



Making our cities smarter



What we do

We are constantly driving the change for a better urban life

BABLE is an open and interactive platform that provides expert-curated information on smart city solutions and a unique set of tools for facilitating urban transformation.

We simplify innovation and implementation processes with our platform and its embedded automated services, and we guide the transition with our advisory services.

No matter your role in the smart city movement, if you share the same drive for solving urban challenges, we are here to collaborate and find together the best way to improve urban life.

Our roots and partnerships



BABLE is a spin-off from:



Moulded within:



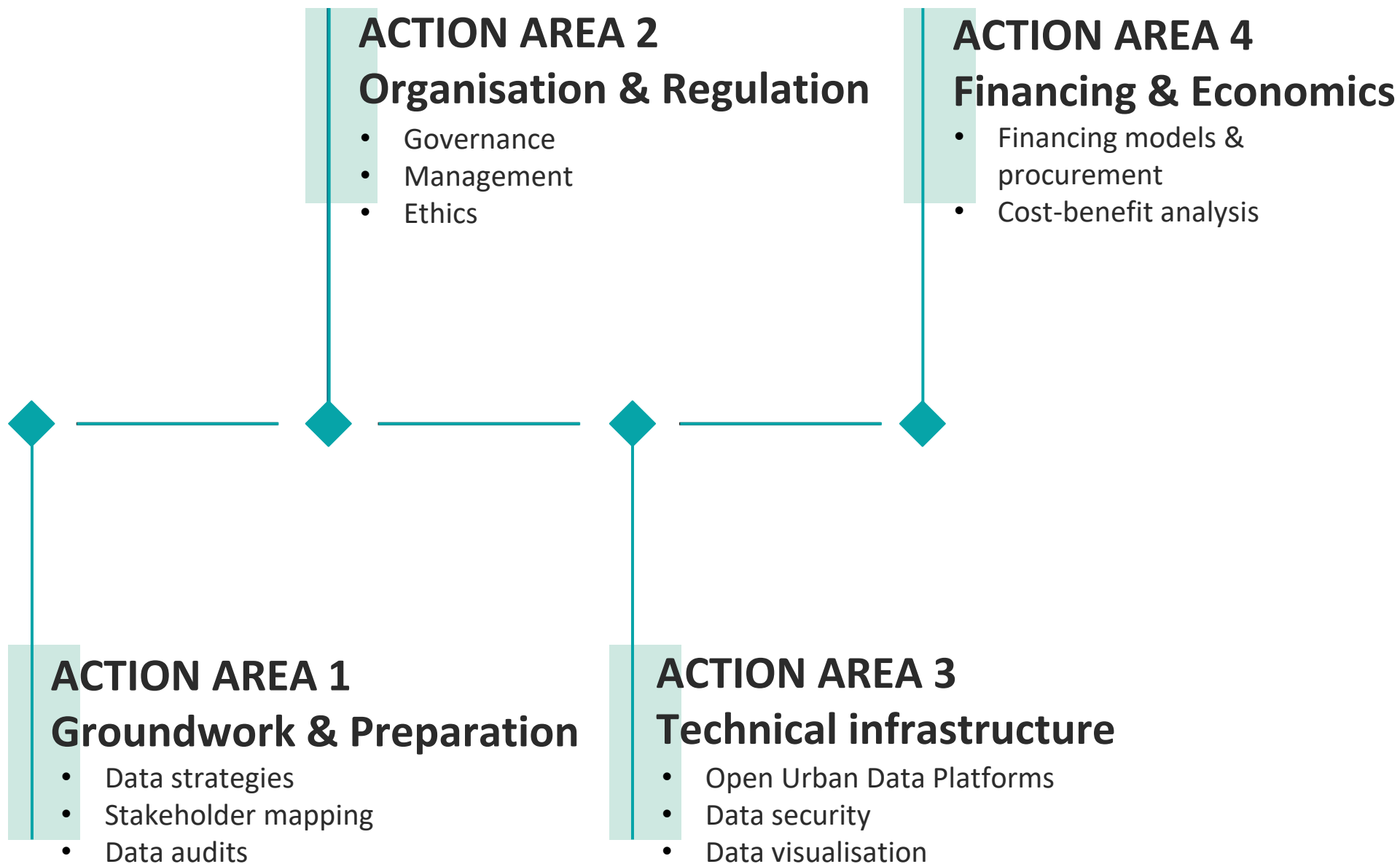


Data is at the core of the digital transformation. It shapes the way we produce, consume and live. Access to ever-growing volume of data and the ability to use it are essential for innovation and growth.

