Key challenges facing the 21st century city

By 2050, as per the United Nations’ (UN) forecast, nearly 70% of the world’s population will be concentrated in urban centres, as compared with 54% in 2014 and 30% in 1950. Around 90% of this increase in the global urban population is expected to occur in Asia and Africa. Such a rapid shift in the rural–urban population distribution, along with increasing utilisation of information and communication technology (ICT), is driving the social and economic transformation of cities.

To continue to flourish, cities will need to address and manage population growth, safety, traffic, pollution, commerce, culture, and economic growth.

Why digital transformation for digital cities

Technology to drive economic growth and improve citizen experiences through:

- Building and implementing operational efficiencies
- An environment that is attractive to businesses for sustainable economic growth
- Secure and Seamless eServices for citizens and businesses
- Sustainable energy-efficiencies
- Agile urban environment planning and business processes to attract investment and promote innovation
- AI and Machine Learning to leverage data and provide deep insights
How Dell Technologies (DT) makes digital cities a reality:

1. Data is one of the most critical elements that will enable the success of a city’s transformation into a Digital City. DT solutions facilitate harnessing of data from existing government systems, generation of new information from online and mobile applications, and conversion of physical data into digital with IoT.

2. By using big-data analytics, cities can turn data into valuable insights and actions. DT’s data management solutions that ensure data connectivity, integrity and completeness fuel predictive analysis of diverse data streams, to ensure the most valuable insights.

3. Dell Technologies solutions enable better citizen services by providing cities with an ability to rapidly develop and deploy applications that will provide users with access to services such as traffic information and navigation, that are optimized through weather, construction, and accidents information fed from other government systems.

4. An agile open-standards based platform, and cloud operating model ensure that the data is stored in a secure yet accessible manner to be easily and efficiently leveraged across various departments and applications.

Dell Technologies is a vital partner for Digital City initiatives. We understand that cities need a phased approach to align technology resources with specific needs of the city. For that reason Dell Technologies engages with our city clients to clearly define:

- Project objectives
- Solution relevance to city challenges and objectives
- Operating model
- Technical and operational realization
- Possible risks and address the cities’ concerns regarding, for instance, reliability, dependency issues, security and data protection

Increasing demand for everything from reliable energy to improved air quality and travel flows will require innovation in our urban centers.