Fair and Open Smart Cities:
Growing the Local IoT Data
Infrastructure Partnerships
(beyond the obvious)
BluSpecs

Smart Cities & Communities

"In the course of history, the towns have existed within and outlasted empires, nation states, and regimes and have survived as centres of social life, carriers of our economies, and guardians of culture, heritage and traditions. Towns have been the centres of industry, craft, trade, education and government. Sustainable human life on this globe cannot be achieved without sustainable local communities."

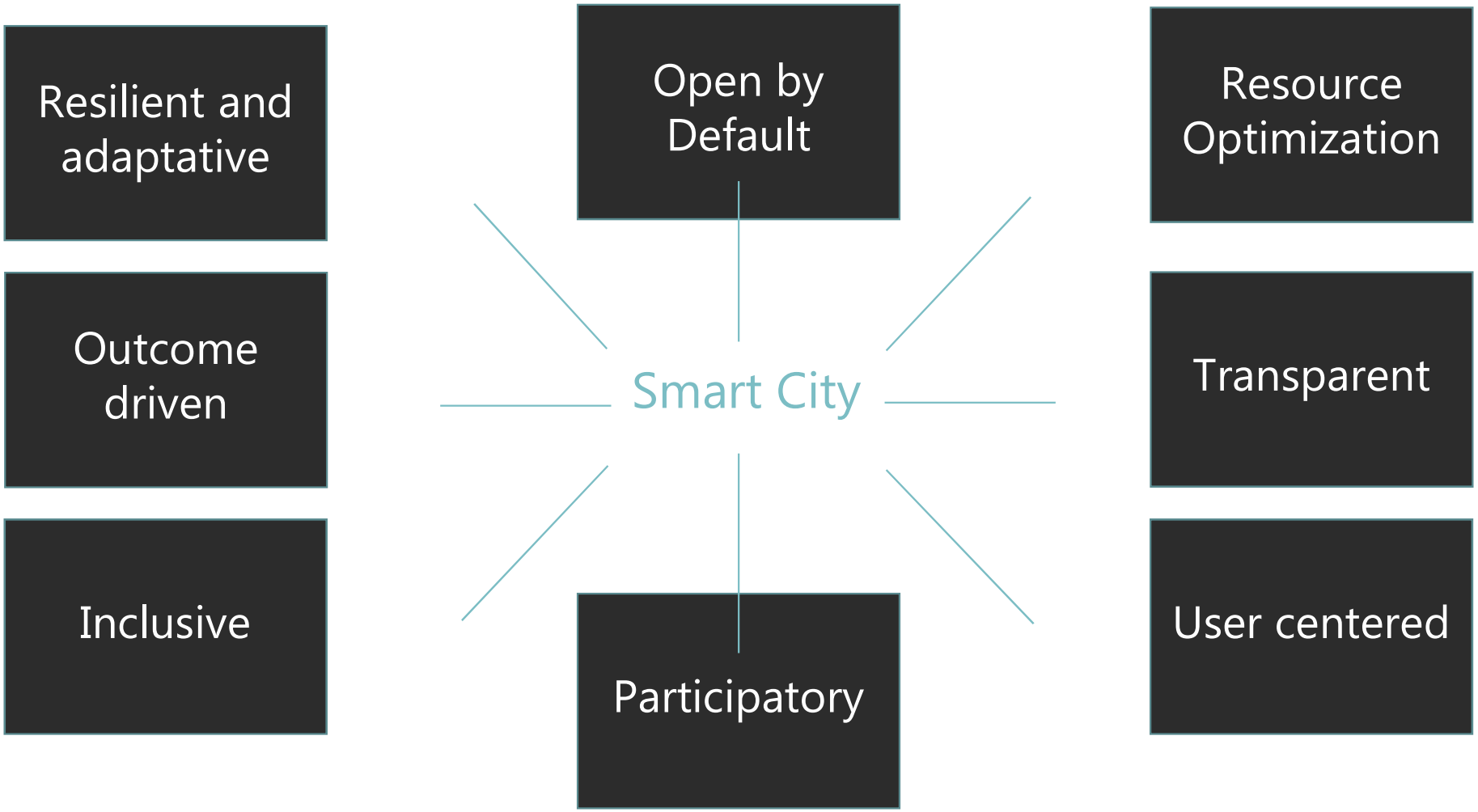
Charter of European Cities & Towns Towards Sustainability

