



Arvea Marieni and the GcM consulting team to help European SMEs catching emerging opportunities

Arvea Marieni and Open Data City win Smart City Projects through Speed Up Europe FIWARE Accelerator in Hamburg.

Hamburg is already among the 10 Smartest Cities in Europe and has unveiled ambitious plans to transform itself into one of Europe's preeminent "Innovation Hubs".

Future possibilities arise through connecting people, processes, data – the internet of things. New infrastructures will not only revolutionise cities and communities, but will also improve the lives for all citizens. *Ubiquity*, *pervasivity* and *value* are the key words for the cities of the future. Innovative services and business models will be possible. We will see smart street lighting, smart traffic systems for optimizing road utilisation, smart solutions for providing advance detection of untoward circumstances, environmental and infrastructure sensing, new healthcare providers, virtual citizen systems for administrative services via remote video kiosks, just to name a few possibilities.

The European Commission recently launched the FIWARE¹ Accelerator Programme to support and scale up innovation. In order to encourage entrepreneurs, €80 million will be awarded to SMEs, Start-ups and web-developers using FIWARE Technologies. A number of FIWARE Accelerators select, mentor and sponsor the most talented teams and business proposals building upon FIWARE technology.

Speed Up Europe, one of the EU FIWARE accelerators, selected via open calls (EU public competitions) 100 project ideas that will receive grants and support for start up and development. Arvea Marieni and OpenDataCity, an Hamburg and Berlin based agency, whose core business is in data journalism, were awarded funding for four projects:

<http://apps.opendatacity.de/speedupeurope/0.1/#carnanny>
<http://apps.opendatacity.de/speedupeurope/0.1/#roboreport>
<http://apps.opendatacity.de/speedupeurope/0.1/#sensorhome>
<http://apps.opendatacity.de/speedupeurope/0.1/#data+flow>

Arvea Marieni is a member of the GcM consulting team. We are jointly expanding our services to help other SMEs bid for and win similar emerging opportunities – especially those arising through the EU calls for ideas and competition process. We additionally offer a broad range of services to sustain profitable growth via innovation.

¹ FIWARE is part of the [EU Public-Private Partnership on the Future Internet](#) and the EU commitment to help entrepreneurs thrive in Europe via the [Startup Europe](#) initiative. FIWARE is an open alternative to existing proprietary Internet platforms. It enables an easy development and deployment of advanced Internet applications.

FIWARE provides enhanced OpenStack-based cloud hosting capabilities and a rich library of components. These components, called the "Generic Enablers", provide open standard APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) that make it easier to connect to Internet of Things (IoT) devices, process data and media in real-time at large scale, perform Big Data analysis or incorporate advanced features to interact with the user. In FIWARE, API specifications are public and royalty-free, supported by open source reference implementations. Thanks to that, alternative FIWARE providers can emerge faster in the market.