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AGUEDA
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Bringing Public Services to the Cloud

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Storm Clouds Project



This project has received funding from the European Union's
Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme

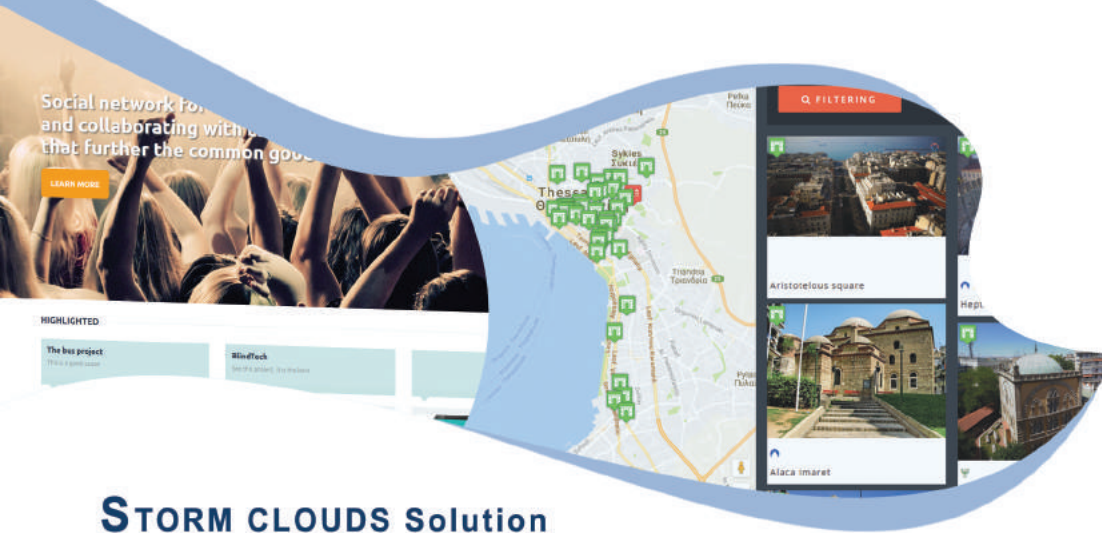
Project Aim

Cloud Computing has emerged during the last years as a disruptive model, with the ability to transform the IT organizations to be more responsive and agile than ever before. STORM CLOUDS explores how Municipalities can **migrate to the cloud** their **public services** and how that will impact citizens' lives.

Its purpose is to explore the shift by public authorities to a cloud-based paradigm in service provisioning, in an organized and fast-paced manner, by creating a set of relevant **guides** and **best practices**, available to **Public Authorities** and **policy makers**, based on **direct experimentation** in **Agueda, Thessaloniki, Valladolid** and **Miskolc**.

The Challenge

Cloud Computing has gained significant attention, especially in the case of public authorities, due to their size, and scope of services. In fact, most public sector organisations are very complex in nature with many departments, sharing large volumes of data, but also having rigid organizational structure and significant funding restrictions in terms of innovation. Cities moreover face the demand for flexibility and quick "time to market" with respect to citizens' demands. Cloud computing provides public organisations with answers to their challenges.



STORM CLOUDS Solution

The project provides a methodology for the Cloud migration process, mainly from the point of view of the end-users, as well as the essential IT tools that will support this process. By taking the STORM CLOUDS approach, Public Authorities can take full advantage of the cloud computing model and quickly provide citizens with highly reliable services, despite resource constraints.

Multiple platform architectures supporting distributed and centralized services

Project Achievements

- **STORM CLOUDS Platform (SCP)**. The Cloud environment, which can host Smart City Services. It is an advanced, customizable, distributed IaaS cloud architecture based on open source technologies (OpenStack).
- **Portfolio of professional services** offered on top of the reference IaaS infrastructure ensuring a high level of automation, security and data protection, including monitoring of the resources used by the platform's or by the Smart City services.
- **Portfolio of Smart City Services**. A consolidated and interoperable open-source cloud-based services portfolio running on top of the open source cloud infrastructure, general enough to be transferred and deployed in other European cities.
- **Roadmap for the migration of public services into the Cloud**. The roadmap guides city authorities and policy makers through the transition to the cloud.
- **Best practices for cloud-based public services deployment**. Software techniques and methodological approaches, which facilitate the adoption of Cloud services in the Public Sector.
- **Business models for the scalability and sustainability of the project's results**.

Pilot Cities and Invited Cities Involvement

Cities adopted a User Driven Open Innovation methodology to select the applications/ services that would migrate on the Cloud and then the migration process took place, targeting business aspects of the services. Cities were involved in translation activities in order to offer their services in multiple languages, thus allowing their adoption by other European cities.

The project ran **two calls for cities looking to act as Replication Pilot sites**, in 2015 and 2016. **Municipality of Guimarães, Municipality of Veria and Municipality of Athens** joined the project, allowing them to:

- have access to the project Portfolio of Smart City Services,
- deploy selected services for their citizens (with no-costs involved until March 2017) and
- decide to face Cloud technologies deployment.