SMACITE

Boosting the technical
and non-technical skills
and competences
of smart cities technicians
and engineers

WP7: Impact, Dissemination and Exploitation

D7.6: Dissemination Reports

Final Version

DELIVERABLE FACTSHEET

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Version	Name	Partner	Date	Comments
0.1	Maria Rigou Vasileios Gkamas	UPATRAS	15/06/2022	Structure of the deliverable
0.2	Cristina Murillo Jon Mitxelena	GAIA	15/03/2024	First draft
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1.0	Jon Mitxelena	GAIA	19/05/2025	Final version with all inputs and information

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PROJECT SUMMARY

The project addresses the skills gap of Smart Cities technicians and engineers, by designing and testing a vocational education and training program that is based on a novel and multi-disciplinary curriculum combining digital skills on Smart Cities enabling technologies, with soft, entrepreneurship and green skills.

The project outputs are:

- A Smart Cities competences map and ESCO-compliant Smart Cities job profiles.
- A Smart Cities curriculum combining both technical and non-technical skills and competences and promoting personalized learning pathways.
- Learning resources for Smart Cities enabling technologies and for building the soft, entrepreneurship and green skills of Smart Cities technicians and Engineers.
- A diagnostic tool to identify personalized learning pathways.
- A MOOC for Smart Cities enabling technologies.
- Virtual Worlds for building the soft, green and entrepreneurship skills of Smart Cities technicians and engineers.

The main project beneficiaries are Smart Cities technicians and engineers either from the public sector (i.e. municipalities) or enterprises providing Smart Cities solutions, as well as HEI and VET students interested in Smart Cities.

The curriculum is being tested in 4 national pilots in Greece, Bulgaria, Spain and Italy with more than 160 trainees. The certification of the skills and competences follows a two-fold approach: (a) using micro-credentials to recognize the knowledge and skills gained through the successful completion of each online training module at the MOOC and Virtual Worlds and (b) designing the "Smart Cities Specialization Certification" that will be awarded to those passing online certifications exams with e-proctoring after the completion of the training modules.

The project will create an ecosystem for the co-design and co-development of an innovative curriculum and technology-enhanced learning tools for the upskilling/reskilling of Smart Cities technicians and engineers.

1 Introduction

1.1 Dissemination

Dissemination deals with making the results of a project visible to others, i.e. main target groups, key stakeholders and especially end-users who are going to use the project results. This is achieved via a process of promotion and awareness raising that continues throughout a project and even its end. An effective dissemination process must be planned and organized in the beginning of the project through a methodological document, which is this communication and dissemination plan. Therefore, the aims of the dissemination plan are:

- Knowledge circulation and the promotion of project results towards the target audience to engage proper stakeholders
- Enable the value of results to go beyond the project results and obtain further and more sustainable results
- To be an essential element of all good research practice and vital part of the project plan
- Strengthen and promote the project, partners and the consortium as a whole

To achieve those aims, several materials and dissemination channels are needed to be able to reach the target audience.

1.2 Report on Project Communication and Dissemination Actions

This document aims to present the status and description of the dissemination and communication actions carried out regarding the SMACITE project. In this document the reader will find:

- The status of the dissemination and communication and the relation with the plan submitted in the first months of the project
- Description of the different target groups being addressed by the project
- Dissemination and communication actions using the dissemination channels mentioned in previous Deliverables and are being used for the dissemination of the project, including social media and other digital tools
- Information about the events attended and organized by the partnership and the attendance and organization of events
- Status of the Key Performance Indicators related to the project Communication and Dissemination.

2 Strategy on target audience

2.1. Scope

The scope of communication and dissemination is to raise awareness and interest in SMACITE activities and to circulate the expertise to stakeholders. This includes the setting up of communication channels, the development of communication materials and solutions on how to make the project results available to stakeholders.

This communication and dissemination plan was set-up during the first months of the project and it considered the 36 months of the project. It worked as the basis for the future exploitation and sustainability of the project.

2.2. Objectives

The objective of the SMACITE dissemination strategy is to identify and organize the activities to be performed to promote the widest dissemination of knowledge from the project, engagement from the target audiences and relevant stakeholders. This dissemination plan was developed at the initial phase of the project to define the project dissemination strategy. Moreover, exploitation and sustainability guide were developed with the indication of how the produced results will be exploited by different partners. The objectives of dissemination and exploitation have been the following:

- To make project results visible to others, i.e., the main target groups, key stakeholders and especially the end-users who are going to exploit the project results. This will be achieved by the process of promotion and awareness raising that will run through the entire life cycle of the project and even after its end.

- To convince key stakeholders to exploit the main project results, and if possible, transfer them to other domains and/or sectors. To achieve this objective, two separate activities will take place:
  a) mainstreaming, aiming to introduce the project results at stakeholders operating at higher level, i.e., policy makers and
  b) multiplication, aiming to convince relevant target groups and end-users to exploit the project results.

- To take actions ensuring that after the project ends, the project results will be kept alive and will be exploited by relevant stakeholders. Thus, the project will be considered sustainable if its results are maintained and/or developed further after the end of the Erasmus+ funding.

To do this, a whole work package (WP7) has been set up to ensure these aspects. The main objective of this WP was to disseminate SMACITE's results; convince stakeholders to participate in project activities and to take actions to ensure that project results will keep alive.

Project partners have engaged in several dissemination **activities** (described below) to inform all stakeholders of the outcomes and their potential benefits. Moreover, special attention has been given to other projects from Erasmus+ calls, to take account of the results and work done and to promote collaboration among complementarity themed projects.

2.3. Guiding principles

These are the Guiding Principles that project partners followed during the implementation of SMACITE. These ones remained during the whole lifecycle of the project:

- Communication strategy must be clear and known to all project partners
- Fulfil the communication and dissemination objectives
- Communication and dissemination must be effective and timely
- Communication and dissemination must be open and honest
- Communication is a two-way process. It is not just a matter of messages being passed down from SMACITE to target groups. Upward and horizontal communications are equally important
- The contribution of all project partners is important to reach the target audience

2.4. Target Audience

Structuring the target audiences has been fundamental to maximizing the impact of the dissemination strategy, and how the messages are conveyed. The target audience will have a view to raising awareness of the project. The SMACITE communication and dissemination target groups are:

- Participating organizations:
- ICT professionals/ HEIs students/ VET students:
- HEIs / VET Providers
- IT enterprises / Public Organizations
- Research organizations
- Certification Bodies
- Policy Makers

2.5. Schedule

The following calendar was developed to schedule the communication and dissemination activities taken on by the SMACITE project. The calendar has been updated along the project development with the aim of maximizing the impact of the communication and dissemination activities of the project.

COMMUNICATION CALENDAR

	2022							2023												2024												2025				
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12	M13	M14	M15	M16	M17	M18	M19	M20	M21	M22	M23	M24	M25	M26	M27	M28	M29	M30	M31	M32	M33	M34	M35	M36
	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DIC	ENE	FEB	MAR	ABR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AGO	SEP	OCT	NOV	DIC	ENE	FEB	MAR	ABR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AGO	SEP	OCT	NOV	DIC	ENE	FEB	MAR	ABR	MAY

TASKS

Task	
D7.1 Design project dissemination plan	D7.1 ... D7.7 ... D7.7
D7.2 Develop project website and mantain SM	D7.3 ... D7,8 ... D7.8
D7.3 Develop project promotional material and publications	D7.4 ... D7.4
D7.4 Organize national and European workshops and final	D7.5
D7.5 Desgin project exploitation and sustaniability guide	D7.6

MS

MS13 Project Website	X (M3)
MS14 Project final conference	X (M36)

PROJECT PPT	X (M7)
NEWSLETTERS	X (M8) ... x (M17) ... X (M21) ... X (M29) ... X (M31) ... X (M36)
ROLL-UP DESIGN	X (M7)
PRESS RELEASE	X (M1) ... X (M22) ... X (M36)
VIDEOS	X (M7) ... X (M30)

WORKSHOP

National (Patras, Sofia, Bilbao, Alba)	X (M16)
National 2nd (Athens, Sofia, Madrid, Alba)	X (M32)
European	X (M16) ... X (M23) ... X (M36)
Final conference	X (M36)

Figure 1: Calendar of the Dissemination and Communication activities.

3 Dissemination Activities

In the next section the reader will find the dissemination activities that have been carried out by all the project partners and from the project. In some cases some of the items reported could appear in more than one section, but in this case it has been prioritized as the one that fits most.

3.1 Clustering Activities

Clustering activities have been considered as those actions in which a group of related actors (companies, public sector, research…) in a specific field aim to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing and innovation

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
Partnerships for Horizon Europe: Smart City projects	ESI CEE	The objective of the participation of ESICEE in Partnerships for Horizon Europe: Smart City projects initiative is to present the SMACITE project informing key stakeholders for the expected products of our project, the progress and exploration of possible partnerships and collaborations on the training and education in the domain of Smart Cities.
Transfiere Malaga 2023	GAIA	Presentation of the SMACITE project in the Malaga Transfiere Fair
Patras Innovation Quest	OTC	To introduce and inform all visitors of the quest about the project, its scope and the forthcoming educational activities
Report published by the Hellenic Ministry of the Interior	UPATRAS	Report published by the independent Department of International and European Relations of the Hellenic Ministry of the Interior concerning good practices in 9 domains of public policy (smart cities, culture, youth, sports, social policy, tourism, employment and digital environment).

Table 1: SMACITE Dissemination activities: Clustering Activities

3.2 Collaboration with EU-Funded projects

There are many projects related to smart cities and skills at different levels in which SMACITE partners are involved. Considering outputs from these other initiatives is also important to benefit from synergies and learnt lessons. The objective of this is to have

active communication with some of them to produce a win-win situation for both sides, by sharing experiences, best practices and even communication approaches.

This is the list of projects in which the project partners are involved and may have synergies in terms of content and communication and dissemination activities:

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
SmartCities4young generations	GAIA	The goal of this action was to promote collaboration activities and potential project partners.
Final Event Bright Project	DSME	BRIGHTS project deals with green skills for HE. The synergies with SMACITE have been highlighted in this perspective, focusing on the importance of green skills in the Curriculum
ROMOTICS Project	APRO	During the final event in Italy of ROMOTICS project, SMACITE was presented to 90 students and their teachers as a potential tool of training.
DTAM – Final conference	GAIA, TXORIERRI, UPATRAS, APRO	The aim of the activity is to increase the visibility and awareness of the project among stakeholders as well as to engage them with the project activities.
Greenco ME The environmental footprint of technology	CADM	GreenCo Multiplier Event in Getafe: A Focus on Technology's Environmental Footprint and Other projects with SMACITE. The Smacite project was not explicitly mentioned at the event, but its goals of promoting sustainable development through technology align with the overall theme of the GreenCo Multiplier Event and with which we share a Memorandum of Understanding, MOU.
Auroral Project presentation	DSME	SMACITE was presented at the review meeting of the AURORAL project https://www.auroral.eu/
CHAISE Project	UPATRAS	SMACITE & CHAISE Erasmus+ projects join forces by signing a MOU
ASIS Project	UPATRAS	SMACITE Erasmus+ projects join forces by signing a MOU
DIGITAL TWIN Project	APRO + UPATRAS	SMACITE and DIGITAL TWIN Erasmus+ projects join forces by signing a MOU
GREENCO Project	CADM, UAH ESI CEE	Erasmus+ projects join forces by signing a MOU
BRIGHT Conference	DSME	Representant of SMACITE partners participated in BRIGHT conference. BRIGHTS project deals with green skills for HE. The synergies with SMACITE have been highlighted in this perspective, focusing on the importance of green skills in the Curriculum
SMARCO	DSME, GAIA, UAH, TXORIERRI, BASSCO	SMARCO can be considered as a next step of SMACITE project and several partners are participating in this new blueprint project.

