# ISO TC 268 "Sustainable Cities and Communities" – in support of cities' transformation.

## Abstract:

The challenges facing cities around the world are very complex and often very specific.  We always need to consider the local and cultural context as cities are all unique and need to retain their character.  That said, feedback we have received has been consistent in that all cities want an overarching framework that they can all use.  This has been reached with international consensus on what best practice means and how to apply it.  It also needs to match up with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. The standards need to ensure these issues, such as energy management, road safety, transport, cyber security, water management, health and governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation, citizens wellbeing including ageing population.

ISO TC 268 collects expression of needs from cities and communities, to help them in their journey towards sustainable development. Their own needs are driving our TC 268 activities and new work items.
We base our strategy in developing standards that support cities in that sense, and thus, we permanently collect feedbacks from their implementation, with the aim to improve our existing standards and develop new ones to fulfil cities and communities' expectations.

To start the process, ISO 37101 Sustainable development in communities — Management system for sustainable development - is the standard we recommend first.  It provides quality management systems that clearly set out the basic requirements that help cities determine their sustainable development needs and strategies.

This standard is then supported by the other standards in the 'ISO 371xx family' that add more specific information, structures and measures that are:

- Open and transparent for decision makers, government, and citizens
- Market-driven for economic prosperity
- Represent all interested parties and stakeholders
- Have technical coherence that is achievable and measurable
- Reached through consensus by all stakeholders
- Achieve national commitment for consistency and comparison."

Thanks to the implementation of these standards, cities and communities have an efficient and robust set of tools to accelerate their transformation.