

Digital transformation journey & EU funding synergies in Riga City

*Arnis Gulbis, Director
Riga City Council Digital Agency*

Riga City - Fastest Emerging Location for Business in Baltics

Well connected

- Over 100+ international destinations
- Free port
- 307.7 km²
- Rail Baltica – 2030
- 5th Largest North European City

Budget & Development

- 1.5 billion euros
- 1.1 billion euros in investments

Education as a priority

- 80% of all students in Latvia located in Riga
- 15 000 graduates each year
- 84% hold bachelor's, master's or PhD degree
- foreign students – every 7th



Timelime & priorities



- EU Mission for 100 climate neutral and smart cities by 2030
- Riga Digital Agency (RDA) launched
- Smart City Development Division established
- Municipality Innovation Fund established



- Data infrastructure
- LORDIMAS assesement
- Direct funding EU projects launched
- Becoming National coordination for EDICs on LDT & CitiVerse and MOBILITY & LOGISTICS
- New Digital Strategy 2026 - 2028

2021-22



- Riga launches 3 smart city living labs
- Riga signs LIVING-IN. EU political declaration
- Riga joins ERRIN
- Active in EUROCITIES & OASC Digital Forum

2022-23



2023-24



- Midterm strategy of RDA 2023-2025 approved
- Data analytics & EU team established
- GEO RIGA & SMART RIGA public portal launched

2024-25-26



RĪGA | 825



3 major things that we did



RĪGA | 825



Data Management and Governance

- Data maturity assessment
- Data governance committee
- Proper data strategy
- Internal regulations, standards, and rules

Strategic, cross-functional approach.

Quick Wins

- Expansion of IoT network
- Mobility digital twin (in progress)
- Advanced ML/AI/Simulation tools.
- AI & GenAI use cases.

Tactical approach demonstrating the «art of the possible» and building internal support.

Business as Usual

- Ongoing data acquisition and integration
- Business intelligence & analytics development
- Ad-hoc data analysis and data science support
- Data automation

Maintain and expand efficient internal data services

EU collaboration success



RĪGA | 825



OASC^{/26}CONF

Cooperation system

- Knowledge sharing - pooling and promoting resources to improve digital initiatives
- Target groups – Riga/Latvia & EU residents

Aligning EU standards and practices in EDIC

- Create - a cohesive and interconnected network of local digital twins in Latvia cities and regions
- Develop new usecases - based on common values and standards

Our GREAT partners

- EUROCITIES , EC DG Connect, Hadea,
- OASC, LIVING-IN.EU, ERRIN,
- EDIC LDT&Citiverse,
- EDIC Mobility & Logistics

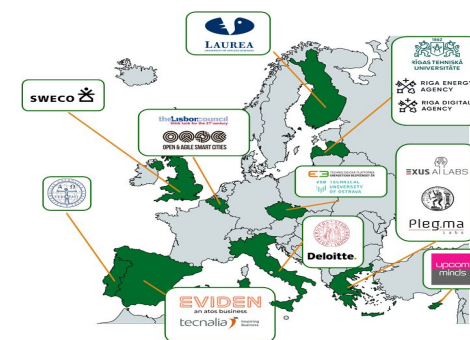


Practical projects examples

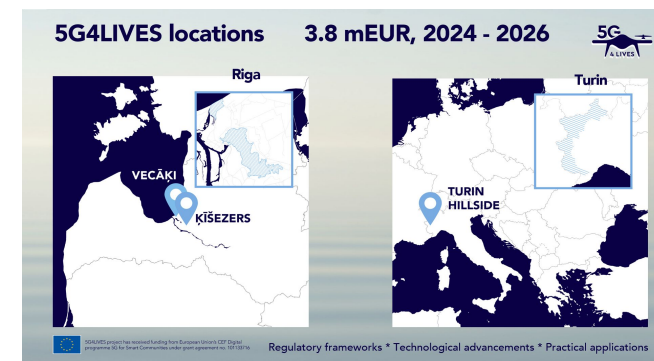
Geo Riga 3D project



ExPEDite – digital twin for Positive energy district



5G4LIVES – innovative rescue missions with drones



RĪGA | 825





Team – Thank you!!



Arnis Gulbis

Director
Riga City Digital Agency

Contact
Arnis.gulbis@riga.lv



Inga Barisa

Adviser
Riga City Digital Agency

Contact
Inga.barisa@riga.lv



Laine Celma

Deputy Director
Riga City Digital Agency

Contact
Laine.celma@riga.lv

www.smartriga.lv