



Smart City Expo World Congress

Call for Speakers 2026 – 15th edition

Terms and Conditions

Entering the Call for Speakers implies full acceptance of its rules

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healthy, and collaborative cities. All authors are cordially invited to submit their proposals to the Smart City Expo World Congress held on November 3 – 5, 2026, in Barcelona.

3. Topics covered

Please find the covered topics in the 2026 edition and guidance of main keywords that will be considered to participate in the Congress. You will need to prioritize and select only one topic that your proposal mostly refers to. Submissions should deal with **one or several keywords** of this list. Do not hesitate to contact the organization in case of doubt.

If you would like to present a proposal related to the topic of Urban Mobility, please apply to **Tomorrow.Mobility World Congress' Call for Speakers**, available at the following link: **Call for Speakers Platform** (After registering as a user you will be able to choose the Tomorrow.Mobility World Congress Call for Speakers and submit your proposal).

Topics 2026	Main keywords
Enabling Technologies	Algorithm Ethics, Algorithms, APP Solutions, Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality, Big Data, Blockchain, City Platforms, Cloud Computing, Cloud Storage, Cognitive Cities, Connectivity, Cybersecurity, Data Analytics, Data Integration, Data Lake, Data Management, Data Protection, Data Protection, Data Security and Safety, Data Storage, Deep Learning, Digital Modelling, Digital Rights, Digital Twins, Edge Computing, Facial Recognition, Fraud Detection, Identity Management, Implementation Challenges, IOT, Latency, Machine to Machine Communication, Metaverse, Networked Devices, PaaS, Phishing, Platform as Service, Privacy, Robotics, Safety & Security, Sensoring, Simulated Environments, Smart Devices, Smart Environments, Smart Networks, Universal Broadband, Urban Tech, Virtual Reality, WiFi 6, 5G.



Energy & Environment	<p>Adaptation, Air Quality, Circularity, Clean Energy, Clean Water, Cleantech, Climate Change, Climate Emergency, Climate Tech, Cogeneration, Cooling Systems, Cradle-to-cradle, Decarbonisation, Decentralized Energy, Dietary Footprint, Disaster Risk Management, Ecology, Electrification, Emergency Response, Energy Efficiency, Energy Infrastructure, Energy Investment, Energy Security, Energy Storage, Energy Transition, Financing Funding, Food Policies, Food Safety, Food Systems, Food Waste, GHG Emissions, Green Cities, Green Deal, Green Districts, Green Spaces, Heating Systems, Hydrogen-powered, Integrated Management Systems, Landscaping, Low Emissions Tech, Mitigation, Net Zero Emissions, New Energy Models, Parks, Public Space, Rainwater systems, Recycling, Regenerative by design, Renewables, Resources, Smart Grids, Smart Infrastructures, Smart Street Lighting, Smart Utilities, Sponge Cities, Sustainable Garbage Processing, Sustainable Tech, Urban Agriculture, Urban Farming, Urban Forests, Urban Furniture, Urban Management, Urban Planning, Urban Resilience, Urban Services, Urban-rural Linkages, Waste Management, Water Management, Zero Waste.</p>
Governance & Economy	<p>Accountability, Alliances, Best Practices, Business Models, Centre-periphery, Citizen Engagement, Circular Economy, City Diplomacy, City-to-city Cooperation, Co-creation, Collaboration, Creative Cities, Cross-sector Governance, Culture, Data Strategies, Economic Models, Financing Schemes, Global Cities, Global Funds, GovTech, Indicators, Innovation Ecosystems, International Projection, Internationalisation Strategies, Investment Models, Legislation, Local Economic Development, Metropolitan Governance, Model Performance Monitoring, Multilateral Institutions, Multilevel Governance, Multi-stakeholder, Open Data, Open Government, Philanthropies, Policies, Policy-making, PPP, Public Procurement, Regional Development, Regional Investment Banks, Regulations, Rural-Urban, Sharing Economy, Standards, Standardization, Start-ups, Talent Attraction, Urban Global Agendas.</p>
Living & Inclusion	<p>Affordability, Ageing Populations, Cities for All, Climate Justice, Co-housing, Co-working, Cross-district Equity, Digital Equality, Digital Rights, Diseases, Education, Ethnic Inclusion, Future of Education, Future of Work, Future Skills, Gender Equality, Gentrification, Health, Healthcare, Housing, Informal Housing, Innovative Housing Models, Labour Platforms, Leisure, Migration, Minorities, New Work Spaces, Physical Inclusion, Physical Security, Public Health, Racial Justice, Religious Inclusion, Right to Housing, Right to the City, Smart Destination, Social Impact, Social Inclusion, Social Inequality, Sustainable Destination, Tourism, Tourist-resident Balance, Universal Income, Urban safety, Utopia, Wellbeing, Wellness.</p>



