





# IRCAI and ITU Webinars on Emerging technology for connectivity - Smart cities and communities



John Shawe-Taylor

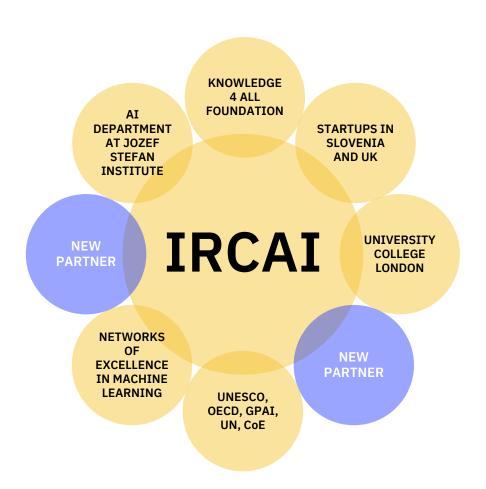
Director



**Davor Orlic**Chief Operations Officer

- 1. The International Research Centre in Artificial Intelligence (IRCAI) was founded by the Government of Slovenia as the UNESCO AI arm in 2020 and approved at the 40th session of the General Conference, where 193 UNESCO Member States supported the establishment of the Center.
- 2. It was inspired by the international work in the field of AI by an ecosystem of high-level institutions and researchers involved in scientific, industrial and policy actions working directly with UNESCO and set up to showcase the use of Artificial Intelligence for the benefit of humanity.
- 3. The Center is independent and acts as a clearing house for Excellent Research to scale up into spin-offs and is exploring ways of creating an ambitious and realistic AI Global Research Agenda, to mobilize the World's AI community to tackle United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- 4. IRCAI will undertake a **Needs Assessment for Artificial Intelligence (AI), Digital transformation and Open Data for SIDS**. This survey aims at developing an understanding of capacity building needs for AI enabled digital transformation and related Open Data ecosystem.





Its current initiatives envisage the Center as a coordination point, funding route, and exploitation accelerator for approaches to the SDGs that make use of AI.

At the core of the Center are Program Committees around different Grand Challenges which put scientific quality first.

These are the fora made of AI and domain experts where individual international projects from any Region or Community are reviewed, approved for adoption, and prioritized for funding.



# Reach of Artificial Intelligence 4 Development programme across Africa

### In total 42 countries reached

Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Marocco, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### Main achievements

Supported 6 workshops

Commissioned 4 reports

Run 3 COVID-19 data challenges

Run 5 African Language data challenges

Funded 21 mini-projects

Launched a Fellowship for Low Resource African Languages

Developed 10 African language datasets

Built a text-to-speech platform for African Languages

Created a registry of AI hot spots in Africa

Engaged with ~ 150 researchers, ~ 30 institutions

Researched policy across 39 countries



# Naiades – A holistic water ecosystem for digitalization of urban water sector (H2020-SC5-2018-2)

Based on big data technology, the EU-funded NAIADES project promotes innovative water management solutions to improve services for homes and public buildings, such as shopping malls and hospitals. It collects real-time data from buildings to provide information about the maintenance of operations. The project is implemented along three different dimensions: spatial (including groups such as ageing, disabled persons and children), temporal and nodal. For personalised feedback and recommendation services, the project is designing an app aimed at promoting user engagement in water conservation activities.



https://ircai.org/



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Thank you for your support and we invite you to apply with your project!



Social imagery available at this link.





# United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) Initiative

TANIA MARCOS
Vice-chairman
United for Smart Sustainable Cities

July 2021



# **United for Smart Sustainable Cities**









Procurement Guidelines for Smart Sustainable Cities



Economic recovery in cities and urban resilience building in the time of COVID-19

Innovative Financing

Instruments for

Smart Sustainable Cities



for artificial intelligence in cities









































# **U4SSC KPIs**



### **Dimensions**



# **U4SSC Cities:**

- Dubai
- Singapore
- **Moscow**
- **Bizerte**
- Valencia
- And 100+ more!

