Title: Empower Cities. Empower People

Subject: General

* Governance
* Economy
* Society
* Sustainability
* Data & Tech
* Mobility
* Circular Economy
* Safe citys

Abstract:

Cities have a critical role to play in building a thriving society. Many are already embracing the newest technologies to increase efficiencies and bring down costs. Yet they can only reach their full potential when they become a better place to live. This requires a mature reflection on the evolution of urban development and how to harness technology to provide better services, empower people and build a better future for all

Speakers:

#### [Georgie Barrat](http://www.smartcityexpo.com/en/the-event/media-center/sessions-2017/agenda/-/agenda-actividades/speakers/Georgie-Barrat-/12880)

#### [Gerardo Pisarello](http://www.smartcityexpo.com/en/the-event/media-center/sessions-2017/agenda/-/agenda-actividades/speakers/Gerardo-Pisarello-/12384)

#### [Khandker Mosharraf Hossain](http://www.smartcityexpo.com/en/the-event/media-center/sessions-2017/agenda/-/agenda-actividades/speakers/Khandker-Mosharraf-Hossain-/12849)

#### [Gila Gamliel](http://www.smartcityexpo.com/en/the-event/media-center/sessions-2017/agenda/-/agenda-actividades/speakers/Gila-Gamliel-/12949)

Conference:

well a very good morning everyone to the

seventh edition of the Smart City Expo

well Congress here in Barcelona this is

the world's biggest meeting of city

leaders businesses institutions

academics and social organizations all

here with the one aim to help define the

future of our cities my name is Jordi

Barretts I'm a tech journalist and

broadcaster and it's my great pleasure

to be your host over the next three days

now as a broadcaster in the UK I host a

consumer tech show called The Gadget

Show we're very privileged to be able to

travel around the world and test out the

latest and AI and robotics and and all

things gadgets but as a journalist I

explore a little bit more about how tech

is shaping us both culturally and

socially I write for The Guardian

the mirror tech city news where I also

report on some of the incredible

startups that are coming out of London

London of course being my home and a

city like all cities rely on the

cornerstones of innovation

sustainability and adoption now Smart

City Expo World Congress started with

the question can smart initiatives help

cities flourish good cities actually

help save the planet and each year we

have debated different aspects of this

question so back in 2015 it was all

about what drives urban innovation and

then last year it was about making

cities for citizens how can citizens

change cities themselves this year

however it is all about empowerment yes

expectations of city leadership are

rising by the day and cities themselves

often find themselves on this frontline

and battles over social equality

diversity and entrepreneurship and in

order to tackle these battles we must

foster collaboration between public

administrations

companies academic and research

communities and of course people

in this urban community in the Congress

right now it's a chance for cities to

meet fellow cities to pool their

knowledge and to find leading-edge

solutions really this Congress in the

next three days is about a place to

share and research the best practices to

forge strategic partnerships and

promotes out-of-the-box thinking

empowering people is very essential in

creating not only smart cities but

livable cities so to start with I have

the great pleasure in welcoming three

leaders from around the world who are

each gonna share their vision on what

they think the future of cities could be

so please join me in welcoming to the

stage Gerardo Pizzarelli the deputy

mayor of the Barcelona City Council km

Hussain who is the minister in the

government from Bangladesh and geog Emil

minister for social equality of the

Israeli governments welcome so first up

at the podium is Gerardo P Sorrell Oh

mister PLO is the deputy mayor of

economy and labor digital city and

international relations at Barcelona's

City Council his work involves him in a

strategic planning for the city having

formerly been a professor in

constitutional law at the University of

Barcelona so please give mr. Prosser

Ella a round of applause

[Applause]

