

## DIGITAL INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT. THE CASE OF GLYFADA MUNICIPALITY.

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***“As contradictory as it sounds, AI can help cities become more people-centric”***

*Bruno Lanvin, President of the Smart Cities Observatory*

### **Abstract**

*Digital transformation is the vehicle to change how the state designs processes, implements actions, serves citizens and solves problems. Cities, the cell of human activity, utilize technology that is now an integral part of all. Digital innovation in local government can lead to the improvement of public sector services, reduction of bureaucracy, increased transparency, participation and efficiency.*

*Although technology is a necessary structural element for a smart city, technology is not what makes a city smart. The priority of the new digital strategy is transforming cities and communities into smart and sustainable ones in which citizens enjoy living and working. Smart, sustainable cities are a holistic approach to cities that harnesses the potential of technological development to achieve sustainable development goals.*

*A smart city that compromises the ability of present or future generations to meet demands by exceeding environmental constraints is not ingenious. The key functions of smart sustainable cities create local initiatives that improve the quality of life and finally this is a factor of competitiveness. The Municipality of Glyfada demonstrates successful digital innovation and sustainable development initiatives through the implementation of projects and actions providing sustainable solutions to local challenges to improve the quality of life of its residents.*

**Keywords:** *Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs); Digital Transformation; Digital Innovation; Digital Transformation Bible 2020-2025; Smart Sustainable Cities; Municipality of Glyfada.*

### **Methodological Approach**

This study adopts a qualitative methodology that combines a foundational literature review and digital ethnography to examine the role of digital innovation in promoting sustainable development within local government, with a particular focus on the Municipality of Glyfada.

The article provides an overview of key frameworks and previous applications of digital innovation, sustainable development and local government by drawing on relevant studies and publications from both international and Greek sources.

Initially, a comprehensive review of existing literature was conducted using a variety of academic sources, including journals, books and conference proceedings, with keywords related to “digital innovation AND smart and sustainable cities” up to 2025.

More than 50 articles were identified, along with additional books and papers. Prominent authors in the field were noted based on the frequency of their publications. The literature review was further expanded by integrating additional resources, which enriched the study by providing a more thorough perspective on the topic. These additional sources include recent studies and data that enhance the understanding of the challenges and opportunities in smart and sustainable urban development.

Incorporating digital ethnography, the analysis focuses on examining the digital platforms of the Municipality of Glyfada, assessing online communication, citizen engagement and documents related to the municipality's strategic plans for integrating digital innovation in sustainable governance.

This methodological approach offers a preliminary understanding of how smart technologies and digital strategies are shaping sustainable local governance, providing actionable recommendations for future improvements.

## **Objective**

The objective of the study is to examine the role of digital innovation in sustainable development within local government, focusing on the Municipality of Glyfada. The aim is to assess the digital strategies and intelligent technologies used to promote sustainable governance, as well as to understand the impact of these strategies on citizen engagement and the achievement of sustainability goals. Specifically, the study seeks to explore how digital platforms and communication strategies influence governance and citizen interaction, identifying challenges and opportunities for improving digital governance at the local level.

## **Sections' analysis**

### ***Digital Transformation in Local Government***

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the adoption of digital solutions, highlighting the role of digital transformation as a tool for sustainable development and support for citizens and enterprises. By utilizing technologies like artificial intelligence, big data and the Internet of Things (IoT), efforts are directed toward optimizing processes and advancing the development of smart cities.

The National Strategy for Digital Transformation, as outlined in the Digital Transformation Bible 2020-2025, sets seven key objectives aimed at creating a more efficient and flexible public sector. Particular emphasis is placed on upgrading digital services for citizens, utilizing public data and promoting digital innovation on a broader scale.

The Digital Transformation Bible serves as a primary guide for addressing challenges in digital governance, focusing on coordination to effectively implement a unified strategy and achieve common goals. By combining digital transformation with sustainable development principles, public authorities can enhance social well-being, economic growth and environmental protection. The synergy of digital innovation and local governance can foster smarter, more transparent communities, improving citizen participation and strengthening trust in public authorities.

The digital transformation strategy seeks to provide horizontal digital tools to all local government organizations while allowing each region, city or community to adopt a specialized digital strategy tailored to its local needs.

