

Call for Projects 2012

Test Bench for innovative Apps and Services

By OpenCities

Call for Experimentation Projects no. 2 – February 2012

Cap Digital cluster, Paris Region

Project Leader guide



Opening of the Call for Projects: **February 27th, 2012**

Deadline for submission : **June 29th, 2012 - 12:00**

Applications to be submitted at the following address : opencities@capdigital.com

Information on the Call for Projects : <http://paris.opencities.net>

Table of Content

Objectives and resources of the Open Platform for High Speed Broadband Services	3
A support mechanism for companies to fine-tune their on-line and mobile services	3
Resources made available to companies on the Open Platform for High Speed Broadband Services	3
Partners in the Open Platform for High Speed Broadband Services	4
Call for Experimentation Projects no. 1 - May - October 2011	4
Eligibility of experimentation projects	4
Selection of experimentation projects	5
Schedule of the Call for Projects	6
Information and contact details	6
Open Cities project description	7

Objectives and resources of the Test Bench for innovative Apps and Services

A support mechanism for companies to fine-tune their on-line and mobile services

Cap Digital Paris Region Business Cluster wishes to support businesses, working in the area of digital contents in Europe, fine-tune their innovative on-line and mobile services and digital contents.

For this reason, Cap Digital takes part in the Open Cities project, in the framework of the ICT Policy Support Program, on one of the final steps on the technological innovation chain, i.e. real-size experimentation before the commercial development of the project.

For companies working in the digital contents sector, the Test Bench for innovative Apps and Services comes at a crucial stage in the development of innovative products and service. This experimentation phase in real-life usage conditions is placed between the industrial launching/commercial rollout stages and up-stream research and development phases.

Cap Digital and its partners in the Test Bench for innovative Apps and Services are mobilising significant resources, including computer equipment and dedicated hosting space, as well as a 4-person team for the duration of the project, to foster and enhance experimentation projects led by companies.

Access to the Test Bench is free of charge for the selected companies.

Resources made available to companies on the Test Bench for innovative Apps and Services

The Call for Experimentation Projects launched by Cap Digital Paris Region Business Cluster is opened to all Small and Medium Enterprises operating in the different sectors of digital contents and information technology encompassed by the business cluster: Culture, Press and Media, Digital Design, e-Learning and e-Training, Image, Sound and Interactivity (ISI), Knowledge Engineering, Video Games, Open Source Software, Collaborative Technology & Intelligence, Robotics and Communicating Objects, and Mobile Lifestyle & Services. Projects may include on-line and mobile services, video games, search engines, e-Learning, digital music, digital audio-visual contents and multimedia, 3D, etc. Other projects, in areas of work connected to those of the business cluster, could also be submitted even though the cluster does not explicitly cover them.

As the Open Cities Test Bench is designed for prototyping on-line and mobile services or digital contents, and test them under "real-life" conditions with "real" end-users over a 1 to 2 months period, innovative projects led by companies should be close to a commercial rollout stage.

Experimentation project leaders will have access to all the benefits and resources of the Open Cities Platform, in a 2-phase sequence:

Technical fine-tuning

If needed, installation of digital content and service prototypes on a managed data centre for a phase of alpha-testing, methodological and technical support to the company provided by Bearstech company engineers, on-line solutions specialist.

The objective is a technical fine-tuning of the experimentation project, before moving to the operational phase. Typically, load tests on degraded or optimized networks can be carried out.

Real-life experimentation

- 1) If needed, hosting of digital contents and services on the servers of a data centre managed by Bearstech.
- 2) Installation of services on an internet portal, <http://paris.opencities.net>, to :
 - allow internet users to access services and contents upon individual registration ;
 - present the work of the Open Cities Platform to the wider public and beta-testers ;
 - present the services and contents as well as companies involved in the experimentations ;
 - access information on the studies carried out by the Pan-European Observatory of FTTx Networks Usages.
- 3) Access to a group of European beta-testers rewarded by incentives. Specific groups will be set up for each experimentation according to specific criteria defined by companies experimenting on-line and mobile contents and services in real-life usage conditions.

Partners in the Test Bench for innovative Apps and Services

- Cap Digital Paris Region: Project leader
www.capdigital.com
- Institut Telecom : beta-testing and Pan-European Observatory of FTTx Networks Usages
www.institut-telecom.fr
- Bearstech : technical support and applications hosting
www.bearstech.com

Call for Experimentation Projects no. 2 - February 2011

Eligibility of experimentation projects

Within the Test Bench for innovative Apps and Services, experimentation projects consist in on-line or mobile services or digital contents at a pre-competitive stage (close to industrial or commercial roll-out), going through the ultimate phase of research and development for fine-tuning.

They are innovative projects in terms of usages and/or technology with a European added-value.

These experimentation projects will aim at real-size testing of innovative technical solution prototypes, new models of on-line or mobile services, or new types of contents made possible by High Speed Broadband Networks, in order to assess induced usages, resolve technical problems, fine-tune user-friendliness or user interface, validate business models, etc.

