group.

The 2018 Accelerator Invitation List Includes:

US/Canada Cities:

Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Boston, Bradenton, Carlsbad, Cary, Chicago, Chula Vista, Concord, Dallas, Denver, Easton, Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Opelika, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, Riverside, San Antonio, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, Toronto, Vancouver, Washington D.C., West Sacramento

EU/Global Cities:

Amsterdam, Belfast, Berlin, Bristol, Catalonia/Barcelona, Copenhagen, Cork, Dubai, Dublin, Eindhoven, Ghent, Glasgow, Helsinki, Leeds, Limerick, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Maynooth, Medellin, Melbourne, Milan, Milton Keynes, Moscow, Paris, Rome, Singapore, Southampton, Stockholm, Stuttgart, Tel Aviv, The Hague, Tijuana, Vienna, Zaragoza

Sample of World CIOs Who Have Participated

Andry Belozerov
Strategy and Innovations Advisor to CIO of Moscow

Bob Bennett
Chief Innovation Officer, City of Kansas City, MO

Jamie Cudden
Smart City Program Manager, Dublin City Council

Jordi Puignero
Secretary of Telecommunications, Cybersecurity and Digital Society, Government of Catalonia

Shana Krakowski
Director of the Platform, Tel Aviv Global - Mayor's Office

Miguel Gamiño
Chief Technology Officer, City of New York

Karl-Filip Coenegrachts
Chief Strategy Officer, City of Ghent

David Graham
Deputy Chief Operating Officer, City of San Diego

Sylvia Harris
Deputy Director of Operations Department of Innovation and Performance, City of Pittsburgh

Nigel Jacob
Co-Chair, Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics, City of Boston

Michael Sherwood
Director of Technology and Innovation, City of Las Vegas

Rob Meikle
Chief Information Officer, City of Toronto, Information & Technology

Samir Saini
Chief Information Officer, New York City

Jessie Adcock
Chief Technology Officer, City of Vancouver

Grace Simrall
Chief of Civic Innovation and Technology, Louisville Metro Government

Jeanne Holm
Deputy CIO, City of Los Angeles

Harvard Innovation Fellows leading ideation session with city CIOs and Expert Partners

About the Innovation Accelerators and Summits

The Strategic Innovation Accelerator and Summit series was created by Dr. Ricketts and the Technology and Entrepreneurship Center to enable multi-disciplinary discussions between senior leaders on relevant topics of the year. Unlike conventional, discipline-specific conferences, where topical content is narrow and participants are generally from the same discipline, the Accelerators and Summits bring together people from many sectors. These include government, business, education, non-profit, and the arts and sciences.

The goal is to create and stimulate conversation that would normally not take place elsewhere, between senior leaders on topics related to innovation and society.

The Accelerators and Summits provide three important benefits to participants:

1. Education: As experts in their fields, participants learn from one another through interactive sessions and dedicated talks. These aim to educate, raise important questions, and present the latest data on trends and the current state of the Accelerator/Summit topic.

2. Multi-Disciplinary Engagement: The Accelerators and Summits are sized so that even during the main session, a conversation can occur amongst all participants. Questions and answers are not only between the speakers but also the participants. Facilitators and moderators from HBS, TECH, and other centers are brought in to ensure engagement and to be a catalyst for the conversation.

3. Action: The ultimate goal of the Accelerators and Summits is impact. For this to happen, action is a critical component. The programs dedicate 50 percent of the time to action sessions with the participants. That format drives the discussion and ideas presented into an action set for both the participants and the broader community.

Attendance is by application only, and senior leaders from any discipline that is relevant to the topic are encouraged to apply.

Topics are proposed by participants, senior leaders in industry and government, and the Fellows in TECH. Topics are chosen based upon relevance and potential for impact in a broad sense, particularly those that include economic, societal, and environmental benefits.

For more information about the Strategic Innovation Accelerator and Summit series, please contact the Program Chair, Dr. David S. Ricketts (ricketts@seas.harvard.edu).

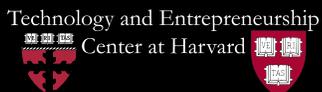*This is the Harvard Graduate School for Smart City CIO and CTOs."*

–Bob Bennett, Kansas City

"This is exponentially better than any other smart city event we have attended."

–David Graham, San Diego

Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard

Convened By:
The Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard (TECH)
hosts the Strategic Innovation Accelerators. TECH, part of the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, is both a real and virtual space for students, faculty, alumni, and industry leaders to learn together, collaborate, and innovate. TECH enables this holistic exploration by sponsoring and supporting opportunities for the innovation community to gather and exchange knowledge via courses, study groups, mentorship relationships, innovation programs and special events. Find more information at www.tech.seas.harvard.edu

Contact Information

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