Centering People in Smart Cities

UN Habitat
People-Centered
Smart Cities Flagship
Programme

UNITAC
HAMBURG

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

UN-Habitat new focus on innovation, digital and smart cities

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THE STRATEGIC PLAN

2020-2023

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82.
Frontier technologies are profoundly influencing the emergence of smart cities, the ways in which we build and manage our cities and other human settlements, and how urban managers take more informed decisions. Those currently include, among others, the Internet of things, sensor networks, machine-to-machine communication, robotics, artificial intelligence, virtual and augmented reality, 3D printing, geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, autonomous unmanned vehicles, drones, blockchain, cryptographic computing, and big data processing and visualization.

85.
An increased emphasis on **capacity-building in local government** and across the built environment professions is crucial in order to turn smart city plans and the use of frontier technologies in urban planning, design and regeneration into **people-centred opportunities, rather than technology-led endeavours**.

86.
Ultimately, the deployment of frontier technologies and sustainable urban development needs to **pay particular attention to underserved populations** in order to address inequalities and bridge social and spatial divides.

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"Digital technologies have the potential to serve people, improve public services and working conditions. But persistent digital divides remain, and the digital revolution must be directed and governed in a democratic and inclusive way."

Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN-Habitat Executive Director

Five pillars of a People-Centered Smart City

UN Habitat has compiled best practices from government, the private sector and civil society into five pillars of People-Centered Smart Cities.

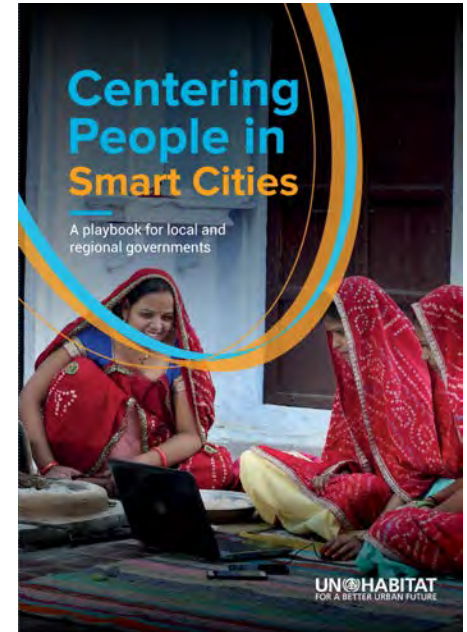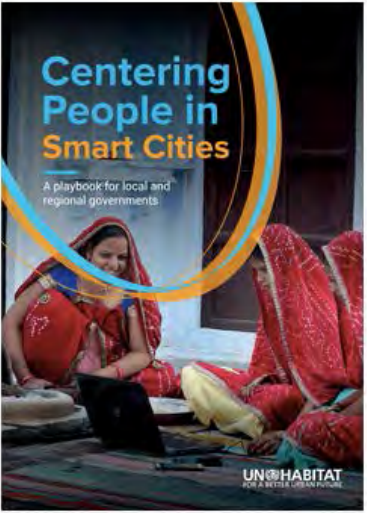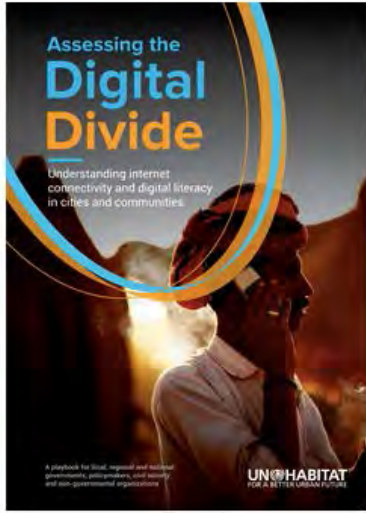Community Pillar — Digital Equity Pillar — Infrastructure Pillar — Security Pillar — Capacity Pillar

Centering People in Smart Cities
A playbook for local and regional governments

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People-Centered Smart Cities Playbooks

PLAYBOOK
Centering People in Smart Cities

PLAYBOOK
Assessing the Digital Divide

PLAYBOOK
Addressing the Digital Divide

Forthcoming in 2022

Digital 'Helpdesk'

Technical assistance to local governments on digital issues

Report of the Secretary-General — Roadmap for Digital Cooperation, JUNE 2020

SMART CITY RWANDA MASTERPLAN

CITIES COALITION FOR DIGITAL RIGHTS — Ajuntament de Barcelona, NYC, UCLG United Cities and Local Governments, City of Amsterdam, EURO CITIES