### **Economy**

- ICT Infrastructure
- Water & Sanitation
- Drainage
- Electricity Supply
- Transport
- Public Sector
- Innovation
- Employment
- Waste
- Buildings
- Urban Planning

# **Environment**

- Air Quality
- Water and Sanitation
- Waste
- Environmental Quality
- Public Space and Nature
- Energy

# **Society and Culture**

- Education
- Health
- Culture
- Housing
- Social Inclusion
- Safety
- Food Security

Categories

# Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities When the Collection Methodology for Methodology for



55 Core Indicators + 36 Advanced Indicators

- 20 Smart + 32 Structural + 39 Sustainable
- 132 Data Collection Points

# ITU's implementation of the U4SSC KPIs



City Snapshots
Provide a visual overview of a
city's U4SSC KPIs
performance based on global
benchmarks



Verification Reports
Summarize the conclusions
of a city's U4SSC KPIs
project



Factsheets
Elaborate and analyze the results of a city's U4SSC
KPIs project

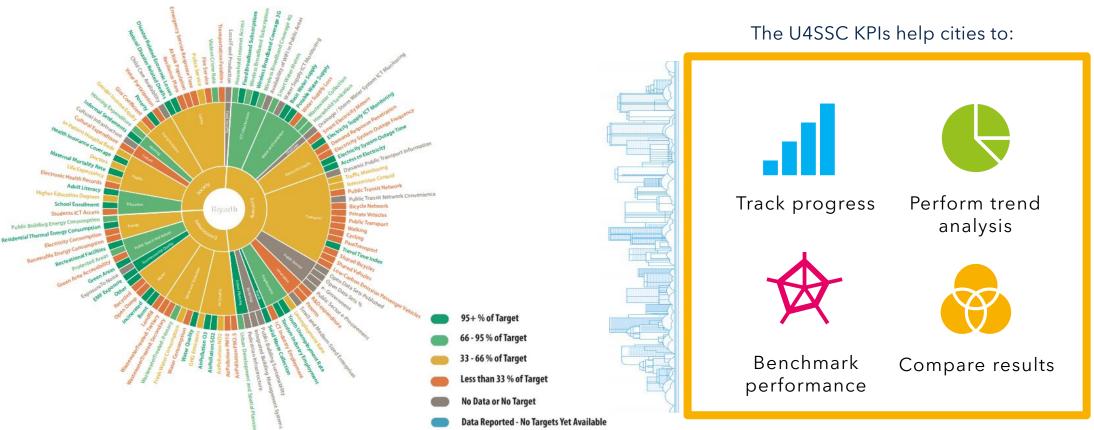


Detail a city's journey towards successfully becoming a smart sustainable city



# **Applications of the U4SSC KPIs**







# **Latest U4SSC Publications**





Identifies smart interventions not requiring excessive material or capacity inputs, but helping cities be sustainable



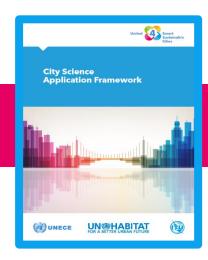
Gives insight into the potential of blockchain technology in building trust within cities



Sheds light on the impact of frontier technologies in cities and on citizens



Provides a framework to improve circularity in cities



Offers a four-step methodology to assess, prioritize and boost city applications



# Thank you!

Questions? Interested in learning more? Let us know!



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www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/ssc/united





# Context

45 % of the global population live in rural areas



















The incidence of extreme poverty is 3 time higher than in the cities



The shortage of health workforce is 2 times more acute



Low proficiency in reading and mathematics is up to 20% more proliferate



# New approach is needed

# **Digital technologies**

can be used as a powerful tool for the provision of equitable and qualitative SDG-related services to the disadvantaged rural populations

# However,

traditional supply-side, siloed approaches to leveraging these technologies have yielded only limited results in addressing the problems that hinder rural development









Low efficiency

**Duplication** of efforts



# **Smart Villages**

- Smart Villages is a holistic, multi-sector, and inclusive approach to improving access to essential digital services for SDG in rural settings
- A Whole-of-government, Whole-of-society approach for SDG digital investments and digital transformation
- Concrete approach to mutualize digital investments to achieve cost efficiences through economies of scale [similar to «Car Pooling»].
- Consider various citizens' needs in an integrated manner.
- It is a "gateway to rural development" through the pooling and coordination of development programs, in order to create the necessary synergy to sustain investments.



# Life in the Smart Village: A user-centric approach

Access to health education and Advisory services

Buy local inputs and sell products

Better Plant & Animal Disease Management

Access to market prices & financial services

Share and learn new information from other farmers

**Farmers** 

Access to Digital and Basic Literacy courses

**Emergency support** 



Better Mother and Child Health Tracking

Access to health education & Advisory services

Sell local products/handcrafts

Access to financial services

Access to continuing learning

Access to Digital and Basic Literacy courses

Women

Better access to quality health care services



Children

Access to quality education

Access to numeracy and digital literacy courses

Girls education

Access to Edutainment content

Registration of new birth

Digital identification & Better Vaccination Tracking

Citizen's view



# Life in the Smart Village: A user-centric approach

Agriculture Extension Worker Access to Advisory services

Buy local inputs and sell products

Access to Animal Disease Management

Access to market prices & financial services

Share and learn new information from other farmers

Access to Crop and Weather Calendar

Access to information about production and consumption of nutritious foods.



