

Press release

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Smart Cities Report: Residents want smart city solutions to bring savings to the city budget

Warsaw, Poland – Philips Lighting (Euronext:LIGHT), the world leader in lighting, presents the Smart Cities Report and the results of the study on the concept of smart cities. The survey was conducted among residents and representatives of local authorities from five Polish cities, who were to indicate their expectations and needs in the area of implementing smart city solutions.

Every fourth citizen indicated savings in the city budget as the main goal of implementing smart city solutions. The second position was taken by the reduction of air pollution (18%). The hierarchy of priorities looks differently in the case of representatives of local authorities. The most vital aspect for them is improving the quality and access to city services (23%) and increasing residents' safety (21%).

Regarding the assessment of the level of implementation of the smart city concept, the majority of residents (64%) and representatives of local authorities (63%) believe that Polish cities are only at the beginning of their journey towards digitalisation. Interestingly enough, every third representative of the local administration is of the opinion that their city is technologically advanced. However, this opinion is only shared by 8% of residents, while as many as 22% of them claim that cities have not taken any steps to become a smart city at all - they are rather at the stage of considering investments.

- The discrepancy in perception by local authorities and residents of the extent to which cities are digital is a consequence of several factors. First of all, not all cities have their smart city strategies yet. Secondly, in many cases, cities decide to invest in single solutions or systems that are not communicated and integrated into a coherent smart city concept, which is why they remain unnoticed by residents. It is that method of operation which may make it difficult to gain understanding and social approval for investments, but also limit the potential benefits resulting from an integrated approach explains Bogdan Rogala, General Manager of Philips Lighting Poland.

As stated in the Smart Cities Report by Jan Maciej Czajkowski, Co-Chair of the Information Society Team at the Joint Government and Local Administration Committee, in the upcoming years, local authorities will have to face various challenges concerning the implementation of smart solutions. Among other things, the challenges include the necessity of more rational planning of revenues and expenditures of the current part of the budget, taking into account the long-term financial consequences of new ventures or intensified search for cooperation with the private sector.

In addition to the survey results presented, the Smart Cities Report also contains a number of good practices and recommendations from experts in science, business and administration. They share their experience on how to use the potential of new technologies in city development. The entire material is available [here](#).

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About Philips Lighting

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