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## **BELARUS AS ONE OF THE LEADERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMART SUSTAINABLE CITIES IN THE REGION**

In February 2019, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Forum "Smart sustainable cities: technological trends, success stories and future prospects" was held in Minsk for the first time. The Forum was jointly organized by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and OJSC "Giprosvjaz" with the support of the Ministry of Communication and Informatization of the Republic of Belarus. The ITU Training "Key performance indicators for smart sustainable cities to achieve the SDGs" was held together with the forum.

The event considered technological trends and prospects, security and privacy, standardization and key performance indicators in the context of achieving the SDGs. Presentations were made by representatives of the Government of Moscow, the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus, UNDP Belarus, the BOMA consortium, UN-Habitat, ITU, Huawei, Nokia and research organizations in the CIS region.

The event caused a wide response among the audience and has been held annually since then. The content of the forum is constantly being modernized in accordance with the development of this direction in the region. Together with the forum, meetings of the Regional Groups of ITU-T Study Groups for Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus are held, where experts work out in more detail the issues of standardization of technologies, and also prepare contributions from countries for their subsequent defense at the meetings of the Study Groups at ITU headquarters.

The Forum «Smart Sustainable Cities: social, economic and governance perspectives» will be held in Minsk, Republic of Belarus, from 15 to 17 February 2022 for the fourth time. The forum will bring together successful cases from concepts and strategies to the implementation of specific technological solutions for citizens, city management and business. The Forum "Smart Sustainable Cities: social, economic and governance perspectives" will be held in Minsk, Republic of Belarus, from 15 to 17 February 2022. Detailed information is located on the [website](#), [registration](#) is required to participate.

On the eve of the event, we talked with Alexander Mokryagin, Head of the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Communications and Informatization of the Republic of Belarus and Elena Shor, Deputy Head of the Department of the implementation of state ICT projects and procurement of the Ministry of Communications and Informatization of the Republic of Belarus.

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