



CREATING COMPETITIVE, SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT CITIES

# The Challenge

Through the Liveable Cities Challenge, Mayors and key local officials will be asked to develop comprehensive, replicable, and implementable solutions to improve the liveability of their cities. The Challenge's vision is to accelerate the trend towards designing, building, and developing competitive, sustainable, and resilient Philippine cities.

## The Project

The Liveable Cities Challenge is a project designed to work with City Mayors, Administrators, and Planners as well as the Private Sector to make cities more Sustainable, Resilient, and Competitive.

The Challenge is open to the 145 Philippine cities, to enhance their capabilities to design, and implement projects in the four key areas: Resilience, Mobility, GovTech, and Basic Services.

The objective is to mainstream a planning-designing-implementation cycle complemented with workshops, mentoring, and immersion with the best project entries acknowledged at the end of each cycle. The cycle ends with a recognition and/or awarding event that signals the completion of the first batch of cities.



## Why Cities?

Building local competitiveness is essential in boosting long-term national competitiveness. Cities are the primary movers of economic growth and innovation. They are hubs of consumption, resource use, and waste. They are also generators of wealth, production, and development. However, in this increasingly urban world, today's cities are facing new challenges. They have become the center of society's most pressing economic, social, and environmental issues. They face issues on disaster preparedness, traffic congestion, lack of mobility and logistics options, delivery of public goods and services, and low global competitiveness.

The world has been on an urbanization trend for some time now. Over 80 percent of global GDP is generated in cities; 70 percent of greenhouse gas emissions come from cities as well. Over one-half of the people in the world live in cities. And over 30 percent of global city residents live in slums; 75 percent of the global urban population lives in a developing country.



# The Philippine Situation

The Philippines has had a spotty record of urban planning. What started out as beautifully master-planned cities generations ago have ended up as cities characterized by congestion and traffic, little or poor access to mass transit, few open spaces, parks, and public spaces, and many blighted and derelict sections. And yet we've also seen some areas beautifully-planned and built out in different parts of the country. Whether by design or accident, the parts that have become "liveable" are thriving, booming, and driving growth.

For the Philippines, one of the keys to building our national competitiveness is to build city competitiveness. With a population of 105 million people scattered across an archipelago, we need to build Liveable Cities beyond our three traditional major metropolitan areas of Manila, Cebu, and Davao. We need to build 40 to 50 Liveable Cities.

## What is “Liveability”?

For the Challenge, the competition will revolve around four themes: Resilience, Mobility, GovTech, and Basic Services.



### RESILIENCE

The city practices proper disaster risk reduction and is resilient to natural disasters.



### MOBILITY

Ability to move people and goods within the city and between cities



### GOVTECH

Harnessing technology to improve cities' capacity to provide services



### BASIC SERVICES

Addresses the basic needs, which are integral to making city liveable



**RESILIENCE:** Located in the Pacific Ring of Fire and the typhoon belt, the Philippines is one of the most vulnerable and disaster-prone countries in the world which demands that cities be resilient against natural disasters and man-made hazards. The necessary infrastructure, facilities, and services are crucial to prevent severe damage during disasters and to sufficiently manage the aftermath. While natural calamities such as typhoons or earthquakes cannot be avoided, the degree of damage and human suffering can be reduced through advanced planning and robust recovery and backup systems.

#### **Sample themes:**

Resilient Public Facility, Design for Disaster Preparedness, Prevention, Mitigation, Response; Emergency Management, Watershed Management; Infrastructure Design, Environmental Footprint, Climate-Resilient Green Growth, Sustainable Park, Resilient Public Facility

---

**GOVTECH** is a powerful and important tool for cities to improve their overall governance. It is an enabler of reforms from improving service systems, purchasing and payment arrangements, sharing of information, and doing business. It is critical to make the delivery of government services more effective. By improving cities' capacity to provide services, achieve policy goals, and increase efficiency and transparency, GovTech encourages greater trust, participation, and engagement of citizens. Some GovTech initiatives can refer to the digitization of municipal services from both the frontline services and city management points of view. Moreover, a movement towards "intelligent cities" should lead to improvement in the delivery of services and management of a city.



#### **Sample themes:**

Online Government Services, Smart City, Internet of Things, RegTech



**MOBILITY:** Rapid urban growth in the Philippines has brought a number of challenges for city leaders, many of them related to increasing fuel prices, increasing traffic congestion, escalating sprawl and crowded slums and energy and resource use. Cities have become more congested, less-productive, and unhealthy.