CAF — BANCO DE DESARROLLO DE AMÉRICA LATINA

- Digital governance support to local governments
- Digital urban governance labs
- Capacity building on digital governance
- Key focus on digital rights and digital inclusion

Providing technical support to UNH programmes

Normative and operational initiatives

Flagship I:
Inclusive, Vibrant Neighbourhoods and Communities

Flagship II:
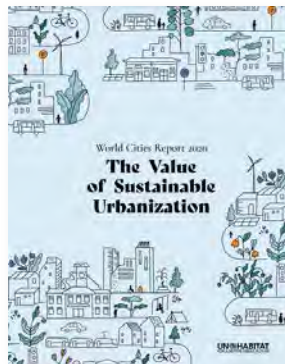**People-focused Smart Cities**

Flagship III:
RISE-UP. Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor

Flagship IV:
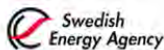**Inclusive cities: Enhancing the positive impact of urban migration**

Flagship V:
SDG Cities

CLIMATE SMART CITIES CHALLENGE

A city-based open innovation initiative that invites a wide range of stakeholders to create consortias to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in cities and create a better future for all.

Bogota **Bristol** **Curitiba** **Makindye Ssabagabo**

The United Nations Innovation Technology Accelerator for Cities

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UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

hcu
HafenCity
Universität
Hamburg

About UNITAC Hamburg

Apply research projects at the intersection between **urbanization, innovation and technology**

Develop innovative solutions that accelerate the advancement of **Sustainable Development Goals** related to cities and urbanization

Analyze urbanization trends and develop **scenarios, prototypes and solutions** which demonstrate the power of digital technologies to solve urban challenges

Thematic Areas

Open, transparent and participatory governance of data and digital platforms

UNITAC-Hamburg will test approaches, develop technology, and produce guidance on open and transparent digital governance for local and national governments

Mapping, spatial analysis, data analytics and visualization

'Mapping the unmapped' can help improve our understanding of informal settlements and improve service provision while ensuring that services reaches the most marginalized communities.

People-centered smart cities and communities

Adoption of people-centered approach that makes use of digitalization, clean energy and technologies to enhance the life of people in cities and mitigates climate change

Projects

eThekwini, South Africa

Enable the municipality to make informed decisions on improving the living conditions of informal dwellers in eThekwini, along with a reduced risk of natural disasters and prevention of other extreme vulnerabilities.

Observatory of Public Policy, State of Alagoas

This project aims to upgrade local capacity to produce and utilize data in planning processes and policymaking. An improvement of tools and methodologies for data collection and reporting designed specifically for the informal settlements of Maceio, Alagoas.

City Resilience Diagnostic Tool

UNITAC Hamburg is supporting the digitalization of the City Resilience Diagnostics tool. While a methodology is already established, the tool requires an upscaling of operations to increase capabilities and to upscale to a much larger set of cities and communities.
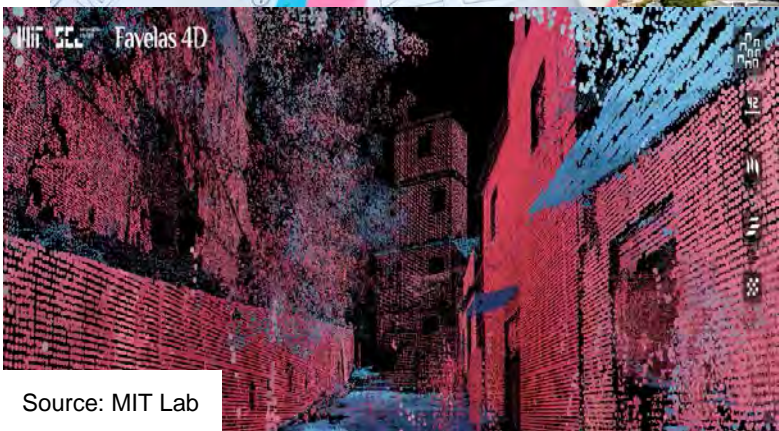
Observatory of Public Policy, State of Alagoas

Regional office, Brazil

1. Inspiring international best practices

Source: MIT Lab

2. Visualizing data in new, innovative ways

Source: Quick Participatory Mapping, Rio de Janeiro

3. Improve existing tools and methods for data collection and analysis of informal settlements