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SMART CITY HIGHLIGHTS

FIRST EDITION

October 7-8, 2025

POLITEHNICA Campus Bucharest



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Innovation and Sustainability for the Cities of the Future.



Organized for the first time at a national level by **POLITEHNICA Bucharest**, Smart City Highlights is the largest event in the country dedicated to urban innovation and the leading platform for connection and collaboration between leaders in public administration, industry, and academia, all united by a common goal: transforming Romania's cities into sustainable, efficient, and people - centered urban hubs.

Our mission is to **inspire, connect** people and communities, and generate **REAL solutions** to today's challenges - to build the smart city of the future.





Why now?



Rapid urbanization and the growing city population, expected to reach 70% of the global total by 2050, are creating unprecedented challenges for infrastructure, resources, and the environment.

Technology is becoming an essential solution, offering innovations such as AI in urban planning, smart water resource management, digital identity, integrated transport infrastructure, and renewable energy.

Cities are embracing concepts like digital twins and climate resilience to adapt to an uncertain future, while human health and sustainability are becoming priorities in urban planning.



Smart City Highlights provides the ideal context to explore trends and solutions, contributing to the shaping of efficient, sustainable, and adaptable cities of the future.

Why POLITEHNICA Bucharest?



With an academic tradition spanning over two centuries, **POLITEHNICA Bucharest** is one of the largest universities in Central and Eastern Europe. Renowned for its excellence, POLITEHNICA Bucharest reaffirms its mission to make the world a better place through education, innovation, and technology, taking an active role in shaping the urban future.

By promoting innovation and research at the highest level both in Romania and beyond, POLITEHNICA Bucharest has established the country's largest cooperation platform between academia and the business sector. With **19 doctoral schools, 2 research institutes, nearly 100 advanced research and innovation laboratories, and over 500 research projects** implemented in the last four years, POLITEHNICA Bucharest stands as one of the most prominent and influential technical universities in Southeastern Europe.



Our campus is more than just a location — it is a symbol of technological innovation and a thriving community that embodies the values we proudly uphold: a tradition of excellence, social engagement, strong ties with industry, vision, entrepreneurial spirit, sustainability, and internationalization.

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CITI

A commitment to the future!

