

# Preparing Cities for the AI-Enabled Citiverse

## From Strategic Vision to Practical Readiness

### Background

Cities are entering a new phase of digital transformation where AI, spatial intelligence, immersive technologies, and digital twins are converging into the emerging “**citiverse**”. As local and regional governments face increasing challenges linked to climate change, urbanization, infrastructure, and public service delivery, **there is growing interest in how these technologies can support more resilient, efficient, and participatory cities**. However, many cities still face challenges related to governance, interoperability, financing, data management, and institutional readiness.

This session presents the **Global Initiative on AI and Virtual Worlds – Discovering the Citiverse** and selected tools for LRGs. The **Global Initiative on AI and Virtual Worlds is a global multistakeholder platform which aims to advance the AI-enabled citiverse where AI, spatial intelligence and digital twins converge to deliver real-world impact**. The Initiative brings together governments, industry and the UN system to promote safe, open and interoperable ecosystems.

### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN



A strategic framework for navigating the AI-enabled citiverse



Policy, governance, security and trust in virtual and immersive environments



Practical readiness assessment for cities



Assessing viability, measuring impact and aligning with SDGs and the New Urban Agenda



Tools, best practices and partnerships

### SPEAKERS



#### Teppo Rantanen

Executive Director of Economic Policy, Competitiveness and Innovation, City of Tampere, Finland



#### Christina Yan Zhang

CEO, The Metaverse Institute

### WHAT YOU WILL TAKE AWAY

- Gain a clearer understanding of the opportunities and challenges associated with the AI-enabled citiverse.
- Learn about governance and policy considerations shaping virtual worlds and urban AI ecosystems.
- Explore practical readiness tools that cities can use to assess their current capacities.
- Identify key actions needed to move from strategy to implementation.