



United Nations

## High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda

### Side Event: The role of Innovation and Technology in accelerating Sustainable Urbanization

Co-organized with the Governments of France and Germany  
25 April 2022 @ 11am ET/ 5pm CET/ 6pm EAT, 120 min (hosted online)

The Governments of Germany and France invite to a discussion on the potential of developing sustainable cities within the wider digital transformation context, hereby highlighting the impending nexus of technology, data and innovation. The debates will demonstrate the role of local governments in applying digital technologies, data and innovative practices to accelerate the localization of the New Urban Agenda, hereby emphasizing impact for upscaling of noble solutions as a vehicle for achieving the targets of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

This event will show how a strategic alignment with the New Urban Agenda and paying attention to the lessons from those cities already grappling with the people-centered agenda of the smart city, will provide new and practical ideas for urban managers, communities, private sector and others to be part of collective actions to steer technology and innovation that leaves no one and no place behind.

A strong multi-level governance framework is one of the key prerequisites to fully tap into the transformative potential of smart cities, as outlined in the Secretary Generals Common Agenda. The event intends to mobilize Member States, innovators, practitioners, and cities towards utilizing appropriate digital technologies and data for cities and human settlements to become more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

- **Opening Remarks** (15 min)
- **Panel Discussion 1:** Exploring the transformative power of people-centered smart cities (45 min)
- **Panel Discussion 2:** Towards developing recommendations on how to establish sustainable and inclusive smart cities principles (45 min)
- **Closing Remarks** (15 min)

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