European Commission, 2020

Photo by Markus
Spiske on Unsplash

The journey towards a purpose-driven data ecosystem



Action area 1 – Groundwork & preparation

Digital & Data Strategies

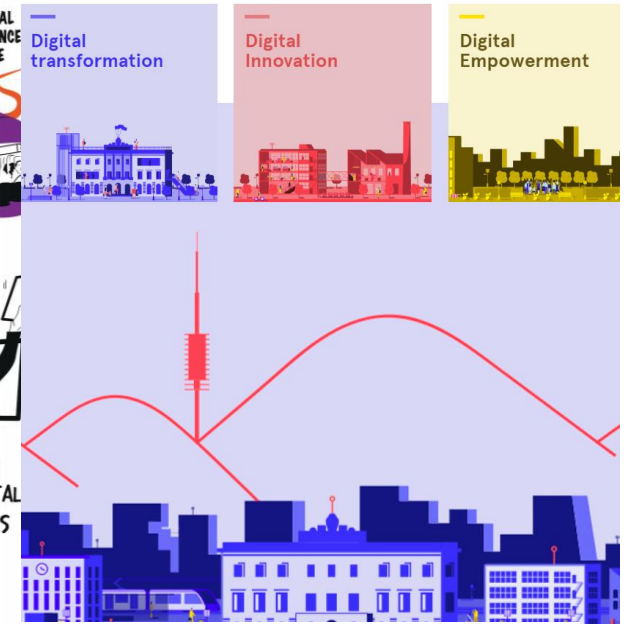
What they all have in common

- Orientate digitalisation by setting a purpose
- Bridge economic with social goals
- Co-developed with local stakeholders
- Recognise data as a central element to the digital transformation
- Another government document?



