

Global Urban Resilience Forum Outcome

DUBAI'S CALL FOR ACTION:
SCALING UP URBAN RESILIENCE
FOR A CHANGING CLIMATE



WE the participants of the first annual **Global Urban Resilience Forum**, hosted by the City of Dubai and co-organized with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) as part of the Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) global partnership, 5-6 October 2023:



Recognize that the escalating climate emergency is having an increasingly negative impact on the lives and wellbeing of billions of urban inhabitants around the world.



Recall the deep concern expressed by the Member States of the United Nations General Assembly, in May 2023, in their Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework that the pace of implementation is not sufficient or equal.



Commend the Political Declaration's recommendations to support and enable local governments to strengthen comprehensive disaster and climate risk governance via the acceleration or scaling-up of financing opportunities, technical support and capacity development that promotes local ownership of resilience initiatives.



Regard the upcoming 28th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ([COP28](#)), in Dubai, United Arab Emirates as a major opportunity to scale up climate-sensitive urban resilience and development.



Reaffirm the critical importance of territorial and urban resilience as key elements of scaling up ambition and action on climate mitigation and adaptation at COP28 and beyond to avert, minimize and address losses and damages and promote climate justice for all.

Recall that resilient local and urban communities are the foundation of a resilient society.



Recognize the greater role and responsibilities of local governments in scaling up urban resilience and emphasize the need to embed climate and disaster risk reduction at the core of integrated local development planning, which is holistic and inclusive with data-driven insights for more resilient futures backed by evidence-based legal and financial frameworks.



Urge the COP process to work towards greater access to global climate financing streams, institutions, public, and private sector investments so that local governments have more capacity to develop projects and proposals that attract investments, particularly in terms of resilient and sustainable infrastructure.



Emphasize the need for more inclusive, all-of-society approaches to urban resilience that integrates gender perspectives and engages persons with disabilities, women, youth, older persons, migrants, indigenous peoples and marginalized communities in terms of policies and practices, including in Least Developed Countries (LDC), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), as well as smaller and medium-sized cities and peri-urban areas.



Call for greater investment in collective initiatives, such as MCR2030, to promote exchanges of experience, technical support, and solutions between national, provincial/state levels and local governments and to boost interregional and trans-boundary partnerships that leverage the power of networks to bridge gaps and extend reach.





Welcome the 2023 UN's International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction call to address inequalities as a major pillar of progress towards climate justice in all urban settlements.



Encourage the use of traditional, indigenous, and local knowledge and practices alongside scientific knowledge in disaster risk assessment, policies, programmes, and communication.



Highlight the need to protect and enhance cultural and environmental heritage and encourage where appropriate nature-based solutions in urban areas.



Call for the scale up of national government-led approaches on urban resilience that includes the appropriate national budget allocations and a clear division of roles and responsibilities between various levels and actors.



Recognize the importance of private sector partnership to increase access to technical skills and solutions as well as business' ability to operate and invest in a more risk-sensitive manner.



Concur with the need to address the impact of climate pressures on migration and population displacement in terms of displaced communities and their host communities.



Recommend stronger partnerships with scientific, technological, and academic institutions to improve the quality of, and access to, applicable risk information and data.

Underscore the transformative potential of technology – including artificial intelligence – in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of risk-related data and ensure that the benefits of innovation are accessible to all segments of society.



Recognize the need to strengthen data-driven approaches to inform decision making, including via the ISO37123 standard for resilient cities, as part of the ISO37120 series designed to build globally standardized key performance indicators for cities.



Call for a dramatic scale up of the UN's Early Warnings for All initiative so that every urban community is protected by 2027.



Recognize the need for a greater collective effort to scale up Forecast Based Financing projects in urban areas, via innovative funding mechanisms and public-private partnerships.



Encourage MCR2030 Resilience Hubs as recognized global leaders to increase their individual and collective commitments to build the capacity of local governments to scale up their climate action.



Agree to introduce this Call for action: Scaling up Urban Resilience for a Changing Climate declaration at the COP28 in a side event with MCR2030 members leading advocacy.



Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 6 October 2023