

WORLD  
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TWELFTH SESSION



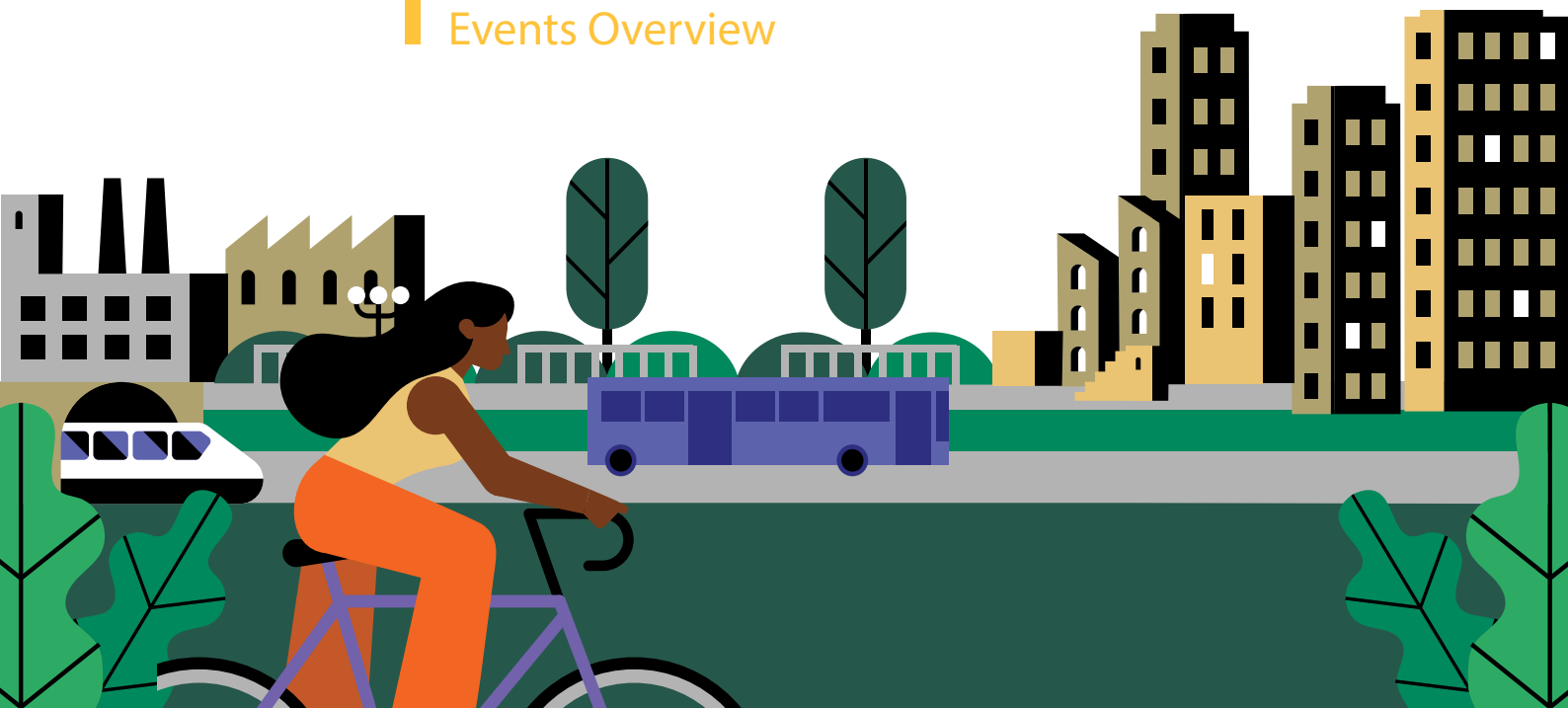
CAIRO, EGYPT | 4–8 NOVEMBER 2024



# The Twelfth Session of the World Urban Forum

It All Starts at Home: Local Actions for  
Sustainable Cities and Communities

UN-Habitat Flagship Programme 2  
People-Centred Smart Cities  
Events Overview



# The World Urban Forum 12

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Convened by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), The World Urban Forum (WUF) is the premier global conference on sustainable urbanization. WUF12 will be held in Cairo, Egypt.

With the theme “It All Starts at Home: Local Actions for Sustainable Cities and Communities”, WUF12 will focus on localizing the Sustainable Development Goals, shedding light on the local actions and initiatives required to curb the current global challenges affecting the daily life of people, including unaffordable housing, rising living costs, climate change, the lack of basic services, and ongoing conflicts.

Representatives of national, regional and local governments, academics, business people, community leaders, urban planners and civil society representatives will be among the thousands of people expected to attend WUF12 which is co-organized by The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt.



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Singapore, showing a mix of modern high-rise buildings and older residential structures. A river flows through the lower part of the image, with lush greenery and a road with vehicles visible. The image has a warm, golden-hour lighting.

