FAQ's

1. With an example describe the city of the future.

The "future city"- Songdo, in South Korea is a good example of what this looks like. It was built from the ground up in 2005 with over $40 billion invested into its creation and opened in 2009. Songdo is just one example of what a "smart" or "future" city looks like and is perhaps on the very forefront of this evolution. These new types of cities typically leverage new technologies, infrastructure, design, and planning techniques to create what can only be described as a city which acts as a living breathing organism that can communicate with its residents and within itself.
Built on 600 hectares (1,500 acres) of land reclaimed from the Yellow Sea off Incheon, about 56 kilometres (35 mi) from the South's capital Seoul, Songdo district is the largest private real estate development in history. By its completion date in 2015, the district was planned to contain 80,000 apartments, 5,000,000 square metres (50,000,000 sq ft) of office space and 900,000 square metres (10,000,000 sq ft) of retail space. The 65-floor Northeast Asia Trade Tower became South Korea's tallest building. Computers have been built into the houses, streets, and offices as part of a wide area network.

The Songdo IBD was part of former President Lee Myung-bak's effort to promote green and low-carbon growth as an avenue for future development after 60 years of reliance on export-oriented manufacturing. The nation launched a $38 billion economic stimulus package in January 2009, with over 80% of the total earmarked for green investment. The Framework Act for Low Carbon Green Growth, passed by Korea's National Assembly in 2010, increased this to $83.6 billion spanning five years. Under this initiative, the Songdo IBD is being developed as a sustainable city with more than 40% of its area reserved for green space, including the park of 40 hectares (100 acres),

26 kilometres (16 mi) of bicycling lanes, numerous charging stations for electric vehicles and a waste collection system that eliminates the need for trash trucks. Also, it is the second city in the world to have all of its major buildings in par or beyond LEED's requirements, after Greensburg, Kansas.

2. What is future of our cities?

The very phrase 'The City of the Future and Future of Cities' reflects that definitely there is a major difference in the outcomes between the two. They can never be the same- as most cities are already crowded and thriving and cities do tend to change organically as required by the people over a period of time. It is true that urban policies and laws are laid to control the growth of a city in a regularized manner but usually policies only provide for direction and do nothing much else. The future of cities depend solely on its residents and their ways of life.

For instance we have old cities that have transformed enormously with time like Old Delhi to New Delhi, Madras to Chennai, Bombay to Mumbai. These cities have grown in size, population- have led to congestion, over crowding, slums, disparity within the urban fabric- in terms of housing, facilities, and civic buildings. The future for such cities might be planned on a large and grand scale anticipating competition with other global cities but most often the poor people and their needs are ignored. The basic necessities have to accomplished before considering the future of cities.

On one hand, we have towering skyscrapers, global offices, headquarters, posh malls, global brands, but still in the same city a few hundred yards away in the same city you will find, over congested slums, with poor sanitation facilities, bad roads, and unemployed people living in squalor.

Before we think of smart and sustainable cities we have to consider the needs of all the people in the city, towns and villages – living in a town or rural setting

should not technically hamper the quality of life- it is when there is disparity in basic amenities that urbanization occurs.
If the current urban scenario is not repaired – the future will bring about more disparity and increase the problems that lie within the city- it will be like cosmetic surgery- outwardly appearance may be fine but inside there will be decaying of elements.

3. What are the urban stresses of our cities?

- Poor Housing
- Congestion
- Environmental Problems (" Brown Agenda")
- Social Problems

4. What is a sustainable city?

A **sustainable city**, or eco-**city** (also "ecocity") is a **city** designed with consideration of environmental impact, inhabited by people dedicated to minimization of required inputs of energy, water and food, and waste output of heat, air pollution - CO_2, methane, and water pollution.

5. What is Hannover Principles?

The **Hannover Principles** is a set of statements about designing buildings and objects with forethought about their environmental impact, their effect on the sustainability of growth, and their overall impact on society. They were first formulated by William McDonough and Michael Braungart for planning Expo 2000 in Hanover.

The principles are:

- Insist on the right of humanity and nature to co-exist in a healthy, supportive, diverse and sustainable condition.
- Recognize interdependence.

- Respect relationships between spirit and matter.
- Accept responsibility for the consequences of design decisions upon human well-being, the viability of natural systems and their right to co-exist.
- Create safe objects of long-term value.
- Eliminate the concept of waste.
- Rely on natural energy flows.
- Understand the limitations of design.
- Seek constant improvement by the sharing of knowledge.

6. **Illustrate the sustainable components of Davis, California.**

Village Homes is a planned community in Davis, California, Yolo County, designed to be ecologically sustainable by harnessing the energies and natural resources that exists in the landscape, especially stormwater and solar energy. The principal designer of Village Homes was architect Mike Corbett who began planning in the 1960s, with construction continuing from south to north from the 1970s through the 1980s. Village Homes was completed in 1982, and has attracted international attention from its inception as an early model of an environmentally friendly housing development.The 225 homes and 20 apartment units that now constitute the Village Homes community utilize solar panels for heating, and are oriented around common areas at the rear of the buildings, rather than around the street at the front. All streets are oriented east-west, with all lots positioned north-south. This feature has become standard practice in Davis and elsewhere, since it enables homes with passive solar designs to make full use of the sun's energy throughout the year. The development also uses natural drainage, called bioswales, to collect water to irrigate the common areas and support the cultivation of edible foods, such as nut and fruit trees and vegetables for consumption by residents, without incurring the cost of using treated municipal water.