

## Appendix 1 – The WCCD ISO City Indicator Framework

The World Council on City Data (WCCD) offers a suite of ISO certifications—ISO 37120, ISO 37122, and ISO 37123—that provide standardized frameworks for cities to measure and enhance performance across various sectors. Collectively, these standards encompass 276 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) across 19 themes, facilitating comprehensive urban analysis and benchmarking. The indicators within the ISO 37120 series align closely with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), facilitating cities' efforts to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### ISO 37120: Indicators for Sustainable Cities

ISO 37120 focuses on assessing city services and quality of life through standardized indicators. The 19 themes covered are shown in Figure A – WCCD Themes.

Figure A: WCCD Nineteen (19) Themes



Source: The WCCD ISO City Indicator Framework. Shared by Corporate Business Services

Each theme comprises specific indicators designed to provide a clear picture of a city's performance in that area. For instance, under the **Economy** theme, indicators might include metrics such as unemployment rates and GDP per capita.

### **ISO 37122: Indicators for Smart Cities**

ISO 37122 builds upon ISO 37120 by introducing indicators tailored to smart city initiatives. It encompasses the same 19 themes, with additional indicators that measure the integration of technology and innovation in urban services. For example, within the **Transportation** theme, ISO 37122 may include indicators assessing the adoption of intelligent transportation systems or the availability of real-time traffic data.

### **ISO 37123: Indicators for Resilient Cities**

ISO 37123 focuses on a city's resilience to various challenges, including natural disasters and economic shocks. It also covers the 19 themes, introducing indicators that evaluate a city's capacity to withstand and recover from adverse events. In the **Health** theme, for instance, indicators might assess the robustness of healthcare infrastructure and emergency preparedness.

### **Alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

The indicators within the ISO 37120 series align closely with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), facilitating cities' efforts to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Key areas of alignment include:

- **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being:** Indicators under the **Health** theme assess healthcare access and quality, directly supporting this goal.
- **SDG 4: Quality Education:** The **Education** theme's indicators measure educational attainment and access, aligning with SDG 4.
- **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation:** Indicators in the **Water and Sanitation** theme evaluate water quality and availability, supporting SDG 6.
- **SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy:** The **Energy** theme includes indicators on energy consumption and renewable energy use, aligning with SDG 7.
- **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities:** The comprehensive nature of the ISO 37120 series directly supports SDG 11 by promoting sustainable urban development.

By adopting these ISO standards, cities can systematically track progress toward the SDGs, ensuring that urban development initiatives are aligned with global sustainability objectives.

### **Financial Benefits of WCCD Certification**

Renewing the City's WCCD certifications offers Mississauga a strategic advantage by facilitating the potential to access sustainable finance options through the Region of Peel. Achieving ISO 37120 series of certifications, as demonstrated by the City of Toronto, strengthens a local government's credibility with investors by ensuring rigorous, independently verified data on urban metrics such as environmental quality and energy use. Verified data will strengthen the

City of Mississauga's credibility with investors, making it a more attractive candidate for sustainable finance.

The City of Toronto's experience highlights the financial benefits of WCCD certification. Toronto developed a Green Bond Framework under the International Capital Market Association's (ICMA) Green Bond Principles to fund environmental projects, such as renewable energy investments and climate-resilient infrastructure. With green bond issuances of \$300 million in 2021 and \$200 million in 2023, Toronto has attracted environmentally focused investors through transparency and accountability, solidifying its position as a leader in the green bond market. Toronto's full report on their ESG initiatives can be accessed online [here](#).

Similarly, WCCD-certified data will allow the City of Mississauga to work effectively with the Region of Peel to issue bonds and debentures at potentially lower interest rates, appealing to investors focused on environmental and social goals.