Smarter London Together

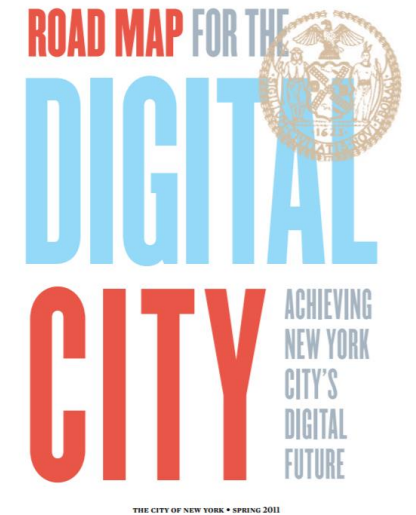
Greater London Authority June 2018



Barcelona Digital City, 2016



Graz Digital Agenda 2017

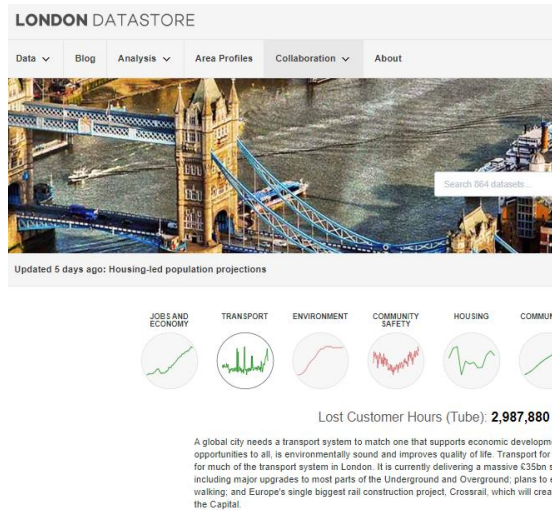
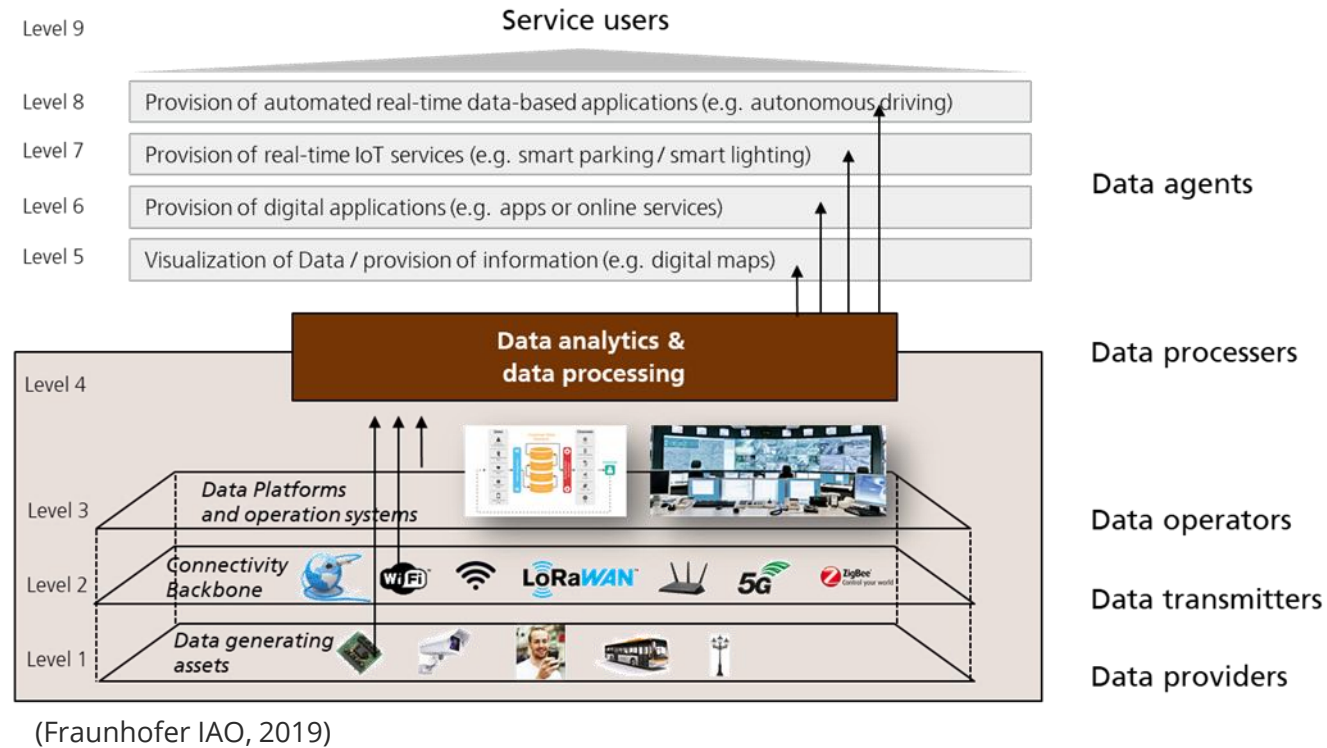


