

The time for cities

Twenty-five years into this millennium, we stand at the dawn of something extraordinary. Our cities are no longer just places where we live and work – they are becoming living, breathing testaments to human ingenuity and hope. Twenty-five years ago, **we entered the Century of Cities**, sparking a revolution to **future-proof our urban spaces**.

In every vibrant street and bustling square, **change is taking root**. Innovation flows through our neighborhoods like lifeblood, as **technology** weaves seamlessly into the fabric of urban life. Together, we're building something unprecedented: **cities that don't just grow, but flourish**.

The first quarter of this century –the Century of Cities– has shown us **what's possible when vision meets action**. We've transformed concrete jungles into smart ecosystems. We've turned digital dreams into daily realities. We've proven that cities can be **both bigger and better, more connected and more human**.

Yet our greatest chapters **remain unwritten**. The horizon ahead shimmers with **new opportunities** to reshape our urban landscape and **turn bold ideas into brilliant solutions**. As cities rise to meet global challenges, they're stepping into their role as influential world-stage actors. By empowering cities, we're unleashing **their potential to drive change**.

Since 2011, Smart City Expo World Congress has been **a catalyst, an accelerator of this historic transformation**. Here, global pioneers and passionate innovators come together to **craft our urban legacy**. Here, we're not just discussing the future – **we're creating it**. When our cities thrive, they lift us all higher. **We all live better**.