thank you good morning to everyone be

very welcome to Barcelona on on behalf

of the City Council I'm very happy to

greet you and to say that this edition

of the Barcelona's mer City Expo has

reached new peaks we are hosting nearly

700 exhibitors more than 700 cities more

than 400 international experts more than

17,000 participants

these figures are incredible and events

like the very special one we were

opening today prove that Barcelona is a

crucial technological half of southern

Europe a reference point in smart urban

development I have to say that the

slogan of the of the expo reflects the

spirit of the city government I

represent we strongly believe that when

we empower cities we also empower people

this is why we struggle for Maalik and

power in an interconnected world in the

21st century as more and more people

come to live in cities urban life is

becoming human life by default it is in

the cities and especially in the cities

of the developing world where the future

of humanity as a whole

will be decided in this context city

administrations have more

responsibilities than ever for the

well-being of the planet we are aware

that the challenges are huge from

economic reconstruction to social

integration from breath available air to

affordable housing and of course there

is a risk of most metropolitan areas

getting trapped in a vicious circle of

social and environmental distress

digitalization as you know is bringing

plenty of opportunities to counter this

some has called

second Renaissance or a revolution so

let's win this revolution how well as

revolution have always been won by the

entrepreneurs the creative people the

most advanced Minds they can help us so

that the new tools such as virtual

reality new industry in the capacity to

generate and manage large quantities of

data serve to improve public policies

but revolutions have also been won by

leaders that stands for the values of

democracy to freedom equality fraternity

and technology no technology as smart as

you can imagine can compensate for

political and moral regression when you

abandon the aim of fighting climate

change or poverty or illiteracy all

sensors models and algorithms become

useless war still they may become even

dangerous so we are interested in data

and high-tech solutions for all no just

for the happy few not to upgrade the

well-off but to push forward those who

are struggling to build and rebuild

their cities we need to turn the planet

of slams of terribly depicted by the

sociologist Mike Davis into planets of

thriving neighborhoods in which basic

needs are covered and people can leave

and learn and love in them our priority

then should be not technologies for

human segregation or just for control

but for human integration and the

quality of life this is the aim of the

Barcelona digital city plan to ensure

that city's citizens industry business

and academia can work together to serve

the people and maximize the social

impact of technology this is what we try

to reflect in our stand which is called

linking talents link it private and

public local and global and talent for

what don't as I said to tackle some of

the most pressing challenges this city

is facing right now

seeing mobility sustainability social

engagement and innovation we have

grouped together municipal projects and

local enterprises that give Barcelona's

solutions to problems that are shared

across the Yerba mirth we also want to

link the talent from Barcelona with the

talent in other parts of the world we

also want to open up corridors of

innovation that allow Barcelona started

to connect to other cities this is why

we are really happy to have here New

York for example with them we have

reached an agreement to launch a joint

challenge the goal to facilitate the

mobility of blind people in streets on a

single platform the call has been

success 35 companies have presented

projects and tomorrow we will present of

the ten finalists but well beyond

politics I have to say that we have a

great city that we love our city some of

you already know it others will discover

it during these days so if you go out

for a stroll when you leave this meeting

obviously don't miss Jules like a

Sagrada família or the Gothic quarter

but if you want you can also can along

the mediatic building where we have a

business incubator of high technological

value that we have just opened and it

will be used to host this cross landing

project or you can also visit the

technological park that we have in one

of the most popular districts of our

cities no worries in any case I

encourage you to explore to share

experiences and objectives and to find

complicities for new projects let's

build together Smarter Cities for a

better life thank you very much and

welcome to Barcelona

[Applause]

thank you very much mr. Pete Sorella

brilliant tips there as well I look

forward to going out and exploring some

abuzz I want my favorite cities okay our

next speaker is mr. km he's saying mr.

Hussein is a member of parliament from

Bangladesh as an MP he's the Minister

for local government Rural Development

and cooperatives and received a

journalist associate Association Award

for his contribution to the trade and

industrial sectors of Bangladesh please

give a warm welcome to mr. Hussein

[Applause]

