A Thought Leader on Cities. Tech
A Thought Leader on Cities, Technological Change, Innovation
The world is urban. Over 50% of the world’s population live in cities today. This proportion is projected to increase to 68% by 2050. A staggering 90% of this urban population growth is anticipated to occur in Asia and Africa. Rapid urbanisation presents many challenges but also significant opportunities. Managed wisely, cities have the potential to become drivers of growth and tools for inclusive development.

At the Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities (LKYCIC), Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD), our research aims to stimulate thinking and knowledge on critical issues of cities, bringing together technology, design and policy to develop solutions for effective urbanisation. We collaborate with a wide range of experts and researchers at SUTD and other institutions across different disciplines related to the study of urbanisation and cities.
CENTRE LEADERSHIP

CHAN Heng Chee
Chairman

POON King Wang
Director

Belinda YUEN
Research Director
We want to educate and nurture a generation of urban leaders, urban researchers and urbanologists who are multi-disciplinary, technologically grounded, but above all, humanists, because cities are for the people.

Prof Chan Heng Chee
Chairman, LKYCIC
To coach and teach the next generation of urban researchers, analysts and practitioners through our research and the Master of Science in Urban Science, Policy and Planning.

To create knowledge on urban societies and management through a multi-disciplinary approach, harnessing technological change and effective policy frameworks to improve quality of life and wellbeing.

To collaborate with industry, business and government through joint research projects, conferences and knowledge events to share research findings and drive innovation.

To connect with the global conversation of the scientific community and leading global universities that share the same intellectual goals.

To coach and teach the next generation of urban researchers, analysts and practitioners through our research and the Master of Science in Urban Science, Policy and Planning.
Future of Cities I


Future of Cities examines the breadth of opportunities and challenges for Singapore through 2040. This multi-year research programme investigates questions of how to prepare for the economic transformation of the future, plan for a more sustainable and liveable model of urbanisation, and engage with technology through a deeper understanding of its impact on society and quality of life.
Emerging from the Future of Cities study, Future Digital Economies and Digital Societies examines how economies and societies can remain resilient, inclusive, and cohesive in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It explores questions of accessibility, affordability and adoption at multiple scales, and what it means to create the economic and social value needed to improve lives.


Chen Tianqiao Programme on Urban Innovation: Two Subunits

**Cities and Innovation**

**Cities, Innovation and the Knowledge Economy . Innovation in Government**

The Cities and Innovation Programme has the aim of examining cities and what it means to be innovative in the contemporary period by focusing on the key drivers of innovation and the expected outcomes.

**Smart Cities Lab**

**Building Democratic and Inclusive Marketplaces of Smart Cities Innovations . Empowering Traditional Trades and Forging Sustainable Households with Smart Recycling Platform . Community Engagement - Voices in the City**

Singapore consistently ranks highly as a smart city globally. The Smart Cities Lab explores the intersection between smart cities, people and digital transformation, with specific focus on how innovations scale and their impact on the future of work.

Programme Lead
Dr John Powers

Programme Lead
Mr Poon King Wang
The Lee Li Ming Programme in Ageing Urbanism conducts vital research on the dynamics and impacts of population ageing, arguing for a more integrated environmental, social and spatial approach to identify the connection between the built environment, health and quality of life that can inform the design for age-friendly neighbourhoods and communities.
Programme on Urban Environmental Sustainability

The Programme on Urban Environmental Sustainability adopts social sciences and policy frameworks to study how natural resources, such as energy, are “consumed” in cities and how consumers can adopt sustainable practices through technological/design, policy and behavioural interventions.

RESEARCH


Programme Lead
Dr Harvey Neo

The Programme on Urban Environmental Sustainability adopts social sciences and policy frameworks to study how natural resources, such as energy, are “consumed” in cities and how consumers can adopt sustainable practices through technological/design, policy and behavioural interventions.
Programme on Cities and Urban Science

Coordinated by the LKYCIC, Cities and Urban Science is a university-wide initiative and multi-disciplinary research programme that explores the potential of “big data” and citizen engagement in shaping the future of Asian cities.


Programme Lead
Prof Chan Heng Chee
We collaborate with a wide range of stakeholders and leading institutions in globally relevant locations and disciplines when dealing with real urban problems and issues. Our partners include:

- Singapore academic and research institutions such as the Geriatric Education and Research Institute, Nanyang Technological University, National University of Singapore, Ong Teng Cheong Labour Leadership Institute and Singapore Management University.

- International academic and research institutions such as Aalto University (Finland) International Institution for Management Development (IMD) (Lausanne, Switzerland) to produce the Smart Cities Index, Manuesto Institute for Urban Innovation, University of Chicago, University of Southern California and Cornell University (USA).

- Government agencies such as the Ministry of Communications and Information, Ministry of Health, Ministry of National Development, Building and Construction Authority, Government Technology Agency of Singapore, Housing and Development Board, National Gallery of Singapore, National Research Foundation, National Trades Union Congress, Urban Redevelopment Authority, Social Science Research Council and Tote Board Singapore.

- Private sector and industry partners such as AECOM, CPG Consultants, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, KPMG, Lekker Architects, Tierra Design and Live with AI.

- International organisations such as Asia Society, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) UNDP, UN Habitat, World Bank and World Economic Forum.
Master of Science in Urban Science, Policy and Planning

This 12-month programme is offered by the LKYCIC and SUTD Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Cluster, and integrates coursework with hands-on experience, industry partnerships, and independent research. Students combine advanced social and data science research methods and computational techniques with urban theory, planning and practice to explore current and emerging topics and shape the cities of the future.

Core Focus Areas: Urban Theory | Urban Data and Methods | Urban Practice and Policy