



# SMART SPACES: WHAT, HOW, WHO AND WHY?

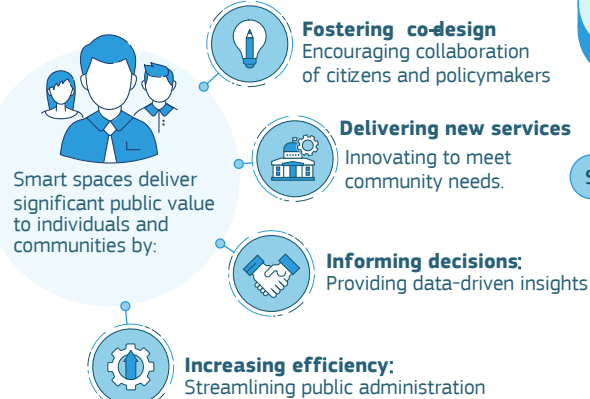
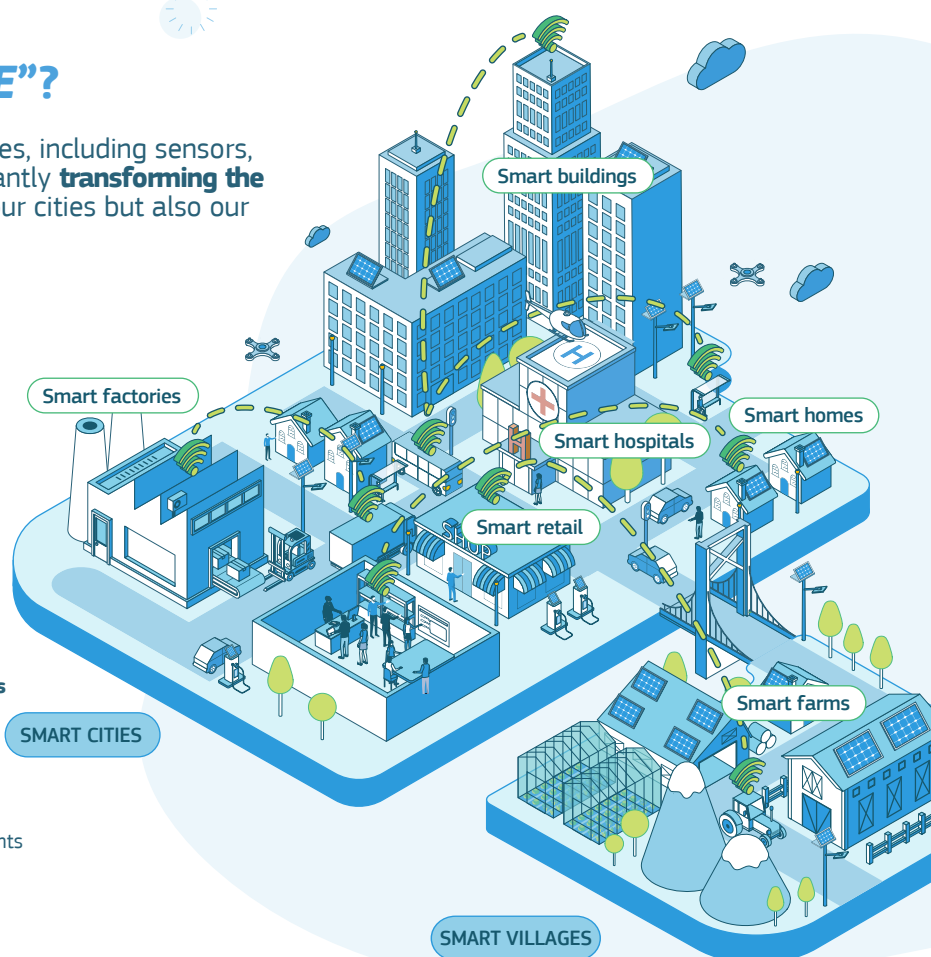
An emerging paradigm supporting digital governance enabled by location data and intelligence

## WHAT IS A "SMART SPACE"?

The widespread adoption of digital technologies, including sensors, 5G networks, and cloud computing, is significantly **transforming the way we live and interact**, reshaping not only our cities but also our everyday environments.

"Smart spaces are a combination of physical and digital environments in which people and technology interact in dynamic, inter-connected and intelligent ecosystems".

Source: Benchmarking the role of the Public Sector and Location Intelligence in Smart Spaces



## HOW DO SMART SPACES WORK?

Smart spaces are built on robust digital infrastructure and cutting-edge technologies.

They require a comprehensive pool of **integrated data** from diverse sources to establish a strong foundation of knowledge.