NYC Roadmap for the Digital City, 2011

Action area 1 – Groundwork & preparation

Stakeholder mapping & data audits
Breaking down silos

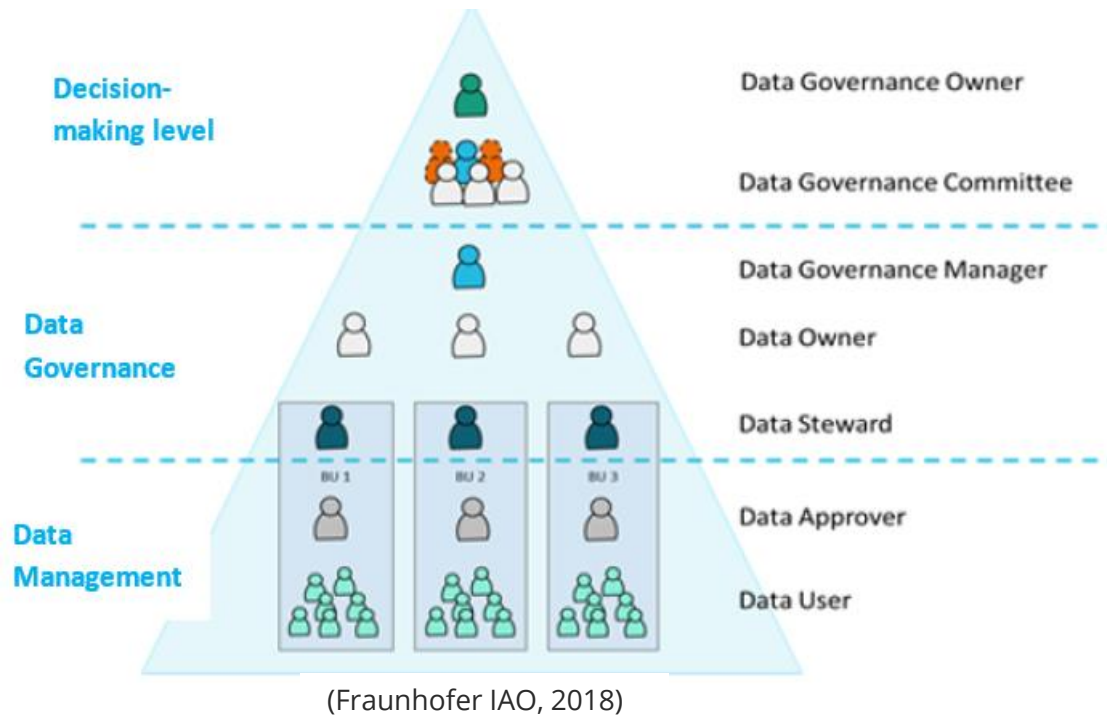
- Complexity: variety of stakeholders involved
- Data in silos: What data do they have?
- Data seen as by-product
- Data audits are challenging, thus priorities need to be established
- Need of Use cases to make a strong case
- To implement an Open Data Platform requires coordinated efforts and political support



London Datastore, 2020



Berlin Open Data, 2020



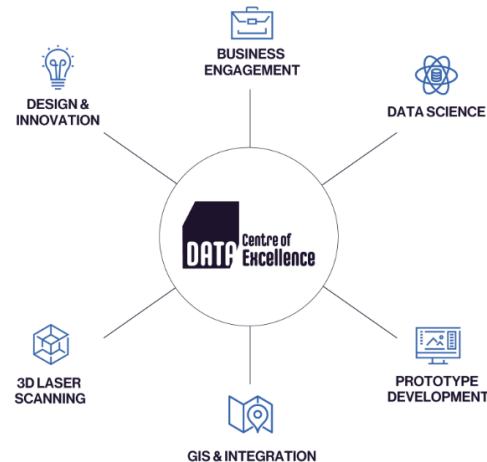
Action area 2- Organisation & Regulation

Managing data

- Traditionally data governance has included: organising data processes, assigning ownership, selecting and managing software, and defining responsibilities
- The role of CDOs in public organisations: steering and managing changes across the organisation, embedding the use of data and making processes more efficient, while also promoting the development of new digital services for the citizens.
- Office of Data Analytics in the UK: established to address urban challenges through the use of data

Loti

London Office of
Technology & Innovation

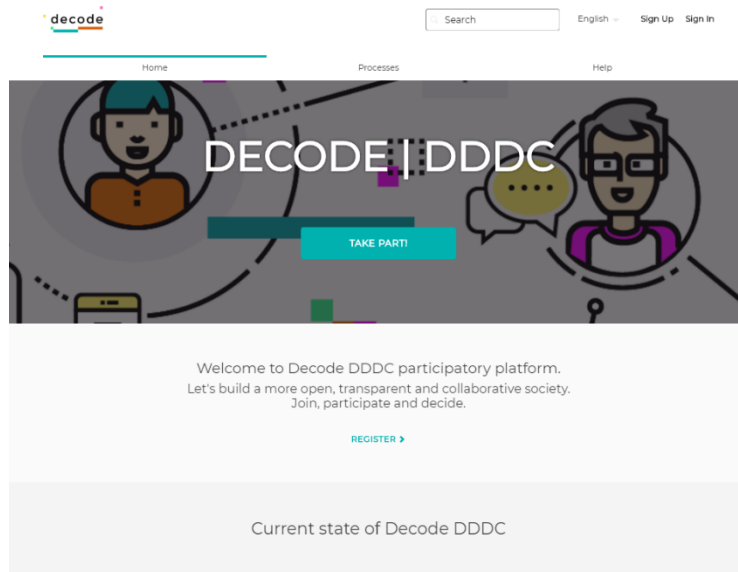


Glasgow's Data Centre of
Excellence

Eindhoven open data principles

Data in the public space belongs to everyone. This data is a public good. Data that is collected, generated or measured (for example, by sensors placed in public places) must be opened up so that everyone can use it for commercial and non-commercial purposes. In addition, a privacy and security assessment must be made.

