URBAN THINKERS CAMPUS

UTC
21

Resilient Cities:

Bridging the Humanitarian and Development Divide

11 February 2016

VIRTUAL Urban Thinkers Campus

World Vision®

WORLD URBAN CAMPAIGN

UN@HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Urban Thinkers Campus Partner Organizations
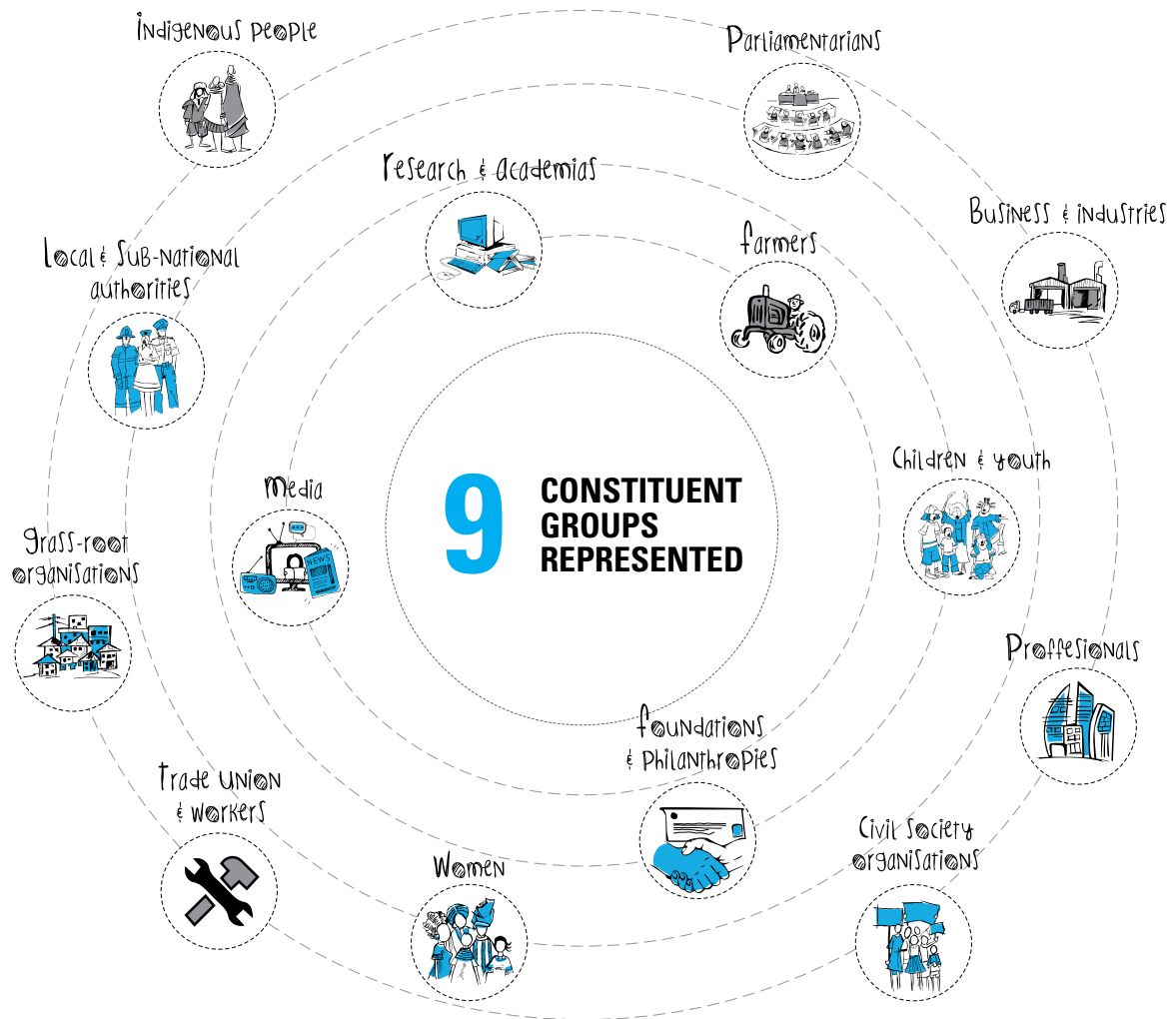
Disclaimer:

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication pages do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries regarding its economic system or degree of development. Excerpts may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat, the United Nations and its member states.

