

# LEED for Cities and Communities

## Evolution and Journey

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BY 2050, 75% OF THE PLANET WILL LIVE IN CITIES





Every week from now until 2050,  
one million people are added to urbanized areas.



A photograph of a city skyline at sunset, with a large white percentage '78%' overlaid on the left side. The sky is a warm orange-yellow, and the city buildings are silhouetted against it. In the foreground, there is a dense forest of trees.

# 78%

OF THE WORLD'S  
ENERGY IS  
CONSUMED IN CITIES



A dark blue world map with glowing yellow and white dots representing city lights. The dots are most concentrated in North America, Europe, and East Asia, with fewer dots in South America, Africa, and Australia. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean.

# 2%

OF THE WORLD'S  
SURFACE AREA IS  
OCCUPIED BY CITIES

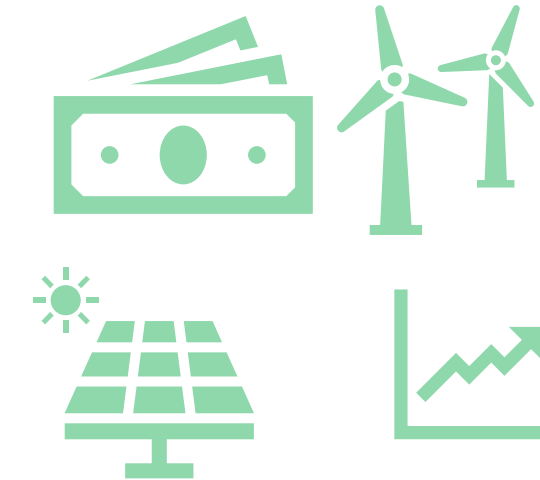




Limit the average global temperature increase to  $<1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  + achieve net zero emissions by mid-century



Enhance resilience and adaptation to climate impacts certain to occur



Align financial flows in the world to these objectives

# Paris Agreement













# HOW CAN OUR CITIES AND COMMUNITIES PREPARE?



**CITIES  
AND  
LARGE-SCALE  
DEVELOPMENTS/COMMUNITIES  
ARE NOT THE PROBLEM...**



**CITIES  
AND  
LARGE-SCALE  
DEVELOPMENTS/COMMUNITIES  
ARE (PART OF) THE SOLUTION.**





# HOW CAN USGBC SUPPORT THEIR JOURNEY?

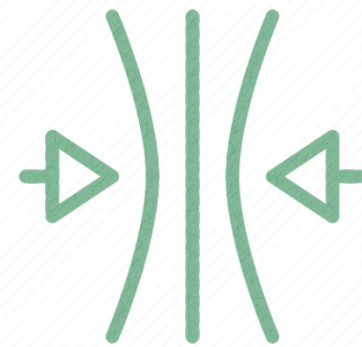




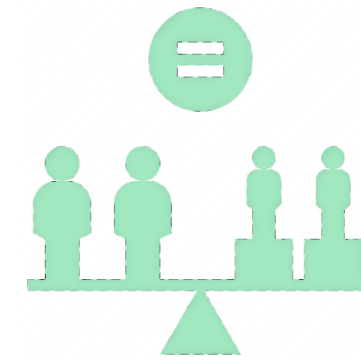
HEALTH



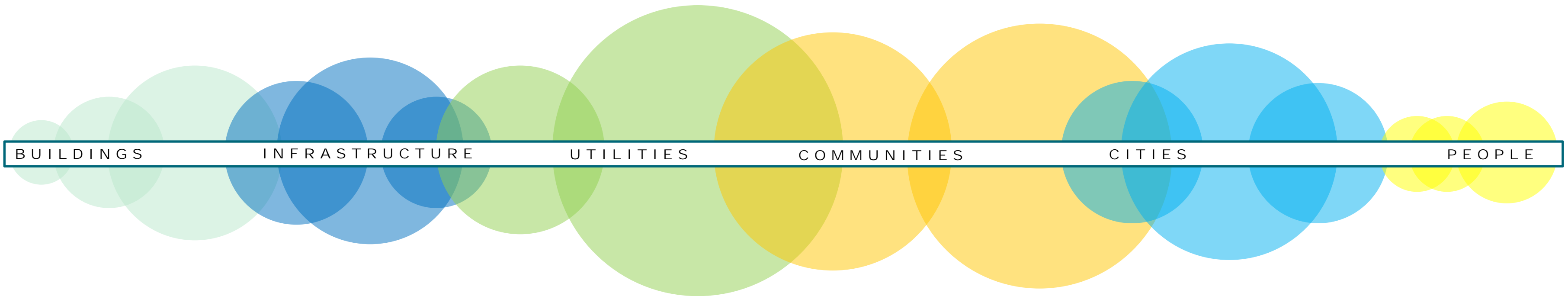
SUSTAINABILITY



RESILIENCE



SOCIAL EQUITY



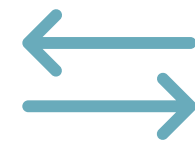
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# Scaling up the LEED vision