Figure 2: GreenCo multiplier event - CADM

Some other smaller collaborations have been considered as project partners are working with other project with similar approaches or going under similar calls:

NAME	PARTNER	TOPICS	COMMUNICATION CHANNELS SYNERGIES
DTAM	GAIA,TXORIERRI, UPATRAS	Five European Regional Skills ecosystems comprising H/VET, HE centers and educational policymakers, digital transformation experts and sectoral representatives	Events Social Media
BE-Digital	UPATRAS	Digital needs and opportunities within the Supply Chain ecosystem to develop an innovative higher education and VET program	Events Social Media
ENCORE	UPATRAS	ENCORE will implement a quantitative/data-driven phase and a qualitative/expert-driven phase, to reuse Open Educational Resources (OER), and support educators in teaching and learning design. The first phase relies on Natural Language Processing (NLP) methods. The project will start identifying digital, green, and entrepreneurial (GDE) skills, and link them to OER, to create a database.	Events Social Media
Intelligent Cities Challenge	UPATRAS	Cutting-edge technologies lead the intelligent, green and socially responsible recovery.	Events Social Media
Smart DevOps:	UPATRAS	Close the gap between today's and future's skills demands of municipal workforce by emphasizing on the exploitation of emerging employment paradigms such as DevOps.	Social Media

JOULE	UAH	Addressing digital transformation through development of digital readiness, resilience, and capacity	Meetings, events
VELA	UAH	Addressing digital transformation through development of digital readiness, resilience and capacity	Meetings, events
BEYOU	UAH	EU Youth Goals; democratic process; live better together after the pandemic and helping to design sustainable future ways of living transnationally	Meetings, events
DICE	UAH	digital capabilities of the higher education sector Common values, civic engagement and participation Stimulating innovative learning and teaching practices	Meetings, events
Tinkering	TXORIERRI, APRO	The overall objectives of ThINKER LAB are to increase the social inclusion of young students and to increase the STEM skills of students through inclusive methodologies and collaborative work techniques using low-cost laboratories with recycled materials.	Meetings
Relief	OTC	T¡Teaching bio-economy in farming	face-to-face, virtual meetings, working groups, workshops, social media, newsletters, mail
HyPro4ST	OTC	"Sustainable and Hybrid Project Manager" profile for the Sustainable Tourism Sector, upskill professionals in sustainable, hybrid, digital, creative and entrepreneurship project management	face-to-face meetings, virtual meetings, working groups, workshops, social media, newsletters, mail
Digital GURU	OTC	Provision of learning resources on digital literacy that may be used by employers in order to train their employees in elementary occupations.	face-to-face virtual meetings, working groups, workshops, social media, newsletters, mail
OBCD	OTC	Foster innovation in HE, c-VET, enterprises by investigating the potential of the open business model approach in the SE sector	face-to-face virtual meetings, working groups, workshops, social media, newsletters, mail
SmartCityTech	GAIA	Smart Cities Sustainability Digital Solutions	Website + Social Media

Silicon Europe Alliance	GAIA	Micro-Nano electronics Digital Electronics	Website + Social Media
ET4S	GAIA	Internationalization of SMEs Smart Cities Sustainable technologies	Website + Social Media
GameLabsNet	GAIA	Living labs Gamification Visual Intelligence	Website + Social Media
IDUNN	GAIA	Cybersecurity	Website + Social Media
SMACITE project presentation in SmartCities4young Generations	GAIA	Smart Cities Digital Solutions Sustainability	face-to-face virtual meetings, working groups, workshops, social media,
AURORAL	DIGITAL SME	Digital architecture to integrate services for rural development	Social media
Digital Skills & Jobs Platform	DIGITAL SME	The one stop shop for digital skills and jobs	Platform
DigiGov Hub	UNIWA	AI in Digital innovation in public domain	Events / Social Media
21st century coaching	UNIWA	Coaching	Events / Social Media
ECHO	ESI-CEE	Cybersecurity competence centers	Project meetings, Trainings, Demonstration cases
ACTING	ESI-CEE	Cybersecurity trainings and simulations	Project meetings, Trainings, Demonstration cases
ENCORAUGE	CADM	Develop activities in VET in sustainable ways to encourage young women into finances profiles	Meetings
Green skills for future Tourism (G4T)	UNICERT	European project to improve the green skills of tourism workers	
ROMOTICS	APRO	Presentation of SMACITE project during ROMOTICS final event	Project meetings, Trainings, Social Media

Table 2: Collaboration with other projects

3.3 Conferences

Project partners have been active in conferences where the project has been disseminated and had some presence. In the next table the reader can find in which conferences and in which format SMACITE was involved.

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
PCI 2022 Conference – SMACITE Workshop	UPATRAS	The event was organized to introduce to the scientific community the project and its expected outcomes and to set up potential collaborations and joined activities with interested parties.
XV Conference on Innovation in University Teaching	UAH	This conference focuses on The IN points in university partnerships: INnovation, INterdisciplinarity, and Internationalisation. Dr. Luis Fernández, from the team of Universidad de Alcalá, was invited to present details and results from the SMACITE project on Skills for Smart Cities professionals during the panel on "Innovation in university partnerships" of the XV Conference on Innovation in University Teaching (XV Encuentro de Innovación en Docencia Universitaria), highlighting the relevance of the analysis of skills for the profiles of Smart Cities engineers and technicians. This activity is connected to outputs from activity 2.1 of the project.
Encuentro Comunidad Digital in Aveiro	GAIA	On May 3rd, representatives from Politeknika Txorierri and GAIA assisted to the summit and presented the SMACITE project in the event and flyers were distributed.
International Conference on Education and New Developments (END) 2023 – Publication	UPATRAS	The objective of this activity was to make a publication at the END conference 2023 regarding the SMACITE curriculum in order to increase its visibility among project stakeholders and inspire them. The publication is available here: https://doi.org/10.36315/Education-and-New-Developments_2023_Vol_I (page 236).
DLEARN Conference 2023 - Project presentation	UPATRAS	The aim of the DLEARN 2023 conference was to highlight the new professions and the new skills required by digital and green transformation as well as the methodologies and ways of acquiring new skills through education and professional training. SMACITE project was presented with the objective of raising the awareness and visibility of the project among relevant stakeholders, as well as to engage them with the project.
DTAM Final conference 2023 – Project Presentation	UPATRAS	The aim of the activity is to increase the visibility and awareness of the project among stakeholders as well as to engage them with the project activities. A presentation of the project was carried out apart from the workshop that was organized.
Digital Skills for SMEs to achieve sustainable local growth – Workshop	DSME	What is DIGITAL SME doing to support digital skills development. Blue prints and training courses were presented during this event and SMACITE was one of them.
Europe and Business Digitalization: How Can Europe Facilitate the Digitalization Process? – Presentation	DSME	Presentation of the various services that facilitate responses to European calls for projects for VSEs/SMEs including SMACITE.

Pact for Skills Networking Event - Panel discussion	DSME	In the Panel discussion: Shaping the future of skills development through micro-credentials, digital innovations and new technologies, DIGITAL SME described their ongoing projects in digital skills, including SMACITE
EFVET Conference 2024 in Amersfoort (Project Presentation)	TXORIERRI	For this conference, apart from disseminating the main objectives of the project, specific results of SMACITE were presented by Politeknika Txorierri. Results of SMACITE that were presented are the education and training program, the MOOC platform and the Virtual Reality platform in roundtables.
Tknika Dissemination Event 2024 – Project presentation 2024	TXORIERRI	The SMACITE project was presented the 10th of April at an annual event hosted by TKNIKA. This year, it was held at the Iberdrola Tower in Bilbao with 133 participants (national and international) from different VET centres. Moreover, the leaflets prepared for the project were also distributed at the event to maximize the reach of the project.
GreenCo Multiplier Event	CADM	The GreenCo Multiplier Event was a success, with attendees gaining valuable insights into the environmental impact of technology. The event also generated interest in the GreenCo project and its goals of promoting sustainable practices in the technology sector. The Smacite project was not explicitly mentioned at the event, but its goals of promoting sustainable development through technology align with the overall theme of the GreenCo Multiplier Event and with which we share a Memorandum of Understanding, MOU.
SECOVE Congress	UPATRAS organized by GAIA	SECOVE Congress was an unprecedented event dedicated to bringing together key players and experts in the field of vocational and educational training (VET). This gathering was be held in San Sebastián, in July of 2024. The event offered a platform for the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and best practices in vocational training, with a special focus on Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE), recognizing their crucial role in preparing students for today's and tomorrow's labor market challenges. Some topics were related to sustainability and emerging trends in VET, promoting constructive dialogue among educators, industry professionals, students, and policymakers. In this event organized by GAIA, a presentation of the SMACITE project was carried out.
BRIGHT Conference	DSME	BRIGHTS project deals with green skills for HE. The synergies with SMACITE have been highlighted in this perspective, focusing on the importance of green skills in the Curriculum
Training on Smart Cities	CADM	The Training Centre of the Community of Madrid, National Reference Centre for IT Development and Communications in Getafe, hosted professionals, companies, associations, teachers and students gathered to discuss training in Smart Cities
TXORIERRI	TXORIERRI	For this conference, apart from disseminating the main objectives of the project, we shared the specific results of SMACITE. We presented the education and training program,

		the MOOC platform and the Virtual Reality platform in roundtables.
Tknika Dissemination Event 2024	TXORIERRI	The Dissemination Day held by TKNIKA is an annual event that provides the opportunity to present various projects to a wider audience, among which other VET centers, international partners from the ongoing projects, etc.
Training on Smart Cities	CADM	One day at the Training Centre of the Community of Madrid, National Reference Centre for IT Development and Communications in Getafe, where professionals, companies, associations, teachers and students gathered to discuss training in Smart Cities
European Week of Regions	DSME	The European Week of Regions and Cities is a conference dedicated to cohesion policy and discussions on our common challenges for Europe's regions and cities. Every year, EU-funded projects managed by the European Research Executive Agency (REA) are joining the event, bringing together researchers, policymakers and representatives from Europe's regions and cities. SMACITE was included in this action as part of the 2nd European workshop of the project.
SMACITE Final Conference	SMACITE	In addition to the due national and international workshops, the final conference will be held in the last month of the project, where the project results and a framework for the exploitation of the project outputs will be presented to the relevant stakeholders. More information in the Deliverable D7.4: national project workshops, European-wide workshops and final conference.