Eindhoven Open Data Principles, 2015



DECODE project, 2019



Cities Coalition for Digital Rights, 2019

Action area 2 – Organisation & Regulation

Data Governance

Some key questions:

- How can a city **remain the decision maker** in data-driven projects that impact the common good?
- What are the **lines of decision making** and how can cities create transparent systems that show the existing trade-offs between public and private interests?
- What **resources and skills** are needed in a municipality to moderate data-related decision making?
- How do cities ensure **ownership of the data** in public contracts?



Open Data Institute, 2019



nyc.gov (2019)

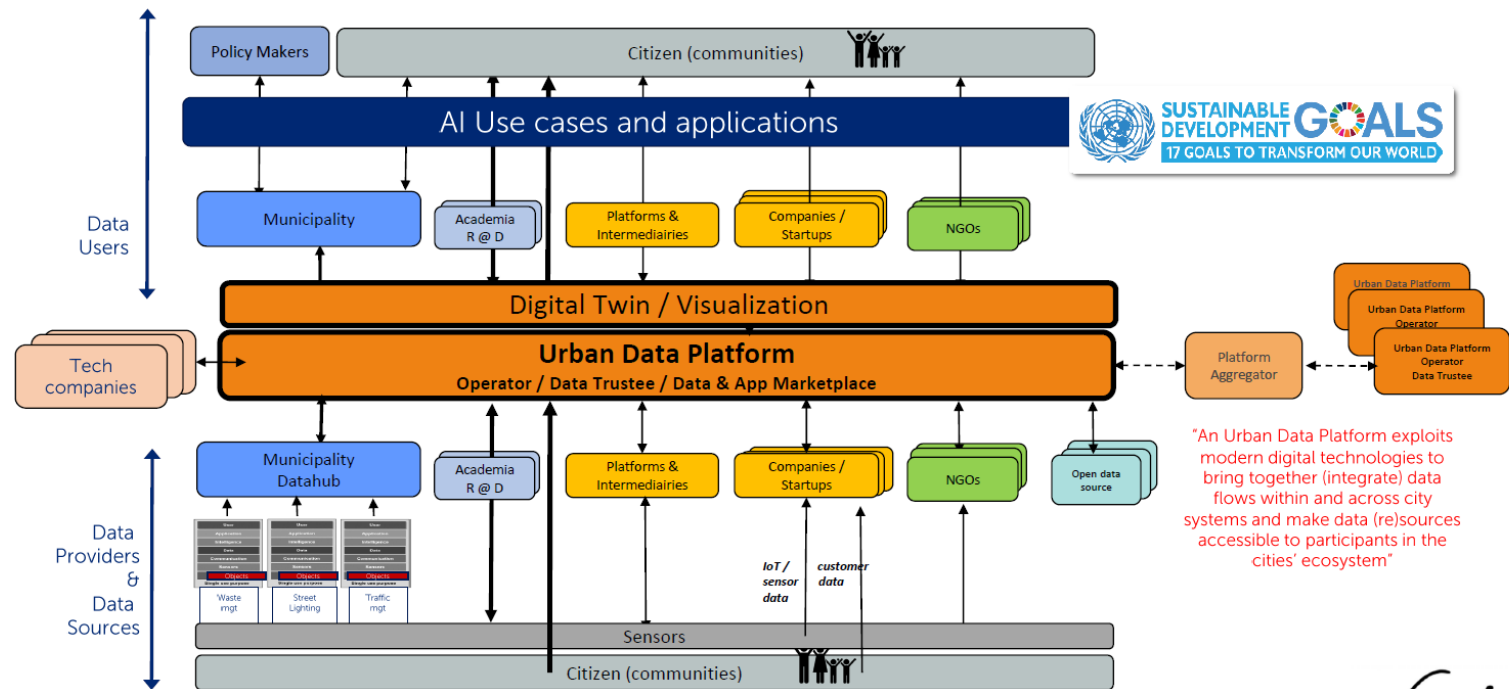
Phase 2 - Organisation & Regulation

Governance & Ethics

- Data Trust pilots
- How to guarantee transparency and fairness in the algorithms embedded in tools that inform or make decisions?
 - NYC Algorithm Task Force 2017
 - Ethics & Algorithm Toolkit (risk assessment & management)
- Upskilling citizens & civil servants

