



Research Mission
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UNITED SMART CITIES: towards sustainable cities in the ECE region

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Outline

- Urbanization: overview and challenges
- UNECE Smart Cities initiative:
 - activities
 - reasons and objectives
 - strengths and opportunities
 - stakeholders and partners
 - cities and events





Urbanization in UNECE region

Statistics

- 1/5 of global population
- 73% urban residents (85% in 2050)
- 60% of the world's GDP
- 45% of energy consumption
- 40% of GHG emissions.

Main challenges

- High energy consumption
- High quantities GHG emissions
- Overpopulation and critical living conditions for citizens
- Informal settlements
- Conversion of land and green spaces into constructions and buildings
- Mobility problems and lack of infrastructures and services
- Housing issues





A Smart City for all

SDG: Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- ensure access to adequate and affordable **housing**
- provide access to safe, affordable and sustainable **transport** systems
- enhance inclusive and sustainable **urbanization**
- safeguard the world's cultural and natural **heritage**
- reduce the number of deaths, displacement and losses caused by **disasters**
- reduce their **environmental impact**
- provide universal access to safe and accessible green and public **spaces**
- support positive economic, social and environmental links between **urban and rural areas**
- integrate innovative technologies and **ICT** within the different sectors





Main barriers to change

Lack of:

- Information and experience
- Policy framework to encourage innovation
- Resources – funding for investment
- Data and data-use legislation
- Technology and knowledge

Difficulty

Identification of main sectors for action





Removing barriers to change

Identify cities and citizens' needs

Engage local stakeholders

Transparent communication and information

Capacity building

Provide a good framework to operate

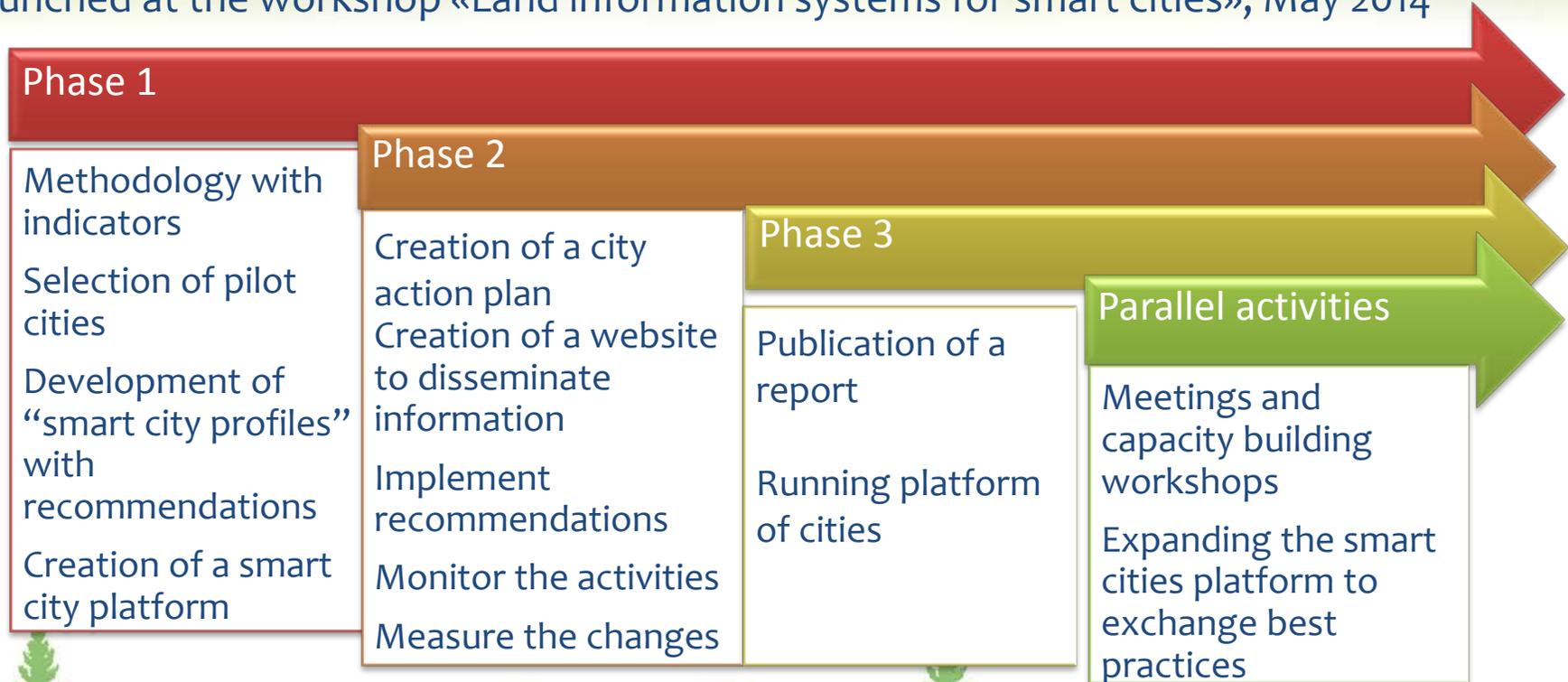




UNECE smart cities initiative: Summary of activities

«UNITED SMART CITIES: smart urban solutions for transition and developing countries