Table 3: SMACITE Conferences

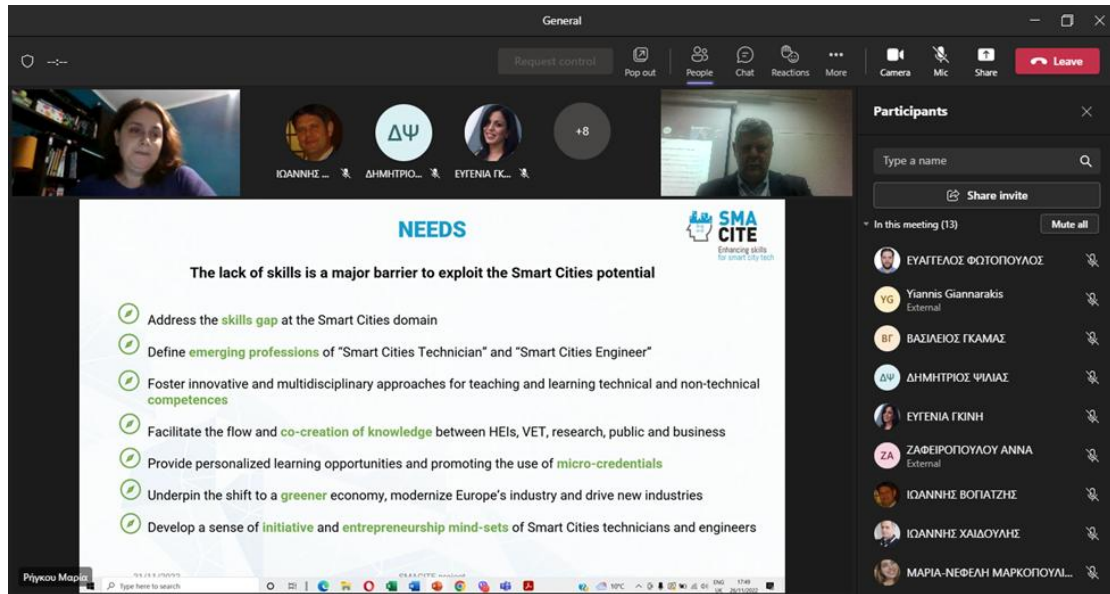Figure 3: RoundTable at XV Conference on Innovation in University Teaching

Figure 4: SMACITE presentation at PCI 2022

Figure 5: Presentation at SECOVE Congress

3.4 Education and Training Events

Other events addressing skills and talent topics were used as one of the main communication channels where the project was disseminated due to the focus topics related to skills:

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
Large Scale Partnership for the Digital Ecosystem – Project mentioning	DSME	SMACITE was mentioned during a matchmaking event organized for the digital LSP (Large Scale Partnership for the Digital Ecosystem)
Seminar about EU Projects at Instituto Politecnico de Castelo Branco	UAH	During September our researcher Inés López Baldominos presented SMACITE project to members of the Research Unit "Digital Services, Applications and Content" at Instituto Politecnico de Castelo Branco (Portugal). We discussed the project's goals, its impact, the challenges we have overcome, and future actions.
Professional Development Seminar – Project presentation	UAH	The UAA College of Engineering welcomes all students and local engineers, land surveyors and project managers to a free seminar series which aims to foster collaboration and information exchange among Alaskan engineers, land surveyors and project managers.
EXPO della Sostenibilità - Sustainability EXPO – Project presentation	APRO	SMACITE project presentation during the workshops dedicated to students at the "EXPO della sostenibilità - Sustainability EXPO" that took place in Alba on 5-6 April 2024.
IFEMA– presentation to students	CADM	From March 23 to 25 we were at IFEMA showing our Smacite project to students of various profiles and ages, so that they could see first-hand what we are working on and informing them that in the future they will be able to visit the project website to take training courses as technicians and Smart Cities engineers.

Table 4: SMACITE Education and training events

Figure 6: Professional Development Seminar in Alaska - UAH presentation

Figure 7: Expo della Sostenibilitá – APRO presentation of SMACITE

3.5 Meetings

In this section some meetings performed with key stakeholders are indicated. These were important to engage target audience in the project outputs and make them involved in project activities and results:

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
UAA research staying – Project presentation	UAH	For three months, one of the lecturers from Universidad de Alcalá, SMACITE partner, is in University Alaska Anchorage to perform a research staying in another research group. One of the first actions has been to pool the knowledge on both research groups, and to explain the current projects UAH is participating in. Different projects were presented and explained to UAA research group, which is located very far away the home institution, and the concept of European projects, and how they work, was also explained. More dissemination actions will be performed in the receiving institution during the following months for SMACITE.
Meeting with Municipality of Patras and Industrial Systems Institute	UPATRAS	The objective of the meeting was to inform Municipality of Patras and Industrial Systems Institute about the project activities and explore potential synergies.
Innovative Industry	APRO	Online meeting to present the project, invite participation in the preliminary survey and identify possibilities for collaboration on the pilot. Exchange of ideas on state-of-the-art technology in the sector and innovative projects in the field of environmental sustainability and smart cities.
Energy service company	APRO	Online meeting to present the project, invite participation in the preliminary survey and identify possibilities for collaboration on the pilot. Exchange of ideas on state-of-the-art technology about smart public

|		lighting and use of innovative solutions to preserve both the environment and public safety.
Members of Department of Science and Technological Innovation to identify opportunities for collaboration on the pilot	APRO	Live/Online meeting with members of Department of Science and Technological Innovation to identify opportunities for collaboration on the pilot. Exchange of ideas on state-of-the-art technology in the sector and innovative projects in the field of environmental sustainability and smart cities.
Valencia City Council	UAH	Meeting with the Smart City Office of Valencia City Council where the SMACITE project was presented
Greek Computer Society Ioannis Katopodis	UPATRAS	SMACITE Project interview with Ioannis Katopodis from the Greek Computer Society
National Association of Municipalities in Bulgaria	BASSCOM	BASSCOM presented the benefits of AI, including its application in Smart Cities management, to the National Association of Municipalities in Bulgaria

Table 5: SMACITE meetings.
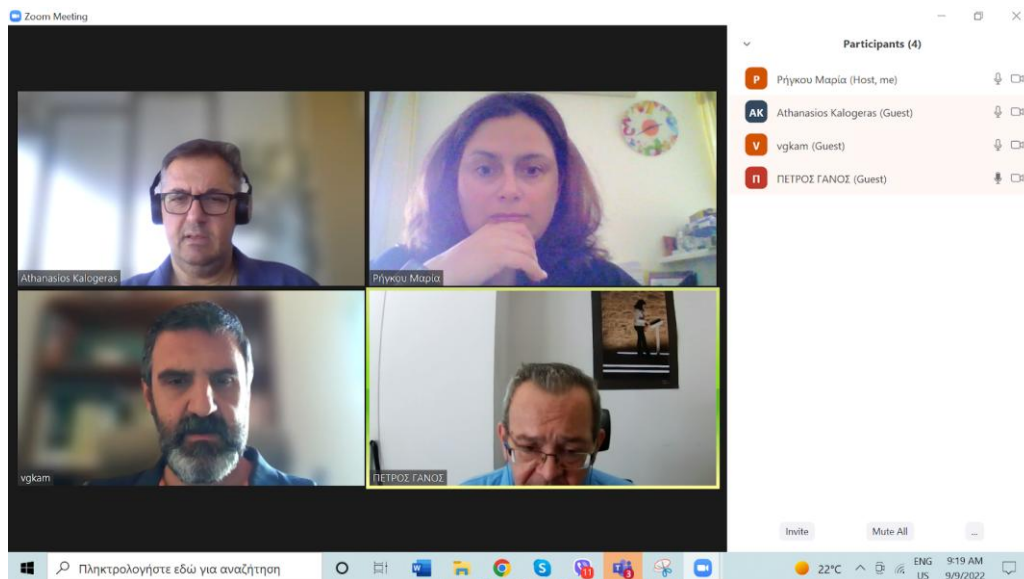
Figure 8: Meeting with Mr. Petros Ganos, Director of the Department of Planning and Studies, Municipality of Patras and Mr. Athanasios Kalogeras, Deputy Director at Industrial Systems Institute / Research Centre ATHENA

3.6 Other Scientific Cooperation

In the project 5 publications have been made and these are shown in the next table:

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
Scientific paper: Modeling and Analyzing the Availability of Technical Professional Profiles for the Success of Smart Cities Projects in Europe	UAH	This article belongs to the Special Issue Topical Advisory Panel Members' Collection Series: Smart Cities in the Digital Age: Balancing Innovation and Security. The success of developing and implementing Smart Cities projects depends on a varied set of factors, where the availability of a qualified technical workforce is a critical one. The combination of ICT requirements, like the effectiveness and quality of solutions merging IoT, cloud computing, sensors, and communications with the work from many varied disciplines (e.g., civil engineering, architecture, etc.), mixed with aspects of environmental and business sustainability, makes the management of these projects really challenging. Reports forecast a scarcity of qualified candidates, given this complexity and the growth of activity in SC projects. The European project SMACITE has addressed the requirements of the qualification of an ICT workforce with an analysis of multiple sources of information from the labor market, feedback from involved stakeholders, and literature. The training activities of SMACITE have also suggested the amount of training expected for a varied sample of candidates who want to be qualified for SC projects.
Scientific paper: User and professional aspects for sustainable computing based on Internet of Things in Europe	UAH	This article belongs to the Special Issue Sustainable Computing Based on Internet of Things Empowered with Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain. The commonly accepted definition of sustainability considers the availability of relevant resources to make an activity feasible and durable while also recognizing users' support as an essential part of the social side of sustainability. IoT represents a disruption in the general scenario of computing for both users and professionals. The real expansion and integration of applications based on IoT depend on our capacity of exploring the necessary skills and professional profiles that are essential for the implementation of IoT projects, but also on the perception of relevant aspects for users, e.g., privacy, legal, IPR, and security issues. Our participation in several EU-funded projects with a focus on this area has enabled the collection of information on both sides of IoT sustainability through surveys but also by collecting data from a variety of sources. Thanks to these varied and complementary sources of information, this article will explore the user and professional aspects of the sustainability of the Internet of