Teachers and school administrators

Tools to improve Mother and Child Health Tracking

**Better Stock Management** 

Access to Decision support tools at Point-of-care

Access to Tele-expertise, Remote diagnostics Application

Access to continuing learning

Health Ability to report on Malaria cases

Better Identification of children and improved vaccination tracking

Access to Teachers professional training

Worker

Access to numeracy and digital literacy courses

Access to schools textbooks

Access to educational games and Apps

Access to illiteracy eradication Apps

Access to digital support learning materials in class

Professional's view

- Established access to broadband networks needed for delivery of digital services for all
- Improved resilience of networks and connectivity

Broadband connectivity accessible to remote islands

- Shared broadband connectivity and devices
- Shared /common digital infrastructure
- Support from government from USO
- Use of PPP model
- Establishment of public WiFi in schools, hospitals, public offices and libraries

Enhanced affordability

- Trainings and digital literacy programs conducted and awareness raised n the target communities
- Collaboration with partners for crosssectoral initiatives
- Creating Community Experts-ownership
- Youth, women and PwD empowered through targeted activities

- Service delivery platform established for the development and delivery of digital applications and services
- Various digital applications and services developed and made available for socioeconomic development, including e-learning, e-agriculture, e-health, e-commerce and e-tourism

Digital skills enhanced

Wide range of digital service delivered

Evidence based, future proof (integrated emerging technology), partnership driven, whole-of-government approach

# Limited access to broadband and digital services in remote islands / villages

Limited access to broadband connectivity

- Limited access to broadband networks needed for delivery of digital services
- Limited resilience in broadband connectivity
- Sustainability of broadband connectivity not established

**Insufficient affordability** 

### Insufficient

- affordable devices
- affordable internet services
- Wi-Fi in schools, hospitals, public offices, libraries...

