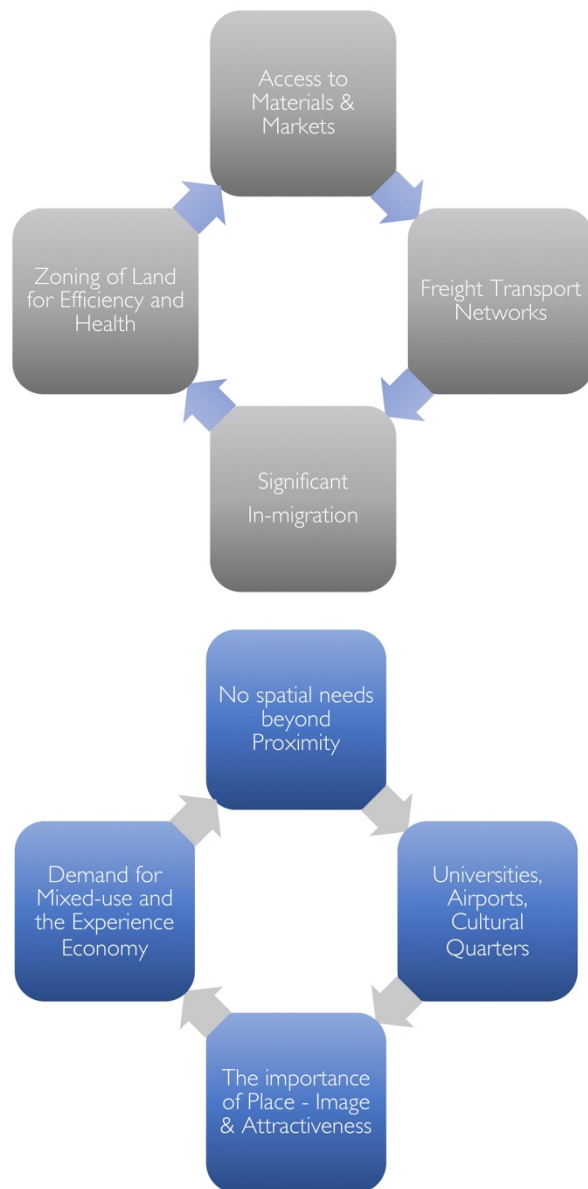




8 April 2019 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

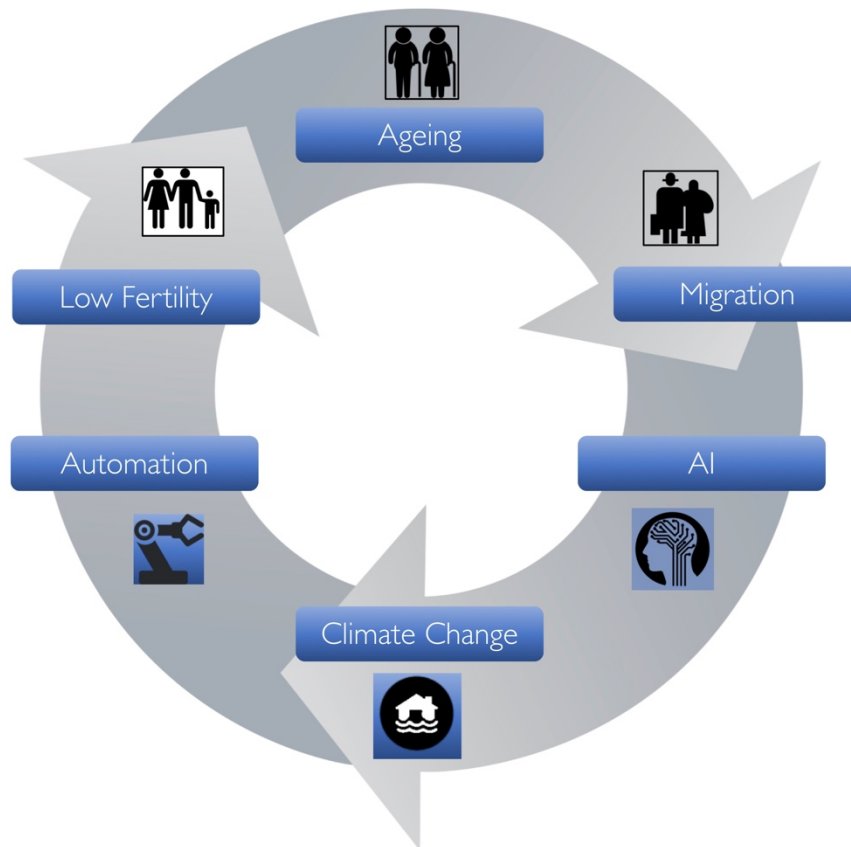
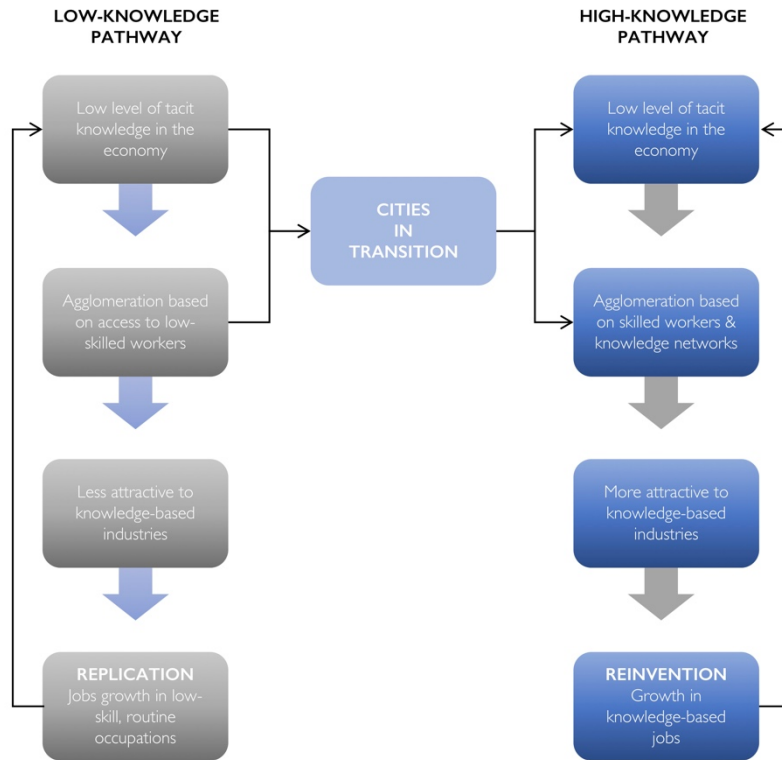
This is the Century of the City. The HABITAT III Regional Report on Housing and Urban Development for the Economic Commission for Europe area demonstrated that, across the member states, cities are experiencing a paradigm shift from the industrial city to the knowledge city.



