

Smart Cities

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What is Smart? Smart Cities

Germany Trade & Invest "GERMANY. SMART SOLUTIONS. SMARTER BUSINESS." campaign message highlighting the innovative solutions being developed in Germany that are helping create the smart cities which will drive the global economy.

Smart Cities - Sustainable Centers of the Future

SMART CITIES



Cities are the recognized growth motors of the global economy. Urban centers occupy less than two percent of the planet's surface, but provide homes to half of the world population and generate 70 percent of global GDP. Almost 50 percent of global GDP is generated by just 150 metropolitan regions.

According to the World Bank, around 80 percent of growth forecast in newly industrialized and developing countries will also be produced in cities. Urban centers are also more productive, innovative and environmentally friendly than their rural counterparts.

Germany is playing an active part in shaping the cities of the future. Whether in Hyderabad or Hamburg, German sustainable city activities all have one thing in common: the intelligent deployment of information and communication technologies (ICT) in all aspects of urban life as the starting point for smart, sustainable cities.

Smart Cities in a Changing World

By 2050 the global population will reach 9 billion. More than two thirds of that number will live in cities. In 1800, only three cities - London, Peking and Edo (now Tokyo) - had more than one million inhabitants. A hundred years later, the figure had risen to just 16. Today, there are more than 440 one-million plus cities.

There are now more "megacities" (cities with a population of more than 10 million) than there were one-million cities just over a century ago. In less than three years time there will be around 26 megacities worldwide - of which 22 will be in developing and newly industrialized countries.

The transformations being wrought in these cities are not purely local phenomena, but changes with real global implications. Radical patterns of economic migration, increased population density and the growth of informal communities - springing up across the globe as a by-product of the unrelenting march of urbanization - are asking new and difficult questions of a world in tumult. Increased infrastructural demands are created in terms of adequate water and energy provision, waste disposal and waste water treatment, mobility and transport infrastructure, and health.

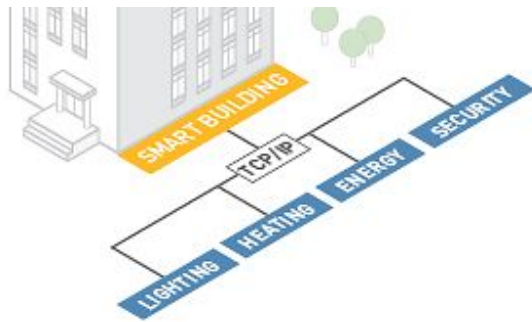
According to the WWF's "Reinventing the City" study, USD 350 trillion needs to be spent on global urban infrastructure over the next 30 years - particularly in the world's small but fastest-growing cities and developing nations.

Smart City Projects

Germany recognizes the crucial importance of cities in safeguarding a sustainable and more prosperous future. The country is actively positioning itself as a lead provider of complete smart technology solutions for the world's cities in a number of projects.

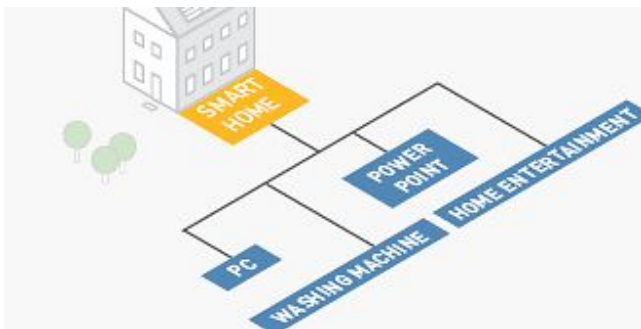
Smart Buildings

SMART CITIES



Smart ICT-based solutions provide the framework for the smart buildings of tomorrow on the road to a sustainable, carbon-neutral economy. Germany is showing the way forward.

Smart Homes



Smart homes usher in an age of intelligent connectivity which will radically change the way we live our lives. Intelligent energy management, smart device networks and supported living are just some of the benefits which lie in store.

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