Experimentation projects dealing with urban life and/or citizenship will be given special consideration : projects providing e-Services for urban dwellers, projects related to urban management, building in the city and the urban environment, projects addressing urban transport and mobility, projects supporting dissemination of open information on local-level community life, projects promoting collaborative databases...

Projects should be lead by a Small or Medium Enterprise (less than 2,000 employees). In principle, these should be single partner projects lead by one company, but they may be a collaborative working involving several partners.

The Call for Projects is opened to all industrial operators of the digital contents and services sector in Amsterdam, Barcelona, Berlin, the Greater Paris Regions, Helsinki and Roma. French project leaders should be members of the Cap Digital Business Cluster, or have applied for membership with the Business Cluster. (<http://www.capdigital.com/cap-digital/adherer/>)

Experimental services and contents of projects submitted by applicants can be either designed for individual users (BtoC services) or for companies (BtoB services).

Selection of experimentation projects

Expected features of submitted experimentation projects include:

- that they are in the final stretch of the research & development phase, technical adjustment of the interface and ergonomics of the service or product ;
- that they are at a pre-competitive stage and offer an economic model for the next phase of industrialization or commercial roll-out ;
- that they are within the company's development strategy ;
- that they demonstrate a real need for part of all of the resources provided by the Platform : technical support, data centre hosting and access to the user's panel ;
- that the aims and objectives of the experimentation, and the project leader's expectations in terms of feedback are clearly defined ;
- that the experimentation can begin by the end of 2011 or rely on short additional development time ;

Schedule of the Call for Projects

Call for Experimentation launched Monday, 16th of May 2011 ;

Submission of Applications until June, 29th, 2012, 12:00 ;

Projects will be examined and selected as they arrive ;

Use Agreement of the Test Bench for innovative Apps and services;

Beginning of experimentations, starting April 2012 (alpha-testing).

Experimentations will have duration of approximately 6 to 9 months (including 1 to 2 months on-line experimentation with end-users). Model planning for an experimentation starting in April 2012:

- April to May 2012: fine-tuning (alpha-testing)
- June to July 2012: experimentation (beta-testing)
- August - September 2012: analysis of experimentation feedbacks

Experimentation projects and Test Bench resources mobilized will be under the responsibility of the Test Bench leader, through a coordination Committee of Open Cities' WP5 partners.

Information and contact details

Call for Projects documents (downloadable on <http://paris.opencities.net>) :

Experimentation project leader Guide

Project presentation document, to be completed by the project leader.

Instructions for completing this document are included in each section as "hidden text", visible only on screen ; activate the "show hidden text" option in Microsoft Word.

This is a two-parts document: A - Project Leader presentation and B - Description of the proposed experimentation project.

The "Project presentation document" should be sent as a digital file (pdf only) at: **opencities@capdigital.com before Friday, 29th of June 2012 at noon.**

The "Project presentation document" will have been renamed to include the project name or submitting company name as ""OpenCities_AAP2_projectname.pdf" The first page with signature and stamp of the project leader should be scanned and submitted as well.

The following documents may be requested for selected projects :

- Articles of Association
- Balance sheets of the company for the passed three years (company tax return and schedules)
- Last two Auditor's report
- Photocopy of the company Manager's ID
- IBAN-type slip delivered by a banking institution.

Open Cities project description

Open Cities is a collaborative R&D project funded under the ICT Policy Support Programme. Its aim is to explore the possibility of integrating Open and User-driven Innovation methodologies in the public sector, with five main objectives:

1. Distil insights and best practices on how to apply Open Innovation in the Public Sector ;
2. Gain understanding on the management of Technological Platforms in an Open Innovation context ;
3. Validate the use of pan-European Platforms for Crowdsourcing, Open Data, FTTH networks and Open Sensor Networks ;
4. Trigger the development of Advanced Future Internet Services ;
5. Understanding how Living Labs could be effectively applied for promoting the adoption and co-creating of innovation in Smart Cities ;

The project brings together 15 institutions from 5 major European cities: Helsinki, Berlin, Amsterdam, Paris and Barcelona. Open Cities will achieve these objectives by leveraging pre-existing initiatives in the area of Crowd sourcing, Open Data, High-Speed Broadband Networks and Open Sensor Networks.

Five sub-project clusters were designed with a view to foster cross-fertilization:

- Urban Lab, Living Labs in Smart Cities and Open Sensor Networks in the city of Barcelona
- Crowdsourcing in Amsterdam
- Open Data in Berlin
- Open Platform for High-Speed Broadband Services in Paris Region

More information available at: www.opencities.net

Open Cities Partners

Esade, Institut Telecom, Fraunhofer, City of Amsterdam, Forum Virium, dotopen, Cap Digital, Bearstech, Waag Society, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Dutch, Barcelona Activa, Berlin Senate, Tempos 21, Atos Origin

On the Open Cities Platform and the Call for Projects : <http://paris.opencities.fr>

Applications to be submitted at: opencities@capdigital.com

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