Table of Contents

Urban Thinkers Campus in figures

43 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

126 PARTICIPANTS

94 ORGANIZATIONS

9 CONSTITUENT GROUPS REPRESENTED

Indigenous people

Parliamentarians

Research & academias

Business & industries

Local & Sub-national authorities

farmers

Children & youth

Media

Grass-root organisations

Proffesionals

Trade union & workers

foundations & Philanthropies

Civil society organisations

Women

Introduction to the Urban Thinkers Campus

Climate change, unguided urbanization and an unprecedented level of forcibly displaced populations moving to cities - among other factors - have increased the likelihood, intensity, and impacts of urban crises. At the same time, cities have become the main drivers of sustainable development, equality, and inclusivity. The challenge of our time is to ensure that The City We Need is capable of adapting to its future risks and is informed by many different stakeholders, including, but not solely bound to, humanitarian and development actors. The City We Need is Resilient.

Urban Response CoP 🐦
@UrbanResponse   19 Feb 2016

Build #ResilientCities? Mogadishu & Stepanavan case studies in UTC webinar hosted by @ALNAP http://ow.ly/Yq5FB http://ow.ly/i/gO3nn

https://twitter.com/UrbanResponse/status/700629738704863232

On 11 February 2016, World Vision International (WVI) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC), representing both humanitarian and development actors, co-hosted an Urban Thinkers Campus (the Campus) focused on urban resilience. Held virtually, the Campus focused on the role of resiliency in bridging the humanitarian and development divide in order to achieve durable, sustainable, and multi-dimensional outcomes appropriated to the local context in cities. Using urban resilience as a common framework, the Campus put forth *Resilience Recommendations[1]*, a set of guidelines and principles, to support relevant urban actors to both plan for and build resilience-enhancing strategies for all cities, no matter their risks, resources, or capacity.

The Campus viewed urban resilience as an integral part of *the City We Need 2.0* with the understanding that a city is only truly sustainable if it can manage its risks well enough to prepare for, withstand, and recover from future crises. It is the collective responsibility of the international community and local stakeholders, including local governments, to meet the challenge of urban resilience, and both humanitarian and development actors play a crucial role. Whereas humanitarians have the expertise to respond to crises, development actors have the expertise to build from them. Resiliency asks for both; that international and local actors learn to not only respond to crises and aid the communities they affect in equal measure, but, in doing

so, to improve those communities to be better prepared for future crises and have a higher overall quality of life; particularly the most vulnerable groups (including children, women and youth).

WVI and IRC, as lead co-organizers, welcomed its Campus partners, including: Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP), the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), the UK Department for International Development (DFID), and the Global Alliance for Urban Crises (the Global Alliance). These partners contributed to both the organization of the Campus and to the recommendations put forth to participants during the event as both IIED and the Global Alliance are actively developing their own recommendations related to resilience and urban crises response.[2]

The Campus itself was held through a virtual webinar hosted via ALNAP's Urban Response Community of Practice platform.

Urban Response CoP 🐦
@UrbanResponse   18 Feb 2016

Resilience to achieve sustainable, multi-dimensional outcomes adapted to local urban context. Watch the webinar ! http://ow.ly/Yq4RV

https://twitter.com/UrbanResponse/status/700266251281698816

The City We Need principle(s) addressed

- The city we need is inclusive

- The city we need is regenerative

- The city we need is economically vibrant and inclusive

- The city we need is a safe city

- The city we need is affordable and promotes the right to the city for all

Matrix of linkages - TCWN 1.0 vs. new recommendations

Applying a resilience framework to the City We Need, the following changes were suggested:

Principle	Suggested additional narrative
The city we need is socially inclusive. It provides spaces for all segments and age groups of the population to partake in social and cultural expressions. It eliminates all physical**,** spatial forms of segregation and exclusion.	It promotes inclusive decision-making, planning, implementation and monitoring of strategies. This can be achieved through processes such as community consultation, collective engagement and ensuring accountability mechanisms are in place and being used.
The city we need is well planned, walkable and transit-friendly. Schools are within walking or biking distance from homes. Offices are located no farther than a few transit stops away from homes. Shopping for daily necessities is within walking distance of residential buildings and located near transit stops. Open space for recreation is near schools, work, and home.	The city understands how its risks and vulnerabilities relate to its geography, both by addressing them within specific neighbourhoods and by promoting connections between neighbourhoods so that the effects of a disaster may be less impactful in vulnerable areas and spatially balanced across the city.
The city we need is a regenerative city. It is designed to be resilient by being energy efficient, low-carbon, and increasingly reliant on renewable energy sources. It replenishes the resources it consumes and recycles and reuses waste. It uses water, land, and energy in a coordinated manner and in harmony with its surrounding hinterland in support of urban and peri-urban agriculture.	It promotes more sustainable and protective infrastructure systems, such as transit systems that are powered by renewable energy and protective of passengers from extreme heat. It promotes a city's ability to survive and recover from future shocks and stresses.
The city we need is economically vibrant and inclusive. It encourages and fosters local economic development from the smallest entrepreneur to the largest corporations. It provides a one-stop shop for streamlined licensing and other administrative services. It recognizes and protects the specific needs of the informal sector of the economy in its economic development policies and strategies.	The city gives particular attention to small businesses and the livelihoods of vulnerable populations that typically have more exposure to disaster risks. it promotes their ability to prepare for, survive, and recover from disasters that impact local economic systems. It promotes the creation of employment opportunities for youth.
The city we need has a singular identity and a sense of place. It recognizes culture as key to human dignity and to sustainability. It involves cultural actors to unlock the creative potential of all citizens. It strengthens the bonds between city and its surrounding hinterland.	
The city we need is a safe city. The city is welcoming night and day, inviting all people to use the streets, parks, and transit without fear. Public officials - the police, the fire department, and health, welfare, transit, and environmental services - and neighbourhood residents and community groups communicate frequently and speak with one voice	The city is able to ensure the safety of all during a crisis; by addressing safety issues that may arise during periods of heightening instability and insecurity (i.e. rises in crime during the aftermath of an earthquake).
The city we need is a healthy city. The city's parks and gardens are havens of peace and tranquillity and harbor local flora and fauna and biodiversity. All public and private entities providing public services (water, waste, energy, transport) work together with the city's residents and have public and environmental health as a common performance indicator.	The city takes into account the health needs of vulnerable populations, such as by ensuring access to preventative measures to avoid both public and personal health concerns as well as continued access to life-saving medical procedures or medications during and following a disaster.
The city we need is affordable and equitable. Land, infrastructure, housing, and basic services are planned with low income groups in mind. Public services are planned together with the communities they serve and consciously include the needs of women, youth, and vulnerable populations.	It promotes the participation of the most vulnerable and or financially marginalized in local markets and their access to resilient housing
The city we need is managed at the metropolitan level. It coordinates sectoral policies and actions (economy, mobility, biodiversity, energy, water, and waste) within a comprehensive and coherent local framework. Communities and neighbourhoods are active participants in metropolitan decision making.	It promotes the inclusion of all communities including women, children, and youth, and through the planning processes of local governments, in decision making, particularly as it relates to identifying their risks, vulnerabilities, needs, suitable strategies, and overall vision for a resilient future.
	The City we need is resilient. It effectively builds the capacities of local stakeholders, individuals, and communities to prepare for, withstand, and recover from acute shocks and chronic stresses. It uses urban resilience as a unifying framework for the city and its inhabitants, particularly the most vulnerable, marginalized and at-risk, in order to ensure their long term survival, sustainability, and a heightened overall quality of life.

Key outcomes of the UTC

The main outcome of the Campus is the consensus that planning for and building resilient cities is a collaborative process that requires the expertise and participation of humanitarian, development, and local actors as well as the communities they serve. This is because building urban resilience should strive to either prevent or mitigate urban crises in a manner that improves the overall development and quality of life for urban residents, particularly the most marginalized, vulnerable, and at-risk.

With this outcome as a foundation, the Campus put forth ten *Resilience Recommendations* for consideration from both Campus participants and subsequently for online public comment. During the Campus, participants reached consensus on the following sub-outcomes, as they relate to the Resilience Recommendations as a comprehensive set of principles in planning for and building urban resilience.

Urban Response CoP 🐦
@UrbanResponse   17 Feb 2016

"Resilience is an ideal framework to get perspectives of different people and to encourage collaboration"
S.Saliba http://ow.ly/Yq4Jf

https://twitter.com/UrbanResponse/status/699918793624186880

Sub-outcomes

1. Urban resilience provides an adequate framework through which we may bridge the humanitarian and development divide.

2. The Resilience Recommendations adequately cover humanitarian and crisis response considerations required in planning for and building resilient cities.

3. The Resilience Recommendations adequately cover durable development solutions required in planning for and building resilient cities.

4. The Resilience Recommendations are useful for humanitarian, development and local actors as a general framework for building resilient cities.

