**Email attachment – Subject: Invitation to join the Support Services for EU Smart Communities**

Dear [City/community representative],

We would herewith like to invite you and your city/community to participate in the Support services for EU Smart Communities.

In today's digital age, European urban and rural communities are progressing in their digital transformations, but not all are moving at the same pace. To advance the digital transformation of EU cities and communities, the European Commission (DG CNECT) has launched the Local Digital Twins toolbox project to support cities and communities accelerating digital maturity. These services aim to foster the adoption of Local Digital Twins (LDTs), and other digital solutions across rural and urban areas, ensuring that technology is accessible to all.

The services will be provided in total to 150 EU cities and communities that wish to participate, out of which 50 cities and communities have already used the service in the previous two pilot and learning phases of the project. We are now entering the third scaling phase where another 100 cities will receive the offering in full deployment, enhanced after the valuable lessons of the previous period.

**Your participation is free of charge and will provide your team with essential tools for digital transformation**. All costs and charges related to the project are covered under the Digital Europe Programme (you can see more here: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>). The services included will provide a comprehensive assessment of your current IT infrastructure's maturity, a tailored digitalisation roadmap, and strategic guidance to identify and fulfil procurement needs essential for building the necessary technical capabilities. The services also offer dedicated support in identifying procurement needs and guidance on procurement strategies, considering open standards and interoperability requirements.

**By participating in this project your city/community will enjoy the following benefits:**

* Online support service to guide your city/community in developing and realising its digital strategy.
* Tailored advisory services to assist your city/community in assessing technological readiness for implementing MIM-compliant local data platforms.
* Identification of procurement needs to advance the digitalisation roadmap implementation, one-to-one procurement expert support through the Online Helpdesk, and access to tailored procurement guidelines and templates by February 2025.
* A customised digitalisation roadmap, after assessing your city/community’s digital and technical maturity, detailing the necessary initiatives and correspondent objects of procurement to enhance your technical capabilities.
* Participation in a European peer network pioneering the advancement of local data platforms and Al-powered digital twins.
* Community's visibility, sharing of best practices, successes, and failures to leverage on learnings and peer exchange.

**Confirm your participation:** Should this opportunity resonate with you, we encourage you to take the first step and express your interest via this link: <ldt.toolbx.eu/join>.

We look forward to welcoming your city/community becoming a part of this initiative to shape the European digital future.

Best regards,

The project team.