		Things in practice.
Scientific paper: A Multidisciplinary Training Program for Smart Cities Technicians and Engineers	UPATRAS	The publication authored by Gkamas V and Rigou M, was presented at the International Conference on Education and New Developments, held from June 24 to 26, 2023. The presentation discusses an innovative training program specifically designed to prepare technicians and engineers to thrive in smart city environments. The program highlights the importance of multidisciplinary learning, integrating technical knowledge with practical applications, to meet the evolving demands and challenges associated with smart cities. The focus is on equipping professionals with the necessary skills to adapt to the dynamic nature of smart urban infrastructures. The program's approach reflects the increasing need for a comprehensive understanding of smart technologies and their practical implementation. You can access the full text through the DOI link: 10.36315/Education-and-New-Developments_2023_Vol_I.
Scientific paper: Training Smart Cities Professionals on Digital and Horizontal Skills in the Industry 5.0 Era	UPATRAS	The publication authored by Gkamas V, Rigou M, Gueorguiev I, and Kyurdyan V, was presented at the IEEE Global Engineering Education Conference, held from April 20 to 25, 2025. The paper addresses the critical need for training smart city professionals by focusing on the integration of digital and horizontal skills that are essential in the context of Industry 5.0. It presents a structured framework aimed at equipping industry workers with advanced digital competencies, thereby enhancing their ability to manage urban environments and foster innovation within smart cities. The proposed framework underscores the importance of developing a versatile skill set that combines technical knowledge with transversal capabilities to meet the demands of modern urban ecosystems and support the sustainable evolution of smart cities.
Scientific paper: Utilizing Virtual Worlds for training Professionals: the case of Soft Skills training of Smart City Engineers and TechnicianS	UPATRAS	The paper investigates virtual worlds as innovative tools for training smart city professionals, especially technicians and engineers, focusing on soft skills development. It presents findings from a pilot virtual training, part of a broader program that included entrepreneurial and green skills. The study outlines the methodology used in designing the soft skills training within an online multi-user environment and describes the technical setup. A mixed-methods evaluation combined surveys from 27 trainees and interviews with instructors to assess satisfaction, effectiveness, and course design. Results show high satisfaction, especially with instructors and curriculum structure. Course design strongly influenced perceived quality, while prior

		experience with virtual worlds had little effect. Participants valued the flexibility, interaction, and teamwork, despite minor technical issues. The research highlights the potential of virtual worlds as inclusive and scalable training solutions in underexplored areas like Smart City education. *By the time this report is being written, the article is accepted for publication: (https://www.mdpi.com/journal/computers)

Table 6: Other scientific cooperation by the SMACITE project.

3.7 Webinars

For the dissemination of the project results, a webinar was organized:

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
The Road to Smart Cities and Digital Sustainability	UAH	The connection between digital and green transitions is becoming more and more important. As society becomes increasingly digital, we must ensure that this feeds into the strategy for a more sustainable economy in the future. This webinar will focus on current projects supporting this overlying goal, which includes the development of smart cities as well as more sustainable practices in the private sector. During the event SMACITE, the development of two new professional roles for Smart Cities mapped to ESCO and e-CF' was covered, as well as a new European project for a Secure and Sustainable digital infrastructure. A case-study for smarter and more sustainable practices in end-to-end software and the cloud technology solutions company SoftwareONE presented in the event.

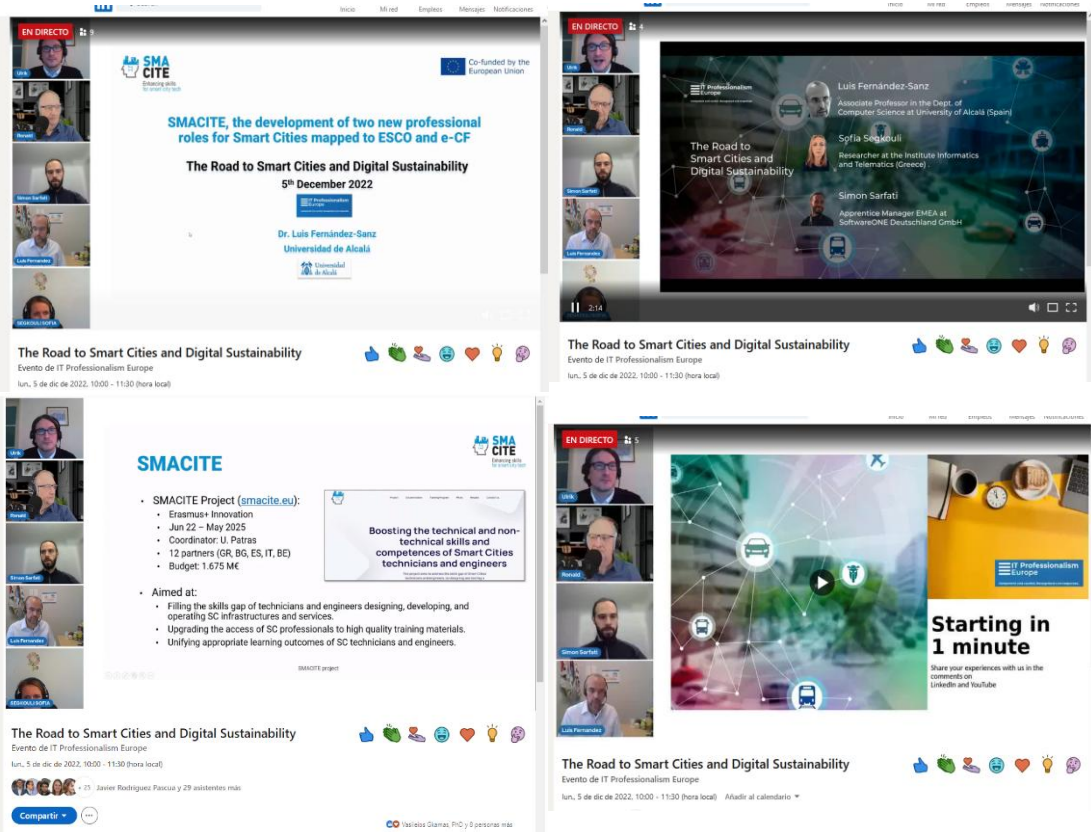Table 7: Webinar in which SMACITE was presented

Figure 9: The Road to Smart Cities and Digital Sustainability workshop

3.8 National and European Workshops

Following the communication plan developed at the start of the project, these are the 12 workshops that have been organized within the SMACITE project. The aim of these workshops was firstly to increase the visibility of the project among the target groups and on the other hand to involve the target groups in live discussions, ensuring better ownership of the topic. More information about these workshops can be found on deliverable: "D7.4. National project workshops, European-wide workshops and final conference.

National Workshop in Bilbao		
Date	October 2023	**Description**
Country	Spain	The first national workshop of the SMACITE project in Spain took place at Politeknika Txorierri on October 5th. Representatives from companies, H/VET providers and students got to know the latest news about SMACITE project: the partnership, the project objectives and expected results.
City	Bilbao	
Organization	Politeknika Txorierri	
Attendees	132	
		A representative from Bilbao Ekintza, the Bilbao City Council, joined the workshop and shared with the participants information about the evolution of Bilbao, specifically their plans to transform the island of Zorrozaurre from an old industrial peninsula to a smart innovative urban district.
Link	https://smacite.eu/index.php/en/dissemination/posts/124-smacite-workshop-in-spain	

Table 8: *National Workshop in Bilbao*

National Workshop in Stara Zagora		
Date	October 2023	**Description**
Country	Bulgaria	The national workshop on the SMACITE project in Bulgaria took place during the BASSCOM autumn retreat in the city of Stara Zagora between October 27-29
City	Stara Zagora	
Organization	BASSCOM, ESI Center Eastern Europe	The event was attended by the leaders of BASSCOM member companies, as well as representatives from educational institutions, NGOs - regional partners of two Bulgarian organizations in Stara Zagora and officials from Stara Zagora municipality.
Attendees	76	
		The SMACITE project was presented as an opportunity for those looking to go deeper into the rapidly evolving topic of Smart Cities. The participants were informed about the project objectives, current activities and expected results. BASSCOM and ESI Center Eastern Europe also presented the SMACITE platform for trainings to increase the qualifications of technical specialists and engineers operating in the field of Smart Cities. The feedback received from the participants was very positive and some of the attendees expressed their interest to participate in the upcoming pilot trainings.

Link	https://smacite.eu/index.php/en/dissemination/posts/125-smacite-workshop-in-bulgaria

Table 9: *National Workshop in Stara Zagora*

National Workshop in Patras		
Date	November 2023	**Description**
Country	Greece	The workshop has been co-organized by University of Patras and Olympic Training and Consulting, partners in the SMACITE project. During the workshop the SMACITE Erasmus+ project (University of Patras) was presented, and the following topics were also discussed: Actions to promote green living spaces for effective cooperation in the Mediterranean region (Region of Western Greece). Smart City applications in the Municipality of Kalamata: Initiatives of the Municipality of Trikala for the creation of Smart Cities (Municipality of Trikala). Moreover a demo of the beta version of the SMACITE MOOC and Virtual Worlds has been done. Furthermore, the University of Patras, coordinator of the SMACITE project is pleased to announce the start of the registration to the free SMACITE training program for smart city technicians and engineers, students and other interested parties related to the industry
City	Patras	
Organization	University of Patras, Olympic Training and Consulting	
Attendees	53	
Link	https://smacite.eu/index.php/en/dissemination/posts/127-smacite-workshop-in-greece-patras	

Table 10: *National Workshop in Patras*

National Workshop in Alba		
Date	November 2023	**Description**
Country	Italy	The first national workshop of the SMACITE project in Italy allowed companies, H/VET providers and public bodies to meet and let them know the latest news about the SMACITE project, the partnership, the project objectives and expected results.
City	Alba	
Organization	Apro Formazione	
Attendees	43	
		The Italian SMACITE project team met teachers from the Liceo Scientifico Cocito in Alba and representatives of the municipality of guarene, which is currently implementing with other municipalities a cultural and social regeneration project financed by the NextGenerationEU programme at their premises. On the corporate front, the SMACITE project was presented in APRO Formazione to some local companies active in the energy and tech sector and finally in Genoa at the ETT SpA. headquarters.