# People-Centred Smart Cities Programme

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The People-Centred Smart Cities Programme promotes the deployment of technological innovations to realize sustainability, inclusivity, prosperity and human rights. This will make the urban digital transformation work for the benefit of all.

This is an approach to smart cities where human rights and inclusion are placed at the centre and innovative and technological solutions are developed based on people-needs as well as implemented carefully with a clear vision to make cities and citizens' quality of life better.

This means aligning digitalization and innovation efforts with key urban objectives such as ensuring access to affordable housing, reducing the environmental impact of cities and participatory urban planning and management. It also means overcoming the digital divide and ensuring that smart city initiatives are implemented in collaboration with residents and key stakeholders.





# International Guidelines on People-Centred Smart Cities

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The UN-Habitat's People-Centred Smart Cities Programme promotes the deployment of technological innovations to realize sustainability, inclusivity, prosperity and human rights. This will make the urban digital transformation work for the benefit of all.

Member States agree on the need to fill global normative gaps in the domain of smart cities and digitalization and have committed to supporting the development of international guidelines. With Resolution HSP/HA.2/Res.1, UN-Habitat has been mandated to develop International Guidelines on People-centred Smart Cities. The guidelines, to be developed by 2025, will serve as a non-binding framework for developing national and local smart city regulations, plans and strategies to ensure that digital urban infrastructure and data contribute to making cities and human settlements sustainable, inclusive, prosperous and respectful of human rights.

Get in touch: [ig-pcsc@un.org](mailto:ig-pcsc@un.org)

# UNITAC (United Nations Innovation Technology Accelerator for Cities)

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UNITAC Hamburg is a unique partnership at the interface of science and international development, bringing together cutting-edge applied research and impact-driven local implementation in a global context.

The partnership comprises of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Office for Information and Communication Technology (OICT), and HafenCity University.

UNITAC uses innovation, prototyping and applied research methodologies to develop innovative solutions that accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The interdisciplinary and diverse team of urban experts, software developers and technology specialists works with national and local governments, civil society organizations, private sector and other United Nations agencies to create open and transparent digital governance approaches and high quality systems, strategies and tools for mapping, spatial analysis and data visualization.

Get in touch: [unitac@un.org](mailto:unitac@un.org)





## Digital tools for sustainable urban development

Tools demonstrations every day

Nov 4: 1 PM

Nov 5th, 6th, 7th: 10:30 AM and 3 PM

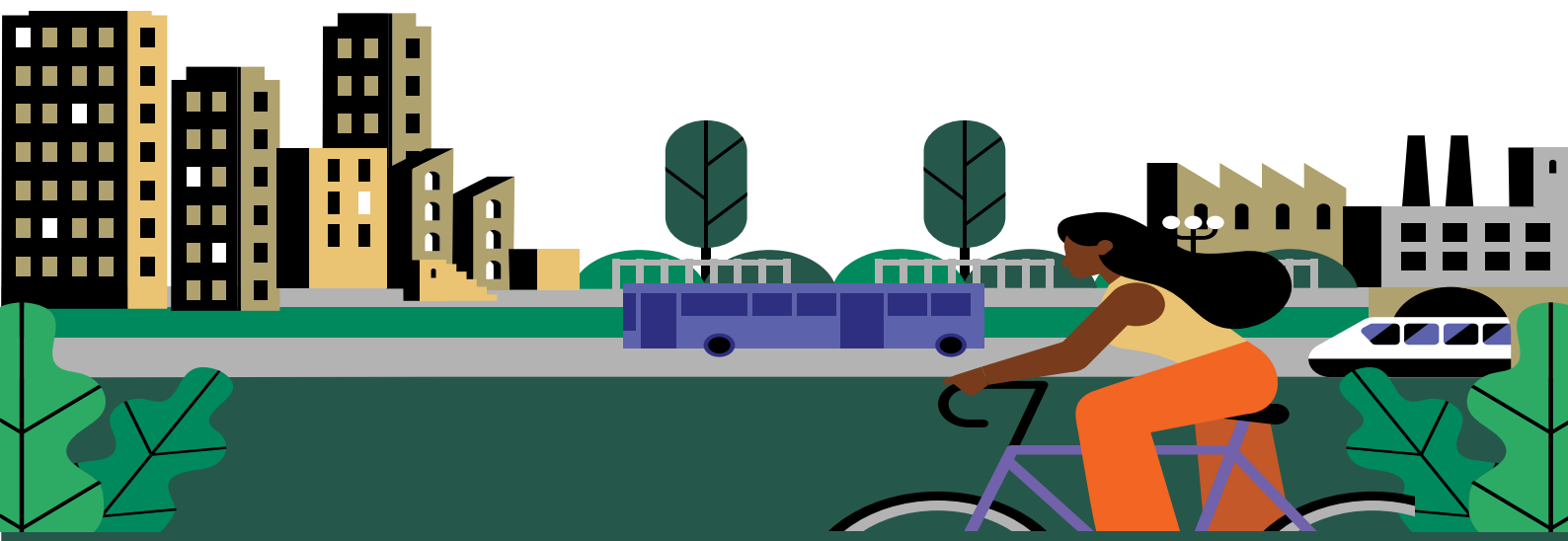
Where? UNITAC booth, Urban Expo (next to Urban Library and World Health Organization)