honorable chair honorable ministers

honorable mayors and city leaders

intellectuals

Technol technologies distinguished

delegates and participants ladies and

gentlemen good morning it is indeed a

pleasure to be here in an event like a

Smart City Expo and World Congress 217

in a historic city like Barcelona I

would like to thank Shira Barcelona the

organizers of this Expo and World

Congress for inviting me to attend this

event dear friends the Smart City

concept integrates information and

communication technology ICT and radius

physical devices connected to the

network to optimize and if we optimize

the efficiency of admin services and

maintain an interface with citizens on a

regular basis

smart cities allows city official to

interact directly with both community

and city infrastructure and helps

monitor what is happening in the city

and how the city is evolving ladies and

gentlemen we all know that world has

entered into an era urban era presently

more than 50% of world population lives

in urban areas while cities could be

prosperous economic centers and

providers of greater access to

opportunities it could also bring

devastating results for mankind and its

habitat if not planned and managed with

effective policy technology and the

sense of social justice in other words

organization entails with

new opportunities as well as many

challenges it is important to note that

cities docu PI's only 2% of our surface

but they accommodate about 50% of the

world population consume 27% of the

total generated energy and are

responsible for 80% of the greenhouse

effects it is therefore imperative to

efficiently exploit opportunities and

address challenges that cities face in

terms of urban planning economic and

social development respected audience

it is now evident that the traditional

approach to urban development anchored

in hard infrastructure building will not

be enough for defeat for defeating for

sustainable and inclusive development

the traditional approach is technology

shy restricted in scope and outdated in

a sense that it is not yet true holistic

and state-of-art approach the smart

cities types to use measures like

innovations better planning a more

prepare participatory approach higher

energy efficiency better transport

solutions until intelligent use of ICT

etc a smart city not only optimizes the

quality of urban life but also

contributes in improving governance

indicators like accountability

transparency effectiveness enforcement

of law control of corruption and so on a

successful smart city sets example for

replication in order in other urban

areas and souls dynamism to adjust this

merging

ladies distinguished delegates in

Bangladesh harmonization is both rapid

and inevitable our capital city Dhaka is

the world's most densely populated city

with more than 10,000 people living part

a square kilometer the urban population

in Bangladesh is projected to reach 112

million by 2050 which was only 43

million include 2011 given the rapid

pace of population growth Bangladesh has

no option but to make appropriate

endeavors that can best address the

challenges of rapid urbanization we

pursue towards compact networked

resilient competitive inclusive and

smart urban development quite logically

Bangladesh is well connected to the idea

of bridging smart cities one of our core

development objective is known as

digital Bangladesh who is a branding of

government for transforming Bangladesh

into an ICT higher 3 ICT based

priorities of digital Bangladesh namely

developing human resources ready for

21st century connecting citizens in a

way most meaningful to them and taking

services to citizens doorsteps

although Bangladesh has not yet

officially launched any smart city

program some elements do exist will

which will facilitate is journey towards

formally building a smart cities in the

country the pivotal digital Bangladesh

program will provide the basic ICT

platform to this end let me illustrate a

few of the initiative hadn't undertaken

by our government

through digital Bangladesh in recent

years the administration is a service or

by all public information is being made

accessible in our mother language Bangla

through electronic means and mobile

phones all officials notifications and

circulars are being published online

development of a national service system

is underway under this system public

offices will be connected to even rural

level for online delivery services for

efficient documentation of public

offices efiling system has been

introduced the government has formalized

encouragement of innovations through

forming an innovation team in all public

offices in September 2014 our government

has launched a citizen services since

2009 applications for admission

registration at public universities

colleges and all public medical colleges

are being done through SMS services all

public examination results are also

being delivered through new text

messages to mobile phones since 2009

wheels of various public utilities such

as electricity gas and water can now be

paid online or via mobile phones ladies

and gentlemen accelerating growth

empowering citizens is the theme of our

ongoing medium-term development plan

known as seventh five-year plan each has

adopted a broad-based strategy of

inclusiveness with a view to empowering

every citizen to participate in full and

to benefit from the development process

at present we have eleven city

corporations and 328 municipalities

functioning as an urban local bodies

we firmly believe that empowering Artman

local bodies will lead to empowering

people and vice versa all urban local

bodies are now run by elected

representative city corporation in big

cities have been empowered with the

specific authority to coordinate with

other government departments are being

in the city areas citizens are engaged

in different committees and forums for

better management of services and

generation of innovative ideas for

innovative ideas will consider urban

local bodies as people's closest

organizations

therefore we from our national budget

regularly provide financial support for

implementing their development programs

at the impart imparting people in free

and fair election with citizens voting

right bringing service to their

doorsteps participation in development

privatization and a special provision

for low-income groups are insured

resulting in improved accountability and

transparency ladies and gentlemen my

ministry provides support and work

closely with urban local bodies in an

area of planning infrastructure

development service expansion and

capacity building now I'd like to share

some of the complex realities that are

our van Lowe kal bodies face today

in meeting citizens need

rapid urbanization and coping with rapid

development in ICT requires large

investors investment considering

country's economic development and

financial capacity of our city

corporation who need to explore

affordable financial options climate

change has posed a challenge to our

development especially in urban areas we

need to equip our cities with

appropriate technologies and know-how

for undertaking adapted and mitigating

interventions different departments

manage different services in city areas

each department has their own database

and program for use of ICT in delivering

services to improve efficiency our city

corporations need to learn more about

integration of these services

distinguished participants considering

today's local and global realities I

firmly believe cities have no better

option but to transform them into a

smart ones a smart city Congress

facilitates continuing interactions

amongst policymakers city leaders and

planners it also helps maintain network

based on their requirements a smart City

movement support introduction of

citizens improves City Rollers level of

satisfaction and contribution in

including improving governance

indicators

I hope participants will through their

active engagement reciprocity enrich

themselves to achieve a common goal of

sustainable development let me offer my

heartfelt congratulations to the

organizer for initiating this successful

movement thank you

[Applause]