Digital progress in local government brings substantial reforms that improve citizens' quality of life. Examples include platforms for organizing and managing data, electronic

payment systems for municipal fees, vehicle management, smart city guides, and cybersecurity infrastructure. These innovations enhance efficiency, promote sustainability and increase citizen engagement.

Cities like Switzerland and Sweden have developed apps that enable citizens to pay taxes and report complaints through mobile devices (Gigauri et al., 2023). Amsterdam stands out as a smart city promoting smart energy and resource management, collaborating with the private sector to develop green and digital infrastructures (Saeed, S. et al., 2023). Barcelona has integrated IoT technologies for traffic management, air quality monitoring and waste management, reducing CO2 emissions and promoting sustainability. Leaders in digital governance include Tallinn in Estonia and Singapore. In Tallinn, citizens use online applications for services such as tax filing, voting and accessing government services, while Singapore employs real-time monitoring technologies to manage emergency responses, such as natural disasters, ensuring citizen safety (Saeed, S. et al., 2023).

In Greece, the Municipality of Trikala stands as a model of digital innovation, featuring smart traffic management through IoT systems to reduce congestion, electronic platforms for citizen requests regarding technical issues and the pilot operation of driverless buses.

### ***The Smart City as a Model of Sustainable Development***

Technology, although a necessary structural element for a smart city, is not the defining factor that makes a city smart or intelligent. A smart city that compromises the ability of present or future generations to meet their needs by exceeding environmental limits cannot be considered truly intelligent. It's required continuous and intensive collaboration among political leadership, public administration, the private sector, voluntary organizations, and citizens. With the development of digital infrastructure and the collaboration of all stakeholders, smart cities can become models of sustainability and innovation, offering better services and prospects to citizens.

Leadership, citizen participation and technological innovation are the key pillars for achieving sustainability (Banerjee P.,2025). Smart cities arise from the utilization of communication and digital networking technologies and from understanding the city as an environment of creativity and innovation (Komninos, 2006).

The term «smart city» is used to describe an area where the local innovation system is supported and upgraded through digital networks and applications. By using information and communication technologies, the innovation system gains greater depth and reach, while its functions become more transparent and effective. The city gains innovation capacity, which translates into competitiveness and prosperity. A smart sustainable city meets the needs of its current residents with the support of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) ensuring that the ability of other people or future generations to meet their needs is not compromised and thus local or environmental limits are not exceeded (Höjer M., Wangel J. 2014).

Technology is key of supporting the participatory processes and knowledge generation necessary for sustainable city transformations. Technological systems should serve as tools for engagement and learning, empowering citizens and city managers alike (Banerjee P.,2025). Two essential elements of smart cities are the innovation system (local/regional), which directs the creation of knowledge and technologies within local entities (such as businesses, universities, technology centers and incubators) and digital information and knowledge management tools, which enable information exchange, communication, decision-making, technology transfer, and collaborative innovation.

Furthermore, robust institutions assist public administration in minimizing corruption, encouraging participatory decision-making, improving effectiveness, efficiency and

transparency, granting public access to information, promoting collaboration, and ensuring the enforcement of laws for sustainable and inclusive development. The institutional aspect is crucial, as institutions, by establishing a conducive administrative environment, can eliminate legal obstacles and convert a city into a smart one through integrated governance, transparent practices, strategic communication, networking and partnerships (Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2018).

Human capital is also a key element of the smart city. It is through human capital that the city acquires knowledge, skills, creativity and social awareness (Komninos, N., 2013).

A sustainable city provides safe housing, affordable transportation systems for all, protection from natural disasters, air quality management, waste management, development of green spaces, reduction of environmental impact, protection and preservation of natural and cultural heritage and ensures the quality of life for all, including vulnerable groups such as the elderly, women, children, people with disabilities, and the poor.

Essentially, it is a holistic approach to cities that leverages technological advancements to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The role of cities is highlighted by the 11th of the 17 United Nations SDGs: “Sustainable Cities and Communities”. In 2019, the European Commission introduced the 17 SDGs of the UN as a core theme of its policy agenda under the name “European Green Deal” which plays a leading role in current and future reforms in Europe and is linked to its Digital Agenda.

