



Sustainable IT is on the rise in Brussels

Brussels, Wednesday, November 10, 2021

The Belgian Institute for Sustainable IT ASBL/VZW organised yesterday the 2nd Belgian signing ceremony of the Sustainable IT Charter, in the presence of Bernard Clerfayt, Brussels Minister for the Digital Transition, and Fabian Maingain, Alderman for IT at the City of Brussels. By committing its administrations to a Sustainable IT initiative, Brussels is the first region and city in Belgium to join French leaders in this field, such as the Eurometropole of Strasbourg or the Region of Brittany. Nicolas Locoge, Director General of the Brussels Regional Informatics Centre (BRIC), detailed the five priority areas of work: equipment, eco-design of digital services, infrastructure, uses and IT for Green.

Already signed by more than 200 French and Belgian organisations, the Charter commits its signatories – large companies as well as SMEs, associations of all sizes, public institutions – signatories to work towards more ethical, inclusive and environmentally-friendly digital services.

Faced with the fast growth of digital technologies, it is becoming imperative to rethink our practices in order to reduce its negative impacts while maximizing the societal and environmental benefits that new technologies can bring us. *"Combining the 3 Ps of sustainable development - People, Planet & Prosperity - in all activities, including IT, is essential for the future of our society, but also for the future competitiveness of our companies. This is the purpose of the Sustainable IT Charter, to encourage organisations and their employees to adopt good practices on a daily basis, for IT professionals as well as for users."* explains Olivier Vergeynst, director of the Belgian Institute for Sustainable IT.

If 35 Belgian organisations had already signed it at the beginning of 2021, they are now 20 more to commit to a continuous improvement approach in favour of a more Sustainable IT.

"For organisations that want to go further, our association offers them a network of exchanges, tools, guides and trainings, in close collaboration with the French and Swiss Institutes for Sustainable IT. By having 17 administrations joining our association, the Brussels Region has made a strong gesture to help them reduce their environmental footprint while accelerating their digital transformation." continues Olivier Vergeynst.

"Digital pollution is not just about electricity consumption. It's also about the manufacturing of equipment, the lifespan of components, the recycling of electrical waste, etc. By changing our behaviors, we can have a major positive impact on our environment. I want to support the administrations that are committed to this approach. The establishment of a network of best practices

is crucial to develop a Sustainable IT region." says Bernard Clerfayt, Brussels Minister for the Digital Transition..

Several other organisations, large and small, have joined the non-profit organisation and signed the Charter.

Raphaël Copis, Ageas Group Technology Development Director, explains: *"At Ageas, sustainability is at the heart of our strategy. As an insurer, we provide our clients with solutions that address environmental and societal issues and help them make the transition to a more sustainable lifestyle. We are also constantly looking at how we can make our own operations more sustainable. Signing the Charter reinforces this commitment."*

Simon Uyttendaele, CEO of Aeonics SRL, adds: *"Aeonics was born with Sustainable IT as its mantra, to integrate the environmental and societal aspect from the design of our products. Beyond more efficient and better managed machines, the software architecture plays a key role in our needs. By signing the Charter, we reiterate our commitment to a Digital more effective, efficient and inclusive."*

If you have any questions, please contact Olivier Vergeynst, director of the Belgian Institute for Sustainable IT (olivier.vergeynst@isit-be.org or 0032 474 99 00 01) or Thierry Chappé, Service Manager at the Brussels Regional Informatics Centre (tchappe@cirb.brussels or 0033 646041327).

The website of the Belgian Institute for Sustainable IT : <https://isit-be.org>

More information on the Sustainable IT Charter: <https://isit-be.org/the-charter>

The graphic features the ISIT logo (Institute for Sustainable IT) with a stylized circular icon and the Belgian flag. To the right, it says 'SUSTAINABLE IT CHARTER'. Below this, a quote reads: 'With the signing of this charter, we affirm our commitments to resolutely enter into a «Sustainable IT» approach for our organization.' Five numbered commitments are listed in a circular arrangement:

- 1 We are committed to optimizing digital tools to limit their impact and consumption.
- 2 We are committed to developing accessible, inclusive and sustainable service offerings.
- 3 We are committed to ethical and responsible digital practices.
- 4 We are committed to Sustainable IT, essential to ensure the resilience of organizations.
- 5 We are committed to fostering the emergence of new behaviors and values.

Appendix 1: List of Belgian signatories of the Sustainable IT Charter

Accenture NV/SA	Timi
Aeonics	Usitoo
Ageas	Valorescence
aSmartWorld	Ville de Charleroi
Axxiss	Wepika
Bastogne en Transition	WhyK
Belfius	Wishelf
Bruxelles Environnement	
Bruxelles Formation	
Cap Numérique	
CETIC Asbl	
CIRB	
Circular.Brussels	
Climact	
Commission Justice et Paix	
Corporate reGeneration	
Croix-Rouge de Belgique	
EPHEC	
fiscalité.brussels	
Fondation pour l'Inclusion Digitale	
GreenWin	
HEC Liège	
HiCircular	
Homaro	
House of Codesign Brussels	
IBA	
i-CITY (informatique de la Ville de Bruxelles)	
Igneos	
IKISQUARE	
in BW	
Intraco Consulting	
IRISnet	
Jeudimatin	
Kanal	
LCL Data Centres	
Luminus	
ngage	
Parallaxe Cabinet d'Avocats	
port.brussels	
Pour La Solidarité asbl	
Smart2Circle	
SOCIALware	
Spade	

* in bold, the 20 new signatories

Appendix 2: List of the members of the Belgian Institute for Sustainable IT

Accenture Belgium

Actiris

Aeonics

Ageas

Agence de Stimulation Economique de Wallonie Picarde asbl - Entreprendre WAPI

aSmartWorld

Atmosfair production

Belfius

BruPartners

Bruxelles ConnectIT (SPRB)

Bruxelles environnement

Bruxelles Formation

Bruxelles Prévention & Sécurité

Bruxelles Propreté

CIRB - Centre Informatique de la Région bruxelloise

Circular.Brussels

COCOF - Commission Communautaire Française

Corporate reGeneration

EPHEC

fiscalité.brussels

Fondation pour l'Inclusion Digitale

fonds.brussels

HEC Liège

HiCircular

Homaro

Homegrade

hub.brussels - Agence Bruxelloise pour l'Accompagnement de l'Entreprise

IBA - Ion Beam Applications

inBW

innoviris.brussels

Kanal

La Croix Rouge de Belgique

Luminus

MIC (My Innovation Centre) Brussels

ngage

port.brussels

Société des transports intercommunaux de Bruxelles - STIB

Université Libre de Bruxelles

visit.brussels

* in bold, the 17 administrations of the Brussels Region

All the Belgian signatories



ISIT-BE : 39 members and counting !

