



## Nicola Villa

### Director, Urban Innovation, Public Sector Practice Internet Business Solutions Group

Nicola Villa is a senior director working in Cisco's Internet Business Solutions Group (IBSG). He is the global director of the Urban Innovation team, focusing on Cisco's innovation strategy for the global Smart+Connected Communities program. Prior to that, he managed Cisco's Connected Urban Development program. The program was part of the commitment Cisco provided to the Clinton Global Initiative, and it aimed at developing innovative ICT & Broadband solutions in large metropolitan areas to stimulate CO2 emissions reductions.

Villa is an executive member of Cisco China's Board, Cisco's Global Smart+Connected Communities Board and also an advisor to Metropolis, the global network of metropolitan regions, through its Partnership for Urban Innovation commission

Prior to this, Villa worked as the head of local government and broadband within Cisco's Internet Business Solutions Group, in charge of activities across Europe, Middle East, Africa and Latin America.

Villa has a strong focus on Innovation policy and is collaborating with central government agencies, often at Cabinet level, in supporting the creation of national Innovation & ICT strategies, as well as national Broadband strategies. He also supported a number of municipal governments across the world who are launching innovative broadband government programs.



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