Long-term strategic planning in this area should organize the day-to-day mobility needs of citizens, the logistics of businesses, and traffic flows in a way that values accessibility. Cities should match their mobility concept with their long-term development plan to enable and support desired strategic social, economic, and physical targets.

**Sample themes:**

Accessibility, Urban Mobility: movement of goods & people, Mass Transit, Walkability, Bike-ability, Spatial Planning

---

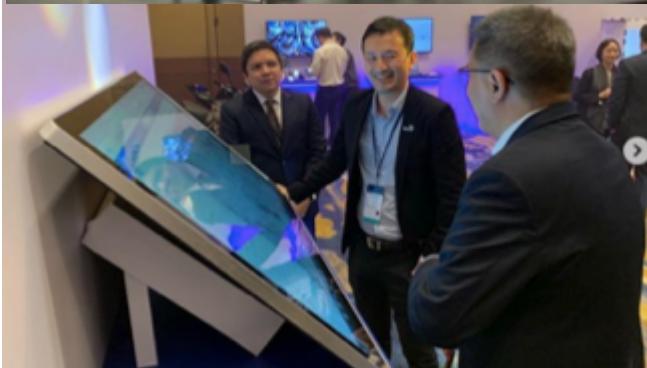
**BASIC SERVICES:** Basic services are the building blocks for human development and an integral component of poverty reduction since it addresses the basic needs which are primary requirements that make a city liveable. These involve services such as electricity and energy, water and sanitation, refuse and waste removal.

**Sample themes:**

Power, water, sewerage, waste management, etc.



# Sharing the right knowledge



## Liveable Cities Labs

To gear up the competing cities with the right knowledge, a series of Liveable Cities Labs will be conducted to serve as a platform for sharing good practices and innovation on the said four Focus Areas. Diverse pool of experts, such as architects, urban and environmental planners, project financing consultants, are invited to talk at the Lab about specific issues and concerns.

The Liveable Cities Labs will be attended by city mayors and city officials who play a major role in the city's planning and development.



[Discover Cities](#) [Compare Cities](#) [About Us](#)

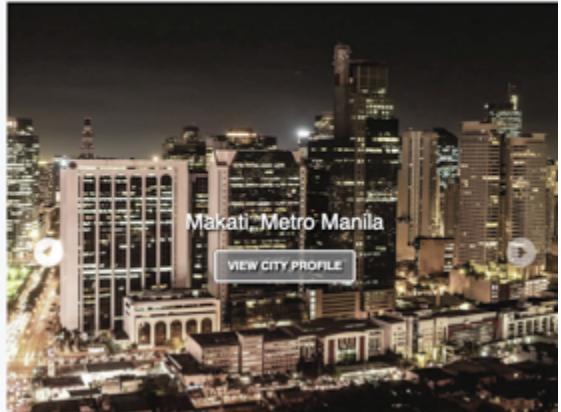
[Search Cities](#)

## Liveable Cities at a Glance

Welcome to your singular source for city information in The Philippines.

Discover and explore cities by rankings and listings.  
Compare cities using key attributes and categories.  
Access comprehensive information about each city.

[SEARCH](#)



## Liveable Cities Dashboard [www.dashboard.liveablecities.ph](http://www.dashboard.liveablecities.ph)

One of the key features of the LCC is the Liveable Cities Dashboard, which consolidates multiple data sources from PSA, DepEd, DOH, and other sources and visually displays it in customized graphs, and scorecards. By utilizing data visualization, local governments can easily spot trends and correlations for effective decision-making and help them diagnose areas for improvement.

By collecting and analyzing data from a variety of government and private sources, Liveable Cities Dashboard creates detailed and in-depth visual overview, informative profiles for every city in the Philippines.

The Liveable Cities dashboard tracks 10 main measures which are: Basic Info, Jobs and Skills, Education, Local Economy, Doing Business, Mobility and Interconnectivity, Health, Urban Environment, Resiliency and Emergency Response, and Safety and Security.



