



PROGRAMME

Side event on “Unlocking Net Zero in Cities Through Sustainable Digital Transformation and Innovative Solutions”

**11 November 2021, Glasgow (and virtual)
10:00 – 11:30 UK time**

Introduction

Implementing digital technologies from the Fourth Industrial revolution (4IR) in cities, such as artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, and digital twins, has tremendous potential in enhancing urban sustainability and management.

From increasing productive capacity for firms to facilitating inclusive clean energy transitions, digital innovations can support cities and communities to accelerate climate adaptation and mitigation actions, achieve net zero and even carbon negativity, and inform policymakers on day-to-day and planning decisions.

However, there are concerns over the growing environmental impacts of digital technologies themselves, from increasing energy consumption of digital infrastructure to the consumption of finite resources of related products and devices.

To fully realize the potential of digital transformation and innovative solutions in accelerating progress towards the targets set in the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs, the ICT sector needs to take leadership and start actively working towards achieving net zero itself, fostering climate resilience, and bringing sustainability to digital solutions and innovation.

The objective of this event is to: highlight the enabling role of digital technologies and innovative solutions in driving carbon net zero efforts in different sectors of cities; and demonstrate how the ICT sector can achieve a sustainable digital transformation.

This side event is jointly co-organized with ITU, IEA, UNFCCC, UN-Habitat and UNEP DTU.

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10:00 - 10:10	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Malcolm Johnson, Deputy Secretary General, ITU▪ Susanne Pedersen, Director, UNEP DTU Partnership
10:10 - 11:25	Panel on Unlocking Net Zero in Cities Through Sustainable Digital Transformation and Innovative Solutions Moderator: Barbara Kolm , Director, Austrian Economics Center & Vice President, Austrian National Bank Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Massamba Thioue, Project Executive, Global Innovation Hub, UNFCCC▪ Jean-Manuel Canet, Vice Chairman of ITU-T Study Group 5, ITU▪ Jordi Peris Blanes, General Coordinator of Urban Strategies and Sustainable Agenda, Mayor's Office of València City Council▪ Emelie Öhlander, Climate Change Action Program Manager, Ericsson▪ Luca Lo Re, Climate Policy Analyst, IEA Questions and Answers
11:25 - 11:30	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Reyna Ubeda, Project Officer, ITU