tm**forum**

THE FACE OF DIGITAL LEADERSHIP

How would you describe Open & Agile Smart Cities' (OASC's) strategy for digitally transforming cities globally?
OASC brings together cities and communities across the globe to cooperate and exchange knowledge on how to best address digitalization. In this endeavor, OASC is a neutral partner that supports cities by means of a minimal approach based on common, open standards that facilitate and structure data exchange within and between cities as well as third parties. We call this approach OASC Minimal Interoperability Mechanisms (MIMs).

What targets does the organization have to guide this strategy?
Our member cities have currently approved three OASC MIMs – Context Information Management, Data Models and Ecosystem transaction Management. Our objective is to help cities and their providers to implement the MIMs and to further drive the development of the roadmap based on the voices in the OASC Council.

How does TM Forum help to achieve those digital transformation objectives?
TM Forum's pragmatic approach to developing APIs driven by demand, shared data models and marketplace enablers represents a supply-side vision complementing OASC's demand-side strategy.

As a leader, what are you doing on a daily basis to address diversity?
OASC works to ensure a minimal common ground in order to cater for diversity on all levels. One city cannot join alone but must come as a national or territorial network of at least two cities or entities. This is a fundamental requirement to ensure both diversity and collaboration locally as well as globally. And we believe that this is ultimately the most powerful feature of OASC: to cater for diverse ways of harnessing common, global forces of digital technologies.

What are the key challenges to overcome in developing this 'open and agile' approach for OASC's network of cities, and how are you addressing them?
Cities are eager to be open and agile, but the city departments often lack knowledge about open standards for data exchange or are overwhelmed by the sheer number of standards that are available to support cities and communities and how to best apply them, especially in procurement of isolated services.

In terms of the wider societal impact of digitization, what are you looking forward to over the next decade?
Just sharing data isn't creating a sustainable smart cities market, this is clear by now. Many governments, from the local, national and international level, have put policies in place without much effect. But we're facing a new wave where mixed data spaces are emerging, with multi-sided contributors and consumers in complex value networks.

In terms of the wider societal impact of digitization, what concerns you?
Cybersecurity and data protection of citizens and businesses has to be a primary focus point for governments.

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