

2018

Annual Report 2018

Urban Resilience Programme





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Urban Resilience Programme

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Introduction

Cities around the world are expanding daily and many are dealing with multiple and varied stresses while simultaneously trying to foresee unpredictable shocks. Disasters in cities result in injuries, homelessness, and displacement, and can push people (back) into poverty. As cities grow and risk increase, so too does the impact on vulnerable urban populations. Resilience is what marks the difference between a city that can continue to thrive and recover from shocks and stresses, and one that collapses or struggles to respond. This reality continues to drive the work of UN-Habitat in the area of urban resilience and, in particular, in supporting local governments take a leading role in local resilience-building efforts. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that city actors have the capacity to become and remain resilient while promoting sustainable and inclusive urban development.

This year was punctuated by a number of important milestones for UN-Habitat's Urban Resilience Programme in all three of its main working areas: technical cooperation, knowledge and outreach. The third year of Making Cities Sustainable and

Resilient Action allowed UN-Habitat to fully develop the City Resilience Profiling Tool, its main tool for technical cooperation. With feedback from piloting cities and numerous reputable organizations, the Tool is now ready to be implemented in cities on all continents. Under knowledge, UN-Habitat initiated the process to mature the Trends in Urban Resilience flagship publication to a full state of the arts report on urban resilience. The expansion of UN-Habitat's network positions the agency strongly to take on this challenge and meet the call to better understand global practice around this theme. Outreach was the outward driving force of the Programme and the year began with the launch of the Urban Resilience Hub, the foremost platform showcasing the latest innovation in urban resilience. A series of local and global events created new spaces for exchange and synergies leading to the climax at the Barcelona Resilience Week 2019. The collective efforts of our colleagues across UN-Habitat and with dedicated support from organizations such as UNISDR, Barcelona City Council and UCLG, among many others, ensured that this event achieved its goal of empowering local actors.



Urban Resilience and global development frameworks and goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

United Nations Sustainable Development Summit.
September 2015

We address key elements of sustainable urban development throughout the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development notably and directly in SDGs 1, 2, 3, 9, 11, 13 and 14 with direct reference to resilient sectors relevant to cities; and in other goals where the references are implicit.

We also address many of the stated aims throughout the preamble and paragraphs 7, 9, 14, 23, 29 and 33 of the Declaration to the SDGs.

New Urban Agenda

United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development.
October 2016

We deliver on a number of key goals of the New Urban Agenda agreed by Member States during the Habitat III Conference:

1. New resilient planning paradigms in urban systems;
2. Legal and regulatory frameworks to enable and govern urban development;
3. Analysing risks inherent in urban areas
4. Promoting good practice in local economic, development strategies through marketing safer, resilient cities.

Urban Resilience and global development frameworks and goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

United Nations Sustainable Development Summit.
September 2015

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We also address many of the stated aims throughout the preamble and paragraphs 7, 9, 14, 23, 29 and 33 of the Declaration to the SDGs.

Paris Agreement on Climate Change

21st Conference of the Parties.
December 2015

Article 7 calls for strengthening of resilience to climate change in the pursuit of sustainable development. By engaging local governments in these efforts, resilience in cities contributes to the following principles of the Paris Agreement:

1. Adaptation (dealing with impacts of climate change);
2. Loss and Damage (minimizing loss and damage linked to climate change);
3. Role of cities (building resilience).

Agenda for Humanity

World Humanitarian Summit.
May 2016

Of the 32 core commitments (organized into 5 core responsibilities), our work aligns principally with responsibilities 1, 3, 4 & 5.

1. Political leadership to end and prevent conflict. Commitments D;
3. Leave no one behind. Commitment A;
4. From delivering Aid to Ending Need; Commitments A, B, C;
5. Invest in Humanity. Commitment A.

Leading the Global Alliance for Urban Crises is also a major commitment of UN-Habitat to this Agenda.