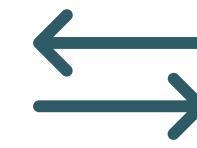
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# Buildings



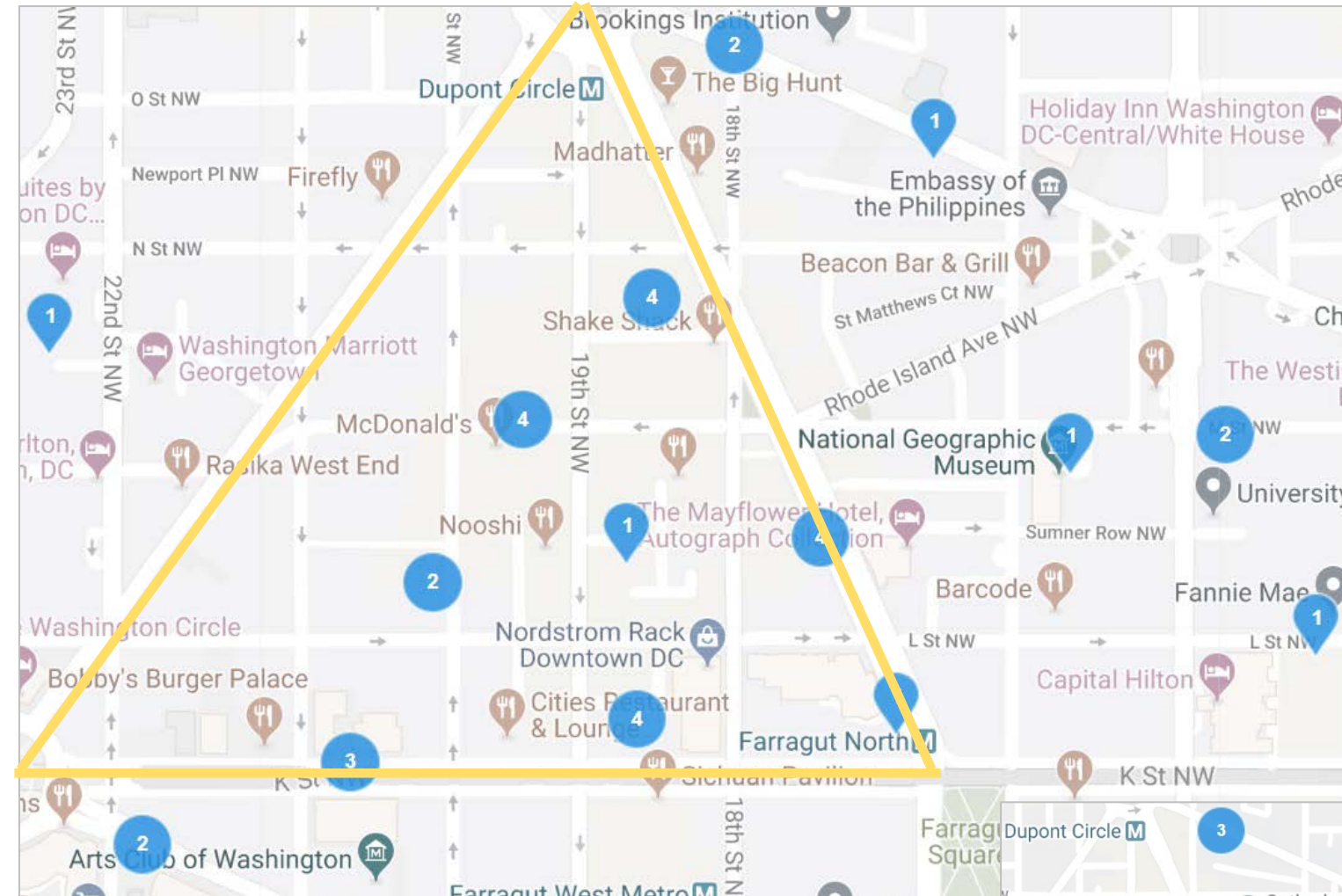
# Communities



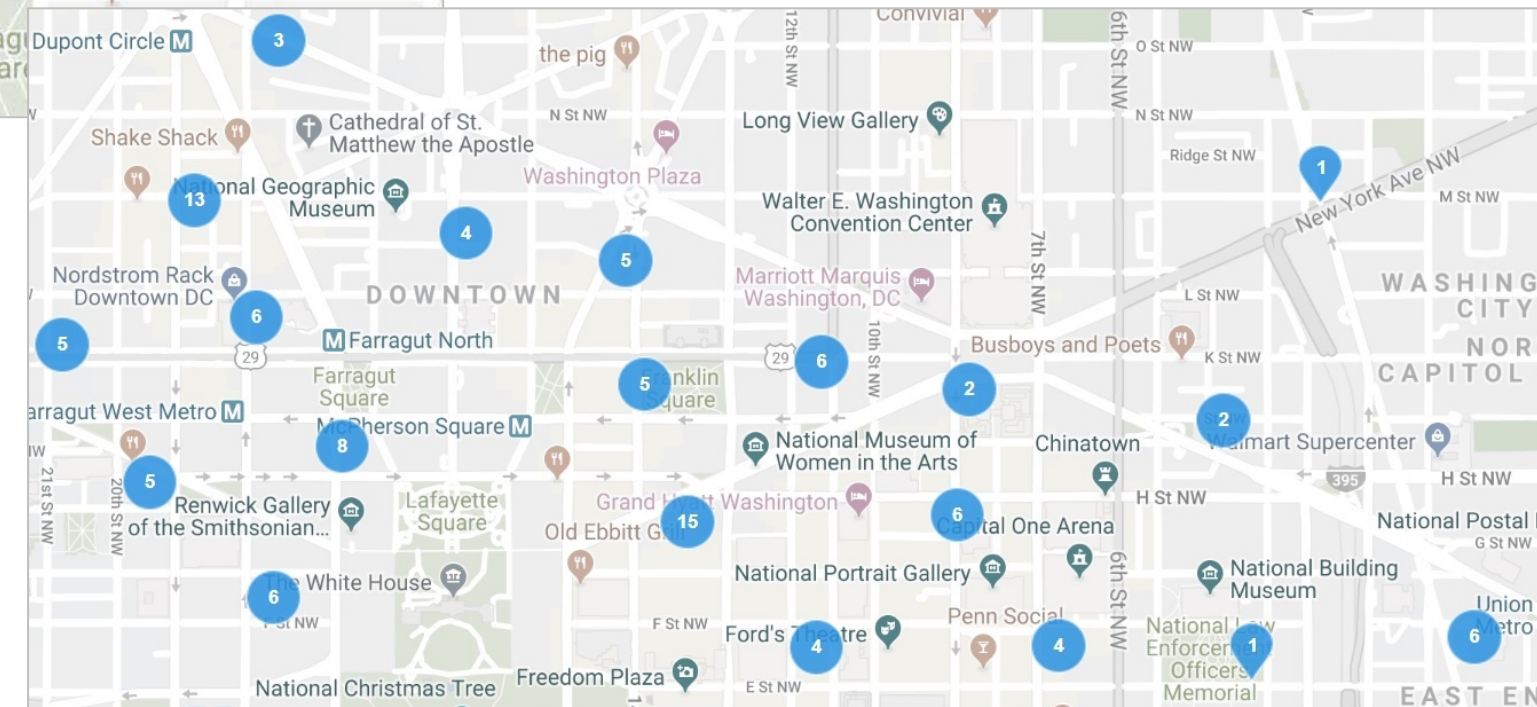
# Cities

Golden Triangle BID -  
**LEED Platinum** certified  
Community

63 LEED Certified  
Buildings: 42% of the  
total built area



**LEED Platinum**  
certified City –  
Washington DC  
  
1620 LEED  
Certified Buildings



USGBC HQ: LEED  
Platinum Certified  
Offices and Gold  
Certified Building

# Scaling up the LEED vision

1 9 9 3

2 0 2 4  
USGBC | GBCI





LEED for Cities and Communities is the leading global rating system and certification program for evaluating the sustainability and quality of life in a city or community.





