

Algerian cities are embracing the global trend towards smart city standards, aiming to enhance their competitiveness through infrastructure projects, digitalization efforts, and urban management strategies. Achieving this intelligent transformation necessitates digitalization of public services, training personnel in digital technologies, and implementing smart city projects. However, challenges persist, including unorganized urbanization, environmental degradation, and the need for effective resource management. Research highlights the impact of rapid urban growth, residential transformations, state subsidies, and historical changes on the urban landscape. Successful intelligent metamorphosis requires considering cultural heritage, sustainable housing practices, and the state's role in urban regeneration. The roadmap for smart urban transformation in Algeria demands a comprehensive approach integrating strategic foresight, technological advancements, and adaptive planning. While initial efforts to support digital transformation exist, challenges remain due to a lack of political will and economic diversification. Stakeholder engagement and public participation are crucial for the success and durability of smart-city projects. Engaging the community in decision-making enhances inclusivity, promotes social equity, and better addresses diverse perspectives. To implement smart city initiatives effectively, a robust technology infrastructure is essential. Data governance is crucial for ensuring data quality, value, and security, while addressing privacy and security concerns. International comparative analysis provides valuable insights into common challenges and innovative solutions, such as systematic frameworks for urban data governance. By aligning digital advances with a sustainable and inclusive vision of urban growth, Algerian cities can overcome territorial competition and emerge as examples of contemporary urban living, where urbanity and technology coexist harmoniously.