**The Industrial City:** The industrial economy reshaped cities and regions through development and redevelopment, to produce lifestyles and forms that differed from agrarian and mercantile economies. Manufacturing reorganized access to materials and markets, created and controlled transport networks, attracted large numbers of workers to cities, and set up rigid routines of work reflected in the patterns of spatial and social organization.

**The Knowledge City:** The knowledge economy has new conditions of economic production, social requirements and cultural institutions. Knowledge as a productive capacity has no spatial requirements beyond clusters around universities, science parks and cultural quarters. This encourages the dynamics of agglomeration economies, and has led to the re-emergence of 'place' – the city of streets, squares, stations and supported by an 'experience economy' of cafes, restaurants, cinemas, galleries, cultural venues and shopping centres.

Glasgow is moving from a post-industrial landscape and economy towards a clean, resilient environment and knowledge economy. In doing so, the city is retaining its built and craft heritage while reinventing its profile and capability by focusing on high-knowledge pathways as identified by the *Centre for Cities* in the UK.



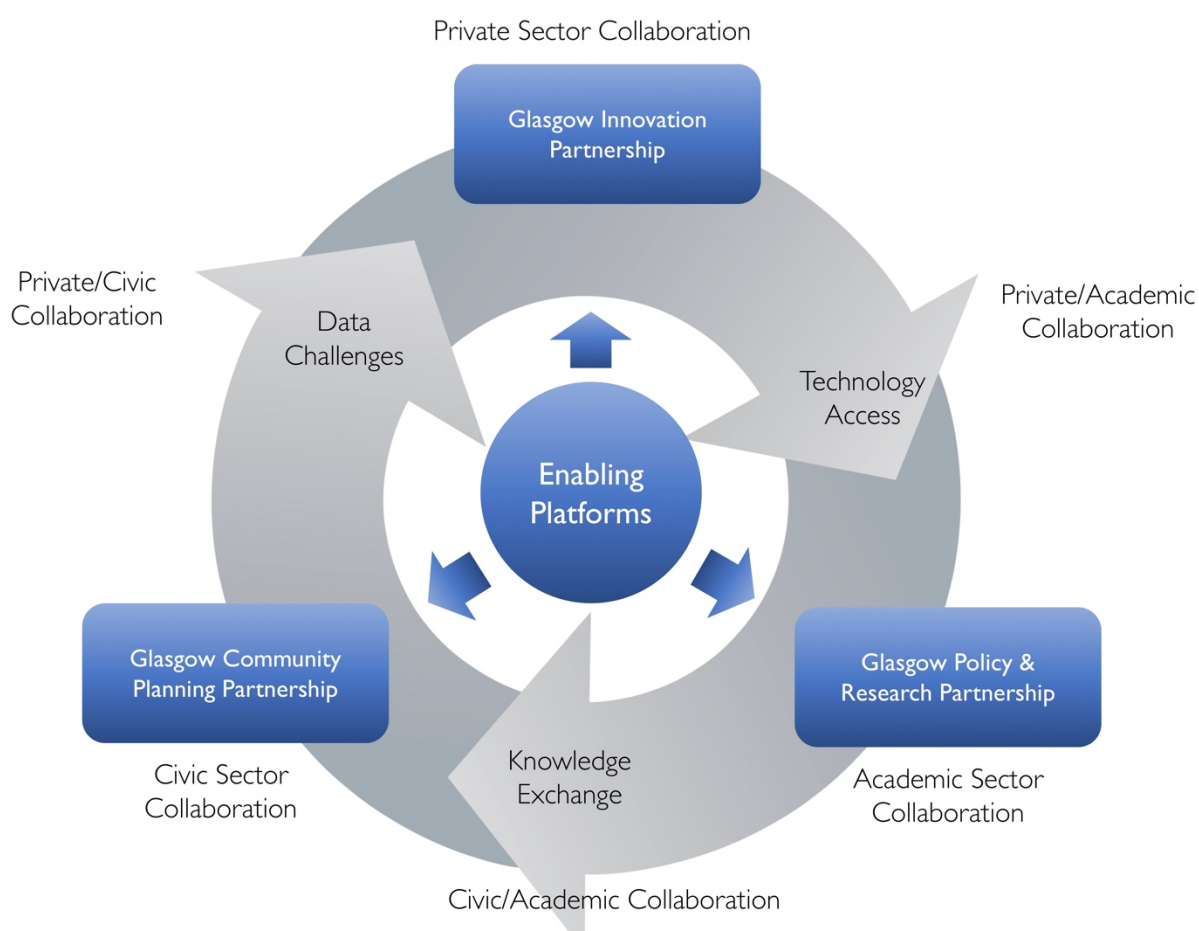
Ageing, low fertility, migration, climate change, automation and artificial intelligence are forces driving change in cities and the paradigm shift to a knowledge base. These forces can combine to be benign or toxic for communities.

Vision, leadership and pragmatic management are needed to respond to these global trends. This is the 21<sup>st</sup> century challenge for government, business and education at national, regional and city level.





Glasgow is creating an 'ecosystem' of civic innovation and creative enterprise to address the challenges faced through demography, climate change and technology identified below.



Current priorities include:

1: Delivery of affordable, accessible homes through social housing stock transfer from the City Authority to a network of community based Housing Associations in pursuit of best-practice consistent with the Geneva UN Charter on Social Housing;

