



ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK (SUMMARY GUIDE)

I. Overview

This document outlines the two-tier evaluation framework for the IMT-GT Green City Award.

The **first tier (Technical Indicators)** provides a set of standardised, measurable indicators to evaluate city performance across the seven award categories. These indicators are aligned with the Sustainable Urban Development Framework for IMT-GT Subregion (SUDF) 2019-2036 and are designed to track progress toward IMT-GT Vision 2036 targets through clear, comparable performance benchmarks.

The **second tier (Core Criteria)** defines five strategic pillars used to assess the qualitative depth, effectiveness and long-term value of submitted initiatives.

Together, the framework enables a balanced assessment of both quantitative performance outcomes and qualitative implementation quality, taking into account each city's capacity, context, and stage of development.

Final recognition under the IMT-GT Green City Award will be awarded in three tiers: **Gold, Silver and Bronze**, based on overall performance across both evaluation tiers.

II. Scoring and Tier Classification

Each indicator, covering both Technical Indicators and Core Criteria, is scored on a scale of 0-5 points based on the strength of evidence, level of implementation, and demonstrated outcomes. The average score across all applicable indicators will determine the final award tier:

- **Bronze:** 0–2.4 (Commitment and Planning)
- **Silver:** 2.5–3.9 (Progressing and Implementation)
- **Gold:** 4.0–5.0 (Excellence, Leadership and Transformation)

III. Verification Requirements

All submissions must be supported by verifiable evidence, which may include:

- City-level data and statistics
- Policy documents, strategies, or action plans
- Official implementation or monitoring reports
- Certification records or reports
- Photographic evidence, GIS mapping, or spatial data
- Third-party verification or independent validation (where applicable)

Two-Tier Framework

A. The First Tier: Technical Assessment

Each application will be assessed using structured indicators under the seven award categories. These indicators reflect a progression pathway from planning and early implementation to advanced and system-wide transformation.

This structure allows cities to benchmark their current level of development and track progress over time in alignment with SUDF objectives.

- **Sustainable Transport and Low-Carbon Mobility**

Evaluate urban progress in developing efficient, low-carbon urban transport systems, reducing congestion, improving modal share of public transport, and lowering transport-related emissions. Focus includes public transport coverage and usage, non-motorised mobility infrastructure, adoption of greener vehicle technologies, and measurable reductions in transport-related emissions and congestion levels.

Indicator	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP)	City commits to develop CMP or has draft plan	CMP officially adopted and partially implemented	CMP fully implemented with measurable modal shift and emission reduction
Municipality-Owned City Buses (EV conversion)	EV replacement strategy approved	10–25% of municipal buses converted to EV	>50% of municipal buses converted to EV
Municipality-Owned Cars (EV conversion)	EV procurement policy developed	10–25% of fleet replaced with EV	>50% of fleet replaced with EV
Registered Electric Passenger Cars	Initial city incentives or infrastructure (charging stations) introduced	≥10% growth in EV registrations per year	>20% of passenger cars registered are electric

- **Sustainable Energy Transition**

Assess progress in transitioning to low-carbon and energy-efficient urban systems, including renewable energy adoption, energy-efficient infrastructure, and reduction in energy intensity. Focus includes both supply-side (renewables) and demand-side (efficiency) interventions.

Indicator	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Government Buildings with Energy Efficiency Certification	City commits to adopt energy certification standards	10% of public buildings certified	>25% of public buildings certified under recognised standard

Private or Commercial Buildings Certified	City engages developers in voluntary schemes	5–10% of commercial buildings certified	>25% of commercial buildings certified
Installed Capacity of Solar PV Systems	Feasibility study or pilot installation (<100 kW)	≥1 MW total installed capacity	≥5 MW total installed capacity or integrated in city facilities
Streetlights Converted to LED	Pilot conversion project (<10%)	≥50% converted to LED	100% LED or smart lighting system citywide

- **Solid Waste Management**

Evaluate cities' advancement in managing municipal waste systems effectively, including improvements in collection, treatment, and disposal practices. Focus includes waste collection coverage and efficiency, segregation at source, expansion of waste processing capacity (e.g. recycling, composting, waste-to-energy), and reduction of waste sent to open dumping or landfill.