thank you very much mr. Hussein for

sharing some of the initiatives you've

been trialing in Bangladesh and using

okay our final speaker to open this

Congress is Julie Kamil here's the

Minister for social equality of Israel

she does a wide range of activities from

promoting minority-owned businesses to

supporting senior citizens whilst also

running the digital Israel project so

please welcome to this podium miss Kamil

[Applause]

dear friends Shalom and good morning I

am delighted to be with you as Israel's

first ever Minister for social equality

the digital transformation and the way

now is one of the greatest revolutions

society had witnessed since the

Industrial Revolution swiftly and

quietly history has been written before

our eyes our wealth our treasure is our

human intellect Israel has become known

as a startup nation we must strive to be

a startup nation of equal opportunity

for all in the first decade of our state

we made the barren desert bloom with

orange trees and drip systems now from

cyber security to digitizing government

and medical services we are making our

desert

bloom hi-tech Israel has been the

forefront of discoveries and innovations

in the field of technology medicine and

science knowledge which we have shared

with people all over the world this is

why I'm happy to be with you here today

at the 2017 Smart City Expo World

Congress this is the future ladies and

gentlemen it used to be the joke graphic

distance was an excuse for inequality in

today's digital world geography has

become irrelevant the digital

transformation our society is undergoing

gives us the tools to give all our

citizens equal opportunities I strongly

believe the digital technology is a

central key to reducing social gaps in

society a member of the d5 top digital

countries Israel is also a world leader

in the field of cyber security we are

making our major cities both smart

cities and cyber protected cities this

will ensure that a citizens personal

information stays just that protected

from cyberattack to progress with the

quality of life offered by the digital

world we need to be sure that our smart

cities are protected like conventional

terror attacks cyber weather does not

only severely disrupt a country's

economy but can cause physical harm to

ordinary civilian

going about their day-to-day life since

its founding Israel has been committed

to a vision of a society of equal

opportunity our Declaration of

Independence guarantees equal rights for

all citizens regardless of gender

ethnicity or religion to ensure equal

opportunities for all we have also

launched the first ever digital region

in the middle of the Negev desert it is

amazing to be turning the remotest part

of the country which make up nearly 40%

of the territory of the state into a hub

for innovation in IOT it crosses

geographic regions from cities to rural

areas from the north to the south from

government to medicine to education and

most important crosses all sectors of

society it brings people of different

faiths different ethnicities different

cultures together and on a level playing

field this is at the heart of my vision

to use technology to advance all sectors

of society and this is something which

can be done in Barcelona throughout

Spain and all over the world as in other

countries around the world

major gaps exist in the technological

infrastructure of our cities some of

which are top international high tech

centers like Tel Aviv which has one

smart et's prize right here in Barcelona

while others lag behind we are creating

broadband digital plan

forms to ensure that there is an equal

and uniformed technological

infrastructure for all cities throughout

Israel we have set a goal that by the

end of next year no city in Israel will

lack basic digital abilities including

advanced website CRM system Facebook and

GIS we are also creating an innovation

community in the field of smart cities

which will include the latest in

state-of-the-art companies cities

members of the academia and government

officials who deal in the field this

initiative will promote the already

stronger eco system we have in Israel in

the area of smart cities Digital Israel

provides online courses with top

instructors from the most respected

educational institutions around the

world to anyone anywhere in Israel

moreover we will not leave anyone behind

including those with disabilities we are

committed to a society where we use the

possibilities offered by technology so

that people with disabilities as well as

special needs can lead an independent

life as possible

today thanks to technological advance

this vision is a reality given the

proper tools every city can be a smart

city and for the first time ever digital

Israel is on display in the fairgrounds

here today

along with a sampling of some of the top

startups in Israel and leading

municipalities we don't just say we want

to share our knowledge with our friends

the world over we mean it thank you very

much

[Applause]