Strengthening National Capacities for Sustainable Housing, Energy Efficiency and Urban Development

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United Smart Cities

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Many existing definitions
UNECE definition combines the «smartness» and the sustainability of a city
Framed in the SDG 11

“A smart sustainable city is an innovative city that uses information and communication technologies (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 and environmental aspects as well as cultural.”
[UNECE/ITU]
Main issues to become smarter

Lack of data and data-use access

Lack of resources - human and financial

Scarce internet access

Lack of a policy framework to encourage innovation

Lack of information, experience and skills
### Overcoming the issues

<table>
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<th>1. Create awareness programmes (education)</th>
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<td>2. Engage stakeholders</td>
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<td>3. Provide a good legislative framework for the stakeholders to operate</td>
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<td>4. Build capacity, knowledge and skills at local level</td>
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<td>5. Foster investments, public-private partnerships and entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>6. Ensure transparent communication</td>
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Regional level: United Smart Cities

IDENTITY CARD

• What: project
• Definition:

United Smart Cities is a project which aims at addressing the major urban issues in medium-sized cities in particular in countries with economies in transition in the UNECE region.

• When: 2014-2020
• Who: UNECE with partners
• Where: www.unece.org/housing/smartcities.html
United Smart Cities: objectives

**WHAT**
- Raise awareness/educate to the **PROCESS** of becoming smarter and more sustainable
- Promote **KNOWLEDGE** and **GOOD PRACTICES TRANSFER** on sustainable urban development
- Improve the inhabitants’ **QUALITY OF LIFE**

**HOW**
- Help national and local authorities to develop **POLICIES** on sustainable urban development
- Identify and develop smart **FINANCING MECHANISMS**
- Establish **COOPERATION** and **PARTNERSHIPS**
- Capacity building
KPIs for smart sustainable cities to assess the achievement of SDGs

- Developed by a consortium of organizations (2015-2016)
- International standard
- UNECE-ITU contribution to HIII

**Approach**
- 3 main areas
- 18 topics
- 84 indicators (core & additional)

**Milestones:**
- 2015: UNECE-ITU SSC indicators endorsed by CHLM
- 2016: alignment with SDGs indicators and targets
- 2016: 17 UN entities and 14 pilot cities joined the process
- 2016 Sep.: CHLM invited to endorse it
- 2016 Oct.: ITU SG 5 invited to approve it

Diagram:
- Economy (ICT, Innovation, Employment, Trade, Productivity, Physical infrastructure)
- Environment (Air quality, Water, Noise, Environmental quality, Biodiversity, Energy)
- Society & Culture (Education, Health, Safety, Housing, Culture, Social inclusion)
- Information and Communication Technologies
Benefits and lessons learned from pilot cities

Helpful tool to:

- evaluate the current status of a city
- serve as a starting point for action
- set priorities
- measure changes

Agreement on indicators
- agree on the right mix

Feasibility
- check that data can be produced by majority of cities
- deal with data unavailability/data collection issues

Interpretation of results (target value / threshold)
- provide a defined target value, or comparison with the region, analysis of its positive trend over 5 years

Quality check
- recommendation for data check
The smart sustainable city profile

Smart Sustainable City Profile

• Analysis of the current city situation
• Identification of its strengths and weaknesses
• Develop recommendations

1. **Pre-mission:** Discussion with national and local authorities on the preparation of the profile

2. **Research mission and stakeholders consultation**
   - Discuss on indicators & feasibility
   - Educate on the smart sustainable city concept and process
   - Identify key measures with the relevant stakeholders

3. **Launch event and presentation of the results**
The stepwise approach

1. Share **information**
   = Portraying by Indicators
2. Think about the **causes**
   = key development fields
3. Brainstorm **ideas**:
   technologies and measures
4. Make a **plan**:
   how to implement the ideas
Thank you for your attention!

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