



Regional Consultation Africa and Europe: International Guidelines on People-Centered Smart Cities 26 November 2024 | 15:00-17:00 EAT | Virtual - [Link to connect](#)

International Guidelines

Following the Resolution [HSP/HA.2/Res.1](#) adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly on 9 June 2023, UN-Habitat has been mandated by 193 Member-States to develop the **International Guidelines on People-Centred Smart Cities**, a 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 communities sustainable, inclusive, prosperous and respectful of human rights**.

The International Guidelines on People-Centred Smart Cities aim to provide a novel normative foundation and global approach to **support national, regional and local governments in ensuring urban digital transformation focuses on people, fosters community engagement and participation, promotes sustainability, and supports inclusive growth**. Through the Guidelines, the aim is to shift from technology-driven to people-centered smart city development towards promoting cities and human settlements that are inclusive, sustainable, prosperous and respectful of human rights.

To ensure that the International Guidelines are developed through an **inclusive consultative process**, UN-Habitat organizes regional, thematic and stakeholder consultations. Regional consultations provide **Nominated Global and Regional Experts** across all 5 regions the opportunity to directly share experiences, priorities and feedback, to ensure that the Guidelines will match regional needs and contexts and. Experts will read the draft of the guidelines beforehand and engage in an enriching online discussion, focused on how to **practically localize the guidelines**.

Objectives

The goals of the regional consultations are threefold:

- Consider regional priorities in the drafting process of the Guidelines.
- Validate figures and data from the world smart cities outlook research.
- Collect recommendations for localization of the Guidelines across readiness levels.

Participants

- Regional Experts in African and European States, nominated by Member States
- United Nations Economic Commissions in the regions (ECA, ECE)
- Regional Office and Country Office of UN-Habitat
- Representatives of the Global Expert Working Group in the Africa and Europe Regions

Guiding Questions:

- What do you perceive as the most critical aspects of the guidelines for your region?
- How could the guidelines best facilitate collaboration across actors in your region?
- What are the biggest challenges and opportunities to implement the guidelines in your region?

Draft Agenda

Time	Discussion	Speaker
15:00 -15:05	Welcome	Ms. Aline Matta , Head of UNITAC, Senior Programme Management Officer
15:05 -15:15	Opening remarks from ECA and ECE <i>Economic Commissions highlight regional priorities and challenges</i>	Ms. Eyerusalem Siba , Social Affairs Officer, ECA Ms. Paola Deda , Director of the Housing and Land Management Unit, ECE
15:15-15:25	Tour de Table	
15:25 -15:35	Introduction and presentation of progress <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of the International Guidelines on People-Centered Smart Cities• The development process of the guidelines• Presentation of the World Smart Cities Outlook	Ms. Roberta Maio , Digital and Inclusion Officer, UN-Habitat
15:35 - 16:35	Break-Out Rooms by Region: Localizing the Guidelines in Practice <i>Set of closed and Open Questions will guide the discussion</i>	Moderated by: UN-Habitat, Innovation Unit
16:35 - 16:55	Summary of outcomes in break-out rooms And final recommendations	Plenary discussion
16:55 - 17:00	Closing remarks and Next Steps	Ms. Aline Matta , Head of UNITAC, Senior Programme Management Officer