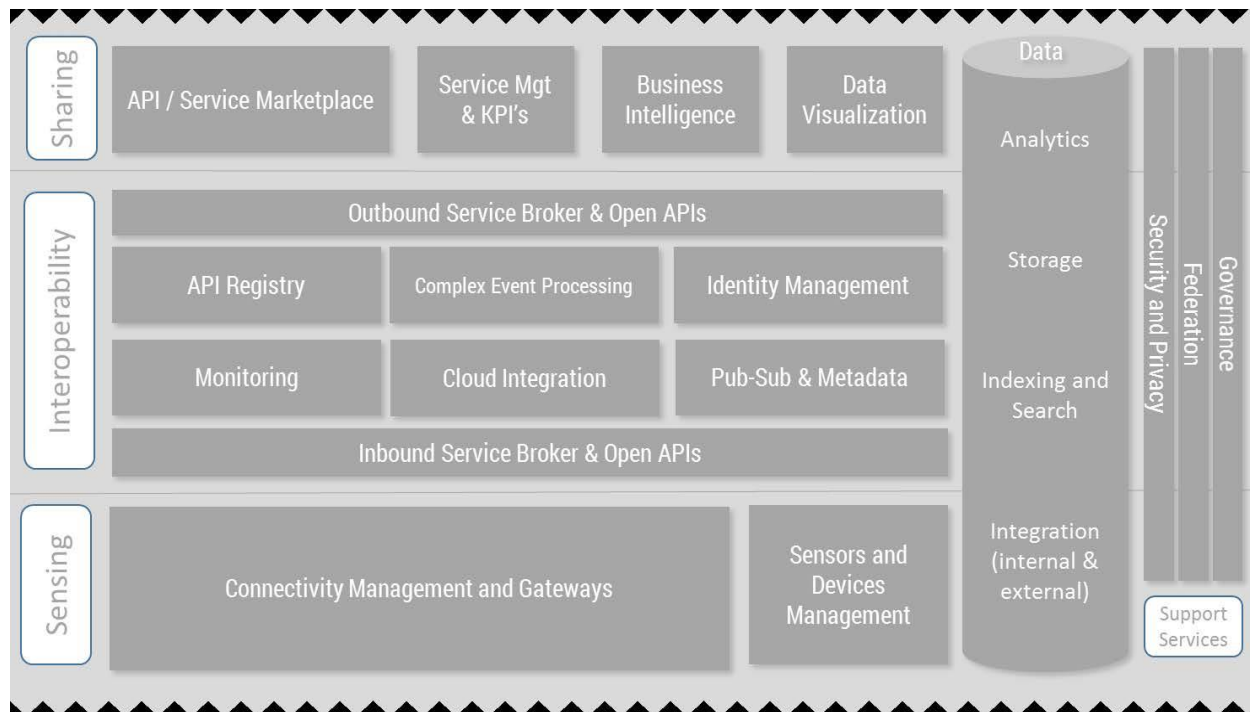
About Urban Data Platforms

EIP SCC Research
Study on Urban Data
Platforms in Europe
(2019)