### ***Smart City Index***

The Smart City Index is a global ranking of smart cities. This year’s index was created by the IMD World Competitiveness Center’s Smart City Observatory in collaboration with the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO) in Seoul, South Korea. The report ranks 142 smart cities worldwide based on data analyzed by researchers and survey responses from 120 residents in each city.

The study provides an overview of how a city’s infrastructure and available technologies affect its performance and residents’ quality of life. This year’s index highlights that 7 out of the top 10 smartest cities in the world are in Europe, with the remaining 3 in Asia. In previous years, with the exception of Singapore, Asian cities were far from the top; however, they now seem to be gaining ground. Asia has 5 cities in the top 20, and their growth rate is becoming increasingly rapid.

With rare exceptions, the top 20 smart cities are located in regions with relatively stable social and economic environments, even amid global uncertainty. Additionally, the high rankings of these cities are associated with initiatives aimed at improving citizens' overall quality of life, such as the development of green spaces and the expansion of cultural and social interaction opportunities. The top-ranking cities implement innovative strategies to attract talent, promote sustainability investments, and address long-term issues related to geographic disparities and inclusion. This could explain why Switzerland holds 3 of the top 10 positions.

Athens’ results have become increasingly discouraging over the years, reaching an all-time low this year by ranking 120th. Athens’ indicators are dangerously low, with citizen participation, recycling, and education being pressing issues. Healthcare infrastructure and safety are also concerns for Athens’ residents.

At the same time, the Arcadis Sustainable Cities Index 2024 ranks Athens among the 100 most sustainable cities in the world, securing the 51st position. The 2024 Sustainable Cities Index by Arcadis evaluates 100 cities worldwide based on four pillars: Planet, People, Profit and Progress. The 6th publication of the report since its launch in 2015 includes 67 metrics that highlight the evolving understanding of urban sustainability. Key benchmarks include air

pollution, waste management, and investments in low-carbon infrastructure, as well as factors such as economic performance, social equality and resilience to natural disasters.

The Greek recovery and resilience plan, Greece 2.0, includes an initiative with an investment in “Smart Cities” highlighting a national, European and global challenge related to both digital and green transitions. This initiative will fund 17 municipalities across the country, including 16 municipalities with populations over 100.000 and the Municipality of Trikala, which serves as a model “smart municipality”.

**Table 1: Greece Smart City Ranking Over Time**



### ***Digital Innovation Strategies for Sustainable Development in Local Government – A descriptive introduction***

Digital innovation strategies are essential for achieving sustainable development in local government, focusing on the three pillars of environmental, social and economic sustainability. These strategies involve implementing technologies that promote sustainability and prosperity for citizens without harming the environment or social cohesion.

Key areas for digital innovation in local government include:

1. Smart Infrastructure Development: Implementing smart technologies in energy and lighting networks to improve efficiency, reduce emissions and conserve resources.
2. Digitization of Services and Governance: Streamlining public services through digital platforms to enhance transparency, reduce bureaucracy and improve citizen engagement.
3. Smart Transport and Sustainable Networks: Utilizing technologies for efficient traffic management and promoting electric mobility to reduce CO2 emissions and support sustainable urban mobility.
4. Environmental Management and Protection: Leveraging sensors and data analysis to monitor air, water and waste, enabling timely environmental protection actions.
5. Enhancing Citizen Participation: Using digital tools to involve citizens in governance, allowing them to monitor sustainability initiatives and provide feedback.
6. Supporting Innovative Business Models: Promoting digital innovation in businesses to develop sustainable business models and foster local economic growth.
7. Education and Training: Providing education on digital innovation to empower citizens and businesses, creating a strong ecosystem for sustainable development.

Successful implementation requires collaboration between local authorities, citizens, businesses and academic institutions. Effective governance and a unified strategy are crucial for integrating digital technologies into sustainable solutions, ensuring a prosperous and sustainable future for local communities.

## **Challenges and Opportunities from digital innovation in sustainable local development**

The Smart Cities harness innovative technologies for the sustainable development however the implementation is accompanied by certain threats and weaknesses that could negatively affect the effectiveness and sustainability of these initiatives.

A significant threat is cybersecurity, as digital solutions for managing smart cities increase their exposure to data security risks. Cyberattacks can impact critical functions and cause the leakage of sensitive data, undermining citizens' trust (National Cybersecurity Strategy 2020-2025).

