



Smart and sustainable urban strategies

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Online Workshop on Accelerating Sustainable Energy Transition in Cities
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11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



Our work on...

Smart Sustainable Cities

The concept of **Smart Sustainable Cities** aims to address the current and future challenges of cities and improve the way cities function.

In light of **shrinking public budgets** and the legacy of the global **financial crisis**, local authorities suffer from a **limited capacity** to drive the transition towards smart and sustainable cities and localisation of the 2030 Agenda.

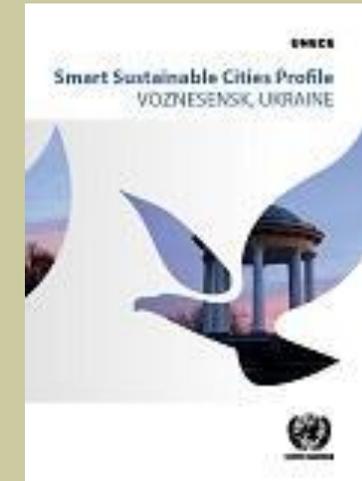
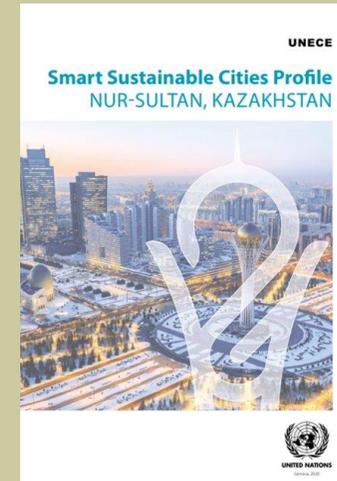


The UNECE-UN-Habitat joint project *“Smart Sustainable Cities for the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda in the UNECE Region”* supports the **transition of cities** towards becoming smart and sustainable.

In 2021, the following **4 cities** undergo the KPI evaluation:

- **Almaty** (Kazakhstan)
- **Bishkek** (Kyrgyzstan)
- **Tbilisi** (Georgia)
- **Podgorica** (Montenegro)

Based on the assessment, city profiles are prepared, including a list of **policy recommendations** to make the city smarter and more sustainable and projects to **attract external investments**.



Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities – (KPIs for SSC)



KPIs for SSC provide cities with a consistent and standardized method to collect data and measure performance and progress to:

- achieving the Sustainable Development Goals
- becoming a smarter city
- becoming a more sustainable city.

See the KPIs for SSC at

<https://unece.org/info/publications/pub/2906>

The indicators support the SDG 7 Target indicators:

EC:I:ES:1C Electricity system outage frequency

EC:I:ES:2C Electricity System Outage Time

EC:I:ES:3S Access to electricity

These indicators relate to the SDG target 7.1. “By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services”

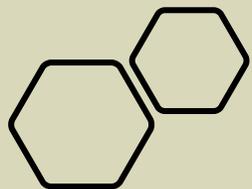
EN: E: E: 4A Public building energy consumption

This indicator relates to the SDG Target 7.3. By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency

EN:E:E:1C Renewable Energy Consumption

This indicator relates to the SDG indicator 7.2.1. Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption.

Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities					
Dimension	Environment				
Sub-Dimension	Energy				
Category	Energy				
KPI Name	Public Building Energy Consumption				
KPI No.	EN:E:E:4A	Type:	Core	Type:	Sustainable
Definition / Description	Annual energy consumption of public buildings				
Rationale / Interpretation / Benchmarking	Buildings can account for a significant proportion of the energy use, GHG emissions and resource use within a city. Energy efficiency and energy reduction in buildings can reduce GHG emissions, conserve resource and mitigate against climate change. Energy consumption shall include electricity, fuel oil, natural gas, steam and other forms of thermal energy. Thermal energy should be converted to the equivalent kWh. Low values should be pursued. A declining trend is positive.				
Methodology	Calculate as: Numerator: Total energy consumption by public buildings (ekWh/yr) Denominator: Total floor space of public buildings (m ²)				
Unit	ekWh / m ² / year				
Data Sources / Relevant Databases	Data can be collected from municipal facilities departments and local utilities.				
SDG Reference(s)	SDG Target 7.3: By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency				



Innovative financing to City projects

- The process of the development of smart city profiles results in a tangible set of recommendations for the city to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs.
- Further UNECE is working together with international financial institutions who support the cities in the implementation of the recommendations.



Guidelines for the Development of Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)

Cities are developing SDG Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) to **assess their own success with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and to enhance the quality of life of the population, including of the most vulnerable. The **Guidelines for the Development of Voluntary Local Reviews in the UNECE Region** assist local and regional governments in developing their VLRs through a comprehensive set of principles and recommendations for concrete steps.



The UNECE VLR Guidelines

- stress the importance of delivering **shared value creation** for citizens on the ground, for instance through effective public participation.
- highlight the necessity of **linking VLRs to existing plans and projects** to ensure coordinated action and enhance the connection to financing streams at all levels
- underline the need to promoting **evidence-based approach** through the use of indicators and metrics to measure progress in achieving SDGs.
- promote VLRs as an essential tool to support **social and economic recovery** while also reminding governments to focus on vulnerable groups to **leave no one behind**.



Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management

UNECE Ministerial Meeting on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management “Affordable, adequate, and resilient housing in liveable cities, including cities which face extreme weather conditions” will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 6-7 October 2021.

The Ministerial Meeting is expected to launch the study “#Housing2030: Effective policies for affordable housing in the UNECE region”, jointly developed by UNECE, Housing Europe and UN-Habitat; and to endorse a regional action plan for the UNECE region “Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in region, city, neighbourhood and homes”.

Read more at: <https://unece.org/housing/cudhlm-session82>

Regional Action Plan 2030

Examples of Goals with regard to Sustainable Energy Transition in Cities and SDG7 Localization

Policy Area A: CITIES, NEIGHBOURHOODS, HOMES and RURAL LIFE

A2.3.2 Encourage energy efficient housing design, maintenance and retrofitting that, promotes healthy living; encourage the implementation of universal standards design principles in order to increase the usability of homes for all people across generational, gender and disability divides and encourages socially mixed communities.

Policy Area B: SUSTAINABLE HOUSING and HOME`S

B4.1.2 Increase efficiency of administrative procedures to reduce hurdles and bottlenecks, provide long-term technical and policy development certainty to market actors and remove unnecessary regulatory and procedural barriers to achieving energy efficiency.

Our work on...

Forum of Mayors

The first Forum of Mayors in **October 2020** brought together **40 Mayors and Vice-Mayors**, representing **36 countries** from Europe, North America, Central Asia and the Caucasus, to amplify local solutions to address the key challenges of our time and discuss how they were overcoming the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic in their cities. The overall theme focused on *“City action for a resilient future: Strengthening local government preparedness and response to emergencies and the impact of disasters and climate change”*.

The **Geneva Declaration of Mayors** was endorsed by the Mayors of the UNECE region. Among other goals, they committed **to improve the energy efficiency of cities to save energy, and reduce emissions and costs, leading to economic, health, and environmental benefits.**

The **second Forum of Mayors** will be held back-to-back with the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development. The event will provide a platform for Mayors from the UNECE region to **exchange information** on experiences and **best practices** on city level policies and practices.

Read more at: unece.org/housing/events/forum-of-mayors-2022



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