Timeline

- 2012** ○ Creation of the UN-Habitat's City Resilience Profiling Programme (CRPP)
- 2013** ○ Opening of the CRPP office in Barcelona, Spain
- 2014** ○ World Urban Forum 7, Medellin, Colombia:
Launch of the Medellin Collaboration for Urban Resilience
- 2015** ○ First edition of the Barcelona Resilience Week
 - Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
 - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals
 - Paris Agreement for Climate Change
- 2016** ○ Second edition of the Barcelona Resilience Week
 - World Humanitarian Summit: launch of the Global Alliance for Urban Crises
 - Launch of RESCCUE project
 - Habitat III Conference and the New Urban Agenda
- 2017** ○ Launch of the Making cities more sustainable and resilient action joint-initiative with UNISDR and EC-DEVCO. Implementation in Maputo, Mozambique; Dakar, Senegal; Port Vila, Vanuatu; and Asunción, Paraguay.
 - Local Governments Summit - 2017 Global Platform for DRR, Cancun, Mexico: Release of the Trends in Urban Resilience 2017 Publication
 - UN-Habitat co-chairs the Making Cities Resilient Campaign of UNISDR
- 2018** ○ World Urban Forum 9, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Launch of the Urban Resilience Hub
 - Barcelona Resilience Days
 - Awareness: World Cities Day (October)
 - Action: Third edition of Barcelona Resilience Week (November)
 - Knowledge: International Forum on Urbanism (December)

Year Highlight:

Barcelona Resilience Days

Barcelona Resilience Days 2018 was a series of events taking place from October-December in the host city of UN-Habitat's Urban Resilience Programme - Barcelona. The events sought to bring together leading cities and organisations from across the world to raise awareness, promote action, and build *knowledge* around urban resilience, identified as key bottlenecks to mainstreaming urban resilience globally.

UN-Habitat convened this series of events to coincide with international milestones such as World Cities Day, the Smart City Expo World Congress, and the International Forum on Urbanism. The objective of combining the Barcelona Resilience Days with these milestones was to increase participation, forge partnerships and streamline the resilience agenda across various sectors. All events were co-organized in partnership with organizations and institutions that are on the cutting edge of resilience action, research or practice in their fields.

The impact of the Barcelona Resilience Days will continue beyond this calendar year through the new partnerships, knowledge, learning, exchanges and outputs that resulted from the exchanges. The inputs from the six dialogues are shaping UN-Habitat's efforts to build urban resilience by better taking into account the realities of local governments and city actors across the board. Throughout the Barcelona Resilience Days, the message was consistent and clear: collective action and inclusive solutions are the only way to ensure sustainable and resilient cities for the future.

Awareness: World Cities Day

The first Barcelona Resilience Day focussed on raising awareness around urban resilience and was held under the theme of World Cities Day 2018 – Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities. This year's theme was a call to action to rethink how cities may become better places to protect and enhance people's lives, leaving no one behind.

Speaking at the World Cities Day celebration in Liverpool, UN-Habitat Executive Director, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif commented, "while cities are centres of action, decision-making and commerce, they are, by virtue of their concentrations of population, also centres of risk and hazards. If we don't take urgent action – we could see future disasters cause suffering and destruction on an unprecedented scale."

In Barcelona, UN-Habitat teamed up with local partners, including Barcelona City Council, to host a family-centred celebration with a variety of activities and workshops. The activities covered all aspects of city resilience, including waste reduction, urban green spaces and biodiversity, noise pollution, energy sources, and the water cycle, with the aim of helping future generations become aware of the importance of these topics from a young age. In the true spirit of a public celebration, the event took place in the superilla of Sant Antoni – one of Barcelona's new superblocks outside an iconic and central marketplace.

[▶ Video highlights from World Cities Day Barcelona](#)





Action: Barcelona Resilience Week 2018

From 11th-16th November 2018, Barcelona was the centre of global discussions on urban resilience. Building on the success of previous editions (2015 & 2016) that fostered dialogue between technical and political representatives, the 2018 edition pushed forward action to achieve the vision for sustainable and resilient cities set out in the 2030 Agenda.