Another serious threat is the limited financial budgets for the implementation of sustainable and smart development projects. Local authorities often face difficulties in financing technological solutions, which delays progress and limits innovations. Remaining on financial threats, it is worth mentioning the increasing cost required for the continuous monitoring of technological trends, as rapid developments in the technology sector render many systems outdated within a short period of time. In fact, the high cost of implementation and maintenance is a fundamental weakness. The application of digital technologies often requires significant initial investments, which may act as a deterrent for local authorities (Nam, T., Pardo, T. A., 2011).

A threat is also the lack of awareness or understanding of the advantages that smart cities offer, which can provoke reactions from citizens. Residents may feel their personal data being violated or fail to understand the usefulness of new technologies, leading to dissatisfaction (Nam, T., Pardo, T. A., 2011). The slow adoption of technologies and resistance to change from traditional systems to new technologies is another significant weakness. Authorities and citizens often hesitate to adapt to new technologies, which delays project progress.

Moreover, citizens may face employment inequalities due to unequal access to new technologies. Digital technologies may displace low-skilled jobs, while new opportunities are not equally distributed. Digitization tends to favor large businesses and high-income groups, exacerbating employment inequalities and access to services (Digital Progress and Trends Report 2023).

Thus, digital illiteracy constitutes a serious weakness. Unequal access to technology creates social exclusions, especially among the elderly, vulnerable groups, and residents of remote areas. Digital illiteracy limits the effective use of digital services by citizens (Van Deursen & Helsper, 2015). While internet access is increasing, the gap between high- and low-income countries is widening. Only 25% of residents in low-income countries had internet access in 2022, limiting development opportunities (Digital Progress and Trends Report 2023). Staying within the human resources aspect, the lack of skilled professionals for implementing digital innovation projects is a major weakness. Local authorities may struggle to find staff with the necessary expertise to manage and maintain digital systems.

Additionally, the rapid development of new technologies often exceeds the ability of legal systems to adapt, leading to unclear legal frameworks that may impact the effectiveness and legality of projects. Inadequate regulations and legal gaps can cause delays in project implementation and create legal uncertainties (Meijer, A. et al 2015).

Last but not least, climate change is a serious threat to smart city infrastructures, as extreme weather conditions such as floods, droughts, and heatwaves can cause significant damage and affect the functioning of smart city infrastructures (Bibri, S. E., Krogstie, J., 2019). To address these challenges, adaptation strategies must be developed that integrate climate change into the design and operation of infrastructures, enhancing city resilience and ensuring their sustainability in the future.

In contrast to the threats associated with digital innovation, there are also significant opportunities that can enhance sustainable local development. Smart cities have the potential

to seize opportunities arising from technological progress, global sustainability trends and available funding. European programs provide significant funds to support sustainable innovation projects. This funding enables local authorities to implement smart solutions without burdening local budgets (European Commission, 2021). Global trends and commitments for sustainable development and emissions reduction create new investment opportunities in green and smart infrastructures. Local authorities can attract investments for projects that align with these policies (United Nations, 2023).

The development of new digital services, such as waste monitoring, smart parking and energy management, can improve citizens' quality of life and reduce the operational costs of cities. The further development of cutting-edge technologies offers tools for optimizing resource management and allows for the prediction of problems and more targeted decision-making (Kitchin R., 2014). The use of technology to enhance transparency in local authorities' processes can increase citizens' trust and participation in decision-making. Citizens feel safer when they know decisions are made transparently (Nam, T., Pardo, T. A., 2011).

The implementation of smart cities through digital innovation provides significant advantages for local communities. Digital platforms reduce bureaucracy and enhance resource management, facilitating the daily operations of local authorities. Automation of processes leads to time and cost savings (Emilio Abad-Segura et al., 2020). Digital systems provide the ability to monitor and control processes and decisions in real-time. This transparency strengthens citizens' trust in local authorities (Meijer, A. et al 2015). Promoting participatory governance is achieved through tools such as smart city applications that allow citizens to actively participate in policy formation and solving local issues. This creates a more participatory form of governance (Nam, T., Pardo, T. A., 2011).