	During the meetings, it was possible to exchange views with teachers, trainers, technicians and human resource managers on the implementation and management of extra-curricular online learning activities, gathering important feedback on the training needs of companies and public bodies and experiences in the use of technological tools for training and daily activities. The feedback received from the participants was very positive and some of the attendees expressed their interest to participate in the upcoming pilot trainings and in further events related to the project.
Link	https://smacite.eu/index.php/en/dissemination/posts/135-smacite-workshop-in-italy

Table 11: *National Workshop in Alba*

National Workshop in Pamporovo		
Date	November 15-17 2024	**Description**
Country	Bulgaria	The SMACITE Project National Workshop, hosted by Bulgarian Association of Software Companies and ESI Center Eastern Europe, took place in Pamporovo, Bulgaria, on November 15-17, 2024, during the BASSCOM Autumn Retreat. The event brought together over 65 key stakeholders from the Bulgarian IT ecosystem, including industry leaders, academics, and public sector representatives. The workshop focused on sharing SMACITE Project achievements, discussing lessons learned, and gathering valuable feedback from the target groups of the project: IT professionals, students, and public sector officials.
City	Pomporovo	
Organization	ESI-CEE	
Attendees	75	
Link	https://smacite.eu/en/dissemination/posts/175-2nd-smacite-workshop-in-bulgaria	

Table 12: *National Workshop in Pomporovo*

National Workshop in Madrid		
Date	18 February 2025	**Description**
Country	Spain	On February 18th, Madrid hosted one of SMACITE's national workshops, a key event addressing the challenges and opportunities in the evolution of Smart Cities. During the session, participants discussed how emerging technologies, such as AI, cybersecurity, and IoT, are transforming urban planning and public services. The workshop also addressed the most in-demand professional profiles and training strategies to bridge the skills gap in the sector. The key highlights of the event were the following: ● **Presentation of the SMACITE project**, emphasizing its impact on developing talent for Smart Cities.
City	Madrid	
Organization	UAH. CADM	
Attendees	55	

		● **Exploration of professional profiles and key competencies** required for urban digitalization. ● **Panel on innovative experiences in Spain**, showcasing successful case studies in implementing smart city technologies. ● **Introduction of the SMACITE MOOC**, designed to equip professionals with essential digital transformation skills. ● **Discussion on challenges posed by emerging technologies**, analyzing the obstacles faced by professionals and public administrations. In a nutshell, the transformation of cities does not depend solely on technology, but on the talent capable of implementing it with vision and efficiency. SMACITE is a key step in training the professionals who will lead this evolution.
Link	https://smacite.eu/en/dissemination/posts/181-2nd-smacite-workshop-in-spain	

Table 13: *National Workshop in Madrid*

National Workshop in Alba		
Date	March 5th 2025	**Description**
Country	Italy	On March 5, 2025, over 200 people gathered in Alba for "Smart Cities in Azione – Innovazione per un futuro sostenibile", Italian National workshop of the SMACITE project. The event, organized by Apro Formazione, was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the results of SMACITE and explore how innovation is shaping the sustainable cities of tomorrow. In the event, SMACITE project results were presented, and the following top experts participated in the roundtable discussion that followed: ● Luca Mercalli – President of the Italian Meteorological Society & Scientific Journalist ● Franco Borgogno – Environmental Science Journalist & Nature Guide ● Roberto Cavallo Agronomist, Author & Environment Assessor in the Municipality of Alba The roundtable discussion was moderated by Giancarlo Scarzello, Renewable Energy Entrepreneur (Gemini Project)
City	Alba	
Organization	APRO	
Attendees	>200	
Link	https://smacite.eu/en/dissemination/posts/184-2nd-smacite-workshop-in-italy	

Table 14: *National Workshop in Alba*

National Workshop in Athens

National Workshop in Athens		
Date	February 26t2025	**Description**
Country	Greece	On February 26th, the University of West Attica hosted the second SMACITE National workshop in Greece. The event, held at the Alsos Egaleo Campus, gathered academics, industry experts, and technology leaders to explore the essential skills needed for engineers and technicians in Smart Cities. The primary focus of the workshop was developing new skills that align with the demands of modern urban environments, highlighting the critical intersection of technology and professional competencies. The workshop concluded with a round table, where attendees shared perspectives on the challenges and opportunities within the smart city sector, reaffirming that the future of urban spaces relies on the combination of digital skills and innovative applications. As cities evolve, fostering talent that can lead this transformation remains a priority.
City	Athens	
Organization	UNIWA	
Attendees	42	

Table 15: *National Workshop in Athens*

1st European Workshop

1st European Workshop		
Date	September 20 2023	**Description**
City	Online	The event, organized by the project partner DIGITAL SME, gathered **more than 60 stakeholders** in the smart cities sector. Representatives of EU institutions, education providers, VET, public authorities and businesses (solutions' providers) joined the event and participated in the breakout sessions to facilitate connections among peers around Europe. SMACITE project's findings on **technical and soft skills for smart cities engineers and technicians** were concretely presented by the project partners Universidad de Alcalà and University of Patras.
Organization	DSME	
Attendees	65	
Link	https://smacite.eu/index.php/en/dissemination/posts/103-smacites-first-workshop-smart-development-unleashing-skills-for-future-ready-cities-communities	

Table 16: *1st European Workshop*

2nd European Workshop

2nd European Workshop		
Date	8th October 2024	**Description**
Country	Belgium	The session will take place on **8 October 2024, from 09:30 to 10:30 CEST, at the Albert Borschette Congress Center in Brussels**. It will dive into how local talent and skill development can drive sustainable growth in rural areas, sharing insights from EU-funded projects and public-private partnerships, including the SMACITE project.
City	Brussels	
Organization	Digital SME	
Attendees	60	

Link	https://smacite.eu/en/dissemination/posts/171-smacite-at-eu-week-of-regions-2024

Table 17: *2ⁿᵈ European Workshop*

3ʳᵈ European Workshop		
Date	20ᵗʰ February 2025	**Description**
Country	Belgium and Online	On February 20th,the **SMACITE European Workshop – SMARt COmmunities' Skills Development in Europe workshop** brought together **52 participants** both in-person at Comet Meetings in Brussels and online. This 1.5-hour panel explored how public authorities can lead the way by equipping their teams with the **digital and transversal competences** needed to build, implement, and sustain smart, inclusive, and green local development. The session tackled three key themes: ● Core competencies needed for the digital and green transitions ● Strategies to **bridge skills gaps** across urban and rural areas ● Best practices in **upskilling and workforce development** for public procurers and smart engineers Moderated by Caterina Bortolaso, Project Manager at European DIGITAL SME Alliance and partner of the SMACITE project, the workshop opened up meaningful discussions and set the stage for **collaborative skills development** across Europe.
City	Brussels	
Organization	DSME	
Attendees	39	
Link	https://smacite.eu/en/dissemination/posts/185-smacite-european-workshop-smart-communities-skills-development-in-europe-workshop	

Table 18: *3ʳᵈ European Workshop*

More detailed information about the project workshops can be found in the document *D7.5.National project Workshops, European-wide Workshops and final conference*

All dissemination activities carried out during the project done by all project partners have been collected by GAIA in a centralized repository. Also, all activities have been grouped and included in the SYGMA portal in the dissemination section.

4. Communication Activities

All communication activities carried out during the project done by all project partners have been collected by GAIA in a centralized repository. Also, all activities have been grouped and included in the SYGMA portal in the communication section.

4.1. Events

SMACITE comprises project partners of different types (VET centres, universities, clusters...) and all of them have different projects and activities which include the organization of events, such as workshops, trainings, working groups... These have been used to disseminate project outputs, results and engagement of stakeholders.

In the table below, we indicate the activities organized by project partners where the SMACITE project has been communicated:

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
Visit students IES Simone Veil, Paracuellos De Jarama – Presentation to potential users	UAH	We receive the visit of students of professional training of microcomputer systems and networks to learn first-hand about the options that we offer them from the Community of Madrid when it comes to continuing their training.
BASSCOM Autumn Retreat (October 7-9, 2022, Varna, Bulgaria) – Project presentation	BASSCOM	SMACITE project was presented for the first time to the Bulgarian ICT ecosystem (representatives of leading Bulgarian software companies and BASSCOM associate members, among them universities, non-governmental organizations, centres for vocational training, venture capital funds, etc.)
Internal event at Txorierri 2022	TXORIERRI	We realized an internal event on Politeknika Txorierri to communicate our projects to the staff. Among them, and specially mentioned as one of the newest and most innovative projects, the SMACITE project was presented.
Postgraduate and continuing education fair in Madrid 2022	CADM	From March 23 to 25 we were at IFEMA showing our Smacite project to students of various profiles and ages, so that they could see first-hand what we are working on and informing them that in the future they will be able to visit the project website to take training courses as technicians and Smart Cities engineers.
BASSCOM Spring Retreat (April 21-23, 2023, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria) - Project presentation	BASSCOM	State of the art of SMACITE project was presented to the Bulgarian ICT ecosystem (representatives of leading Bulgarian software companies and BASSCOM associate

		members, among which universities, NGOs, VET providers, venture capital funds, others)
BASSCOM Annual General Assembly (June 8, 2023, Sofia, Bulgaria) – Project presentatoin	BASSCOM	State of the art of SMACITE project was presented to the Bulgarian ICT ecosystem (representatives of leading Bulgarian software companies and BASSCOM associate members, among which universities, NGOs, VET providers, venture capital funds, others)
GAIA's internal committe (45 attendees) – Project presentation	GAIA	SMACITE project presentation in GAIA's industry specific comittee (may 23rd 2023). The SMACITE project was presented to more than 45 attendees.
AlbaOrienta2023" fair - 2-3/12/23 – APRO – Project presence	APRO	Presence of SMACITE project via rollups and flyers at the School Orientation Fair dedicated to presentations of city colleges for students and families. Networking with teachers from local schools.
- EdTech Disruption Day	TXORIERRI	Murros hot wot become a smart VET School – SMACITE Project presentation
BASSCOM Spring Retreat (May 10-12, 2024, Sozopol, Bulgaria) – Project presentation	BASSCOM	'State of the art of SMACITE project was presented to the Bulgarian ICT ecosystem (representatives of leading Bulgarian software companies and BASSCOM associate members, among which universities, NGOs, VET providers, venture capital funds, others)
Presentation of SMACITE Project at BASSCOM Annual Assembly (June 5, 2024, Sofia, Bulgaria)	BASSCOM	'State of the art of SMACITE project was presented to the Bulgarian ICT ecosystem (representatives of leading Bulgarian software companies and BASSCOM associate members, among which universities, NGOs, VET providers, venture capital funds, others)
EfVET Conference 2024 - distribution of SMACITE leaflets	GAIA .TXORIERRI	We distributed the SMACITE leaflets during the conference to engage the audience, and we made those who specifically stayed in our Roundtables to sign an attendance list as Evidence.
6th International Conference of Development and Economy	OTC	Project presentation in the 6th International Conference of Development and Economy (@ICODECON2024) – in Kalamata
Tknika event 2025 10t of April	TXORIERRI	'The SMACITE project was presented the 10th of April at an annual event hosted by TKNIKA. This year, it was held at the Iberdrola Tower in Bilbao with 133 participants (national and international) from different VET centres. Moreover, the leaflets prepared for the project were also distributed at the event to maximize the reach of the project.

