

DAY OF CITIES

8 APRIL 2019 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA



A smart sustainable city is an innovative city that uses ICTs 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.

- **Mayors from Cities in the UNECE region**
- **Knowledge sharing via two roundtables on creating smart sustainable cities of the future**
- **Exhibition/Fair showcasing success stories, tools & plans to create smart sustainable cities**
- **KPIs to provide cities with a consistent and standardized method to collect data and measure performance**

BACKGROUND

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) will hold its 68th session under the theme “Smart sustainable cities: Drivers for Sustainable Development” on 9 – 10 April 2019 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. To inform the intergovernmental discussions of the 56 UNECE member States, the Commission is preceded by a Day of Cities that brings together Mayors, urban managers and other key municipal practitioners for an exchange of views and knowledge sharing of good practices and successful planning strategies. In two roundtables, participants will discuss approaches on how to create smart sustainable cities, focusing on ways to improve the quality of life of people and on improving efficiency of urban operations, services and competitiveness.

The Day of Cities also provides an opportunity to learn more about UNECE instruments that support sustainable practices and ways to monitor progress on the path towards creating a smart sustainable city.

An exhibition and information fair invites participants to showcase their success stories, and present useful tools that help to embrace smart and sustainable practices.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

ROUNDTABLE 1: Improving the Quality of Life of People

- Affordable, decent and healthy housing and basic services for different groups and changing populations
- Increasing urban resilience to natural and man-made disasters and mitigating/adapting to climate change
- New approaches to reducing the environmental footprint of cities
- Sustainable use of land and green areas and public spaces
- Smart city utilities to improve participation and governance

ROUNDTABLE 2: Improving efficiency of Urban Operations, Services and Competitiveness

- Smart transport/road safety
- Smart technologies to improve urban services
- Smart, sustainable cities as hubs and drivers of innovation, trade, competitiveness and the transition towards a circular economy
- Interoperability of city systems: Harvesting the potential of Blockchain, Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence
- Smart cadastres, e-governance and smart land administration

PLEDGE

During the Day of Cities, Mayors are invited to take concrete action towards making their city more smart and sustainable. The Day of Cities pledge, under a common definition and shared goals of smart sustainable cities, includes the commitment to:

- use of UNECE tools to improve quality of life and efficiency of urban operations and services
- apply KPIs as a monitoring tool for smart sustainable cities
- volunteer to undertake a KPIs assessment of your city

Smart Sustainable Cities Exhibition and Information Fair

During the Day of Cities and the Commission session, participants are invited to showcase to an international audience in the Palais des Nations their good practices; share innovative solutions towards smart and sustainable cities in the UNECE region; present their use of UNECE tools to help facilitate the transition towards smart sustainable cities.

The exhibition and information fair will encourage peer learning, cooperation among European cities and partnerships with international organizations, academia and the private sector.

For more information on the Day of Cities

Please check our website at www.unece.org

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