**Resilient**

**Healthy**

**Inclusive**

**Smart**

**Productive**

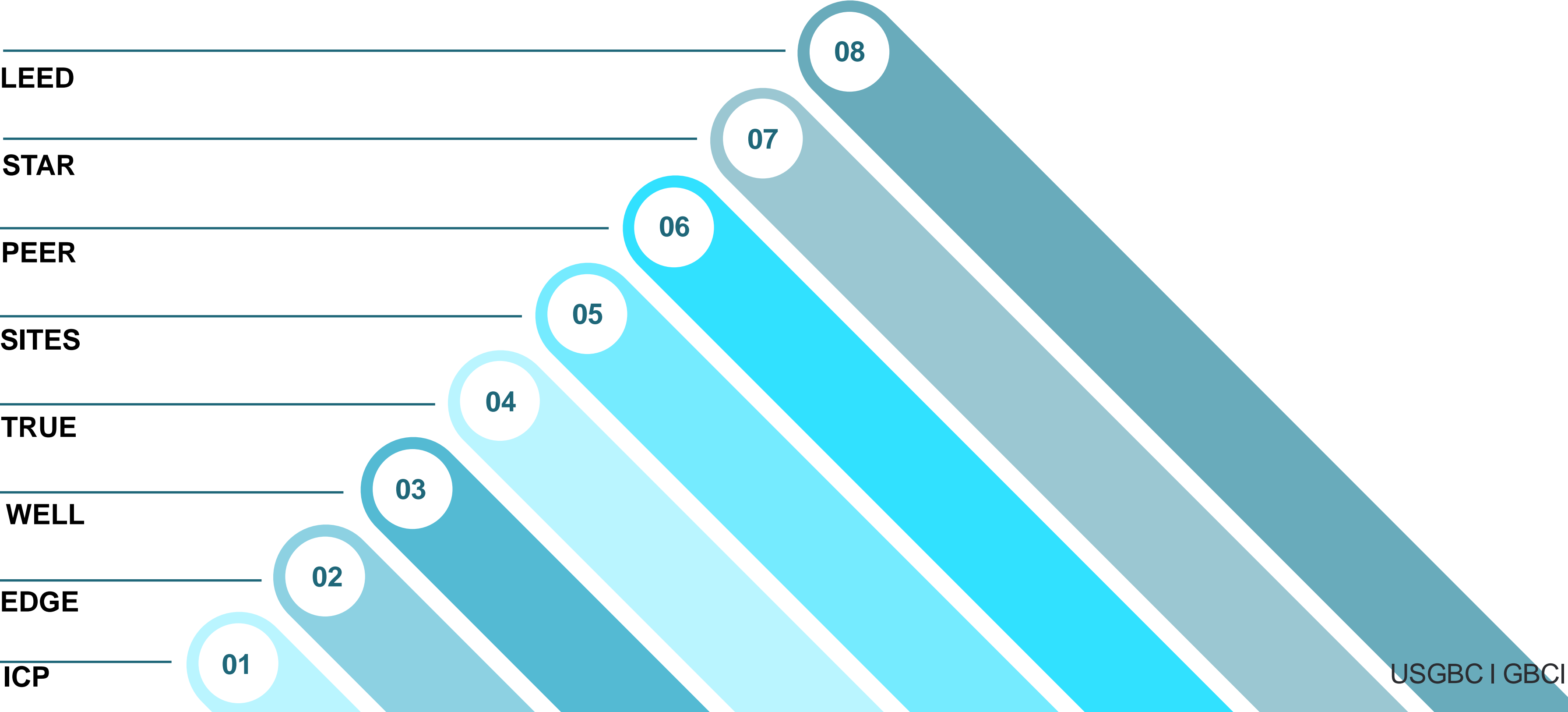
**Efficient**

**Equitable**

**Sustainable**

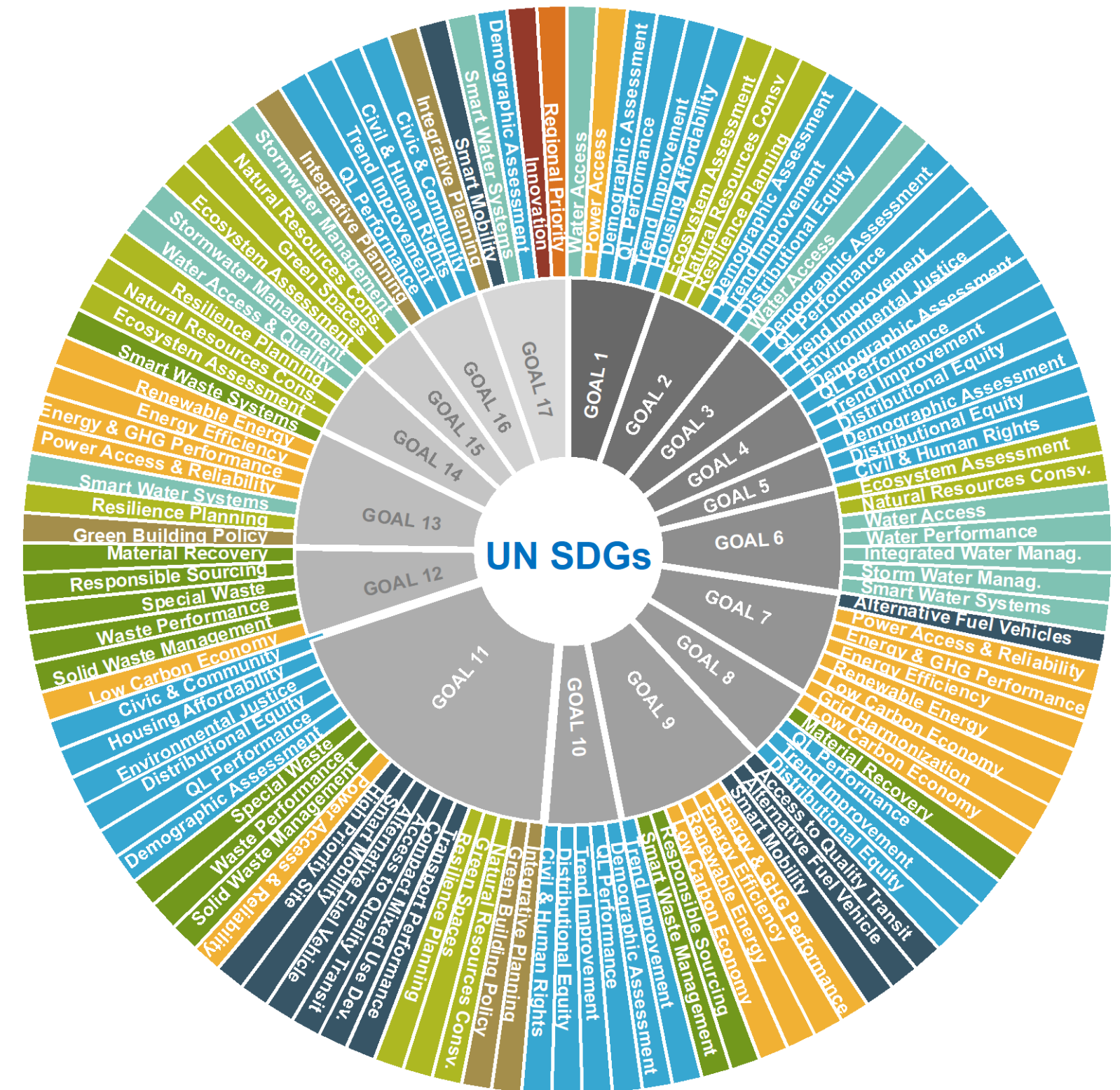
**LEED  
for  
Cities and  
Communities**