Table 20: *Communication events of the SMACITE project*

Figure 10: Dissemination at Event of Tknika of Politeknika Txorierri

4.2. Exhibitions

Apart from those events and conferences where the project was presented, there were additional exhibitions where the project was presented in different ways:

ACTIVITY TITLE	PROJECT PARTNER	DESCRIPTION
Interdidac-Red Educación – Trade fair presence	UAH	Communication on the existence of the SMACITE project at an education and innovation fair in Madrid on 24 March 2023, using a roll-up poster of the SMACITE project
BeDigital fair 2023 presence	GAIA	SMACITE project presentation in the BeDigital Fair that took place on June 8th in Bilbao in an event that is destined to showcase the digital industry ecosystem in the Basque Country. The SMACITE project was presented in GAIA's stand.
BeDigital fair 2024 and BMH presence	GAIA	SMACITE project presentation in the Bienal de Maquina Herramienta Fair that took place in Bilbao in an event that is destined to showcase the big industry ecosystem in the Basque Country. The SMACITE project was presented in GAIA's stand.
SmartCityExpo 2022	GAIA	SMACITE project presentation in the SmartCityExpo that took place in 2022 in an event that is destined to showcase the Smart City ecosystem in Spain.

Table 21: SMACITE dissemination activities. Exhibitions

Figure 11: BeDigital trade fair (GAIA's booth)

4.3. Press release

At the beginning of the project an announcement letter, press release(s) and social media were issued announcing the SMACITE's start and kick-off and raising awareness of the project objectives and relevance. The Press release was available in EN, ES, GR, IT, BG.

To maximize the impact of the projects outputs and showcase the international collaboration between EU based organizations that, a second press release was issue to showcase the main outcomes of the national and European workshops organized in Greece, Spain, Italy and Bulgaria which engaged key stakeholders such as tech companies, public institutions, VET providers, students and policymakers. This press release also announced the project's final Conference that took place on May 8th 2025 in Athens.

A third press release was generated to showcase the ending of the project and the final results that have been accomplished.

Regarding the dissemination of the Press releases all partners were responsible to share it among their communication channels in order to maximize the impact of the project among potential stakeholders and interested parties.

Figure 12: Screenshot of the first press release (EN, GR)

PRESS RELEASE HEADER	RELEASE DATE	TOPICS COVERED
A European project will define the educational curriculum to train and accredit technicians and	July 22nd 2022	● The **SMACITE** project **aims to address the gap between the skills of technicians and engineers** currently working in the field of **smart cities** and the real needs for the development and management of smart cities, thanks to a new

engineers specialised in smart cities.		adapted educational programme that will combine technical and non-technical skills. ● **The competence mapping and training curriculum will be designed and tested in 4 pilot projects** in universities and training centers in Greece, Spain, Bulgaria and Italy, with the participation of more than 150 students. ● **Smacite will run until mid-2025** and, coordinated by the University of Patras (Greece), has a budget of **€1,340,000** linked to the European Union's Erasmus+ programme.
SMACITE Project Empowers Smart Communities through 11 National and European Workshops	April 9th 2025	● **SMACITE has developed a multidisciplinary training program** combining digital, green, and soft skills to upskill Smart City professionals. ● **The 11 workshops across Europe carried out in the project** identified key skill gaps and validated learning resources. ● The **free, self-paced MOOC** was launched to support learning in smart city technologies and transversal competencies. ● SMACITE has fostered **collaboration between education, industry, and public authorities**, aligning training with labor market and sustainability needs. ● A **final conference on May 8, 2025**, will share results and promote dialogue on AI, digital skills, and smart city innovation.
SMACITE Project Concludes, Delivering Innovative Training Solutions for Smart City Technicians and Engineers	May 21st of 2025	● SMACITE ends setting a **new benchmark** in vocational education by combining technical training with green, entrepreneurial and transversal skills for smart city development. ● The project has achieved its **main outputs** with a **modular curriculum, open-access MOOC and Virtual Worlds** to empower future Smart City Technicians and Engineers in Europe. ● **Workshops and Final Conference: Knowledge Sharing and Impact** ● Project **Sustainability**

Table 22: SMACITE Press releases

The following press releases, available in english and in the project partners languages, (ES, IT, GR, BG) have been published in physical and digital media to maximize the impact of the SMACITE project and its results to a wider audience.

4.4. Media Articles

Moreover, apart from those generated within the project, the SMACITE project has been featured in multiple media articles, the most relevant of which are pointed out here:

MEDIA OUTLET	PROJECT PARTNER	TOPICS COVERED
FP Empresa	TXORIERRI	SMACITE presentation where the SMACITE pilots were highlighted.
European Year of Skills blogpost	DSME	Presentation of the SMACITE project highlights and main outcomes.
SMACITE Project Newsletter 3	TXORIERRI	General information about the SMACITE project
EfVET website	TXORIERRI	SMACITE project information in the European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training
Portal Comunica	UAH	SMACITE project information in the UAH website, directed mainly to students and staff from the university and the regional and national high education ecosystem.

Table 23: SMACITE media articles

4.5. Newsletters

During the project, 6 newsletters have been already created in EN, GR, ES, IT and BG. These allow partners to reach the target audience in a visual and effective way. Further information about the newsletter can be found in D7.3 Promotional Materials.

The project´s Newsletters have been directly disseminated to the SMACITE project partners (39 contacts), who have proceeded with the dissemination to the relevant audiences of the different partner countries.

All the project partners are responsible for disseminating the newsletters to their target audiences directly, in order to maximize the diffusion of the project progress and partial results to relevant 350 Stakeholders.

TITLE	POSTING DATE	TOPICS COVERED
SMACITE Project Newsletter 1	February 28th 2023	● Main project outputs ● Project Overview ● Target Audience ● Project News and Outputs
SMACITE Project Newsletter 2	October 5th 2023	● Project progress ● Face to Face Meeting outcomes ● Project Pilots

		- Online Workshop - Related News
SMACITE Project Newsletter 3	March 4th 2024	- Project Progress during its first half - SMACITE curriculum - Pilot training - Conducted project workshops
SMACITE Project Newsletter 4	September 4th 2024	- SMACITE Awards - Call for Public Sector Professionals in the Pilot Training - SMACITE MOUs - Face to Face Meeting in Derio - SECOVE International Congress 22nd European Week of Regions and Cities
SMACITE Project Newsletter 5	February 3rd 2025	- New SMACITE Video Launch - Winners of the SMACITE Awards - MOU signed with Chaise project - Partner meeting in Alba - Conducted Project Workshops - Project News and Outputs
SMACITE Project Newsletter 6	May 22nd 2025	- Final Press Release - Final project results - Final conference - SMACITE joint Pack for Skills - Conducted workshops - Project Result Publications

Table 24: SMACITE Newsletters.

Apart from the official project Newsletters, the project has been featured in some of the Newsletters of the project partners, detailed here:

- CEPIS Newsletter (February 2025)
- DIGITAL SME Newsletter (October 2022) (Summer 2023) (December 2023) (DSME)
- GAIA Newsletter (September 2022) (November 2023) (February 2025) (GAIA)
- European Digital Learning Networks (ETS) – January 2023 (TXORIERRI)
- Efvet Newsletter February 2023 and February 2025 (TXORIERRI)
- Efvet Newsletter April 2024 (TXORIERRI)
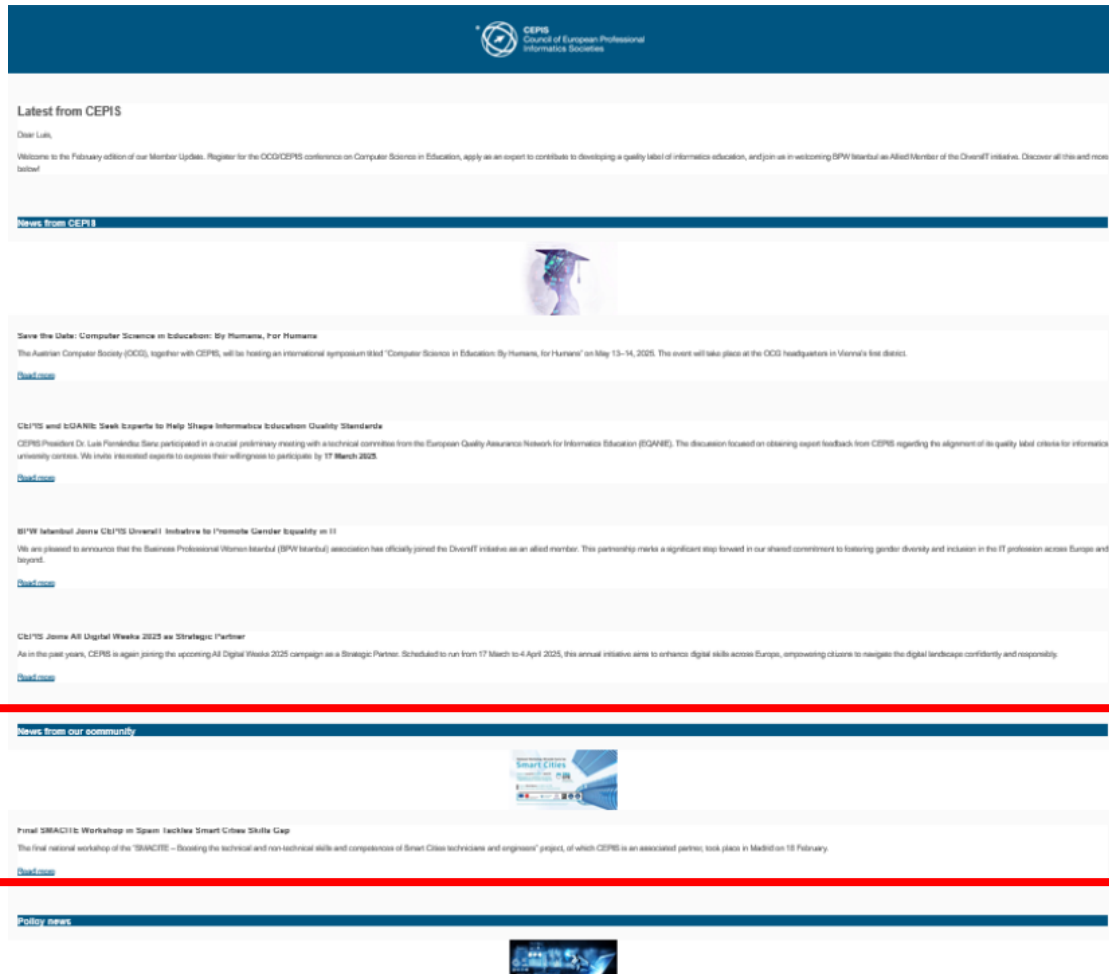
Figure 13: Presence in the CEPIS Newsletter

4.6.   SMACITE website

The SMACITE website is accessible at http://*smacite.eu* and is available in all partner languages. It has been used throughout the whole lifecycle of the project for communication and dissemination purposes and all the project outputs have been published there, including all the communication activities carried out.

The Project Coordinator (UPATRAS) has editing access and is in charge of updating the web content, while all the partners were responsible for including the required information.

The objectives of the website were:
-   To have a website to expose, disseminate and promote the project activities and results.

- To provide the user with quick and intuitive access to the desired information and with all the public outputs and results available and accessible.
- To have a state-of-the-art website optimized for search engines and SEO positioning.