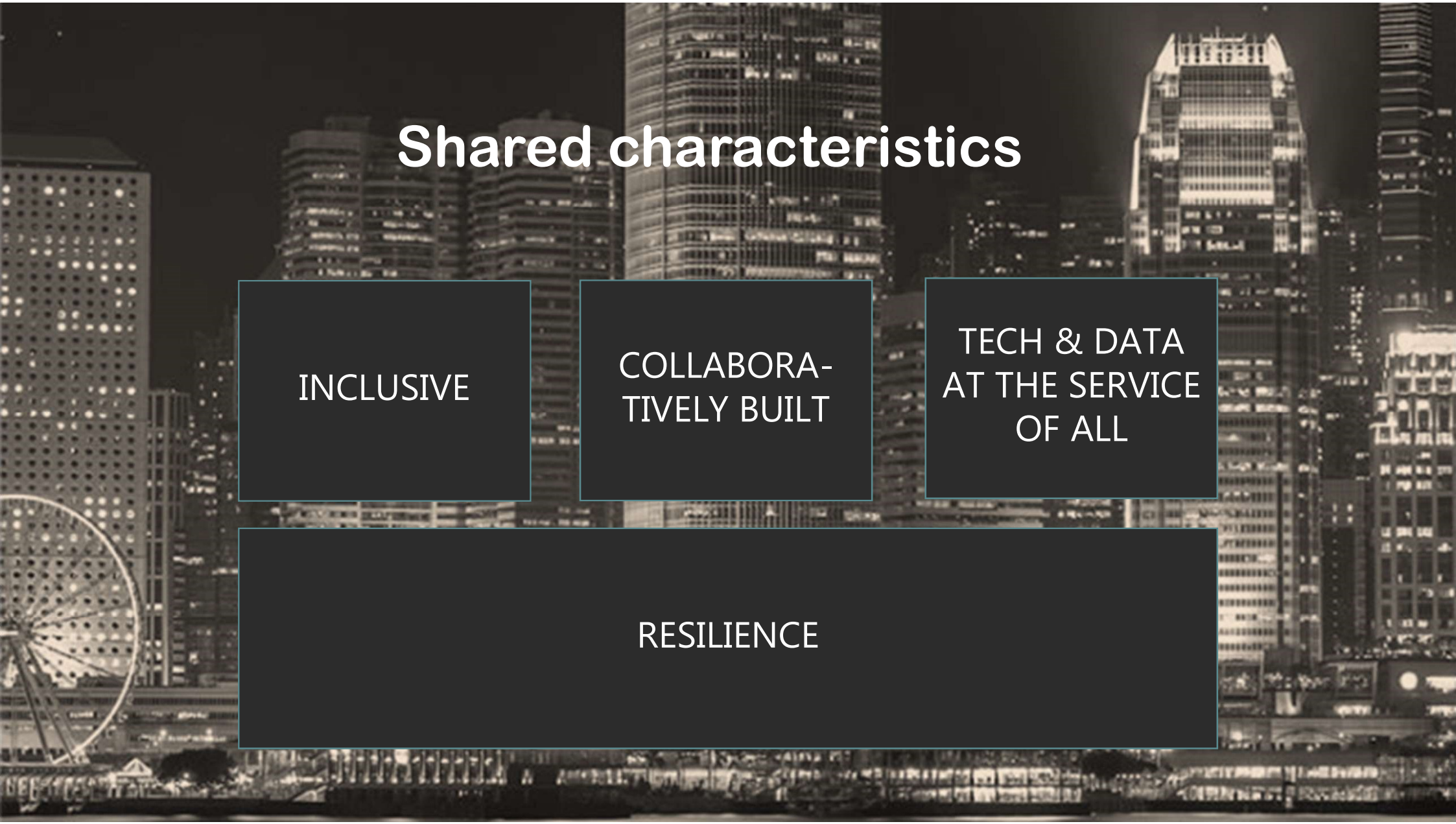
What is openness?

Openness can be defined in terms of data infrastructure, standards, source information and open collaboration that enables building new services or modifying existing ones for all stakeholders.

Better data (and better tools to collect and analyse it) enables people to make informed choices as they go about their everyday lives and cities to understand how best to deliver services.