In the European Union this integrated pool of data is part of the **Common European Data Space**, which allows public and private value creation by promoting the free flow of data under **safe, private, trustworthy** and **ethical** conditions.

### THE KEY ROLE OF LOCATION INTELLIGENCE

Most data exchanged in Smart spaces involves **location data**, essential for advanced, context-aware analytics. **Location intelligence** can help answer critical questions, such as:

- WHERE?** did something happen or might it occur?
- WHY?** did it happen there, and what factors contributed?
- HOW?** should actions be taken to address the situation?

## WHO IS ACTING IN A SMART SPACE?

Smart spaces enable various people and organisations to seamlessly interact with one another, their environment, and a wide range of digital devices.

These participants can include **citizens, businesses, and public administrations**.

In the context of the *European Data Act* and the *Data Governance Act*, actors can take on roles such as:

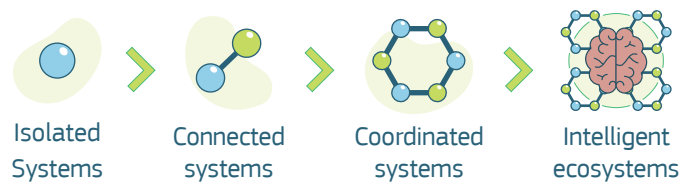


## WHY IS IT RELEVANT TO FOSTER MATURE SMART SPACES?

Fostering intelligent Smart spaces can unlock significant benefits: such as economic growth, enhanced public services, and stronger community connections. They offer a key opportunity to **improve digital governance and deliver value at every level**.

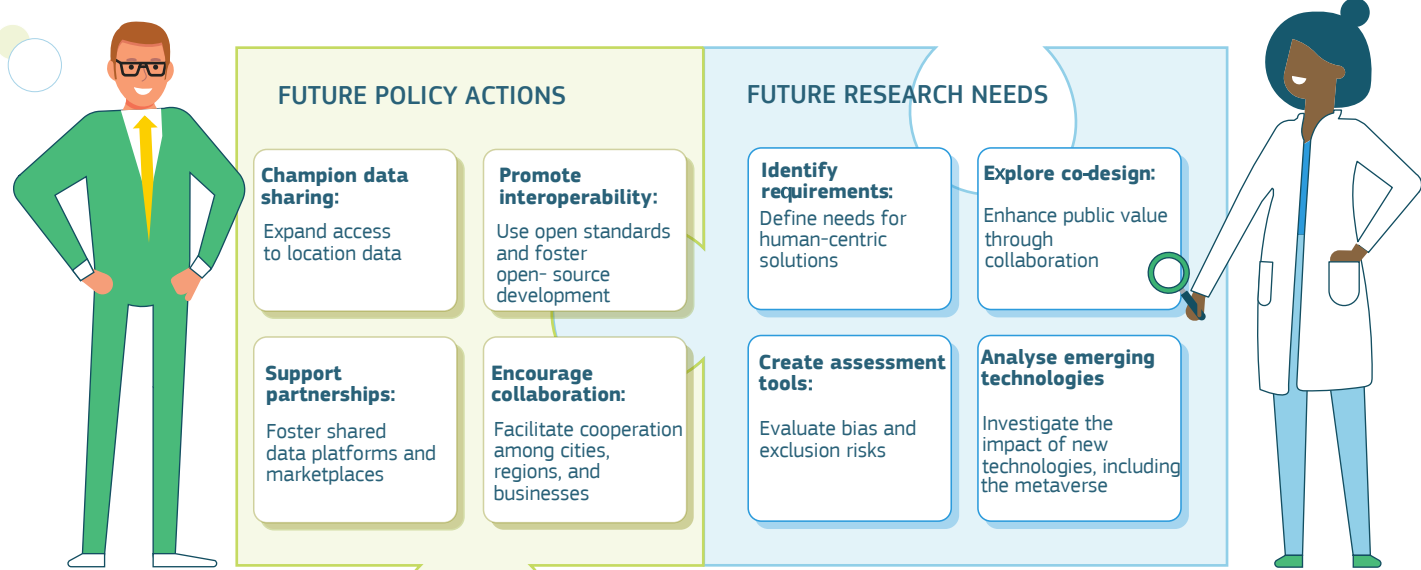
Fair and sustainable adoption across the European Union is essential for creating a more connected and efficient Europe, with cross-border interoperability playing a crucial role,

To realise their full potential, a shift from isolated systems to intelligent ecosystems is necessary, enabling smart spaces to maximise benefits.



## WHAT IS REQUIRED TO FOSTER MATURE SMART SPACES?

**Policy makers and researchers** could foster intelligent ecosystems or Smart spaces through several actions:



Visit the **Interoperable Europe Portal** to discover more on **location intelligence** and explore **innovations in public governance**