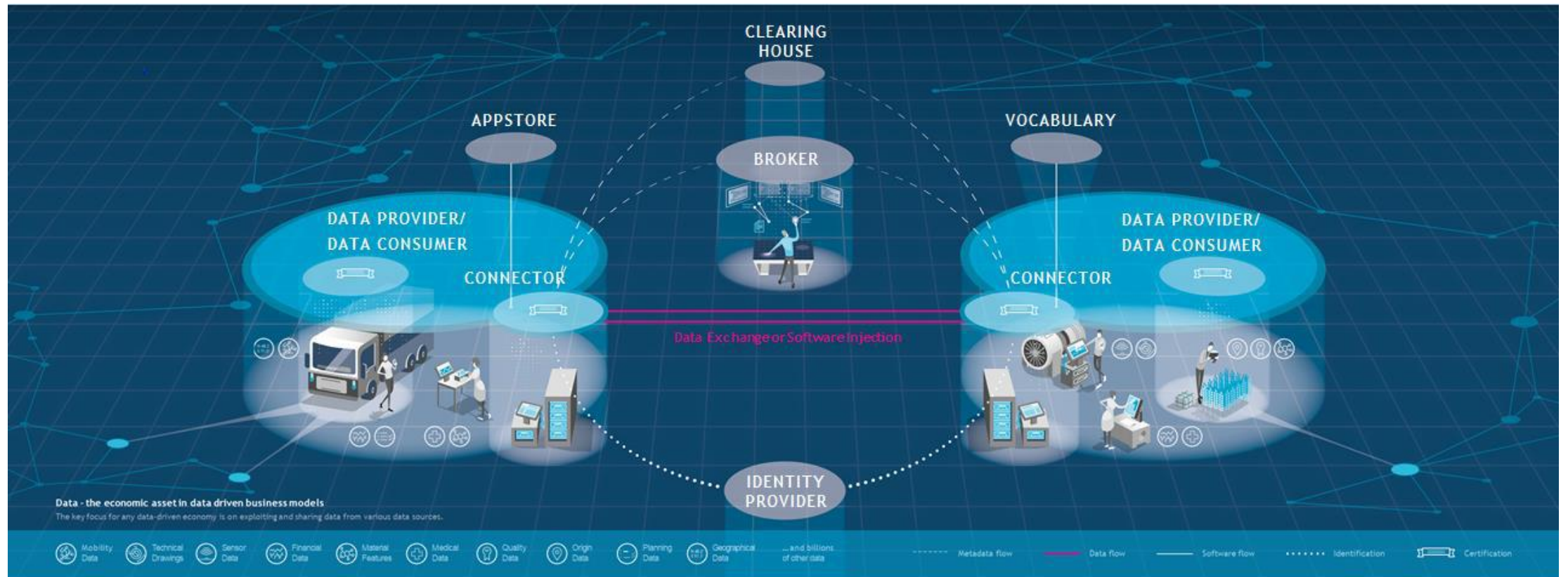
Ezra

An Urban Data Platform (UDP) exploits modern digital technologies to bring together and integrate data flows within and across city systems and make data (re)sources accessible to participants in the cities' ecosystem. Urban data platforms will be important infrastructure to facilitate (Artificial Intelligence-based) use cases and applications, to create triple bottom line value (People, Profit and Planet) contributing to the UN sustainable development goals for smart cities.



The Importance of Standards

- EIP SCC Reference Architecture
- DIN SPEC 91357 “Open Urban Platform”



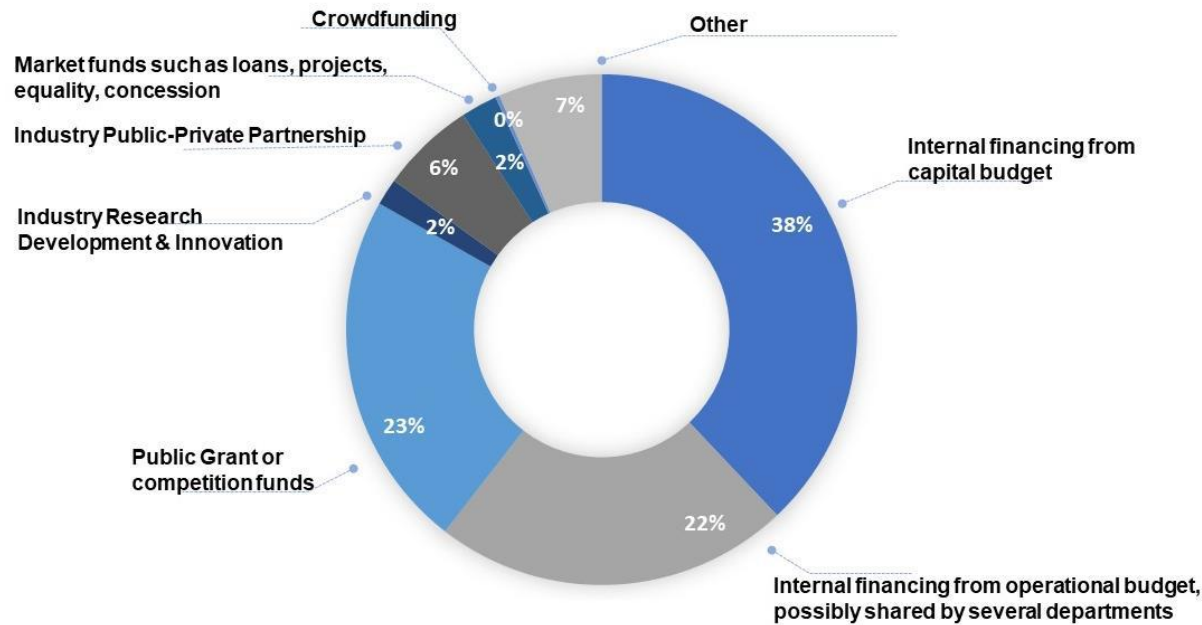
International Data Spaces Association – IDS

