Mission
The Smart Cities & Communities National Lab aims to be an Italian competence center in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for Smart Cities. Its main objective is the development of innovative solutions for improving the citizens' quality of life. As this requires a multi-disciplinary approach, the Lab is open to researchers working in areas different from ICT.

The Lab intends to cooperate actively with city administrators and industrial partners to implement joint research programs and technology transfer.

Motivation
The Lab meets the following requirements of the national scientific community:

- Reaching the critical mass to participate in major research initiatives, both at national and international level
- Stimulating the cooperation among researchers from different institutions, making the development of innovative solutions feasible
- Promoting collaborative actions based on common needs and shared strategies

Research Areas
The research activities carried out within the Smart Cities & Communities National Lab cover both methodological and technological issues related to the adoption of ICTs in the following application domains:

- E-Health
- Food
- Smart Energy & Smart Buildings
- Mobility, Transports, & Logistics
- Climate & Environment Management
- E-tourism & E-culture
- E-education
- E-government
- E-inclusion
- Urban Security
Focus group
The Smart Cities & Communities National Lab leverages Focus Groups to promote research activities. Each Focus Group addresses a specific research area, or application domain, and aims at stimulating collaborations among researchers and facilitating relationships with the main stakeholders in the field. Focus Groups are also valuable means to exchange ideas and create the opportunities for multi-disciplinary research activities. Currently, the following Focus Groups have been activated:

- eCulture/Tourism
- eGovernment
- Smart Education
- Smart Energy/Buildings
- Smart Mobility
- Well-being, eHealth & Smart Food
- Big Data for Smart Cities

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