Indicator	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Composting Facilities (≥200 TPD)	Site identified or feasibility completed	Facility constructed or under operation	Multiple operational sites contributing to city's waste management system
Biomethanation Facilities (≥100 TPD)	Feasibility or planning completed	Facility operational and processing organic waste	Fully integrated system reducing landfill dependency
Waste-to-Energy (WtE) Processing	Project identification or pilot (<100 TPD)	≥500 TPD operational capacity	≥1000 TPD operational and integrated in city plan
Waste Segregation Coverage	Awareness or pilot programme	Citywide rollout	>70% segregation compliance

- **Urban Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management**

Evaluate efforts to protect, restore, and integrate natural ecosystems into urban development. Focus includes expansion and management of green and open spaces, ecosystem restoration (e.g. wetlands, forests), implementation of biodiversity strategies or inventories, and measurable improvements in ecological conditions.

Indicator	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (LBSAP)	Draft or commitment to develop LBSAP	LBSAP officially adopted	LBSAP implemented and periodically monitored

Wetlands Restored	Mapping or protection identified	One or more restoration projects initiated	≥2 wetlands fully restored with community participation
Urban Tree Coverage	Inventory conducted	20–30% tree coverage achieved	≥30% tree coverage sustained through policy and monitoring

- **Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency**

Assess how cities promote reducing, reusing, and more efficient use of resources across the local economy. Emphasis is placed on efforts to minimise waste generation at source, encourage reuse and recycling practices among businesses and communities, and strengthen partnerships or incentives that support resource efficiency beyond municipal systems.

Indicator	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Circular Economy Initiative(s)	City commits to identify circular pilot	Active project or partnership in implementation	Integrated citywide programme or industrial ecosystem
Resource Recovery or Industrial Symbiosis	Feasibility or dialogue initiated	Demonstration project operational	Multiple enterprises or sectors linked in symbiosis
Green Procurement Policy	Policy in development	Adopted and piloted	Fully implemented with measurable procurement share

- **Carbon and Climate Governance (Carbon Literacy)**

Assess how cities measure, manage, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through structured and data-driven approaches. This includes the development of emissions inventories, establishment of reduction targets, integration of climate considerations into urban planning, and implementation of monitoring and reporting systems.

Indicator	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Carbon Literacy Programmes	City initiates training or awareness events	Structured citywide carbon awareness programme	Integrated in schools, community, and city governance
GHG Inventory	GHG inventory in preparation	Completed baseline inventory	Annual verified GHG report published
Annual GHG Emission Reduction	Pilot mitigation actions underway	Measurable emission reductions (≤10%)	Sustained annual reduction >10% from baseline

- **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD):**

Evaluates the city’s efforts to build awareness, capacity, and long-term behavioural change to support sustainable urban development.

This includes education initiatives, public awareness programmes, community participation, and capacity-building efforts that enable sustained implementation of sustainability actions.

Indicator	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Schools Implementing ESD Principles (Eco-schools)	Awareness or pilot school programme	≥5 schools adopting ESD curriculum	≥10 schools institutionalising ESD programmes citywide
Universities Implementing ESD Principles (Eco-campus)	University commits to sustainability integration	≥1 active Eco-campus initiative	≥2 universities institutionalising ESD and reporting progress
Public Education and Outreach	Ad hoc campaigns	Regular city campaigns	Institutionalised citywide ESD programme with measurable outreach

B) The Second Tier: Five (5) Core Criteria

The second tier provides a qualitative assessment of submitted initiatives, enabling the expert panel to evaluate depth, effectiveness, and strategic value.

- **Core 1: Impact**

Measures the city’s achievements, progress, and tangible outcomes in implementing the SUDF. This includes contributions to economic vitality, urban prosperity, green development, safety, resilience, and capacity building.

- **Core 2: Sustainability**

Assesses long-term strategies and institutionalisation of sustainable practices, including medium- to long-term plans, people-centred approaches, and sustainable financing mechanisms.

- **Core 3: Innovation**

Evaluates novel practices, technologies, or methods in policy, planning, or financing that support sustainable urban development and SUDF objectives.

- **Core 4: Scalability & Adaptability**

Assesses the potential for replication, adoption, or scaling of initiatives by other IMT-GT cities, including cross-border collaboration potential.

- **Core 5: Governance & Participation**

Evaluates the level of participation and inclusiveness in planning and implementation, including engagement with citizens, NGOs, and the private sector.