Participatory urban planning



UNITAC initiatives and projects



Tuesday, November 5 2024

Time	Event type	Event	Co-organizer	Venue/ Room
9 AM - 12 PM	Training TE 17-01	Jointly building capacity for postwar recovery in Ukraine. Digital tools for informed decision-making under crisis conditions Organizer: Kyiv School of Economics Speakers: Kyiv School of Economics, Junior Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, DREAM Project Office	UNITAC	Multipurpose room 17
9 AM - 12 PM	Training	Open innovation in cities: Solving local problems through challenge-led innovation Organizer: Challenge Works	UN-Habitat Innovation	Multipurpose room 9
11 AM - 12:30 PM	OneUN UN-A 2	Co-designing human-centric digital innovations for improved basic service delivery Speakers: Hargeisa Water Agency, Public Space Network, eThekwini Municipality, UN-Habitat	UNITAC	OneUN room A
1 PM - 2:30 PM	Networking event NE 12-01	Climate-neutral and smart cities - sparking global system transformation locally Organizer: Vinnova, Viable Cities and NetZero Cities	UN-Habitat Innovation	Multipurpose room 12
2 PM - 3:00 PM	OneUN	Making cities right for young people - youth at the center of a human rights-based approach to urban digitalization Organizer: OHCHR - Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	UN-Habitat Innovation	OneUN room B
5 PM - 6:30 PM	Networking event NE 13-03	Sustainable and Affordable Housing and Neighborhoods Organizer: Viable Cities, Global Urban Development, US National Academies of Sciences Engineering and Medicine	UN-Habitat Innovation	Multipurpose room 13



Wednesday, November 6 2024

Time	Event type	Event	Co-organizer	Venue/ Room
3 PM - 4:30 PM	SDGs in Action SDG-C 9	Leveraging digital technologies to solve the last-mile-problems for localizing SDG 11 indicators on housing and informal settlements Co-organizers: University of Twente, Eth Zürich, ESA Speakers: SDI Kenya, Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements Costa Rica, UN-Habitat, University of Twente	UNITAC	Room C
4:30 - 5:30 PM	UN-Habitat Arena UA 15	Flagship programme 2: Transforming urban futures through international guidelines on people-centred smart cities	UN-Habitat Innovation	UN-Habitat Arena

Thursday, November 7 2024

Time	Event type	Event	Co-organizer	Venue/ Room
9 AM - 10:30 AM	Voices from the Cities VC-D 11	Empowering cities for the digital age - lessons from a data-driven resilience approach in Southern African cities and towns Co-organizers: GIZ, Open Cities Lab Speakers: UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, eThekweni Municipality, Rehoboth Town Council, Rundu Town Council, Open Cities Lab	UNITAC	Room D
10 AM - 12 PM	Dialogues	Dialogue 5: Putting people first in a digital age	UN-Habitat Innovation	Plenary room A
1 PM - 2:30 PM	SDGs in Action	Collaborative Urban Futures Innovative Partnership Models for Development Organizer: Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab middle east and north africa, GSMA, Egypt Impact lab at the National Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development NIGSD	UN-Habitat Innovation	Room B





Time	Event type	Event	Co-organizer	Venue/ Room
5 PM - 6:30 PM	Networking NE 11-09	City Labs bridging to local and global actions for inclusive digital urban transformation Co organizers: City Science Lab, HafenCity University Speakers: IDB Cities Lab, Open Cities Lab, eThekwin Municipality	UNITAC	Room A

Friday, November 8 2024

Time	Event type	Event	Co-organizer	Venue/ Room
9:00 - 10:30 AM	Voices from Cities VC-C 16	Cities as agents of change peer-to-peer exchange on people-centred smart cities for an open, secure and inclusive digital future	UN-Habitat Innovation	Room C
10:15 - 11:00 AM	Press Conference Center PC 26	Launch of the World Smart Cities Outlook 2024	UN-Habitat Innovation	Press Conference Center
11:30 - 12:30 AM	UN-Habitat Arena	Localizing the global digital compact: global alliance of mayors for digital cooperation	UN-Habitat Innovation	UN-Habitat Arena



Downloads and links:

- [WUF12 Programme](#)
- [WUF12 App](#)
- [People-Centred Smart Cities Flagship Programme](#)
- [UNITAC](#)

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