

PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT



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TRAINING CENTER



Introduction

Cities now hold more than half the world's population, and the decisions made about land, transport, housing, and infrastructure shape lives for decades. The Planning for Sustainable Urban Development Course prepares planners, engineers, and public officials to make those decisions with sustainability at the core. Participants learn how to analyse urban systems, apply land-use and mobility planning methods, and integrate climate resilience, green infrastructure, and social inclusion into city plans. Furthermore, the course covers regulatory frameworks, stakeholder engagement, and financing. As a result, delegates leave able to design urban plans that balance growth with environmental limits and community needs.

Planning for Sustainable Urban Development Course Objectives

- Apply sustainable urban development principles aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 11).
- Conduct urban analysis using GIS mapping, land-use surveys, and demographic data.
- Prepare master plans, zoning frameworks, and development control regulations.
- Apply transit-oriented development (TOD) and mixed-use planning principles.
- Integrate green infrastructure, urban greening, and nature-based solutions.
- Assess climate risk and build urban resilience into planning decisions.
- Apply environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA).
- Manage stakeholder engagement and participatory planning processes.
- Evaluate the feasibility, funding, and financing of urban projects.
- Measure urban sustainability performance using indicators and benchmarking tools.

Course Methodology



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- Interactive workshops led by urban planning and sustainability practitioners.
- Case studies of sustainable city projects across regions.
- GIS-based mapping and spatial analysis exercises.
- Group work on master plans and zoning scenarios.
- Simulation of a stakeholder consultation and planning review.
- Site-assessment exercises using sustainability indicator frameworks.
- Capstone project: presenting a sustainable urban development plan.

Who Should Take This Course

- Urban and regional planners.
- Municipal and local government officials.
- Civil engineers and infrastructure specialists.
- Environmental and sustainability officers.
- Real estate and development professionals.
- Consultants and project managers in urban projects.

Planning for Sustainable Urban Development Course Outlines

Day 1: Foundations of Sustainable Urban Development

- Urbanisation trends and their implications for planning.
- Sustainable development principles and SDG 11.
- Urban systems thinking: land, transport, services, and people.
- Regulatory and institutional frameworks for planning.
- Roles of public, private, and community actors.



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- Compact, connected, and inclusive city concepts.
- Exercise: assessing a city's sustainability baseline.

Day 2: Urban Analysis, Land Use, and Spatial Planning

- Data collection: demographic, economic, and spatial.
- GIS mapping and spatial analysis methods.
- Land-use surveys and carrying capacity assessment.
- Master plan preparation and structure.
- Zoning, density, and development control regulations.
- Urban form, density, and public space design.
- Workshop: preparing a land-use plan for a district.

Day 3: Mobility, Infrastructure, and Green Systems

- Sustainable mobility concepts and modal hierarchy.
- Transit-oriented development (TOD) principles.
- Public transport planning and non-motorised networks.
- Water, energy, waste, and utility infrastructure.
- Green infrastructure and nature-based solutions.
- Urban greening, parks, and heat island mitigation.
- Exercise: designing a sustainable mobility corridor.

Day 4: Climate Resilience, Environment, and Society

- Climate risk assessment and vulnerability mapping.
- Urban resilience strategies and adaptation planning.
- Environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA).



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- Air quality, waste management, and pollution control.
- Affordable housing and social inclusion in planning.
- Heritage, culture, and community identity protection.
- Case exercise: building a climate resilience plan.

Day 5: Implementation, Finance, and Governance

- Stakeholder engagement and participatory planning methods.
- Feasibility studies and project prioritisation.
- Financing models: public, private, and blended finance.
- Public-private partnerships in urban development.
- Urban sustainability indicators and benchmarking tools.
- Monitoring, evaluation, and plan revision cycles.
- Capstone project: presenting a sustainable urban development plan.

Conclusion

By successfully completing Planning for Sustainable Urban Development, participants will have acquired practical knowledge of urban analysis, land-use planning, sustainable mobility, green infrastructure, climate resilience, and financing. They will understand how to prepare plans that balance growth, environmental limits, and community needs. In addition, they will gain confidence in stakeholder engagement and implementation governance. Gentex Training Center builds this programme around applied practice, so planners return ready to shape more liveable and resilient cities.





FAQs for the Planning for Sustainable Urban Development course

Q1 What is the "Planning for Sustainable Urban Development" course about?

It teaches how to plan cities that balance growth with environmental and social needs. Participants learn urban analysis, land-use planning, sustainable mobility, green infrastructure, resilience, and financing. The course prepares planners and officials to deliver practical, implementable urban plans.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "Planning for Sustainable Urban Development" course?

It improves the quality and credibility of urban plans and reduces costly planning mistakes. Participants gain spatial analysis skills, resilience and climate awareness, and practical financing knowledge. Cities benefit from better land use, stronger infrastructure decisions, and more inclusive development outcomes.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "Planning for Sustainable Urban Development" course?

Participants gain urban analysis and spatial planning, sustainable land-use and mobility design, climate resilience and environmental assessment, and stakeholder engagement and project financing.



Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "Planning for Sustainable Urban Development" course?

The course covers the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 11), GIS mapping and spatial analysis, land-use surveys and carrying capacity assessment, master plans and zoning regulations, transit-oriented development (TOD), green infrastructure and nature-based solutions, environmental impact assessment (EIA), strategic environmental assessment (SEA), climate vulnerability mapping, urban sustainability indicators, and public-private partnership models.

Q5 How is the "Planning for Sustainable Urban Development" course applied in real-world practice?

Participants apply it by running spatial analysis, preparing land-use and zoning plans, and designing sustainable mobility corridors. They also conduct climate risk and environmental assessments, run public consultations, prioritise projects, and structure financing, turning sustainability goals into approved, funded urban plans.