Insufficient digital skills

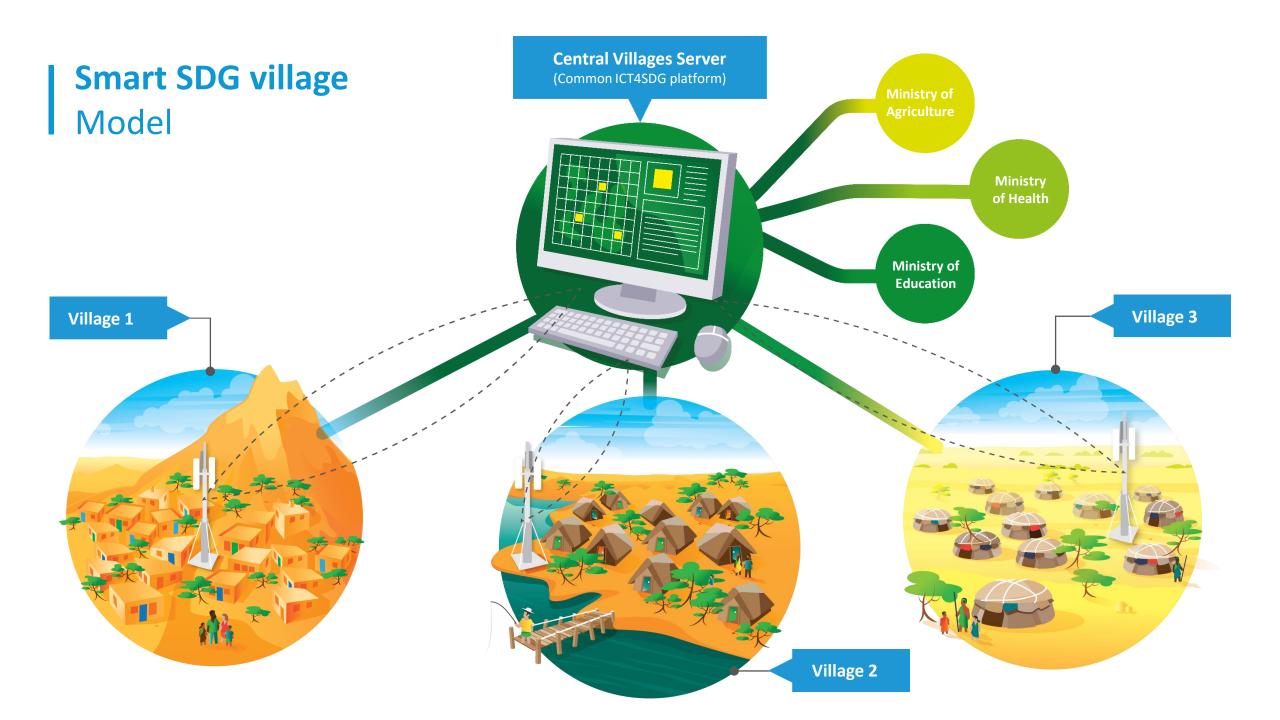
### Insufficient

- training programs
- education opportunities
- digital literacy and skills
- awareness
- community engagement
- youth and women participation

Limited digital services (access, scale and scope)

### Limited

- service delivery platforms
- range of digital applications and services (e-commerce, education, health, finance, agriculture, tourism etc.



# Village 1

### **Local Village Server**

Broadband connectivity

Each village has a local server to cache content related to education, health, agriculture,

Local wifi access point

# Mobile School Unit

Connect school

Mobile School unit to give access to education resources for formal and vocational training and Teachers training



Mobile Agriculture Extension

Niger project

Smart SDG village



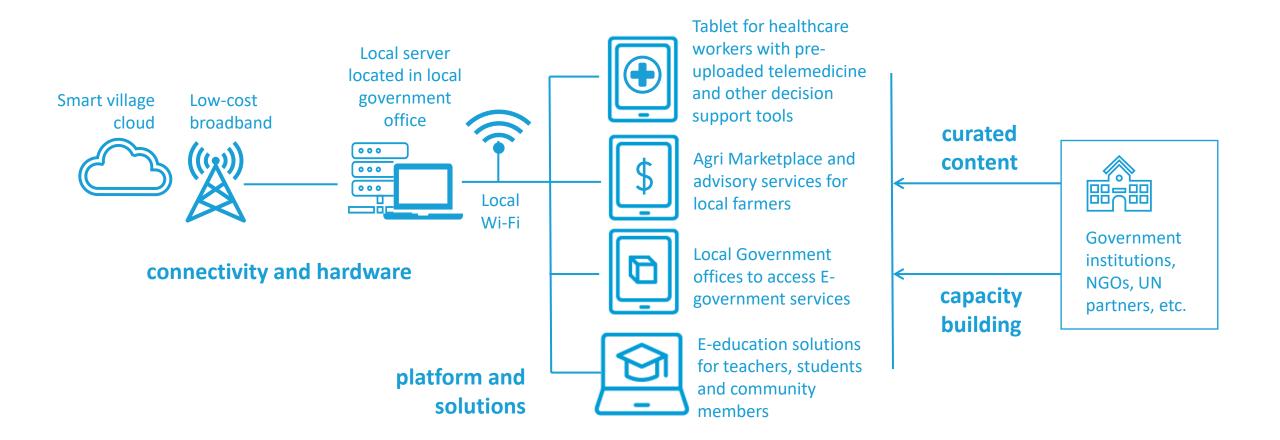
**Mobile Clinic** 

Connect Health center

Community members can access Local village Portal or web directly Community members receive SMS and voice messages

related to topics of their interest

# Framework: Digital service infrastructure





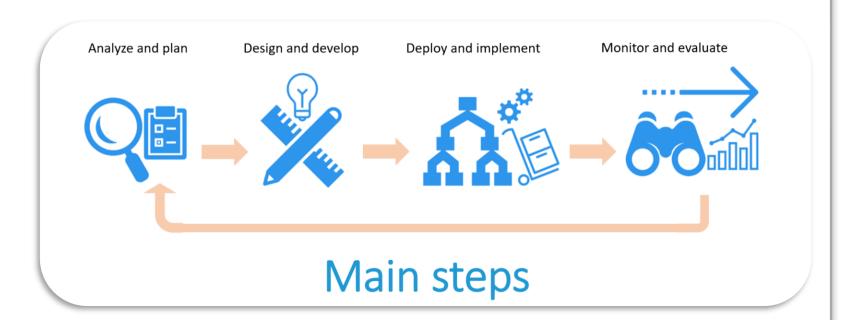






# Smart Villages Blueprint

A practical tool for establishing smart villages



https://www.itu.int/pub/D-STR-SMART VILLAGE.NIGER-2020

Thematic reports
ICT Applications

**ITU**Publications

# **Building Smart Villages:** A blueprint

As piloted in Niger

