Action Plans: from challenge to use case

25 September 2025 – session report

1) Welcome and introduction

Eurocities opened the session by recalling that this meeting would centre on participants' draft Action Plans and early use cases, and that—given the group size—everyone would work together in a single plenary using a shared Miro board rather than splitting into breakout rooms. The Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC) then set the frame with a brief input on data management and regulation for UDTs, including a reference to applicability of the NIS2 Directive when twins are linked to critical infrastructure. The facilitation clarified how feedback would be captured live on Miro via colour-coded post-its.

2) Use case presentations and feedback (common Miro board)

- Glasgow. The city explained that its current "environmental" twin functions as a collection of 2D/3D datasets, and outlined a move towards a model-based 3D twin with triggers and comparative scenarios, aligned to climate and housing pressures within a multi-authority region. During the feedback exchange, the facilitator flagged data integration as a priority area for improvement on the Miro board, and peers encouraged starting small while connecting the initial use case to future policy areas to build internal momentum.
- Florence. Florence presented a broad challenge set—tourism flows, the tram line and public works, greenery management, and citizen safety—approached through an **open-source** digital twin intended to support political and managerial decisions. BSC reflected that **survey-based data collection** (e.g. drone and street surveys) can effectively engage citizens and politicians, strengthening adoption. The city also noted the need for **department "stewards"** in governance to ensure collaboration.
- The Hague. The Hague described a strong technical base with plans to integrate via secure APIs and the Urban Data Platform, but had not yet settled on a single policy use case. BSC advised the city to select one concrete objective/use case first, then "walk back" to define the implementation path, to make scoping and sequencing more manageable.
- Kalamata. Kalamata situated its UDT work within the NetZero Cities context, noting an open-source stack and early pilots but gaps in mobility data. BSC suggested looking at mobile phone-based mobility data (with a cost caveat) and CARTO for socio-demographic layers, providing immediate leads for the Action Plan.
- Bratislava. Bratislava focused on a pilot twin in a defined 1.3% area to support sustainable transport, aiming to improve the modal split, simulate traffic circulation plans before implementation, and stimulate public debate with evidence. BSC confirmed they could support SUMO use and warned that sensor deployment can take significant time; a live reference to a Miro post-it emphasised building a data-based decision-making culture, which the city endorsed in the discussion.

3) Plenary discussion and wrap up

In open discussion, comments returned to recurring themes heard in the city slots: scoping around a single, concrete use case to structure delivery (The Hague), data integration and availability (Glasgow, Kalamata), and the value of communication and participation—including survey work and building a culture of evidence-based decisions—to support adoption and political dialogue (Florence, Bratislava). These points were captured on the Miro board and referenced by facilitators during the hand-overs.

4) Next steps

The facilitators concluded the meeting with a short overview of what is expected from participants in the coming weeks:

- Refine Action Plans by integrating the feedback received during the peer-learning session.
- **Formulate specific questions** or requests for input ahead of the in-person training, so that the programme in Barcelona can respond directly to cities' needs.
- **Prepare for the October preparatory meeting**, where the final programme and logistical details will be presented.
- **Complete logistics**: confirm travel arrangements for the Barcelona training, submit details for Smart City Expo passes, and provide dietary information where relevant.