



Innovation for Sustainable Urban Living: The Path to Smart Cities

6 – 17 December 2026
Manama (Bahrain)



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Introduction:

In today's increasingly urbanized world, where 60% of the population resides on just 2% of the land, traditional urban development and sustainability practices are insufficient to meet the needs of densely populated areas. Sustainable urban living and the creation of smart and sustainable cities have come to the forefront of urban development strategies. Modern cities must evolve into smart cities to manage resources efficiently and ensure that sustainable urban living is attainable.

Innovations centered around smart city innovation integrate technology, policies, and citizen engagement to create seamless, livable, resilient urban environments. With an estimated investment of \$135 billion by 2022, smart city innovation underscores the critical role of technology and innovation for sustainable urban living.

Governments worldwide are called to redefine urban living definitions and refocus their efforts on supporting innovative and sustainable living in urban areas. They must transform the infrastructure and public sector practices to meet citizens' expectations.

What is a Smart City and Sustainable Urban Living?

This framework aims to define sustainable urban living in the context of the smart city movement. Living in a smart city involves leveraging innovative urban development strategies to foster economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

Participants will explore the definition and real-world applications that embody sustainable urban living definitions. They will also learn the strategies for sustainable urban living that promote the well-being of residents through integrated, intelligent solutions in smart and sustainable cities.

Target Audience:

- Professionals in the public sector.
- Professionals involved in Public-Private Partnerships.
- Researchers, Students, and Practitioners in the Internet of Things IoT.
- Professionals in Applied Mathematics.
- Technology Engineers, CTOs, and CIOs.
- Strategic Development Personnel.
- Project Managers.
- Government Employees.
- Urban Planners.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this smart city innovation for sustainable urban living course, participants will:

- Understand the categories of public sector innovation.
- Gain insight into the Smart City paradigm and its components.
- Comprehend the role of Big Data in smart city development.
- Connect the Internet of Things IoT to create smart cities.
- Recognize the significance of intent-based networking.
- Prepare public sector organizations for the cities of the future.
- Enhance their understanding of public sector organization and principles.
- Learn to make citizen-oriented recommendations.
- Fully grasp the applications of IoT in smart cities.
- Introduce a fresh perspective into public sector innovation requirements.
- Identify gaps in the current public sector organization.
- Address sources of dissatisfaction with the public sector regarding public sector services.
- Learn to identify and respond to the intent of the city.
- Understand how to upgrade public sector services effectively.
- Acquire foundational knowledge of the Internet of Things IoT.

Targeted Competencies:

Upon completion of this smart city innovation for sustainable urban living training, participants' competencies will:

- Urban Planning and Design Strategies.
- Sustainable Infrastructure Development.
- Renewable Energy Integration.
- Smart Transportation Systems.
- Data Analytics and Decision Making.
- Community Engagement and Participation.
- Environmental Management and Conservation.
- Policy Development and Governance.
- Technology Integration and Interoperability.

Course Topics:

Unit 1: Foundations of Smart Cities:

- Defining and Understanding Smart Cities.
- Factors Shaping Smart Cities: Technology, Human, and Institutions.
- The Philosophy and Goals of Smart Cities.

Unit 2: Public Sector Innovation in Smart Cities:

- Drivers for Innovation in the Public Sector.
- Leverage E-Government Initiatives.
- Types of Innovation in the Public Sector.
- Integrate IoT into the Public Sector.
- Measure Smart City Performance.

Unit 3: Creating an Innovative Culture in Public Sector Organizations:

- Embrace the Concept of Intent-Based Networking.
- Foster Innovation and Smart Mobility.
- Smart Energy Solutions for Smart Cities.

Unit 4: Human-Smart Device Interaction in Smart Cities:

- Understand Artificial Intelligence AI Applications.
- Balance Privacy Concerns in the Public Sectors Use of Smart Devices.
- Leverage Social Networking for Public Sector Services.

Unit 5: Putting Citizens at the Heart of Smart Cities:

- Prioritize Citizen-Centric Approaches.
- Interpret and Meeting Citizen Needs.
- Adapt to Citizen Requests.
- Shape the Smart City Profile from the Resident's Perspective.