Smart infrastructures, such as lighting, transportation, and waste management systems, reduce energy demands and operational costs. These solutions contribute to improving citizens' everyday lives (Bibri, S. E., Krogstie, J., 2019). Public-private partnerships facilitate the implementation of innovative projects. Through this collaboration, public organizations can leverage the expertise, experience, and resources of the private sector, achieving higher quality and efficiency in the services provided. Public organizations can benefit from the expertise and resources of the private sector (Osborne S. P., 2010).

Compared to other countries, Greek municipalities face significant constraints at financial, legislative, and administrative levels. They are dealing with an economic crisis, lack the ability to legislate for the needs of their local areas, and their administrative flexibility is limited due to strict regulations from the Ministry of the Interior. Despite these challenges, municipalities can leverage modern technologies and participatory processes to innovate and improve their services, enhancing citizens' quality of life. There are many ways to innovate that do not require large financial investments. The Central Union of Municipalities of Greece has highlighted examples from international experience regarding "small smart cities" that achieve an upgrade in quality of life, enhance citizen participation, and promote local development, without the need for significant financial burden (Central Union of Municipalities of Greece, 2023).

**Table 2**

**SWOT Analysis: Digital Innovation and Sustainable Development in Local Government**

<p><u>Strengths</u>                  Increased Efficiency                  Enhanced Transparency                  Promotion of Participation                  Improved Quality of Life                  Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)</p>	<p><u>Weaknesses</u>                  High Implementation Costs                  Digital Illiteracy                  Limited Human Resources                  Slow Adoption of Technologies                  Legal Gaps</p>
<p><u>Opportunities</u>                  EU Funding                  Development of Digital Services                  Public Trust                  Climate Policies                  Emerging Technologies</p>	<p><u>Threats</u>                  Cybersecurity                  Limited Budgets                  Technological Obsolescence                  Citizen Reactions                  Employment Inequalities                  Climate Change</p>

The challenges in the field of cybersecurity for local governments are significant, with the main issues being limited financial resources, technological vulnerabilities, human factors and the regulatory framework (Sk Tahsin Hossain, 2025)

**Case Study**

***Digital Innovation and Sustainable Development in the Municipality of Glyfada***

The quality of life in future cities is emerging as a key factor in competitiveness. In his analysis, Charles Tiebout (1956, Journal of Political Economy) argues that competition between local authorities leads to the optimization of the public goods they provide. As citizens have the opportunity to move to other cities offering better services, local governments are encouraged to meet the needs of their residents. This model offers solutions to the issues of revealing and aggregating preferences for public goods.

Glyfada, one of the most attractive areas in Attica, stands out for its location on the Athenian Riviera, its sea views, and its modern infrastructure. With quick access to central Athens via the Poseidonos and Vouliagmenis avenues and its connection to the tram, it offers conveniences for residents and visitors. The extension of the Metro Line 2 is expected to further enhance connectivity and increase the area's attractiveness. As a result, Glyfada continues to evolve as a dynamic, modern city that ensures a high standard of living for its residents.

The Hellenic Statistical Authority conducts a population census every decade, examining demographic and social characteristics, household composition, and living conditions. Over the past decade (2011-2021), the population of Glyfada grew by 2.63%, making it the second most populous city in Southern Attica, after Kallithea.

The city is a model for sustainable solutions it implements to address local challenges, utilizing partnerships with the private sector and civil society to achieve sustainable development. Its initiatives for digital innovation and sustainable development are communicated through the Municipality's website, social media and the viber group, encouraging active citizen participation in information and decision-making processes.

The use of digital technologies brings citizens closer to local planning and decision-making processes. The development of digital skills can act as a catalyst to strengthen democratic functioning and contribute to local development.

The vision for smart and sustainable cities is a challenge for local authorities. These cities integrate their technological, physical, social and economic infrastructures to harness their collective intelligence, aiming for greater sustainability, efficiency, resilience and justice (Bibri, S. E., Krogstie, J., 2019).