Launched at the workshop «Land information systems for smart cities», May 2014

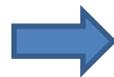




The project's partners



1. Core project partners
2. Associated partners
3. Involved cities



- Housing and Land Management Unit (UNECE)
- Organization for international Economic Relations (OiER)
- Environmental Agency Austria (EAA)
- Dubai Real Estate Institute
- UN – Habitat Moscow Office
- International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
- Laboratory of Intelligent System Automation at Moscow State University of Civil Engineering





Reasons for undertaking the project

In 2012 UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management included the «**Sustainable City**» as a primary topic of work

- Smart cities is one of the priority topics for UNECE member states (“*Challenges and priorities in the ECE region*” survey)
- The smart cities concept is well developed in Western Europe and USA and not easily applicable in transition countries
- Big interest from municipalities, regions and private sector partners
- UNECE expertise can contribute strongly to the project





Objectives

Promote **KNOWLEDGE** and **BEST PRACTICES TRANSFER** on sustainable urban development

Extend the concept of smart cities to **LOW-** and **MEDIUM INCOME** economies

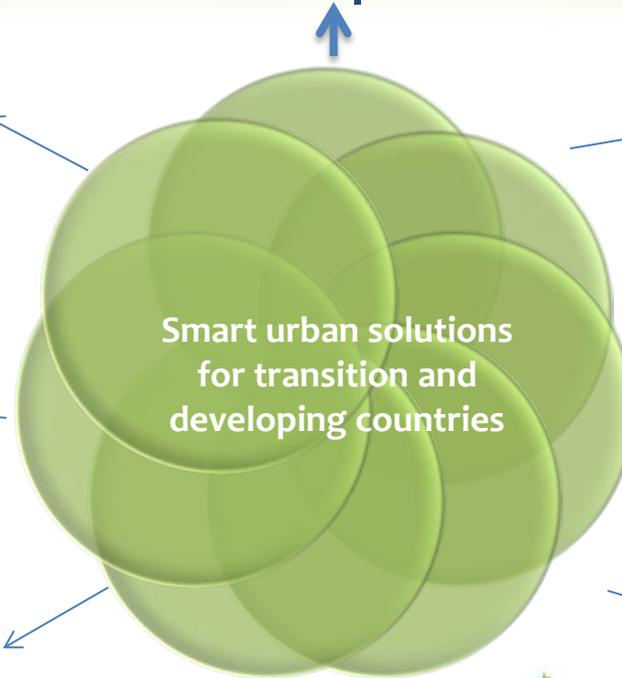
Promote **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT** in cities at a global level

Improve the inhabitants' **QUALITY OF LIFE** and make the most efficient use of **RESOURCES**

Help national and local authorities to develop **POLICIES** on sustainable urban development

Identify and develop smart **FINANCING MECHANISMS**

Establish partnerships and **COOPERATION** between stakeholders





Outcomes

- Unification of the indicators for evaluating a smart and sustainable City
- Creation of a multi-stakeholder platform and content hub for smart city initiatives (English and Russian)





Strengths of the project

- Diversified expertise of partners
- High visibility of the project
- Strong network



Pilot cities level:

- UNECE «walks» with the cities
- Participation to our platform of cities

Platform level:

- Scale up the European experience of smart cities to countries outside of the EU
- Support areas which are not involved in other «smart and sustainable cities» projects





Benefits for the participating pilot cities

PILOT CITY

- Assessment of smart city indicators
- International expertise and knowledge pool
- Access to the global Smart City network
- Financing of project
- Fostering of the local economy

- Introduction of new and affordable technologies
- Improvement of the citizens' living conditions
- Improvement of the city services
- Reduction of the city environmental impact
- Saving city financial resources
- Bridging collaboration among the different sectors
- Raising awareness about the smart city concept



The selected cities

Pilot cities

- Aktau - Kazakhstan
- Goris - Armenia
- Vologda – Russian Federation
- Stavropol - Russian Federation
- Turov - Belarus
- Dushanbe - Tajikistan
- Vinnitsa – Ukraine





Planned events for 2015

FEBRUARY



Smart City workshop

📍 Krasnodar

APRIL



Initial Stakeholder Assembly

📍 Vienna

MAY



Geospatial World Forum

📍 Lisbon

MAY



Smart Cities and Communities

📍 Brussels

MAY



Metropolitan Solutions

📍 Berlin

SEPTEMBER



II International Forum "Social Innovations – Municipal Experiences"

📍 Vologda

SEPTEMBER



XIV All-Russian Forum "Strategic planning in cities and regions of Russia" - St Petersburg

OCTOBER



UNECE member States meeting

📍 Geneva

DECEMBER



Smart City Conference
📍 Copenhagen

8 – 11 APRIL



Smart City Workshop

📍 GORIS





Thank you !

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