

**Launch of the  
“Smart Sustainable Cities for the 2030 Agenda on  
Sustainable Development and the New Urban  
Agenda in the UNECE Region” Project  
for the City of Tbilisi**

**Project Inception Workshop (online)**

21 January 2021

WebEx

Draft CONCEPT NOTE

### Workshop Objectives

The aim of this workshop is to discuss challenges, to and opportunities for, achieving urban-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and ways to achieve SDGs and promote resilience at local level in the city of Tbilisi.

The objectives of the workshop are:

1. To explore challenges in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially SDG 11 to "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" and its targets, in the city of Tbilisi.
2. To provide information on the “Smart Sustainable Cities for the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda in the UNECE Region” project to workshop participants, and to discuss the next steps of the project implementation.
3. To introduce the U4SSC “KPI Collection Methodology for Sustainable Smart Cities”, and develop an action plan for the collection of data for the assessment of Tbilisi’s sustainable and smart development.
4. To introduce tools for innovative financing that could be used to attract external funds for Tbilisi’s urban development projects and to support its smart, sustainable development.

### Expected Outcomes

1. Participants gain a better understanding of how to measure progress regarding the realization of the 2030 Agenda, especially in relation to SDG 11, at the local level, and of how to organize and finance urban development that is sustainable and socially inclusive.
2. Participants and organizers are informed about the project and agree on the steps to implement it in 2021.

### Project Information

The project supports the transition of beneficiary cities towards being smart and sustainable, with a view to supporting countries in achieving SDG 11 and other urban-related SDGs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The evaluation of the performance of the cities in the five

countries in the UNECE region will result in improved capacities of local and national government officials to develop and implement sustainable urban policies. This will be achieved through capacity-building activities to promote evidence-based policies and the vertical and horizontal coordination between different government agencies with the participation of the cities' inhabitants.

The project uses the UNECE “Sustainable Smart Cities with Innovative Financing” approach to facilitate the work in the cities. The approach takes a city through the full cycle, from its evaluation regarding its sustainability and smartness, through recommendations on how to move it forward in this area and supporting innovative financing and investments, to concrete city projects.

The expected result will be evidenced by each of the participating cities having developed concrete measures, endorsed by both local and national governments, to implement recommendations stemming from the smart sustainable city profile. The project will support achieving SDG 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” as well as other SDGs, including SDGs 3, 6, 9, and 13, and the New Urban Agenda.

Beneficiary cities: Grodno (Belarus), Nur-Sultan (Kazakhstan), Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), Tbilisi (Georgia), and Podgorica (Montenegro).

Project partners: UN-Habitat; UNDP in Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia and Montenegro; and Offices of UN Resident Coordinators in Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia and Montenegro.

The project is being implemented from January 2020 to March 2023.