# LEED for Communities & Cities integrates complementary standards





# LEED for Cities and Communities is Aligned with Global Goals



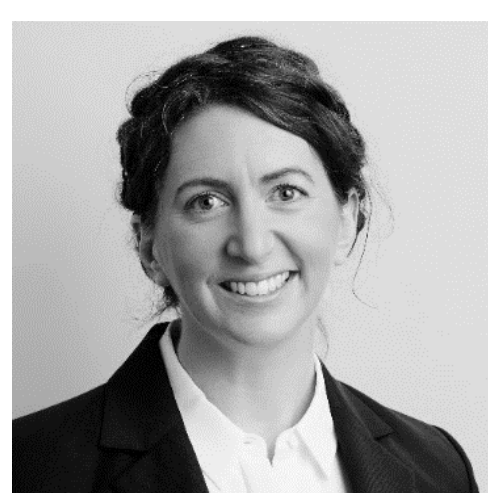


# Innovative And Transformative





# Collaborative and stakeholder driven





# Globally Applicable, Locally Relevant





# Data Driven And Performance Based





# Evidence Based And Continuously Improving





# Rooted In The Triple Bottom Line





An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers and buildings along a river and harbor. The sky is blue with some clouds.

Existing

Measuring  
Performance

An architectural rendering of a futuristic city design, featuring tall, modern buildings, green spaces, and a river. The design is presented in a top-down view.

Plan & Design

Evaluating  
Intent / Vision





# Cities

## Local Governments

Including...

- Counties
- Megalopolis / Metro Areas
- Twin / Tri-Cities
- Townships & Villages