Infrastructure & Building	Asset Management, BIM, Building Automation, Building Simulation, Built Environment, Community Facilities, Construction Tech, Co-housing, Co-working, Critical Infrastructures, Decarbonisation, Design Services, Digital Construction, Digital Tools, Digital Twins, Drones, Electrification, Energy Efficiency, Extended Reality, Facility Management, Green Building, Housing, Immersive Technologies, Innovative Building Technology, Intelligent Security Systems, Metaverse, Mixed Reality, Modular Construction, Nearly Zero-Energy Buildings (NZEB), Off-site Fabrication, Property Management, PropTech, Refurbishing, Renewable Energy, Retrofitting, Roads, Smart Airports, Smart Buildings, Smart Infrastructures, Smart Ports, Street Design, Street Furniture, Urban Design, Urban Facility Management, Urban Infrastructure, Urban Management, Urban Planning, Virtual Reality, Workplace Management, Zero Emission Buildings, 3D Modelling, 3D Printing.
Blue Economy	Aquaculture, Biodiversity, Blue Growth, Blue Tech, Climate Change, Coastal Development, Coastal Protection, Coastal Tourism and Recreation, Desalination, Extractive Industries, Fisheries Management, Marine Biotechnology, Marine Conservation, Marine Ecosystem Services, Marine Pollution Control, Marine Protected Areas, Maritime Spatial Planning, Maritime Transport, Ocean Energy, Ocean Governance, Ocean Monitoring, Plastic Pollution, Ports, Protected Areas, Related Services, Renewable Energy, Sailing, Sustainable Tourism, Waste Management Smart Ports.

4. Organizer of the call

This call for speakers is organized by **Smart City Expo World Congress**.

5. Who can participate?

Smart City Expo World Congress is aimed at cities, businesses, entrepreneurs, social innovators, research centers, universities, public or non-governmental organizations, consortiums (public-private), social activists, and individuals with innovative ideas, research, analyses, studies, visions and solutions for our cities.

6. Presentation of proposals

To enter in the running call for speakers, please fill in the form [available online](#).



8. Evaluation Criteria

The quality of each proposal will be evaluated according to the criteria described below. Each submission will be evaluated based on twelve aspects, divided in 4 categories:

Group 1 - Innovation, Relevance.

Group 2 - Impact, Scope of Implementation, Citizen Engagement and Co-creation, Inclusivity.

Group 3 - Feasibility, Replicability, Multi-stakeholder Collaboration.

Group 4 - Soundness, Organization, Speaker Expertise and Experience.

For each aspect, a score will be assigned based on the degree to which the submission demonstrably fulfills each listed criterion.

Evaluation Aspects:

Use cases and specific and successfully implemented urban solutions will be highly valued.

Aspects	Criteria considered
Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The subject addressed is relevant and original, and demonstrates an innovative approach. Additionally, the proposal includes some explanations of why the submission is innovative. The proposal includes innovative concepts, processes, tools OR governance models as a test-bed for innovation.
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defines a need(s) or unresolved problem(s) being addressed in its context.
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstration of clear, significant, and tangible impacts (or potential impacts) Includes quantification of the scope of the impacts (or potential impacts) In case of research or comparative analysis, demonstration of clear contribution to future action plans and to decision making processes.
Scope of Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The target group is reached effectively and a significant number of people have been positively affected. Project capable of being scaled up to benefit hundreds of thousands (or perhaps even millions).
Citizen Engagement and Co-creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embraces considerations of citizen engagement and how to ensure the uptake of their ideas; AND/OR includes innovative methods and tools such as co-design or co-creation.



Inclusivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defines inclusion targets in terms of gender, ethnicity, class and poverty, and/or age.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly makes a persuasive case for feasibility. <p>If <u>implemented</u>, the proposal has an established record of success, AND/OR includes some information on the development cycle, the current status of implementation, and questions of financial and logistical feasibility.</p> <p>If it is a <u>proposed project, initiative or idea</u>, it includes some information for developing, piloting, and scaling the idea; and addresses questions of financial and logistical feasibility.</p> <p>Does not apply to research and comparative analysis or to a more analytical and theoretical proposal.</p>
Replicability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal with the potential to be transferred onto other contexts different that those where they were originally conceived for; that is, that could be replicated in other sectors, regions, countries, or even different modes.
Multi-stakeholder Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of People-Public-Private-Social/Citizens partnerships or other forms of multi-stakeholder collaboration aspects.
Soundness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The data being presented is reliable and sound.
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The organization that presents the proposal has a well-established reputation in its field.
Speaker Expertise, Gender Parity and Geographic Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed speaker who will deliver the presentation in the Congress is the highest representative of the organization AND has excellent communication skills. As we are fully committed with gender equality and try to promote gender parity in our sessions, the proposal of female speakers will be positively appraised. Geographic diversity of speakers will also be positively valued.

9. Evaluation process

The evaluation process is divided into two phases:

1) Regulation compliance

The organization will conduct a first evaluation to check whether the proposal complies with the requirements. Proposals could be subject to additional request of information or clarification.

2) Proposal selection





The participant is accountable for the proposal submitted, not violating intellectual property rights, industrial property rights, copyright and/or image rights and assumes complete responsibility with regard to third parties; the Organization is free of all liability.

Once the proposal has been selected, the organizers may make public any details considered as public (author, company / organization, title, brief, abstract, website, and topic).

13. Data Protection

Due to the sensitive nature of the information supplied, the World Congress organizers, the coordinator, and the members of the technical committee guarantee to keep the identity of participants and the content of their proposals confidential outside the sphere of the **Smart City Expo World Congress**.

This also includes any information about its current state of use or development.

Once the proposal has been selected, the organizers may make public any details considered as public (author, company / organization, title, brief, abstract, website, and topic).

14. Queries and suggestions

If you have any queries or suggestions, please email to:
scewc.technicaloffice@firabarcelona.com

If you are interested in commercial opportunities to enhance your organization's profile at the Smart City Expo World Congress, please contact
smartcityexpo.sales@firabarcelona.com

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