



Mayors Forum of the World Cities Summit 2025

Theme and Subthemes

The theme of the Mayors Forum 2025 is ***“Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Local Solutions, Global Impact”*** and will guide the discussions for both the Mayors Forum, Young Leaders Symposium and partner sessions. Discussions will revolve around four subthemes.

Subtheme 1a – Delivering Affordable Housing: How can cities enhance / refresh their social compact on affordable housing to make it more accessible to their demographics, in terms of tenure, modality and funding?

Affordable housing remains a cornerstone for building inclusive and resilient cities and communities, yet challenges in accessibility persist. This session will discuss the complexities of housing a city’s population and how cities can better respond to the housing needs of their evolving and diverse communities through various housing modalities, tenure options, and innovative funding mechanisms.

Subtheme 1b – Reliable and Efficient Municipal Services: How can cities develop effective leadership, well-managed municipal services and community empowerment, in order to better address their administrative and organisational needs, as well as the needs of their communities?

Residents need reliable and efficient municipal services for the smooth running of their daily lives. City leaders should ensure that municipal services are well-managed, maintained and funded, to address the needs of their communities. This session will discuss the provision of reliable and efficient municipal services for people and how good city management is pivotal to the process. The roles of good governance and harnessing technology, including how communities can be empowered to actively participate in the smooth running of city/ estate services will be highlighted.

Subtheme 2a – Re-thinking Urban Energy Transition: How do we re-organise cities, neighbourhoods and individual developments to transition smoothly to renewable energy sources?

The transition to renewable energy is a critical step in adapting to climate change and the building of sustainable and resilient cities. It requires a fundamental recalibration of cities’ infrastructure and a rethink of cities’ energy use and management. This session will discuss how cities and their people are geared towards the transition to renewable energy sources in view of climate challenges and the need for continuous city development or retrofitting works.

Subtheme 2b – Journey Towards Urban Water Management: How can cities drive the sustainable, efficient and equitable management of water, and better manage flood risk and storm surges?

Climatic factors and urbanisation increasingly affect the reliable and efficient management of water in cities. This session will discuss how cities can better respond and adapt to dynamic environmental changes through innovative and technological approaches to urban water management.