The IDS Reference Architecture Model (IDS-RAM) identifies a set of mandatory roles and components to enable data exchange by maintaining full data sovereignty.

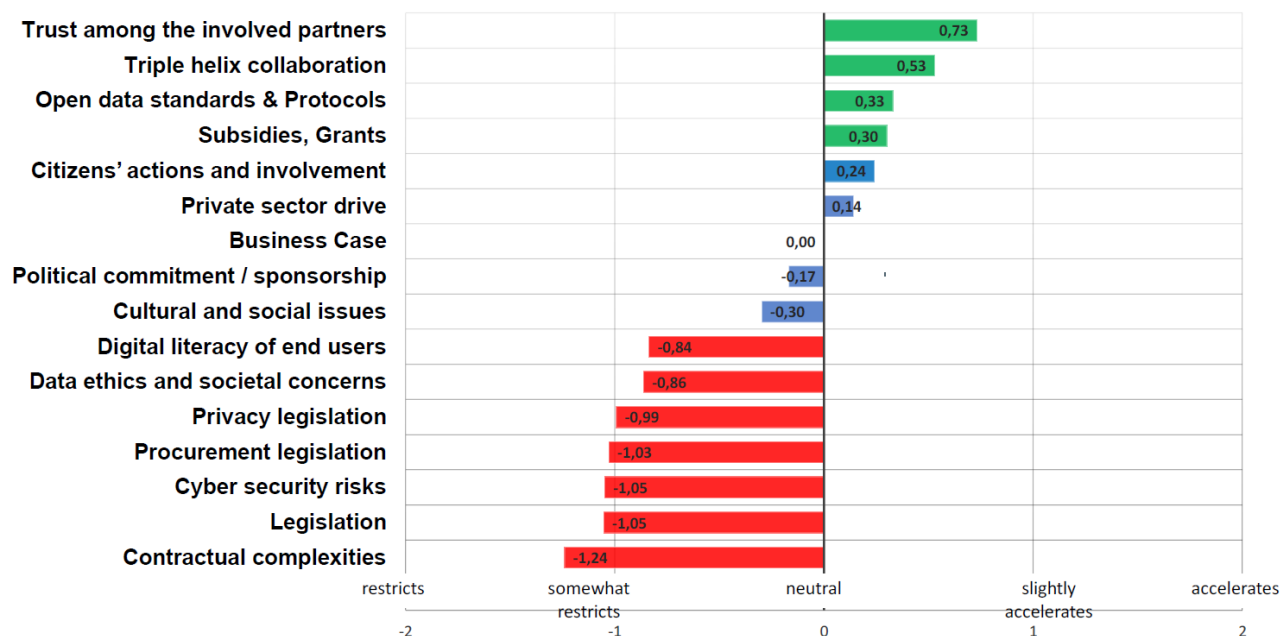
Financing Model

We are schizophrenic about how we justify UDPs!

Half the cities justify UDPs based on 'critical infrastructure' reasoning, with no or limited business case; half require a clear business case. And 75% of the latter link the business case with a service line improvement case.



Accelerating and restricting factors in the adoption and use of UDPs



Barriers

Legislation and procurement are the big blockers

- Key barriers and restricting factors are contractual complexities, legislation (such as privacy and procurement),
- cyber security risks, data ethics and societal concerns and the digital literacy and skills of end users. These
- factors are relatively stable across different stages of development.



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