## How to join

1. Kindly accomplish the **Liveable Cities Competition Form** which contains your city's **most pressing problems** and followed by a **proposed solution** (which will be done after the application; The project or solution can apply to a part/portion of the city or the whole city. The proposed solution may be a new project or an ongoing project).
2. Participating cities should form a competition team with the Mayor as the head, and composed of representatives from the City Planning and Development Office and other relevant departments and the private sector.
3. Participating cities will be invited to attend the Liveable Cities Launch and Liveable Cities Workshops/Labs
4. Cities will be asked to **submit the Liveable Cities Competition Form to the LCC team** through email ([admin@liveablecities.ph](mailto:admin@liveablecities.ph)).
5. After submissions are received, the **Liveable Cities Steering Committee will do an initial review** of the problem statements and proposed solutions to check for viability and to make recommendations for improvements.
6. After the initial review is completed, the **Steering Committee will pair the competition teams with experts** which are composed of experienced architects and urban planners, developers, and experts (depending on the topic they chose) to provide technical advice and support to the cities during the planning and design of the chosen entry category (Resilience, Mobility, GovTech, and Basic Services), and in the preparation of the required submission materials

# Mentoring

To gear up the competing cities with the right knowledge, Competition Teams will be paired with Mentors to provide technical advice and support to the cities during the planning and Design of the chosen entry category (Resilience, Mobility, GovTech, and Basic Services), and in the preparation of the required submission materials.

These Mentors will assist the cities in adapting the principles of city livability, resiliency and sustainability into their envisioned solutions and guide them in making their presentation materials. The assistance will be provided mainly through three visits to the cities (planning, designing of solution, finalization of submission requirements).

The Liveable Cities Challenge will run for 90 days (three months) and each competing city will be assigned 2 Mentors who will go to their City for a total of 9 days, divided into 3 visits and mentoring workshops.

The first visit will be to guide the competing cities through the first stages of assessment and to help start the planning process. The second is to guide them through the designing of the solution while the third is to help finalize and package the submission/entries.

**To ensure participating cities' commitment to the competition, they will be asked to provide logistical support for the mentor and teams (e.g., local transport and meals).**

## The “Prize”

The entries will be judged by a Panel composed of experts in the fields of urban planning, design, architecture, technology, engineering, among others. Competition entries will be posted online on a competition website ([liveablecities.ph](http://liveablecities.ph)), Facebook account ([fb.co/liveablecitiesph](https://fb.co/liveablecitiesph)), and through

news media outlets. Winners will be announced at the end of the cycle.

While no formal cash award is planned, all entries – especially the winning entries and finalists– are encouraged to prepare detailed funding proposals for projects to be funded either by the National Government, Local Government, or through the private sector in a Public-Private Partnership project. Winning candidates may also attract attention from various international agencies to support their project.





# LIVEABLE CITIES CHALLENGE

## ANNEX A Competition Form

City:  
Province:

Mayor:

Point-Person (for the Challenge):

Email:  
Contact Number:

Email:  
Contact Number:

### Select Category:

Select which category your City wants to participate in.

Note: You may choose more than one.