5. The Resilience Recommendations address concerns around vulnerable, displaced and marginalized populations and their role in resilience building.

http://www.alnap.org/webinar/20.aspx

6. The Resilience Recommendations address the various shocks, stresses and hazards cities face and the need for a holistic understanding of resilience.

7. The Resilience Recommendations are applicable to all cities, regardless of their capacities, resources, or levels of risk.

Key recommendations

The recommendations are designed so that they may be linked with other global initiatives, such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the World Humanitarian Summit, and the New Urban Agenda. They are drawn from several existing endeavors and organizations whose mandates are to define, advocate for and build urban resilience. These endeavors/organizations include 100 Resilient Cities[3], Arup's Resilience Framework[4], the Habitat III Ecology and Resilience Policy Unit[5], the Habitat III Issue Paper on Resilience[6], and the World Humanitarian Summit's Global Alliance for Urban Crises[7]. The recommendations relate to the planning and design of resilience strategies and what the strategies themselves should aim to achieve.

Urban Response CoP 🐦
@UrbanResponse   17 Feb 2016

Urban Thinker Campus webinar on Resilient Cities hosted last week by ALNAP is online ! –> http://ow.ly/Yq4fV http://ow.ly/i/gO20i

https://twitter.com/UrbanResponse/status/699903673984544768

Using these recommendations as a starting point, it is this Urban Thinkers Campus' vision that humanitarian, developmental, human rights, and local actors adopt urban resilience as a common framework through which they may align their shared goals and work together to build more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient cities, and that these recommendations are useful both in addressing urban crises and building better from them.

The planning and building of resilient cities should be:

1. Holistic and Sustainable

Ensure that cities are able to holistically prepare for, withstand, and recover from economic, environmental and social disruptions. Actors should strive for cities that operate on resilient systems[i]; that is, systems (financial, governmental, infrastructural, ecological, societal, etc.) that are adaptable, robust, redundant, integrated, inclusive, resourceful and flexible. Ensure resiliency – including climate adaptability and environmental responsibility - is recognized as a driver of sustainable development as well as a quality of it.

Urban Response CoP 🐦
@UrbanResponse   27 Jan 2016

First #Urban Thinkers Campus webinar w @IRC & @ WorldVision: Bridging the #humanitarian #development divide http://ow.ly/XxqIZ

https://twitter.com/UrbanResponse/status/692336430543179777

2. Possible and Prioritized for All Cities

Ensure that all cities – especially those experiencing protracted humanitarian crises - have the tools and technologies to assess their risks and vulnerabilities and the appropriate frameworks required to develop resiliency strategies that draw upon input from multiple stakeholder groups. Resiliency strategies, especially those for cities in crisis, should build interventions on existing urban service delivery systems, people's own recovery mechanisms, and the strength of the urban economy. For developing cities, resilience should be articulated as a means to supporting continued development and lessening the impacts of crises.

3. Disaster Resilient

Ensure that cities address underlying environmental and physical disaster risks before a crisis occurs by investing in a sustainable network of urban systems and human communities that reduce vulnerability to a range of

World Vision 🐦
@WorldVision   11 Feb 2016

What is the role of resilience in bridging the humanitarian-development divide? Join today's #urbanthinkers campus http://bit.ly/1POmvTk

https://twitter.com/WorldVision/status/697723068752535552

shocks and stresses. In the recovery process, seek ways for urban systems to learn and transform in order to build back safer. Humanitarian and development actors can assist to reduce the risk of future crises by facilitating a reconstruction process that engages local neighbourhoods, municipalities, urban planners and the private sector, among others at various scales.

4. Realized through Local Governance and Social Will

Work through local governance structures to ensure resiliency strategies are tailored to the local context, designed and implemented by local stakeholders and representative of the city's cultural diversity. Recognize the inherent resilience of urban residents, particularly the most vulnerable, and their willingness to act on it. Support localized social resilience to leverage and enhance the ability of individuals, households, neighbourhoods/communities and organizations to respond to shocks and stresses while restoring and strengthening the urban systems that support them, such as social safety nets. Resilience planning should include community engagement and awareness building, community-based needs assessments, and stakeholder and political economy mapping, among other urban planning practices.

5. Considerate of Urban Displacement

Ensure that resiliency strategies manage the impacts of urban displacement, specifically as an opportunity to strengthen existing services and infrastructure in host communities. Additionally, cities should plan for more resilient urban growth, with socially inclusive communities and local policies that promote the accommodation, and, where possible, the integration of new urban residents towards a greater social cohesion.