Open Smart City Principles




Shared characteristics
INCLUSIVE
COLLABORA-
TIVELY BUILT
TECH & DATA
AT THE SERVICE
OF ALL
RESILIENCE

Building local IoT data partnerships

This is not about a single approach, product or technology but a range of interconnected devices, services and people.

A key part of the role of the municipality in seeding this ecosystem is knowing when and how to support it.

CREDIT: Getting to Open Smart Cities Canada

Approaches

Procurement

Smart cities can set the pace by working to identify city challenges and then translating these into an open call with an innovation led brief.

Living Labs

Living labs are when the city defines a specific area as an open laboratory to test and pilot Smart innovations for improving city functions .

Hosting

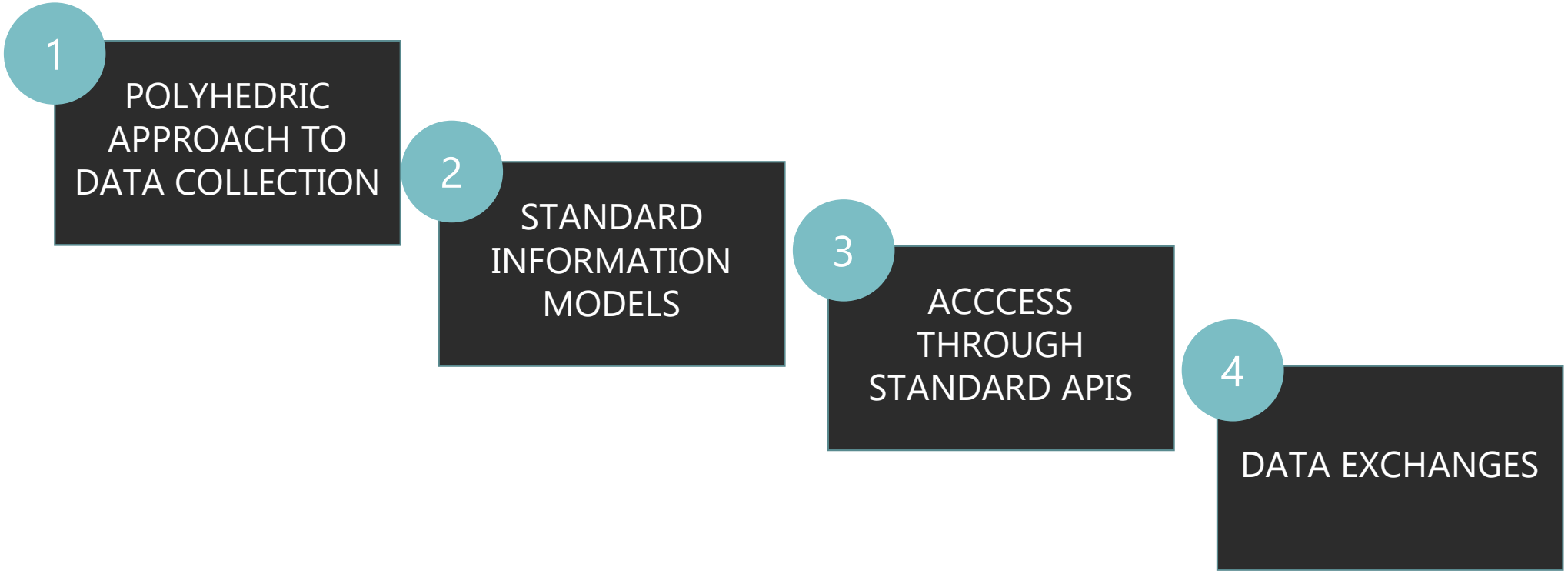
Any city can become an innovation destination through targeted investment and strategies that provide tax breaks, work space and business support.

Strategist

The strategy for innovation followed by each Smart City should be align with all the stakeholder’s purposes.

Data is not the new oil.
It is the new currency.