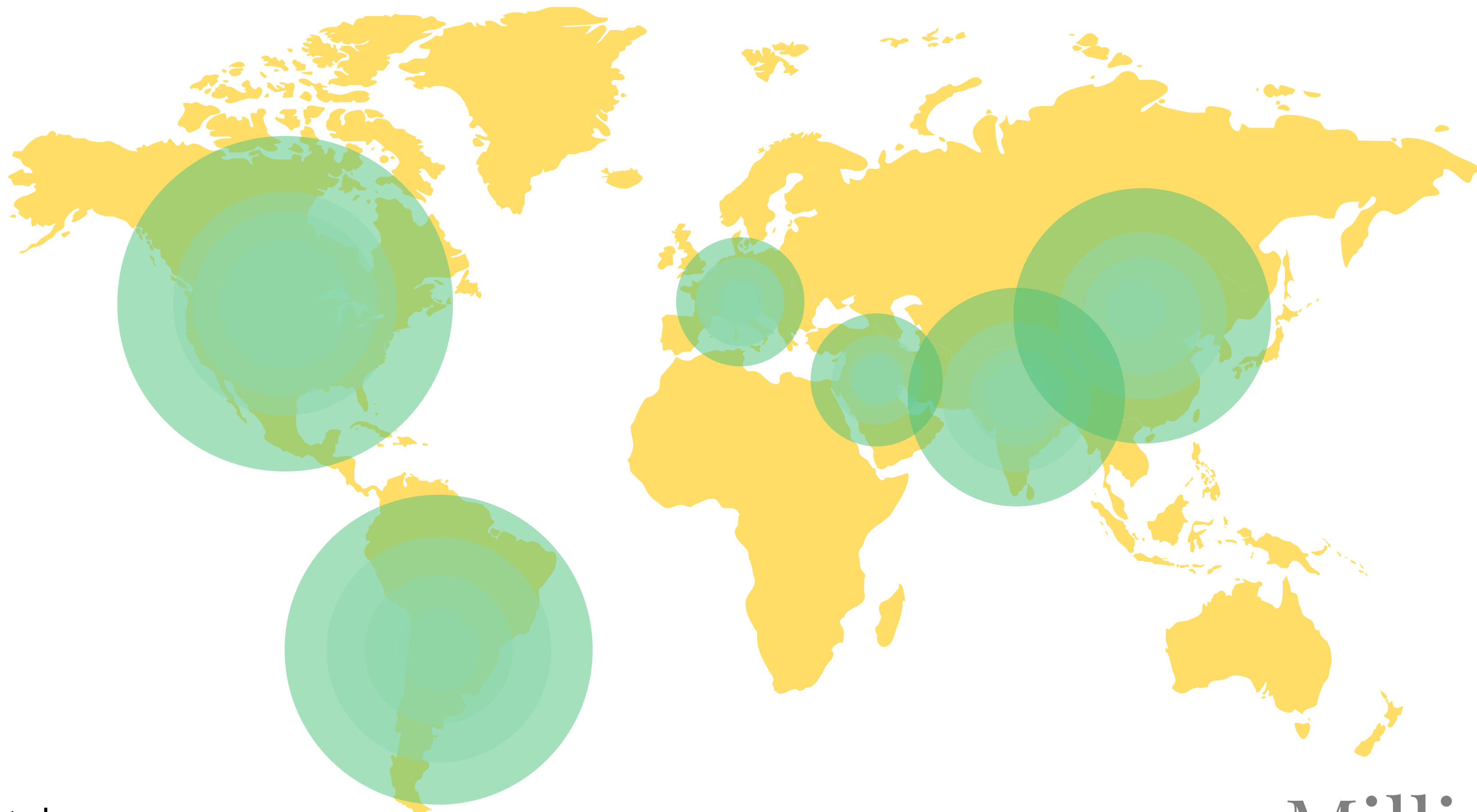
# Communities

## Sub-city Geographies (non-gov't)

Including...

- Neighborhoods / Boroughs
- Campuses (Academic, Military, Industrial)
- Large-scale developments
- Business districts / economic zones





415<sup>+</sup> Active Projects

Population impacted : ~ 20 Million

USGBC | GBCI



# Evolution: LEED for Cities and Communities

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**2016**

**LEED for Cities and  
Communities Pilot**





# Evolution: LEED for Cities and Communities

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**2016**