**RESILIENCE**



**MOBILITY**



**GOVTECH**



**BASIC SERVICES**

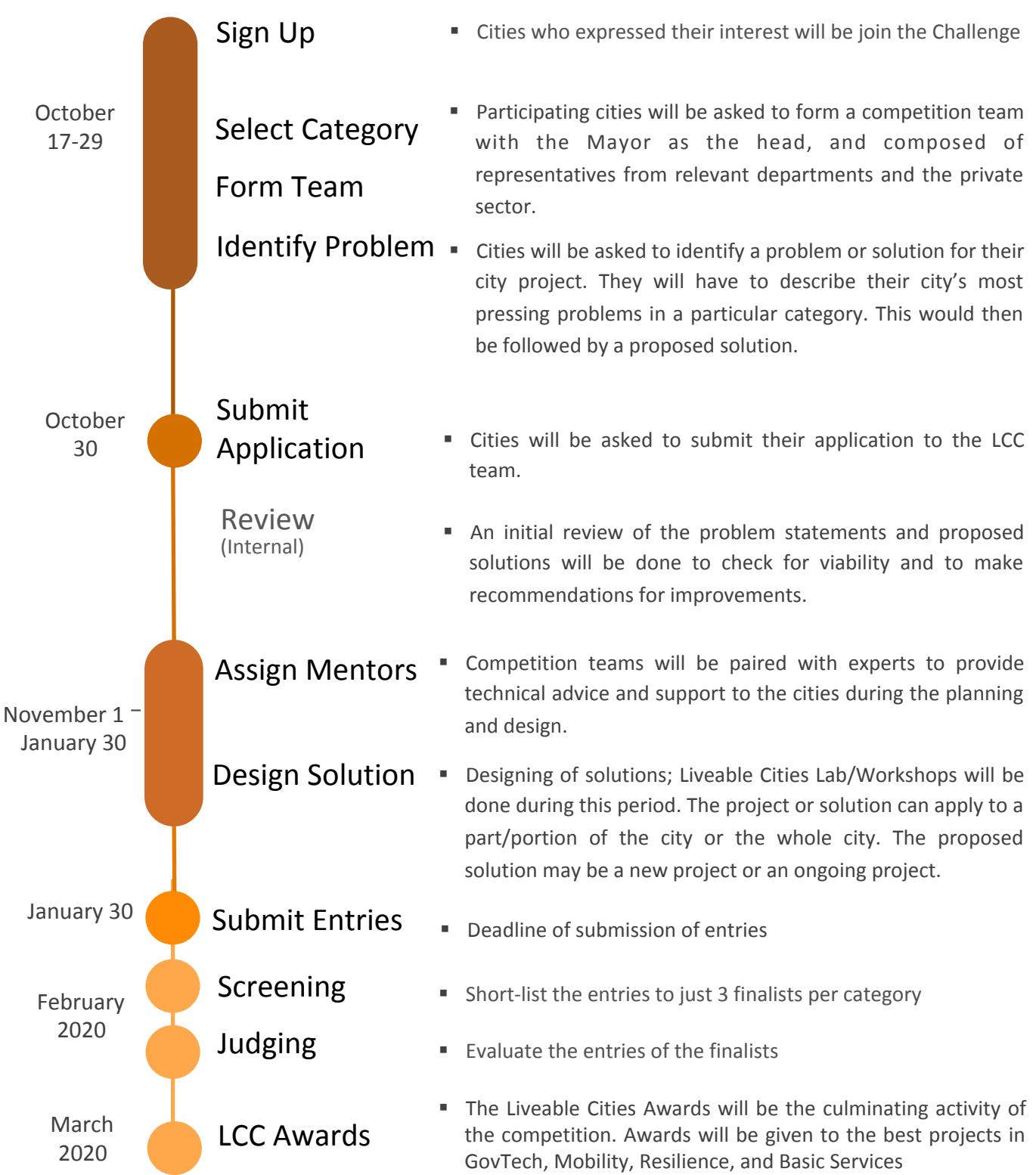
**Define your City's problem:** This first step toward designing your city's entry is to describe one of your city's most pressing problems.

What are the major challenges that your government employees, citizens, and other stakeholders face in various aspects of local government?

250 words max

Tip: listen to feedback from experts and the community

# Timeline



## NOTE:

A Liveable Cities Summit will be done to formally launch the competition. It will be held on October 17.

*Please note that these dates are indicative only and are subject to minor changes.*

## Partners



Globe  
Business



 DASSAULT  
SYSTEMES

The 3DEXPERIENCE® Company

  
BCDA<sup>®</sup>  
Bases Conversion and  
Development Authority

  
GCash

---

## Supporters:

 Ayala

  
MAKATI BUSINESS CLUB  
THE FORUM FOR CONSTRUCTIVE IDEAS

  
ASSURE

 UN-HABITAT

 MAP  
Management Association of the Philippines

 Urban Land  
Institute

 pdrf  
PHILIPPINE  
DISASTER  
RESILIENCE  
FOUNDATION

 UN  
DP

---

## Media Partners

  
ANC  
ABS-CBN NEWS CHANNEL

  
BusinessMirror  
A broader look at today's business

For more information about Liveable Cities, visit:

 [liveablecities.ph](http://liveablecities.ph)

 [fb.com/liveablecitiesph](https://fb.com/liveablecitiesph)

  [@liveable\\_ph](https://www.instagram.com/liveable_ph)

 [Liveable Cities Philippines](https://www.youtube.com/c/Liveable Cities Philippines)



2F AIM Conference Center, Benavidez  
cor Trasierra Sts, Legaspi Village, Makati  
City, 1200 Philippines

**[admin@liveablecities.ph](mailto:admin@liveablecities.ph)**