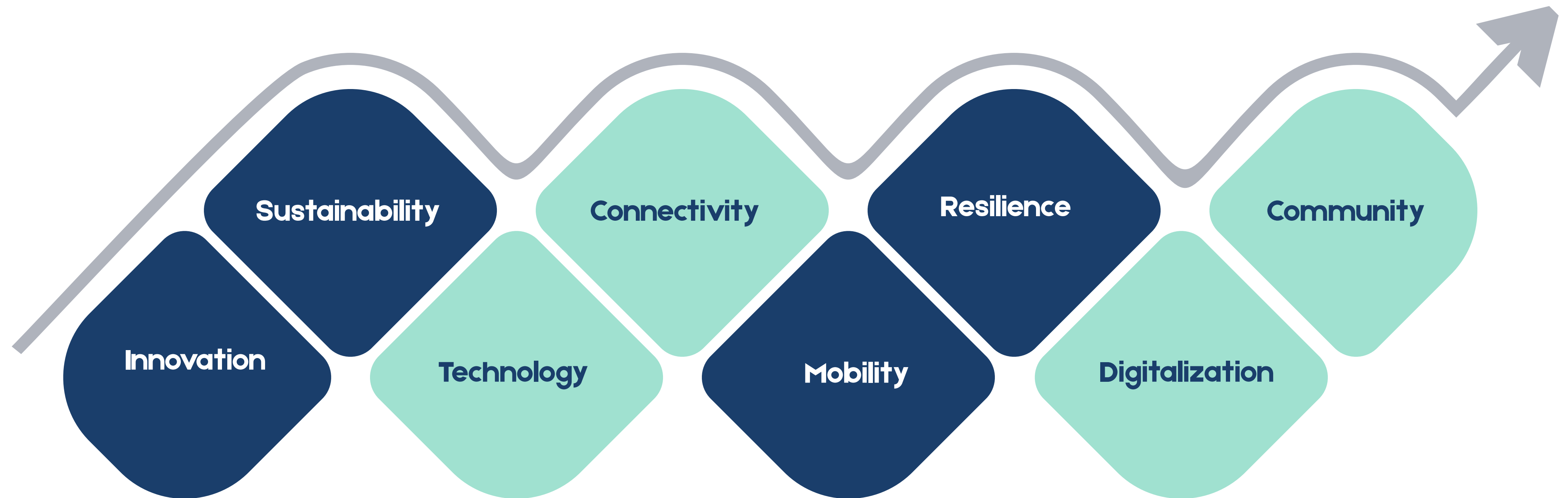


In 2023, with the launch of the CITI Cluster (Cluster for Innovation, Technology, and Intelligence), POLITEHNICA Bucharest reaffirmed its commitment to innovation and progress by adhering to international standards. Established in 2023, this cluster represents an innovative and ambitious initiative by the academic community and the private sector, aimed at bringing significant benefits to smart urban development.

It's time to take action.



The cities of the future won't build themselves. Now is the moment to turn vision into reality, to innovate, inspire communities, and leave a lasting legacy for future generations.



Catalysts of urban transformation.

Smart City Highlights aims to bring together the most relevant players in the field of smart urbanism, providing a conducive framework for dialogue, collaboration, and the exchange of best practices.

The academic community.

Companies



NGOs

Central and local public authorities

Mass media

International guests

01

**Exhibitions and
demonstrations of
innovative technologies
and solutions**

02

**Thematic panels
and workshops**

03

Conferences

04

**Activities and contests
for children**



**Innovation in
action.**



Exhibitions and Demonstrations of Innovative Technologies and Solutions



The POLITEHNICA Bucharest campus will host the most fascinating technologies and innovative solutions transforming cities.

Technology Zone: Dozens of visionary companies will showcase solutions for digitalization, green energy, urban mobility, and more.

Live Testing and Demos: Visitors from across the country will be able to see practical demonstrations of implementable solutions that address the main challenges faced by cities.



Thematic Panels and Workshops Conferences

The latest technologies and innovations in the field will be explored through a series of workshops and panels organized in collaboration with partner companies and institutions. International experts will address the most current topics in smart urbanism and emerging technologies.

Key Urban Challenges:

- Digitalization and smart governance
- Green infrastructure and sustainability
- Financing and legislation for smart cities
- Traffic management and urban safety
- Securing funds (non-reimbursable financing) for smart city projects by local public administrations (APLs)

The themes will be tailored to the needs identified through a questionnaire sent to participants prior to the event.



Urban Dynamics

October 7

A day dedicated to the specific challenges of municipalities and large cities.

Conferences, workshops, cocktail & networking

Topics: Smart city strategies, financing Smart City projects through European Funds, smart urban mobility, digital twins, cybersecurity in cities, green cities, AI and Big Data for public administrations, case studies.

Local Roots

October 8



A day dedicated to small towns, rural communities, and county councils.

Conferences, workshops, cocktail & networking

Topics: National programs for small towns and communes, financing Smart City projects through European funds, smart infrastructure, intelligent public lighting and energy efficiency, connecting villages to smart city networks, public safety and smart surveillance systems, solutions for sustainable agriculture.





Activities and contests for children.

The involvement of the new generation is essential for building the smart cities of the future. At Smart City Highlights, we will dedicate an interactive and educational space for students and children, encouraging them to explore, learn, and contribute to innovative solutions for their communities. The proposed activities will focus on developing creativity, understanding concepts of sustainability and technology, as well as fostering a responsible mindset toward the environment and resources.



**Long-term
impact.**



Smart City Highlights is more than just an event. It's a movement accelerating the transformation of Romania's cities into world-class urban centers, designed for people and the environment.

We invite you to join us in BUILDING TOGETHER a smart, sustainable, and community-focused future.



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