Transitioning to a partnership approach



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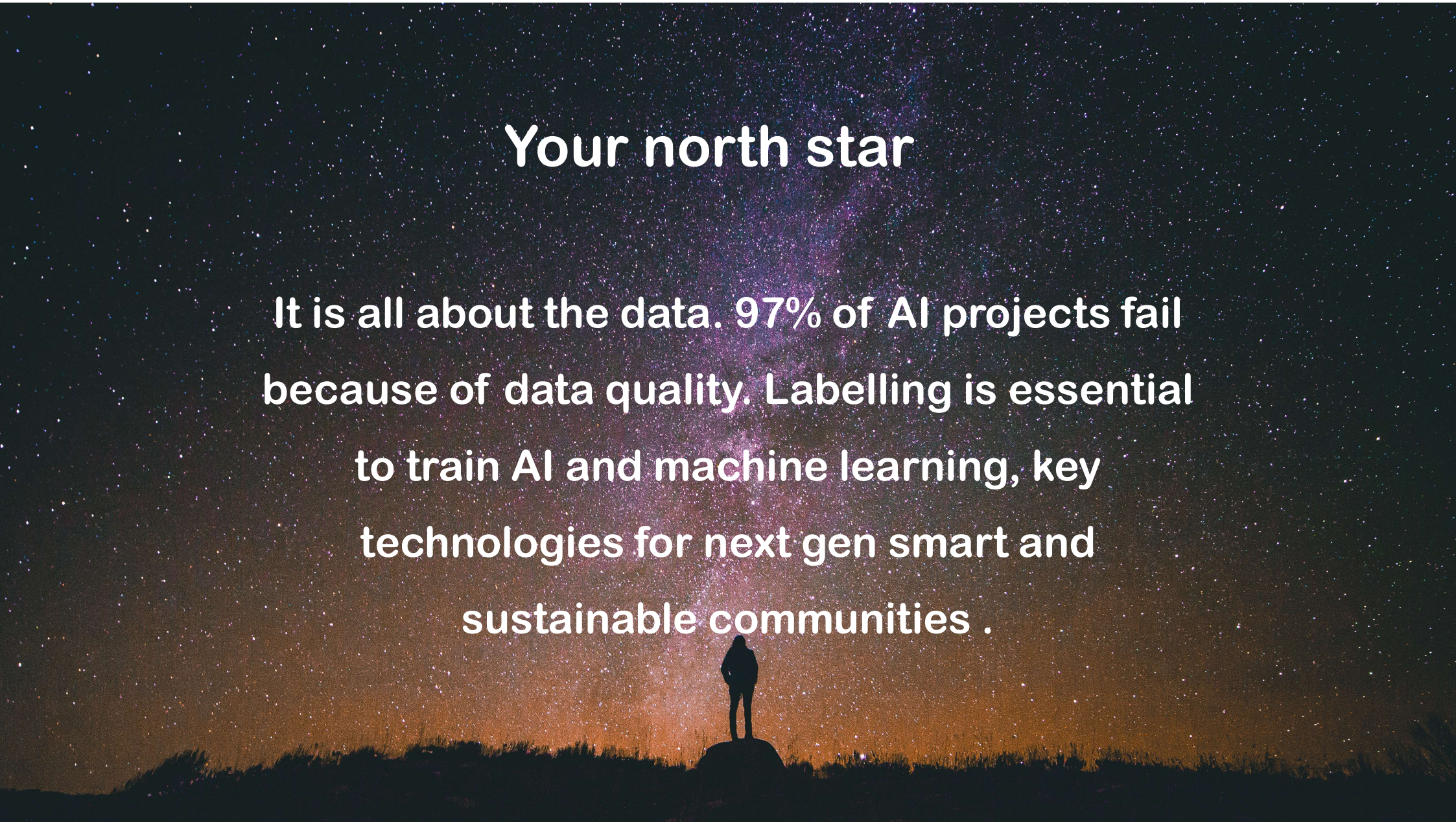
Your north star
It is all about the data. 97% of AI projects fail because of data quality. Labelling is essential to train AI and machine learning, key technologies for next gen smart and sustainable communities .

Successful engagement with new players for enhanced outcomes

1. Clean data is at the heart of open and fair smart cities

2. From Pilot to Partner. Process eats innovation for breakfast

3. Ethics

Summary

1. CLEAN DATA
   - Don’t pass on the cost of structuring and cleaning your data to others
2. FROM PILOT TO PARTNER
   - Have a plan to go from pilot to full scale. What metrics prove value and what is the roadmap to full adoption in the city.
   - Provide clarity on the process
3. ETHICS & FUTURE PROOFING
   - Ask questions. Has the AI been tested with counterfactuals? Avoid black boxes.
   - Provide training to your own staff on ethics so they can ask the difficult questions.

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