**Table 3**

Sectors and Actions of Digital Innovation in the Municipality of Glyfada

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<b>IntelligentCity</b> Integrated digital services toolkit for public sector entities, focusing on Local Government Organizations	Includes a set of separate applications, each providing additional digital services for citizens, businesses, and municipal staff. The aim of the IntelligentCity applications is to provide the best possible citizen service and serve as a user-friendly tool for municipal services, contributing to their organization and management.
<b>CityCertify</b> Development of a unified digital services platform	Enables citizens to request and receive digital certificates without having to visit the Municipality or the Citizen Service Center in person.
<b>FixMyCity</b>	Modern electronic request reception and management system for citizens.
<b>MarinaWatch</b>	Marina management application.
<b>CemeteryWatch</b>	Cemetery management application.
<b>StoreManager</b>	System for servicing health-related business offices.
<b>FixMySchool</b>	School management application.
<b>SmartBus</b>	Transportation of citizens with a small municipal vehicle to one of the 11 predefined stops, taking them to their destination (within the city's limits) free of charge.

**Table 4**

Sectors and Actions of Sustainable Development in the Municipality of Glyfada

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<b>Environment – Recycling</b>	Waste separation into 10 streams (e.g., branches, construction debris, metals, organic composting, clothes, batteries, paper, tires, lubricants), educational actions for waste separation and placement of recycling bins (blue, brown, yellow).
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Major redevelopment projects including pedestrian streets, bike lanes, parking lots, playgrounds, schools, kindergartens, squares, road maintenance, construction of a special school, elderly care home, over 30 sports clubs, Esplanade a bridge to the beach and underground parking to solve congestion issues for residents and visitors.

<b>Civil Protection</b>	Advanced fire detection system with fixed optical and thermal cameras, AI-driven monitoring, and water tank management on mountains, ensuring resource readiness for crisis prevention and response.
<b>Social Welfare</b>	Social services like open centers for the elderly, "Help at Home" program, social grocery, pharmacy, clinic, canteen, tutoring, free health checks (e.g., Alzheimer's screenings, cardiological check-ups, rapid tests), anti-drug campaigns, sea baths for elderly, access to the sea for disabled individuals and animal adoption awareness campaigns.
<b>Education – Sports – Culture</b>	Summer camps, kindergartens, open university programs, municipal conservatory, library with daily cultural events including festivals, exhibitions, concerts, theater performances and tributes to notable artists.

Glyfada is on a dynamic transformation path, aiming to evolve into a sustainable and smart city. Its efforts focus on improving energy efficiency by utilizing smart infrastructures, such as low-energy lighting, as well as implementing technologies for upgrading urban mobility systems.

The implementation of digital platforms that encourage citizen participation and facilitate administrative processes is a central aspect of its strategy. In this way, Glyfada aims to reduce bureaucracy, enhance transparency, and provide improved services to its residents. At the same time, the city places emphasis on sustainable mobility, promoting the use of electric vehicles and facilitating access to public transportation.

Additionally, the integration of practices to monitor environmental indicators, such as air and water quality, are key goals to support sustainability. The use of data for decision-making is considered critical to strengthening the city's resilience.

Despite these significant initiatives, more data is required regarding the effectiveness of these measures, especially in terms of long-term sustainability and citizen participation, as they are still in the development phase.

## Proposals and Conclusions

Above analysis focuses on the critical aspects of developing smart, sustainable cities, emphasizing the role of local government in digital transformation. Local governments must act as facilitators, coordinators and activators to promote collaboration among stakeholders, ensuring values such as transparency, accountability and responsibility are embedded within the city culture.

Key areas for digital innovation include energy management, environmental monitoring, green space upgrades, smart traffic management and pollution measurement. Enhancing digital skills in public administration is also vital to accelerate the digital transition, particularly in Greece, where challenges like limited broadband in rural areas and low digital literacy remain.

Greece's national plan includes a Smart Cities project, with a €5.1 billion investment aimed at improving connectivity, public sector digitization and digital rights protection. Environmental monitoring, particularly for coastal regions, is crucial for sectors such as tourism and marine biodiversity, with technologies like IoT and AI offering significant advantages for environmental protection.

The successful integration of digital technologies in governance optimizes resource use and enhances service quality. However, achieving the vision of smart, sustainable, and citizen-centered cities requires a collaborative approach involving political leaders, public administration, the private sector, volunteer organizations and citizens.

Cities worldwide, including Greece, align with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 11, focusing on "Sustainable Cities and Communities". Greece's efforts are showcased through initiatives like the Municipality of Glyfada, which continues to lead successful projects in both digital and green transitions.

In summary, creating smart cities is a complex but achievable goal that requires strategic planning, strong leadership and ongoing collaboration among various sectors to ensure sustainable development.

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