**LEED for Cities and  
Communities Pilot**



**LEED v4.1 for Cities  
and Communities**

**2019**

LEED for CITIES  
AND  
COMMUNITIES -  
Existing

LEED for CITIES  
AND  
COMMUNITIES-  
Plan and Design



# Evolution: LEED for Cities and Communities

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**2016**

**LEED for Cities and  
Communities Pilot**



**LEED v4.1 for Cities  
and Communities**

**2019**

**2023**

**Existing Cities  
4.1 addenda**



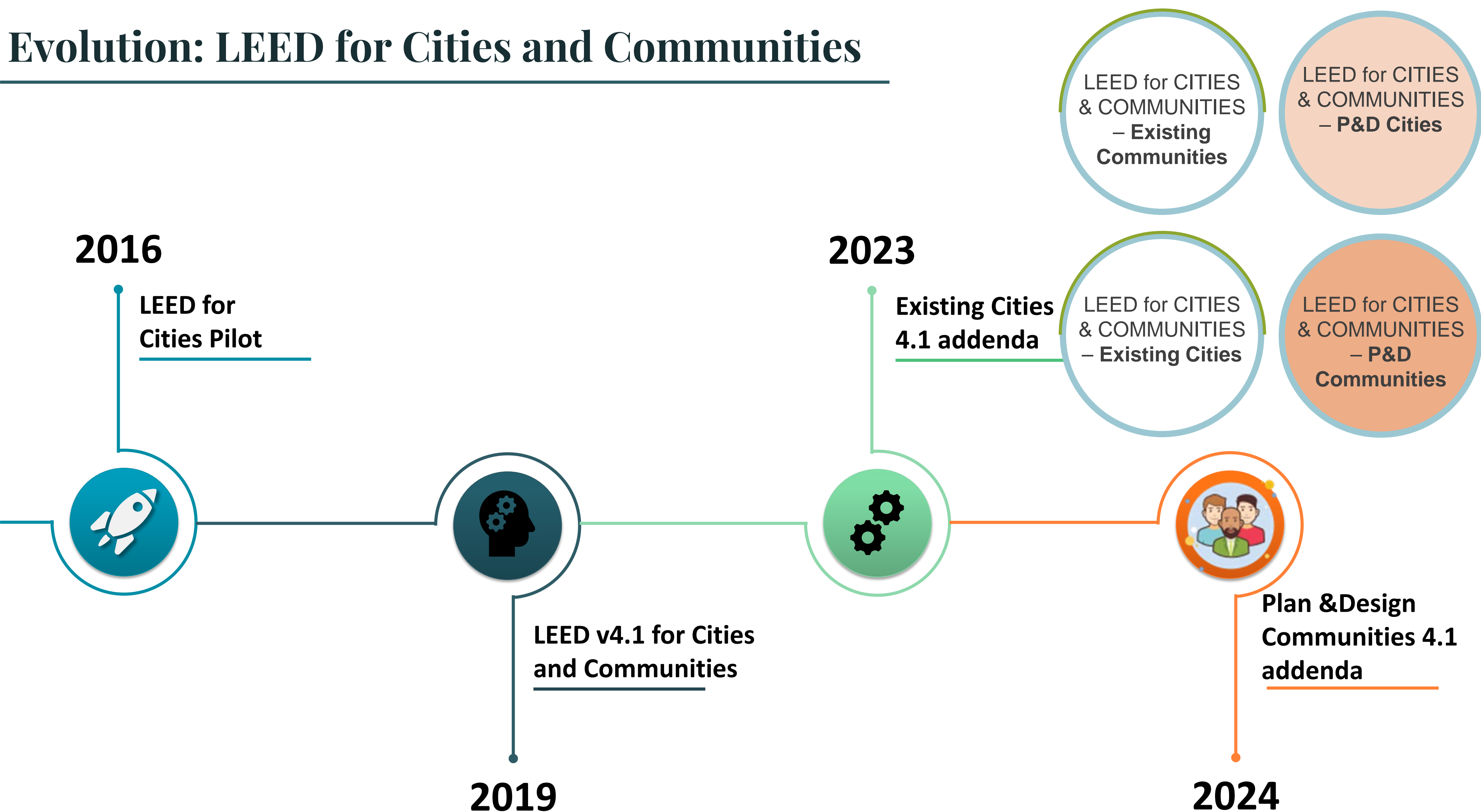
**LEED for CITIES  
& COMMUNITIES  
– Existing  
Communities**

