At the intersection of engineering and industry 4.0, social sciences and human factors, AI and data sciences, the Joint Research Unit for Urban Sciences (UMRsu: Unité Mixte de Recherche en sciences urbaines) is a unique research and innovation network that brings together actors from the industry, cities and universities on R&D projects for the development of smart and sustainable cities. Inspired by the Triple Helix model, the mission of the UMRsu is to foster and facilitate innovation - from design thinking, networking, training of highly qualified personnel to the transfer of knowledge to end users – and contribute to the economic development and creation of new businesses.

The UMRsu is a consortium initiated by Université Laval, Thales Digital Solutions, Quebec International and the National Institute of Scientific Research (INRS).

In the digital and intelligence era, our R&D program aims at integrating technological and social innovations and providing solutions to cities in relation to issues of urban security, transportation and Mobility, sustainable development and governance.

In each project, representatives from cities (i.e. city transportation operators, police services) team up with researchers and industry players to produce innovations that will contribute to the quality of life of citizens.