Smart City Implementation The Role of Policy Makers and Planners

Presentation by: Ashok Kumar Byanju Shrestha
Mayor of Dhulikhel Municipality
Dhulikhel, Nepal

Smart City?

- Use of digital technology to improve quality of life
- Focus on sustainability, mobility, energy efficiency, waste management, public safety, and governance

It is not just digital, it is about better decisions and governance

Role of Policy Makers

- Setting the Vision: Define clear, local goals
- Policy Framework Development: Develop and enforce policies for smart transport, digital governance, waste, and energy
- Multi-Stakeholder Engagement: Work with government, private sector, universities, and civil society
- Mobilizing Resources: Budgeting and tapping national, donor, and PPP funds
- Legal & Ethical Oversight: Ensure data privacy, inclusion, and equity
- Building Partnerships: Coordinate with universities, private, civic groups etc.

Challenges

Context of Dhulikhel and most of the local governments of South Asia

- Limited Funding
- Lack of Data
- Resistance to Change
- Skill Gap
- Plans and policies
- Coordination Issues(Local/Provincial/ Federal Government)





A city rich in culture, education, and natural beauty

Vision: Combine heritage with innovation to become a model smart city in Nepal













Dhulikhel: Steps Towards Smart City Implementation

- Integrated Urban Development Plan (IUDP)
- Municipal Transport Management Plan
- Adjoining local goals and targets with nation and international standard
- Health Facilities (First healthy city in Nepal declared by WHO)
- •Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning
- •Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Moving towards Digital Era
- Voluntary Local Review on 4 SDGs (SDG 1, SDG3, SDG4 and SDG6)
- Forrest: Initiatives for its Management
- Action Taken for Balanced Environment
- Commitment to Zero Carbon City
- Solid Waste management







A Call to Action

- We, as city leaders, must act as facilitators of change
- As policymakers, our role is to remove barriers, open pathways, and inspire trust

Thank you