**LEED for CITIES  
AND  
COMMUNITIES-  
Plan and Design**

**LEED for CITIES  
& COMMUNITIES  
– Existing Cities**



# Evolution: LEED for Cities and Communities





# Credit Categories: LEED for Cities & Communities

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Integrative Process



Natural Systems and Ecology



Transportation and Land Use



Water Efficiency



Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Materials and Resources



Quality of Life



Innovation



Regional Priority



# Quantitative approach: LEED for Cities & Communities





# Qualitative approach : LEED for Cities & Communities

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## Collaboration

Road map development,  
Stakeholder and public  
engagement

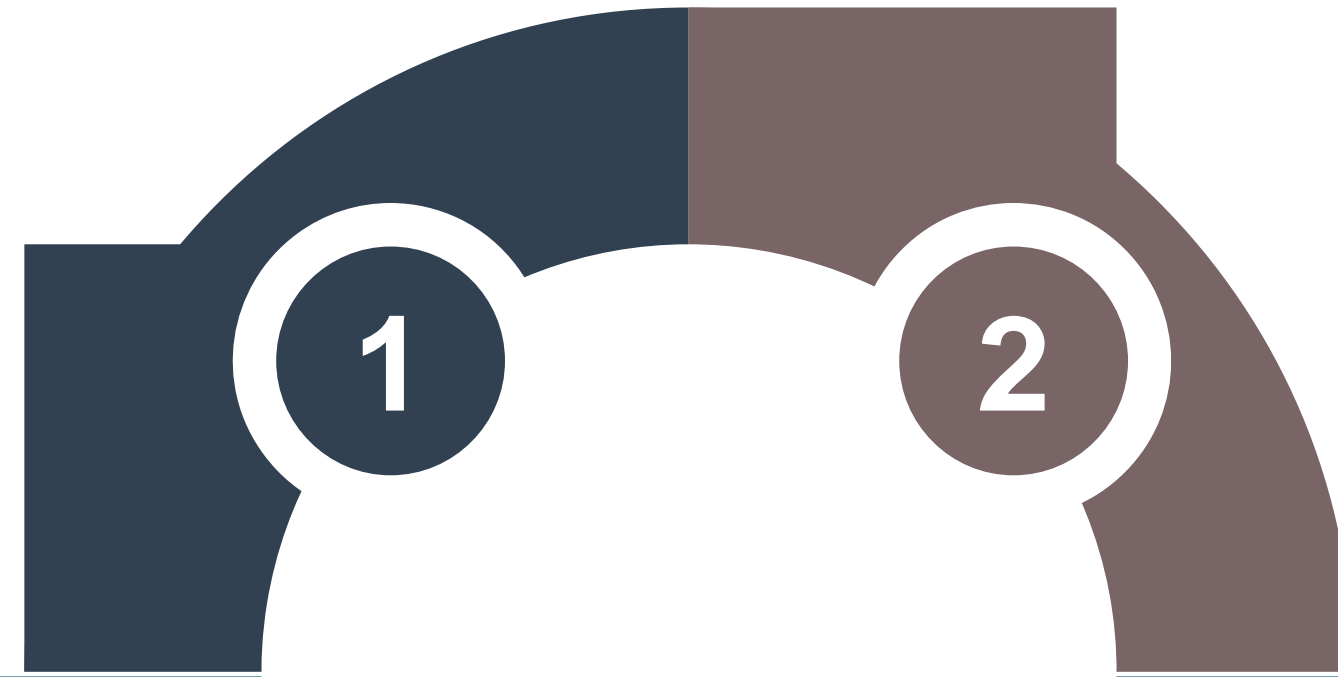




# Qualitative approach : LEED for Cities & Communities

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**Collaboration**



**Assessments**

Ecosystems, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment, environmental justice risk and exposure