6. Innovative and Provide Multi-Faceted Solutions

Ensure that resiliency strategies are informed by an integrated group of local communities (and resourceful sub-groups within them, such as urban youth) and urban professionals (such as academics, engineers, legal experts, humanitarian and development actors, municipalities, among others) in order to achieve innovative solutions appropriated to urban complexity. Ensure that resilience is scalar by making it a priority at multiple levels of governance that shape the lives of individuals and the functionality of communities, cities and nations.

7. Inclusive and Empowering for All

Ensure that urban resiliency planning includes and empowers the voices of the most vulnerable populations. Give special consideration to the participation of children, women, youth, elderly, and disabled populations in resiliency planning and needs assessments while recognizing their unique risks and vulnerabilities as well as available community-based protection mechanisms. Special considerations should be given to ensure the input of all residents and the diversity of opinions that stem from faith, social status, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, age, and legal standing.

Aline Rahbany 🐦
@Aline_Rahbany   11 Feb 2016

"Any resilience initiative should be embedded in longer term development strategy & bring in collaborative actors" @filiepdecorte #urbanthinkers

https://twitter.com/Aline_Rahbany/status/697801119410434048

8. Spatially Balanced and Manage Urbanization

Given the spatial dimension of vulnerabilities and challenges related to access to services in cities, ensure that actors employ strategies that strengthen spatial resiliency, such as area-based / citywide approaches, neighborhood improvements, or engineering interventions. Ensure that resilience strategies address the spatial implications of conflict, violence, and marginalization by striving for de-escalation, social cohesion, and stronger legal standing for those living in areas that may be considered spatially separate, especially by ensuring that the systems serving those areas remain functional before, during, and after crises and that the most vulnerable have legal access to those systems.

9. Linked to Urban Economics

Ensure that resiliency strategies prioritize investment in local economic development and job creation. Engage the private sector as a means of achieving financial systems that offer opportunities for savings, loans, credit and skill-building for vulnerable groups of people, especially the youth segment. In crises, consider cash-based programming or strengthening infrastructural access to markets as a viable method of meeting immediate needs while strengthening market resilience in the long term.

Aline Rahbany 🐦
@Aline_Rahbany   11 Feb 2016

"This #ResilientCities #UTC is a first for the discussion of resilience and crises in #habitat3 discourse" @filiepdecorte @urbancampaign

https://twitter.com/Aline_Rahbany/status/697800099607367681

10. About Betterment

Ensure that resilience building seeks to achieve a higher overall quality of life, improved access to livelihoods and economic gains, stronger institutions, and the betterment of the city. Resilience is about more than surviving; it is about thriving.

Key actors

To advance towards the resilient city we need, the lists below highlight the main stakeholder groups and their individual responsibilities, building resilient cities is an endeavor that requires meaningful collaboration. Participation in resilience planning and building is a responsibility shared by all key actors.

Humanitarian Actors

- As stipulated by the World Humanitarian Summit Core Responsibility #3, leave no one behind, particularly in resilience-building planning and implementation.[9]

- As stipulated by the World Humanitarian Summit Core Responsibility #4, shift the humanitarian focus from delivering aid to ending need. [10]

- As stipulated by the World Humanitarian Summit Core Responsibility #5, shift from humanitarian funding to financing by investing in resilience-enhancing programs, local authorities and communities, and market-based approaches, especially during urban crisis response.[11]

- Engage in participatory programs that seek not only to empower program beneficiaries, particularly the most vulnerable, but to also build the capacity and leadership qualities of local stakeholders.

- Consider urban economics, disaster risk reduction, and vulnerability reduction while implementing humanitarian programs.

Development Actors

- Strive to implement development solutions during and immediately after urban crises, be they shocks or stresses.

- Consider urban economics, disaster risk reduction, and vulnerability reduction while implementing development programs.

- Ensure that urban sustainable development is closely tied to resilience principles and the stipulations of the UN's Sustainable Development Goal #11.[12]

Local Stakeholders (i.e municipalities, civic and community-based organizations, private sectors)

- Look to international good practices, case studies, and resources while planning resilience strategies and implementation.

- Strive for contextually-appropriate and locally-owned resilience strategies and to take leadership in resilience planning and building.

- Ensure that local plans and projects are closely tied to resilience principles, such as addressing vulnerabilities, reducing risks, and planning for future crises.

- Strive to address the resilience needs of all city residents, particularly the most vulnerable, marginalized, and at-risk, while leveraging social resilience in city-wide plans.

