

# Can Smartphones Create Safer Cities?

Webinar: Urban Safety

Tuesday, 19 April 2016, 5.00-6.00pm (Korea Time)

Dear CityNet members,

Join our online webinar on urban safety, completely free of charge! Dr. Kalpana Viswanath, co-founder of SafetiPin is presenting how smartphone applications can help to make your city safer. Participants will have the opportunity to receive first-hand information about the SafetiPin project and discuss challenges and solutions for urban crime and violence. For further information contact Felix Kalkowsky at [programs1@citynet-ap.org](mailto:programs1@citynet-ap.org).

**Do not miss this unique webinar brought to you by CityNet and register at**  
<http://goo.gl/forms/cM4PjJGPM5>

## Background

Urban crime and violence, particularly targeted at women, is a great challenge in many cities in the Asia-Pacific region. There are various initiatives for making cities and neighborhoods safer. Technologies play an important role and can contribute to making neighborhoods safer.

The smartphone application [SafetiPin](#) is one good example for how smart technologies can make cities safer. SafetiPin is a tool that supports cities to become safer through collection of data through crowdsourcing and other methods. The Safety Audit, that forms the core of SafetiPin, assesses different parameters linked to safer and more inclusive public spaces. The app has a complete set of features; GPS tracking, emergency, important contact numbers, directions to safe locations, pins showing safe and unsafe areas, and a Safety Score. It goes well beyond typical women safety apps, and provides a wide range of features, that help you proactively plan and respond to situations affecting your personal safety.

## Dr. Kalpana Viswanath, Co-Founder of SafetiPin

Dr. Kalpana Viswanath is a researcher who has been working on issues of gender and safer cities for women for over 20 years. She is the co-founder of SafetiPin, a mobile app developed to support community and women's safety. She has worked as a consultant with UN Women and UN Habitat on issues of gender and urban safety on several projects around the world and has led research studies on violence against women in public spaces in cities. Further she has spearheaded the Safe Delhi for Women initiative led by Jagori, an NGO based in Delhi since 2005 and led the research work that included conducting women's safety audits and surveys and played a role in creating partnerships with key stakeholders.



She was the Project Director of the Gender Inclusive Cities Programme with Women in Cities International, an international network on women and cities. She has also provided technical support to safe city for women programs in Cambodia, Pakistan, Indonesia, Kerala, Mumbai and Kolkata. She is the VAWG and Safe city expert in an impact evaluation project being conducted by Social Development Direct supported by DFID.

She is a Board member of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) and the Chair of the International Advisory Committee of Women in Cities International (WICI). She was also on the Advisory Committee of the Second State of Asian Cities brought out by UN Habitat and UN ESCAP and has published widely and has published widely in magazines and journals. She has co-edited a book on Building Gender Inclusive Cities.