# Qualitative approach : LEED for Cities & Communities

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**Collaboration**

**Assessments**

**Design & planning**

Urban forest cover  
Enhancing biodiversity, managing  
transportation demand and parking,  
climate action, equitable access to  
social infrastructure



# Qualitative approach : LEED for Cities & Communities

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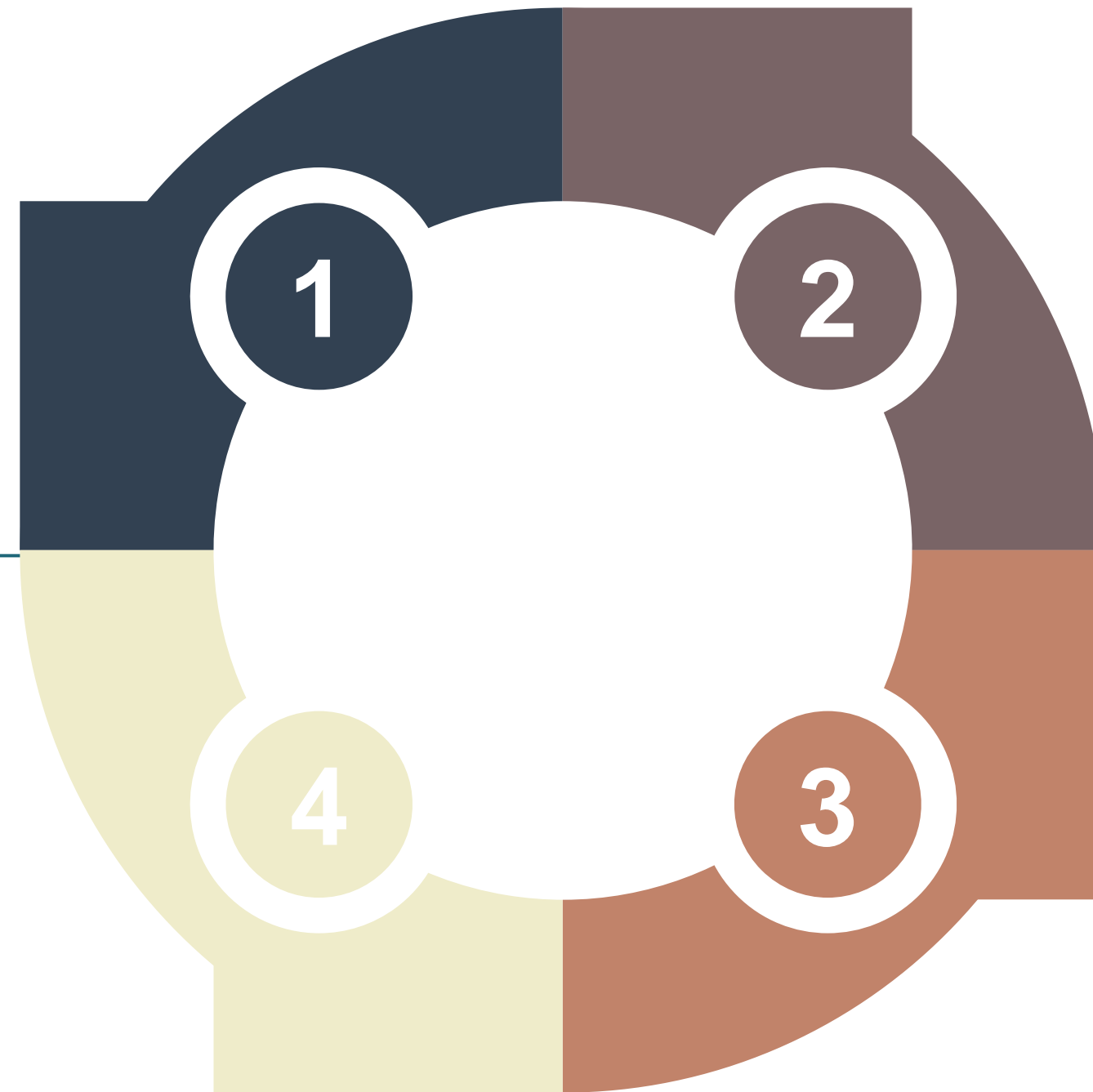
**Collaboration**

**Assessments**

**Policies**

**Design & planning**

Incentives for green building rating systems, renewable energy programs and policies, sustainable procurement

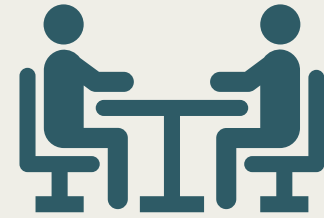




# What next?



Engage with us by visiting the  
USGBC Education page



Attending events



Conducting prefeasibility of your  
city or community project



Share your thoughts, feedback  
with us.



# Thank you!

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Join us for our next session on 'Exploring LEED for Cities and Communities Through an Expert Lens' on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024

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