



People-Centred Smart Cities

Smart Country Convention, Berlin

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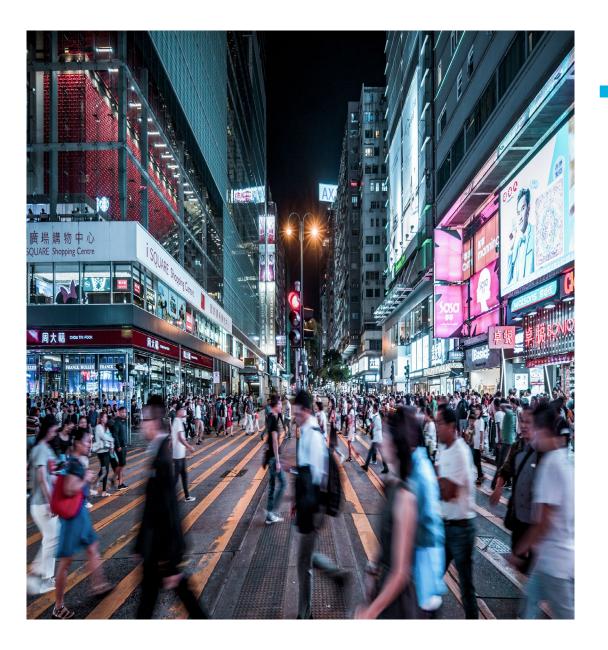


Our Role

Focal point for all urbanization and human settlement matters within the UN system

Our Vision

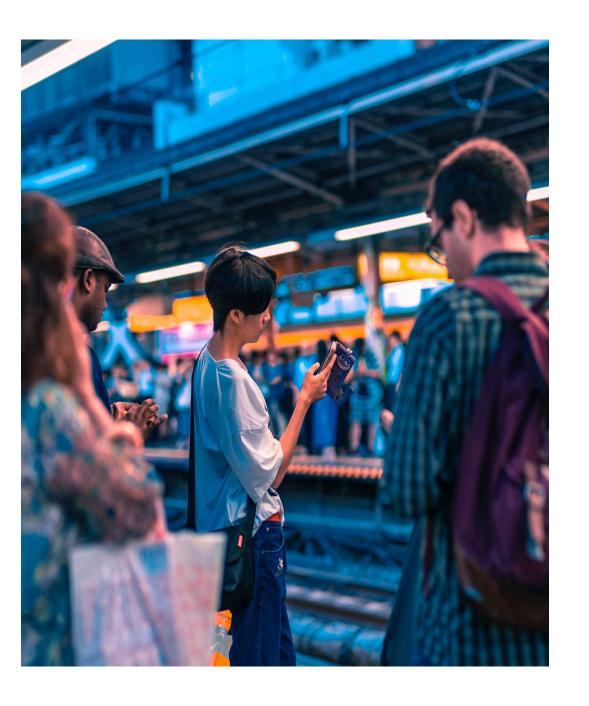
Leveraging innovation and technology to make life better across cities and communities



Technology is disrupting our lives in cities



- Urban analytics, modelling, mapping and spatial planning through GIS, data and artificial intelligence.
- Making public administration more efficient, open, transparent and accountable and provide opportunities for better public infrastructure and use of resources, for example in tax collection.
- Improved and faster service delivery to residents, workers and visitors.
- Job creation and opportunities for youth, entrepreneurs,
 SMEs in the 4th industrial revolution
- Greater participation of residents in planning and decision making through digital tools.
- Transition to greener, sustainable solutions through digital transformation and smart technologies.



However, technology poses new challenges and risks



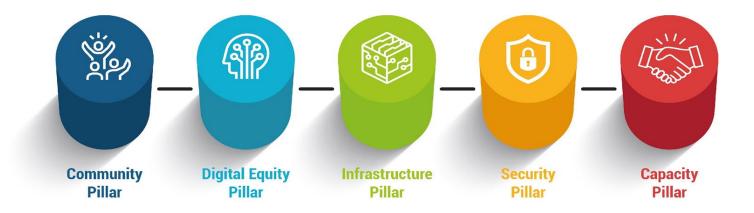
- Supply-side and technology-driven solutions: limited focus real needs of cities, residents and vulnerable people
- Generic smart city "blueprints" and technologies: not enough contextualization and understanding of urban sustainability
- Leaving too many behind: due to the digital divide, digital literacy and risks of exacerbating exclusion
- Human rights protection: data management & ownership, privacy and ethical concerns
- Lack of accountability and transparency: particularly in Al systems
- Effective governance and regulation: strategies missing; capacities limited; clarity of roles including public and private sector

Our Focus: People-Centred Smart Cities



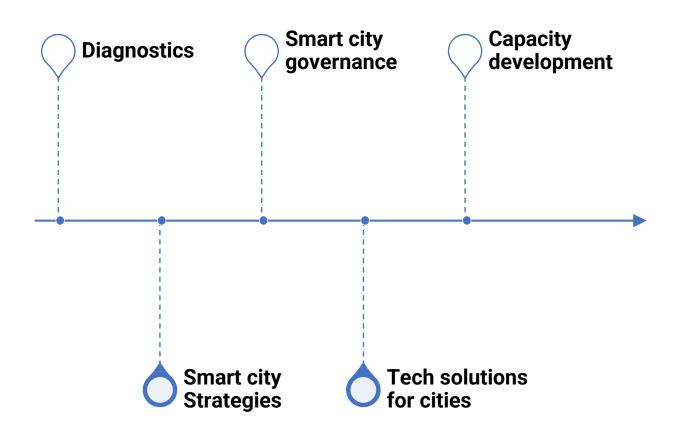
Three **key considerations** to make smart cities people-centred:

- Aligning with urban sustainability priorities
- Fostering digital inclusion and addressing the digital divide
- Protecting and promoting digital human rights











United Nations Innovation Technology Accelerator for Cities (UNITAC) Hamburg

193 Countries call for International Guidelines on People-Centred Smart Cities





UN@HABITAT

United Nations Human Settlements Programme HSP/HA.2/Res.1

Distr.: General 6 July 2023

Original: English

United Nations Habitat Assembly of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme Second session

Nairobi, 5-9 June 2023

Resolution adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly on 9 June 2023

2/1. International guidelines on people-centred smart cities

The United Nations Habitat Assembly,

Recognizing the profound and dynamic impact that digitalization and smart cities are having on human settlements and human lives, both in positive ways, by providing new ways to support sustainable urban development and enhancing access to basic services, and – if not managed well – in negative ways, by exacerbating existing inequalities and accessibility barriers and compromising economic growth and privacy rights, among other things,

Noting the definition of smart city by United for Smart Sustainable Cities, the United Nations smart city platform coordinated by the Economic Commission for Europe, the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and supported by 14 other United Nations entities, as "an innovative city that uses information and communication technologies and other means to improve quality of life, efficiency of urban operation and services, and competitiveness, while ensuring that it meets the needs of present and future generations with respect to economic, social, environmental as well as cultural aspects".

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and in particular the recognition, in paragraph 15, that the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies,

Recalling also Sustainable Development Goal 11 on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Reaffirming targets 17.6 and 17.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals and their respective objectives to enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and to fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology.

Reaffirming also the pledge in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that no one will be left behind.

In June 2023, 193 countries requested UN-Habitat to develop International Guidelines on People-Centred Smart Cities.

The guidelines are a non-binding framework for developing national & local smart city policies.

To ensure that the International Guidelines are developed through an inclusive consultative process, UN-Habitat organizes regional, thematic and stakeholder consultations.





Objectives of the guidelines



Develop a global normative framework



Advocate for peoplecentred smart cities



Provide practical guidance



Enable global cooperation

Expected impact





Enhanced knowledge, skills and policymaking



Implementation tool for the Global Digital Compact



Cities globally comply with the principles and put people at the centre of sustainable urban development



Global multi-stakeholder coalition to advocate for - and collaborate on - people-centred smart cities



IG-PCSC: Principles and Duties

Inclusion, Equity and Human Rights

Community Participation

Digital literacy

Shared prosperity

Environmental Sustainability

Digital
Governance
and
Regulations

Digital Infrastructure and Smart City Services

Human Rights

Community engagement

Capacity development

Local digital ecosystem

Sustainable digital transformation

Multilevel digital governance

Digital infrastructure

Institutional arrangements

Data platforms

Equity

Transparency and Accountability

Digital Skills

Territorial development

Urban resilienc e and sustainability

Financing and procurement

Smart city services

IG-PCSC Outline

1: Introduction

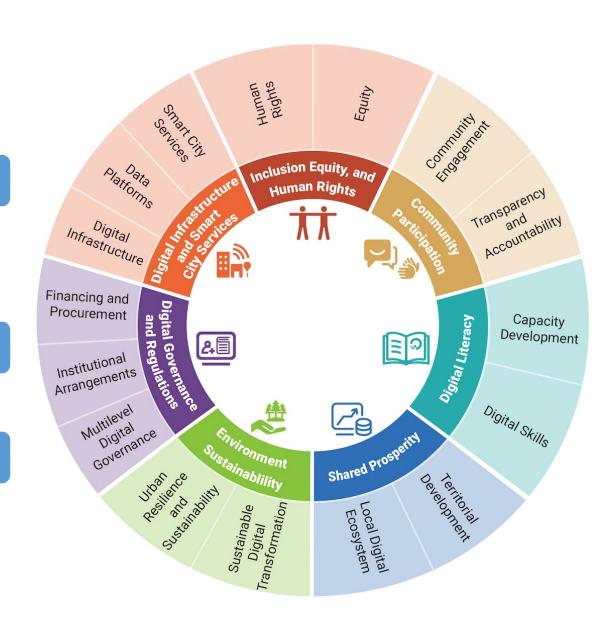
- Objectives of the guidelines
- Definition People-Centred Smart Cities
- Embracing a new paradigm of smart city development
- Preparatory process for the development of the Guidelines

2: International Guidelines

- Structure of the Guidelines
- Principles and Duties

3: Annex

- Annex I: Resolution
- Annex II: Implementation of the guidelines
- Annex III: Actors
- Annex IV: Glossary



Get in touch →



Thank you!

For more information on the international guidelines on people-centred smart cities: ig-pcsc@un.org