2: An integrated approach to climate resilience resulting in innovative solutions to complex problems – such as the 'smart canal project' as part of a Metropolitan Glasgow strategic water management partnership; and

3: Metropolitan Digital and Economic Strategies, seek to increase inclusive economic growth

Glasgow places Strategic visioning and plan-making within the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Work is on-going in partnership between the City Authority and Glasgow's universities with Scottish and UK Government agencies to align policy and delivery with the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda.



This overview summarises collaborative research undertaken in partnership with the Glasgow Urban Laboratory (GUL) focusing on Glasgow as a reference city and supports the City's intention to collaborate internationally through the UNECE Charter Centre established at GUL.

Underpinning research includes the 'HABITAT-III Regional Report' (2017), 'Scotland's Urban AGE' (2018) and the portfolio of the newly established CityUrbanist\Glasgow initiative in 2019.

For further information contact:

UNECE Charter Centre Glasgow at the Glasgow Urban Lab

cathy.johnston@glasgow.gov.uk  
b.evans@gsa.ac.uk

Glasgow is Scotland's largest city – and works in partnership...

... in a creative ecosystem with the communities, businesses and institutions within the city;

... with the 7 surrounding municipalities towards a metropolitan strategy for the population of 1.8 million (37% of the population of Scotland);

... within the Scottish Government Strategy which has embedded the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals;

... within the networks and frameworks of the UK – notably the core cities group outside of London;

... within UN and EU programme for sustainable development, climate change and economic cooperation.

Glasgow plays an active role based on knowledge exchange within the the Scottish Cities Alliance, the UK core cities network, and numerous international partners in Europe, North America and the Far East.

The Glasgow Urban Laboratory is based at the Glasgow School of Art and is one of many academic partnerships in the city. It is the home to the UNECE Charter Centre Glasgow and dedicated to the exchange of research and best practice in the pursuit of the UN Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing, the New Urban Agenda and the 17 SDGs.