The Next Generation Internet Forum
Exploring the Trends, Priorities and Challenges of Building the NGI Ecosystem
13 September 2018, Porto, Portugal

On 13 September 2018, technology research experts, policymakers, innovators, activists and academics will meet in Porto at the second annual edition of the Next Generation Internet Forum.

The Forum is organised as part of the Next Generation Internet (NGI) initiative, an EU-funded project to shape the internet of the future as an ecosystem that embodies values that Europe holds dear: openness, inclusivity, transparency, privacy, cooperation, and the protection of data.

The Next Generation Internet will offer more to our society: it will provide better services and greater involvement and participation. It is essential that the NGI is designed for humans, so that it can meet its full potential for society and the economy. The scope of the initiative is broad, addressing technological opportunities arising from advances in research, from new network architectures and software-defined infrastructures to new concepts for services and applications.

The NGI Forum 2018 gathers some of Europe's best thinkers, researchers and innovators to discuss, plan and exploit common ideas and technological opportunities. Speakers and attendees represent a range of fields, from network infrastructure to platforms, from application domains to social innovation. All have a common goal: to design, build and refine the internet of tomorrow.

"Participants will contribute to the dialogue on the best way to meet these ambitious goals, and contribute to mapping the Next Generation Internet ecosystem," says Dr Monique Calisti, CEO of Martel Innovate and HUB4NGI Project Coordinator, who is leading the organization of the event.

"The event will be a mixture of talks by specialists, open discussions, and interactive working groups, with an emphasis on stimulating debate and the free exchange of ideas between members of the research community, SMEs and startups, industry, policy makers, and civil society. An exhibition area will host local innovative startups and SMEs and NGI projects," adds Dr Calisti.

European Commission speakers include **Pearse O'Donohue**, Director Future Networks, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT), who will speak on "Creating the future together – an internet of humans". He underlines this with a short statement: *"We need to gather and discuss concepts, technologies and applications coming from the widest possible community, i.e. from researchers, SMEs & startups, industry players, policy makers, and civil society. We need to work together to build a future Internet that better responds to the expectations of EU citizens."*

Olivier Bringer Deputy and Acting Head of the NGI Unit, DG CNECT/E.3 will host a rountable discussion and **Jorge Gasos**, the NGI Unit, DG CNECT/E.3 will present upcoming calls for EU funding in the NGI space.

The afternoon plenaries will include an address from **Professor Manuel Heitor**, Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education of Portugal, presenting Portugal's vision for the Next Generation Internet. **Filipe Araujo** Porto's Vice-President / Vice-Mayor and City Councillor for Innovation and Environment will also speak.

A number of highly qualified speakers will engage the audience in interactive panels to discuss, among other topics: the Internet of Moving Things (Professor **Susana Sargento**, University of Aveiro, Co-founder Veniam) blockchain-based architectures (**Antonio Tenore Fornes**, Complutense University of Madrid), social artificial intelligence (Professor **Virginia Dignum**, TU Delft), data analytics on NGI research trends (**Manuel Noya Marino**, Linknovate), and digital technologies and society (**Frédéric Donck**, Director, European Regional Bureau, Internet Society)

A detailed agenda and full speaker list is available at **www.ngiforum.eu**

The event will be highly interactive with afternoon workshops, a photo booth, SLIDO questions, and a real-time graphic digital animator capturing the proceedings. It will conclude with a social event courtesy of Porto Digital.

As of 10 September 2018, the event has **285 registered participants** from **30 different countries** around the globe.

ABOUT THE NGI FORUM

The NGI Forum is partly funded by the European Commission H2020 Programme and is hosted by the Municipality of Porto through the collaboration of **Porto Digital**.

The NGI Forum is organized by the HUB4NGI project as part of of the Next Generation Internet initiative (www.ngi.eu). The project consortium comprises six partners: Martel Innovate (Switzerland), Project Coordinator; IT Innovation (United Kingdom); the Open University (United Kingdom), IDC (Italy), Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center (Poland), and IMEC (Belgium).

LINKS AND CONTACTS

We invite you to visit the **NGI Forum website** for the latest agenda and also to register. Registration is free, but places are limited.

Where:
Alfandega Porto Congress Centre
Rua Nova da Alfândega, Edifício da Alfândega
4050-430 Porto, Portugal

Registration:
Registration is free, but places are limited, save your seat online **www.ngiforum.eu**

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Media / PR contact (including for an embargoed live screening code): **info@ngi.eu**