Aline Rahbany 🐦
@Aline_Rahbany   11 Feb 2016

Resilience is about betterment: Resilience is about more than surviving, its about thriving. #ResilientCities #UTC @urbancampaign

https://twitter.com/Aline_Rahbany/status/697786928960114689

Outstanding issues

While the Campus and its Resilience Recommendations are useful as a framework to promote collaboration between humanitarian and development actors involved in resilience building, there remains a lack of meaningful examples where these actors collaborated to realize urban resilience.

Aline Rahbany 🐦
@Aline_Rahbany   11 Feb 2016

The notion that the world is urbanizing hasnt been fully acknowledged in development & humanitarian debates @filiepdecorte #UrbanThinkers

https://twitter.com/Aline_Rahbany/status/697802931182043136

While each sector is improving its work in engaging and working with or under the leadership of local stakeholders, partnerships between these sectors do not happen often and enough. Collaboration across the humanitarian and development divide remains an exception to the rule and how to operationalize equitable and efficient partnerships is an outstanding issue, as some Campus participants mentioned. As such, there is a gap in evidence that delineates clear channels for collaboration between humanitarian and development actors and it is unclear as to whether research or on-the-ground real time program design will help to reveal them.

Additionally, several Campus participants raised concerns regarding the lack of evidence on how to build resilience against urban conflict and violence, particularly in Latin American cities. While recommendation number 8 asks that resilience planning considers the spatial implications of conflict and violence, effective strategies to prevent such occurrences remain an outstanding issue.

Speakers

Abdiaziz B. Yusuf, Livelihoods Coordinator – IRC Somalia

Aline Rahbany, Urban Programming Advisor – WV International

Filiep Decort, Chief Technical Advisor – UN-Habitat

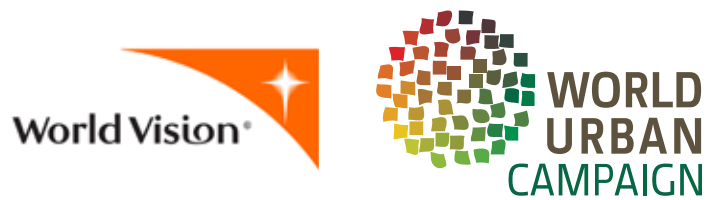**Gurgen Boshyan,** Humanitarian Emergency Affairs expert – WV South Caucasus

Samer Saliba, Urban Leanrning Manager – IRC

List of all countries present

1. Albania
2. Australia
3. Belgium
4. Brazil
5. Cambodia
6. Canada
7. Colombia
8. Costa Rica
9. Cyprus
10. Denmark
11. Egypt
12. France
13. Germany
14. Hong Kong
15. Hungary
16. India
17. Indonesia
18. Ireland
19. Italy
20. Jamaica
21. Japan
22. Jordan
23. Kenya
24. Lebanon
25. Mexico
26. Nicaragua
27. Niger
28. Nigeria
29. Netherlands
30. Nepal
31. Norway
32. Senegal
33. Serbia
34. Somalia
35. South Africa
36. Spain
37. Switzerland
38. Tajikistan
39. Tanzania
40. Tonga
41. United Arab Emirates
42. United Kingdom
43. United States

Endnotes

[1] The preliminary Resilience Recommendations discussed during the Campus and put forward for public comment are available here: http://www.alnap.org/resource/21846. The final Resilience Recommendations, updated to reflect public comment, appear in this report.

[2] Specifically, IIED is engaged in the Ecology and Resilience Policy Unit for Habitat III and the Global Alliance is responsible for recommendations on improved urban humanitarian response for the World Humanitarian Summit.

[3] www.100resilientcities.org

[4] Report available at: http://publications.arup.com/Publications/C/City_Resilience_Framework.aspx

[5] Draft for public comment available at: https://www.habitat3.org/bitcache/bf3707e74dfb5aa370d8e176e16235fe458ea769?vid=566127&disposition=inline&op=view

[6] Paper available at: http://unhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Habitat-III-Issue-Paper-15_Urban-Resilience-2.0.pdf

[7] https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/whs_urban

[8] Systems view the city as a combination of inter-dependent parts working together.

[9] http://sgreport.whsummit.org/

[10] Ibid.

[11] Ibid.

[12] The UN's Sustainable Development Goal #11 calls to "make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable," and to "substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement… holistic disaster risk management at all levels" by 2020

World Vision

WORLD
URBAN
CAMPAIGN

http://www.wvi.org/node/70031

UN@HABITAT

www.unhabitat.org