The following information about the project is accessible in the project website:
- General project information
- News and Events (posts, newsletters, workshops and promotional material)
- Training program and curriculum information (MOOC and Virtual words)
- Information regarding the International Pilots
- Project results (deliverables and publications)

Figure 14: Project website

Up until *the 6th of May 2025* the project website has received 5.700 visitors, while Greece, USA and Spain were the locations where more visitors were from, as depicted in the following figure.

Figure 15: SMACITE website user statistics

4.7. Social media

Some of the dissemination actions were also made via the following social media channels X, LinkedIn, Facebook and YouTube. Publication of information and activities have been also stressed out using these channels to reach our target audience.

Periodic publications on all aspects related to the project as well as information about project related topics with a special focus Smart Cities have been published in the form of:

- o News about the activities carried out by SMACITE (meetings and outputs)
- o Events related to / organized by SMACITE
- o Smart City and skills related publications
- o Joint activities with other European projects

GAIA created a rotation calendar where all project partners take on responsibility for creating some content for the project social media channels. There has been a weekly assignation and suggestions of the activity to be disseminated, which are related to the project tasks and milestones.

Figure 16: Calendar for LinkedIn and Facebook posts

The general guidelines for these posts are explained in the following table:

SOCIAL NETWORK	CONTENTS	FREQUENCY	LANGUAGE	HASHTAG
Facebook	**Own:** - Project activities - Project results - Project partner news - Events **From third parties:** - Related projects - Smart cities & skills	1 weekly post	English	#SmartCities #Skills #SmartEngineers #SmartTechnicians #Competences #Profiles #Curriculum #Entrepreneurship #Green #Technologies
Twitter / X		2 weekly tweets		
Linkedin		1 weekly post		

Table 25: Social Media Publication guidelines

All partners were encouraged to share, retweet, or mention all the activities in their personal and company accounts that can be accessed in the project communication plan in order to provide traffic to the project outputs and publications maximising the dissemination of the project and SMACITE related topics.

Note that all partners follow the guidelines developed by the European Commission for the usage of social media.

4.7.1. X

The X account set-up for the project is *@SMACITEPROJECT.* Up to the 6th of May 2025, **223 posts** have been published in X, and the account has gathered **178 followers as can be seen**. The accounts following has seen a slight decrease from 199 followers in the last interim dissemination report, from 199 followers in 4th April 2024. This may be due to the decrease in popularity of the social media channel after the change of ownership of the company which is estimated that only in the last 12 months, X has lost more than 11.000.000 users. The link to the X profile, where all the post can be visited is:
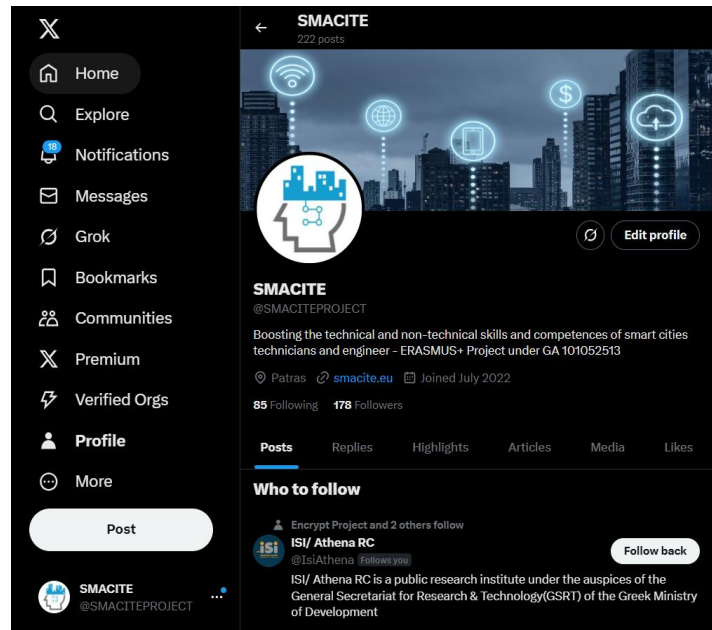
https://twitter.com/SMACITEPROJECT

Figure 17: SMACITE X account

4.7.2. LinkedIn

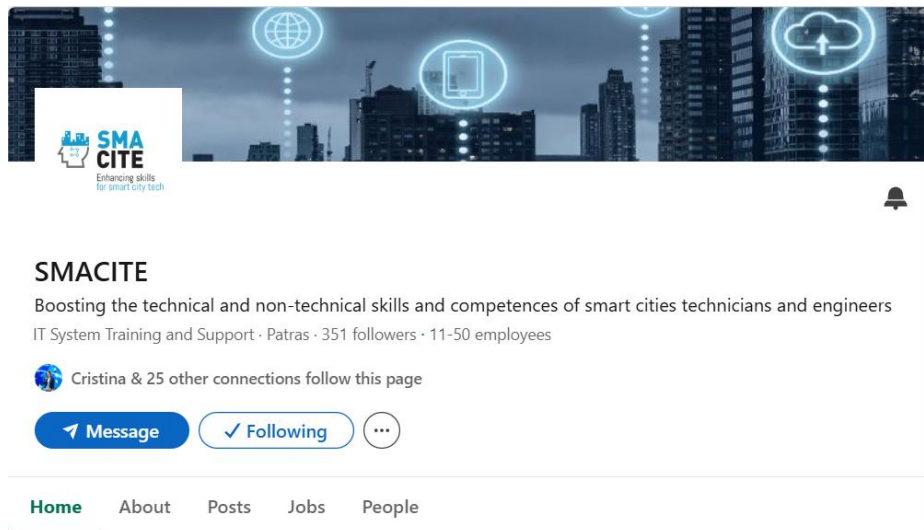The LinkedIn account was set up in **@SMACITE**

Figure 18: SMACITE LinkedIn account

Up until the 5th of May of 2025, more than **80 posts** have been published in LinkedIn, and the account has gathered **351 followers**.

Between April 2023 – 2024, the project LinkedIn page reached more than 550 reactions on its published content, while garnering more than **768 reactions (likes, comments and replies)** as seen in the image below:

The link to the LinkedIn profile, where all the posts are accessible is:

https://www.linkedin.com/company/smacite/
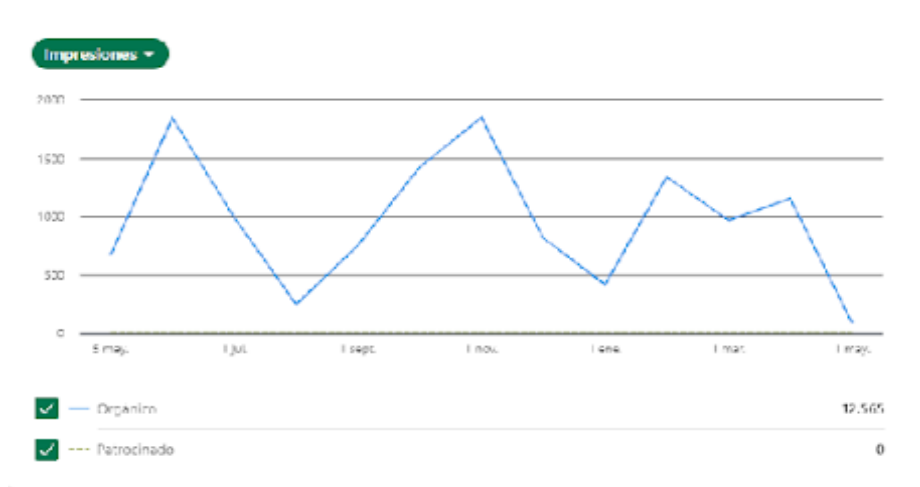
Figure 19: no of Reactions of the SMACITE LinkedIn post (April 2023-2024)

Between April– 2024 and May 2025, the project LinkedIn page reached 698 reactions on its published content, while garnering more than **13.628 reactions** as seen in the image below:
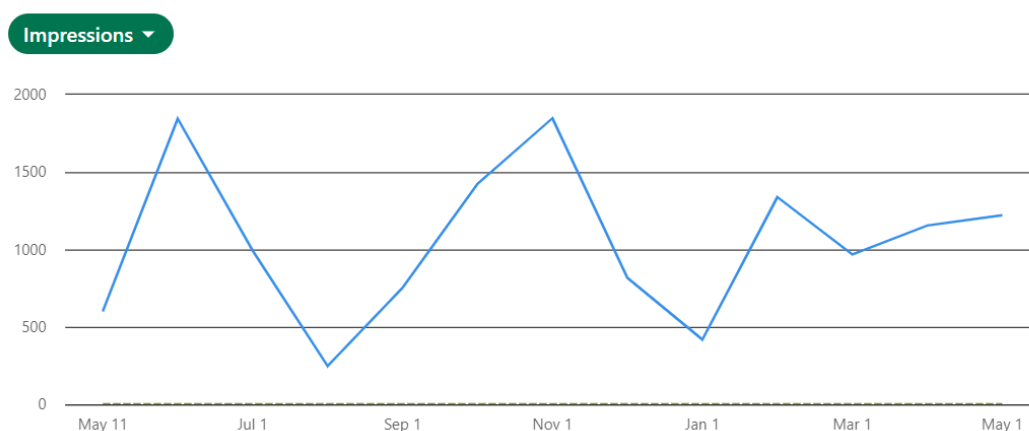
Figure 20: no of Impressions of the SMACITE LinkedIn post (April 2024 – May 2025)

