

2018 ECOSOC Integration Segment, 1-3 May 2018
Innovative communities: leveraging technology and innovation
to build sustainable and resilient societies

Contribution from the Commission on Population and Development
(51st session, 7 April 2017 and 9-13 April 2018)

I. Introduction

The Commission on Population and Development held its 51th session in New York from 9 to 13 April 2018. The special theme of the session was

Although the Commission failed to achieve a consensus around the draft resolution on the special theme, the session's documentation and deliberations provide useful information on means of building sustainable and resilient societies in the context of an increasingly mobile world with growing numbers of urban dwellers and international migrants. Throughout the recent session, Member States expressed broad agreement on several key aspects of this topic.

II. Sustainable cities, human mobility and resilience

A growing proportion of humanity is concentrated in urban settlements, and it is expected that most population growth in the future will be reflected in the increasing size of urban areas, especially in the less developed regions. The increasing concentration of populations in cities poses both opportunities and challenges in terms of housing, infrastructure, basic services, food security, health, education, decent jobs, safety and natural resources

Therefore, the availability of timely and reliable demographic data, disaggregated according to key characteristics of individuals, is essential for planning and implementing policies and programmes to promote sustainable urbanization. Improvements in the capacity to collect, disseminate and analyse relevant data and statistics, and to produce population projections at the global, regional, national and subnational levels, can facilitate evidence-based policymaking for sustainable and resilient societies and support the monitoring of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

Partnerships between governments, international organizations, regional organizations and civil society can help to promote capacity