2022 Climate Academy: Digitalization, Energy Transition & Climate Action

Emerging technologies as a fundamental component of Smart cities for energy conservation and to mitigate climate change:

Smart City use cases in Africa, Challenges and recommendations

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United Nations Climate Change



Outline of my presentation

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- Projected Changes in surface temperature
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- Smart cities initiatives around the world
- Smart city initiatives in Africa: five use cases
- Challenges of implementing smart city projects in Africa
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Climate change & Projected changes in surface temperature

- The global climate is changing and that is posing increasingly severe risks for ecosystems, human health and the economy. The world is already facing impacts of a changing climate, including
 - Deserts are expanding,
 - Heat waves and wildfires are becoming more common.
 - Increased warming in the Arctic has contributed to melting permafrost, glacial retreat and sea ice loss.
 - Higher temperatures are also causing
 - more intense storms,
 - droughts, and other weather extremes.



World Climate change performance index



| Rank | | Country | 20. | ▼ | Ukraine | 41. | • | Spain |
|------|----------|---------------------|-----|---------|-----------------|-----|---------|---------------------------|
| | | | 21. | • | Luxembourg | 42. | | Turkey |
| 1.* | - | - | 22. | • | Egypt | 43. | | Algeria |
| 2. | - | - | 23. | ▼ | France | 44. | | Bulgaria |
| 3. | - | - | 24. | | Indonesia | 45. | | Japan |
| 4. | - | Sweden | 25. | ▼ | Brazil | 46. | • | Argentina |
| 5. | | United Kingdom | 26. | | Thailand | 47. | • | Czech Republic |
| 6. | • | Denmark | 27. | ▼ | Italy | 48. | | Poland |
| 7. | • | Morocco | 28. | • | New Zealand | 49. | • | Cyprus |
| 8. | | Norway | 29. | - | Netherlands | 50. | • | Hungary |
| 9. | | Chile | 30. | ▼ | Romania | 51. | • | Slovenia |
| 10. | • | India | 31. | • | Slovak Republic | 52. | - 1 | Russian Federation |
| 11. | • | Finland | 32. | - | Mexico | 53. | | Korea |
| 12. | | Malta | 33. | • | China | 54. | | Australia |
| 13. | | Latvia | 34. | ▼ | Greece | 55. | ▼ | Kazakhstan |
| 14. | A | Switzerland | 35. | | Austria | 56. | • | Malaysia |
| 15. | • | Lithuania | 36. | | Belarus | 57. | | Chinese Taipei |
| 16. | | European Union (28) | 37. | ▼ | South Africa | 58. | • | Canada |
| 17. | | Portugal | 38. | ▼ | Estonia | 59. | ▼ | Islamic Republic of Irar |
| 18. | | Croatia | 39. | | Ireland | 60. | - | Saudi Arabia |
| 19. | | Germany | 40. | • | Belgium | 61. | • | United States |

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*None of the countries achieved positions one to three. No country is doing enough to prevent dangerous climate change.

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Climate change mitigation and adaptation mechanisms



Smart cities

- A smart city is an urban development using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Internet of Things (IoT) to provide useful information to effectively manage resources and assets.
- lt also includes more energy efficient buildings, integrated renewable energy sources, sustainable heating and cooling systems, smarter urban transport networks, upgraded water supply and better waste disposal facilities to tackle the city's economic, social and environmental challenges.



A framework for Emerging technologies to the climate challenge





Emerging Technologies as one of the primary components of Smart city Cont....



Smart city initiatives around the world



Use case 1: Konza Techno City, Kenya

- This Kenyan urban initiative is located 60 km South East of Nairobi.
- Konza (Konza Technopolis) is a key flagship project of Kenya's Vision 2030 economic development portfolio.
- Konza will be a world-class city, powered by a thriving information, communications and technology (ICT) sector, superior reliable infrastructure and business friendly governance systems.
- Konza Techno City is a 5 000 acre piece of land that experts estimate will cost \$15,5 billion to construct and will generate around \$1 billion for the country each year.
- Konza will be a world-class smart city, powered by a thriving and progressive ICT sector, superior reliable infrastructure and business friendly governance, policy and regulatory frameworks



Use case 2: Cape Town, South Africa

The Cape Town Smart city project provides

- E-government, which provides better access to more efficient service delivery
- The provision of ICT skills, promoting social and economic development
- Public Wi-fi and improving the city's broadband infrastructure, reducing the digital divide
- The use of CCTV cameras, making the city safer with 560 cameras situated in and around the city
- Cape Town's open data portal is the first of its kind in Africa
- The use of smart-grid technologies at municipal levels, supporting the digital economy and several smart grid pilots are underway.
- Last year, the City of Cape Town called for formal public submissions to make it the first truly digital smart city in Africa.



Use case 3: Hope City, Ghana

- The technology hub is to be built at Prampram in the Greater Accra Region and will cost \$10 billion.
- IT hub near the capital, Accra.
- Will employ about 50,000 people and house 25,000 people
- One of the planned towers will become Africa's tallest building and the park is intended to create more than 50 000 jobs in Ghana's ICT sector.
- It would include an IT university, a residential area, a hospital, as well as social and sporting amenities with state of the art smart city technologies.



Use case 4: Eko Atlantic, Nigeria

- Eko Atlantic in Lagos is built on land reclaimed from the sea and it is estimated that it will house about 250 000 people once it is completed.
- Hope City, which is yet to get off the ground, will feature the continent's tallest skyscraper.
- Located on 2 400 acres of land on Victoria Island near Lagos,
- Eko Atlantic will include advanced fiber optic telecoms, independent reliable electricity and state of the art urban design.



Use case 5: Kigali Innovation City, Rwanda

- The Rwandan government valued the project around 2 billion US\$ and expects to house worldclass universities, technology companies, biotech firms, commercial and retail real estate.
- Kigali Innovation City (KIC) is being developed to be a mixed-use, master-planned, innovation city to be situated on 60 hectares of land in Kigali, Rwanda.
- KIC will seek to facilitate the development of pan-African talent and act as a technology innovation hub.
- Its plan includes four universities, office spaces, and start-up business incubators, alongside supporting facilities for retail, hospitality and accommodation.
- The project will incorporate international and local green and sustainable smart city design guidelines. It will efficiently manage water through the development of a wastewater treatment plant.



Challenges of implementing smart city projects in Africa



Skills, competency and Technological Challenges

- Lack of human capital with technology skills
- Lack of smart city specific skills
- Technology readiness of senior management
- Lack of integration between systems
- Lack of access to data
- Slow uptake of technology
- Inconsistent data

Infrastructure and socio-economic challenges

Lack of infrastructure High costs associated with smart city technologies Lack of appropriate funding High income inequality Lack of access to basic services Poverty

Organizational, governance & political challenges

- The lack of smart city vision or mission statement
- Smart city projects are identified as lower priority
- Lack of continuity due to constant change of administration
- Lengthy supply chain process for fast moving digital technologies
- Citizens resistance to change

Recommendations