4.7.3. Facebook

The Facebook page set up is **@Smacite-project**.
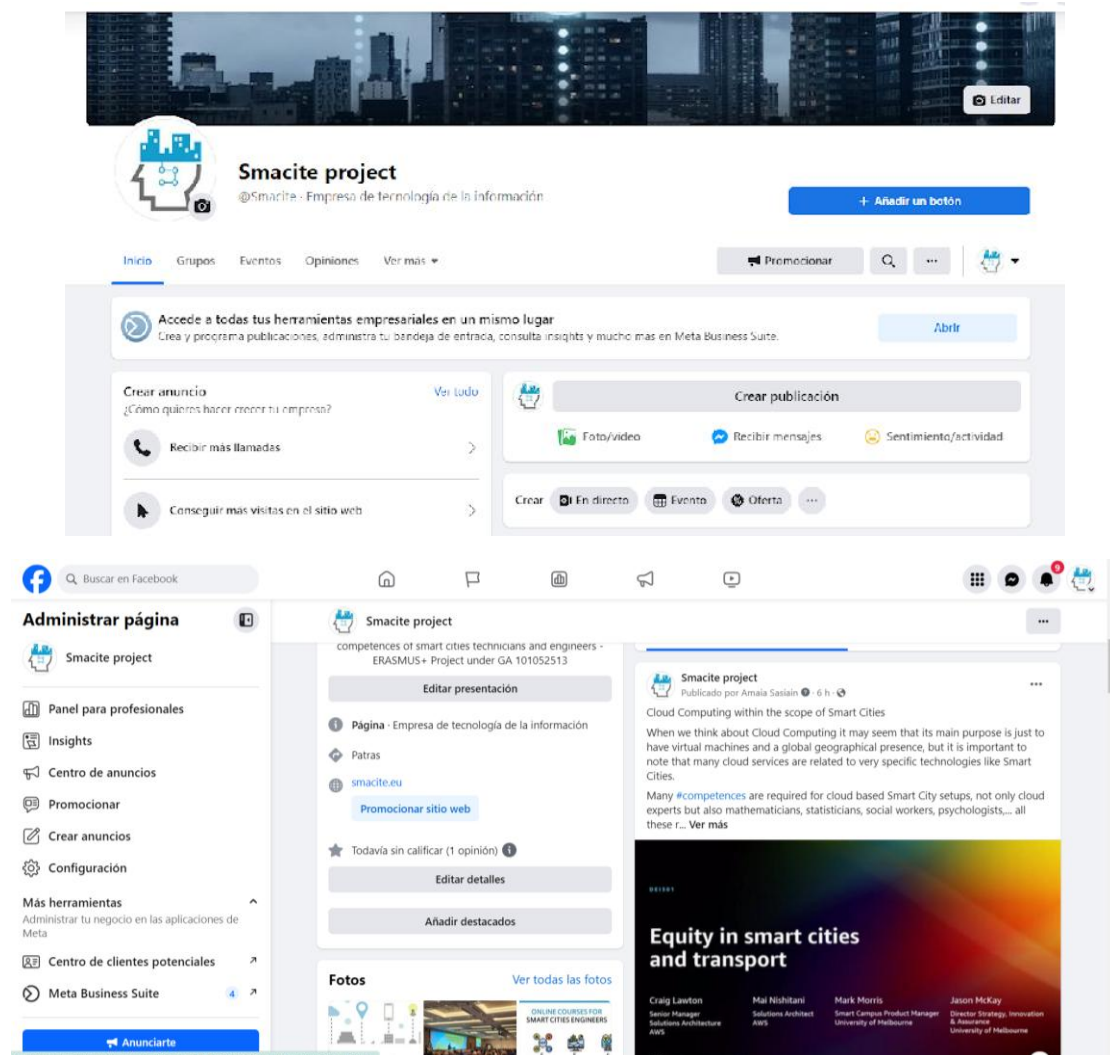
Figure 21: SMACITE Facebook account and Posts

Up until the 4th of April of 2024, more than 80 posts have been published in Facebook which have obtained 769 Interactions with our content, and the account has gathered 138 followers.
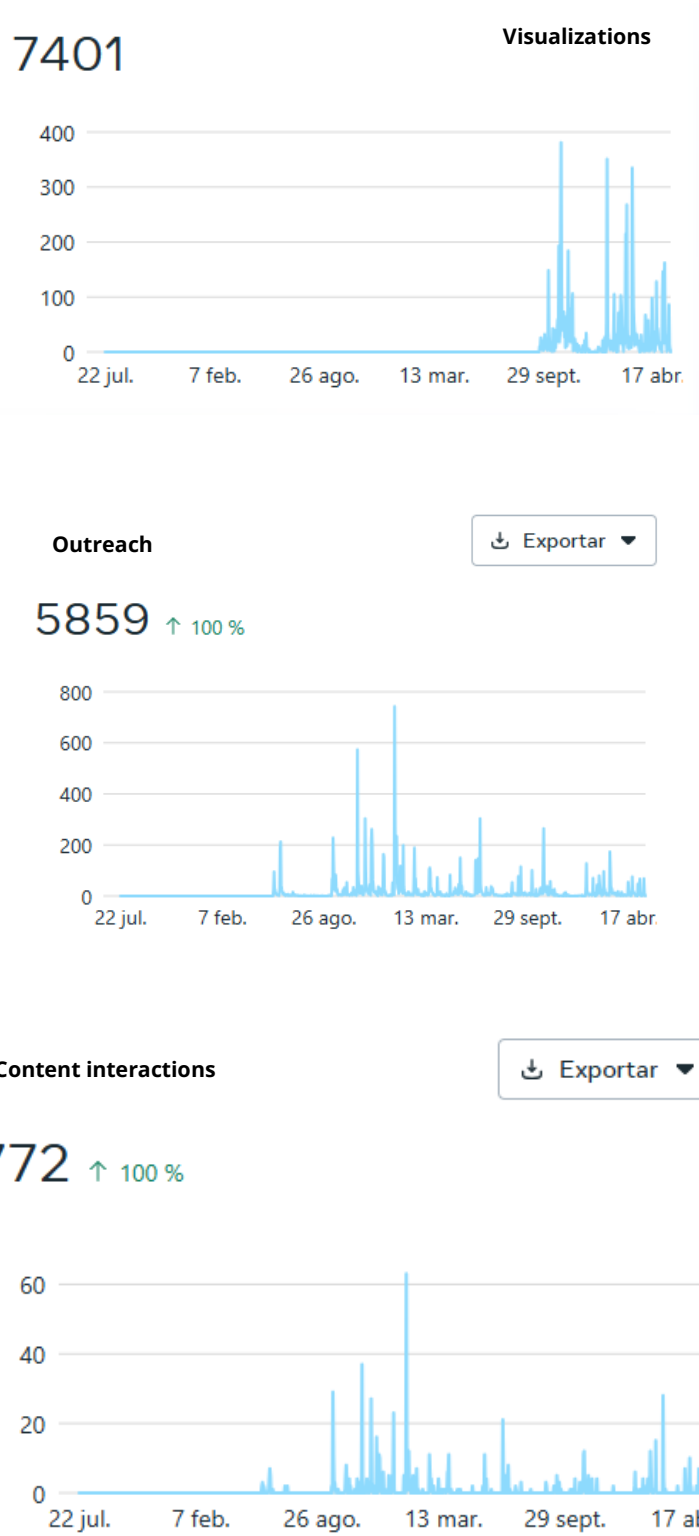
Figure 22: SMACITE Facebook dissemination action statistics (last 12 months)

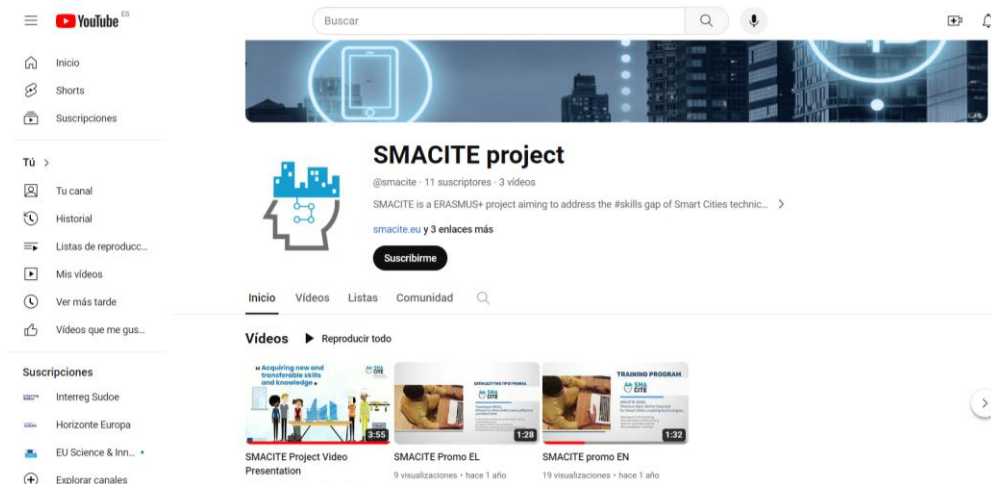The link to the Facebook profile, where all the posts are accessible is:

https://www.facebook.com/Smacite-project

As a result of the project and checking main interactions, we can conclude that Facebook is not the most commonly used channel for professional topics. Even if there are some countries in which they use it with this purpose, in most cases it is only for private purposes while Linkedin is commonly shared as the main communication channel.

4.7.4. YouTube

The Youtube channel **@smacite** was created in order to help disseminate the project. The link to the youtube channel is:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwE5KXfWRkqfpOX-JHea4ZA

3 videos have been created in order to further disseminate and inform about the project objectives, target audiences and expected results, providing this information in an engaging way to the target audience. To this date (May 2025) the channel **has 15 Subscribers** and the posted videos sum up to **327 views**. Additionally, subtitles are available in EN, GR, IT, ES and BG for the videos.

SMACITE Project Video! Gain Cutting-Edge Skills for Smart Cities - Join Us!

Figure 23: Dissemination actions in the projects Youtube channel

4.8.   Support of Project Activities Communication and Dissemination

Apart from all the actions described and reported above, all the project partners have taken part in the support of the project actions and activities, ensuring that the project communication and dissemination objectives are met. All project partners have used their social media and corporate channels to increase the impact achieved by the project's own channels. The activities that have been supported are the next ones, among others:

- General project description used in social media but also in corporate channels
- Articles following the rotation calendar publications which partners have shared afterwards
- Newsletter and press releases created within the project
- Promotion of the videos generated within the project
- Gathering information on relevant Smart Cities skills for the survey under task T2.1
- Information about the transnational project meetings
- Give visibility about the MoU signed with other projects for the collaboration and exploitation of synergies
- Promotion of the diagnostic tool
- Engagement of target audience for their participation and engagement in the pilots, the follow-up and the deadline extensions in the participating countries
- Promotion of the SMACITE awards for participants in pilots as well as their inclusion.

- Engagement and the results of the final project conference
- Local events with the participation of project partners where SMACITE had an active part
- Information and engagement in the project partner organized workshops and European events.
- Additional communication of the project outputs such as MOOC, Curriculum, Diagnostic tool and Virtual Worlds sessions.
- Certification exams

5. Key Performance Indicators

To monitor and evaluate the implementation of established communication objectives, parameters were defined to help to evaluate the different project actions and were thus labeled as Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the SMACITE project.

Progress towards achieving these KPIs is shared in the common communication document and was updated regularly in order to measure the impact and to put special effort in certain tasks, in the cases it was necessary. The following table showcases the results on the KPIs related with the dissemination and communication of the project:

ACTIVITY	KPI	TARGET	ACHIEVED
QUANTITATIVE	Number of visitors at the project website	5000	**5700**
	Number of followers at social media	300	**670**
	Number of participants in the national workshops	320	**636**
	Number of participants in the final conference	60-80	**67**
	Number of participants in the European workshops	150	**166**
	Publications: press releases	3	**3**
	Publications: videos	2	**3**
	Publications: newsletters	6	**6**
	Participants satisfied or very satisfied with the workshops (national and European)	At least 80%	**OK (93%)**

Table 26: SMACITE KPIs related to the Dissemination Activities

As it is indicated in the table, all Key Performance Indicators have been satisfactorily achieved if we consider the target set-up at the beginning of the project thanks to the interaction with/from stakeholders as well as all the promotional materials that have been developed.

www.smacite.eu

Twitter: @SMACITEPROJECT

Facebook: Smacite

LinkedIn: SMACITE