A recurring theme throughout the BRW was how to reach those cities with the least capacity and how to adapt and tailor existing experiences to meet their needs. Ms. Christine Musisi, UN-Habitat Partnerships Division acknowledged that, “only by working with diverse partners and building lasting partnerships can this happen. UN-Habitat will be a pioneer in this area and the Barcelona Resilience Week 2018 has been an exercise in fulfilling this role”.

The week-long event, composed of six dialogues and numerous workshops, sessions and networking events, brought together over 500 participants to develop and foster new working partnerships and collectively face the resilience challenges of our time. The objective of BRW was to harness the commitment of initiatives such as the [Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient](#) action, the [Making Cities Resilient Campaign](#), city-to-city cooperation programmes and good practices from cities,

academia, private sector, and civil society, to scale-up resilience action at the global level. This objective was met and resulted in a growing interest in [tools for action](#) such as the City Resilience Profiling Tool and 10 Essentials.

The six key dialogue sessions addressed major topics that are both challenges and opportunities for cities to build resilience: Climate Action, Social Resilience, Informality, Governance, Partnerships, and Humanitarian Urban Crises. Drawing on expertise from city leaders, academia, international organizations and innovators, participants had the opportunity to learn and interact around these issues and plan actions adapted to their contexts.

As a pinnacle of the week and a symbol of new and innovative partnerships for action, a Letter of Agreement was signed between Port Vila Municipality and UN-Habitat in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Port Vila, Mr. Albert Sandy Daniel. Other city councils also used the opportunity of this large-scale gathering to strengthen their city-to-city collaborations, including [Barcelona](#), Gaza and Maputo.

[▶ Video Highlights Barcelona Resilience Week 2018](#)

[📄 Full Report Barcelona Resilience Week 2018](#)

Knowledge: International Forum on Urbanism

Concluding the Barcelona Resilience Days, the 11th International Forum on Urbanism took place under the theme of Reframing Urban Resilience Implementation: Aligning Sustainability and Resilience and was the Knowledge component.

The Forum was organised by the UIC (Universitat Internacional de Catalunya), in collaboration with UN-Habitat and the Urban Resilience Research Net (URNet), and brought together policy leaders and academics from various disciplines to discuss the need for a more integrated and inclusive approach to designing

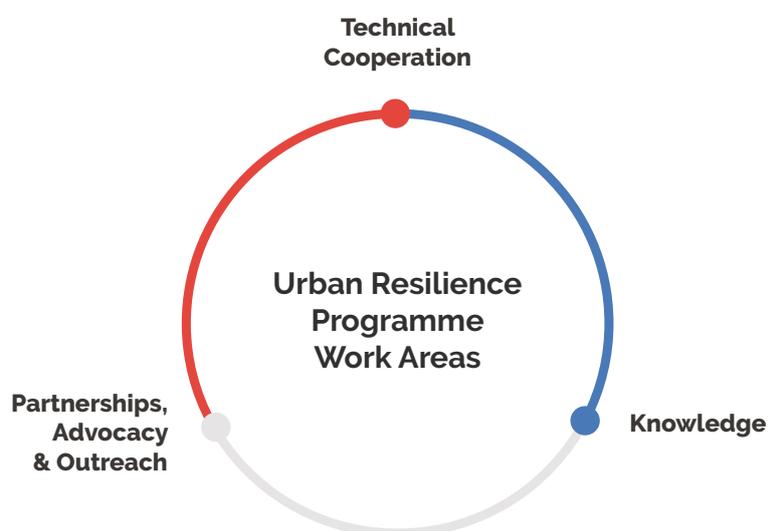
and managing urban resilience, minimising trade-offs between addressing climatic and socio-economic challenges, and maximising synergies between resilience and sustainability.

The conference followed four guiding topics: post-disaster and post-conflict resilience; climate resilience governance and planning; urban design and management infrastructures and services; and community resilience. The aim was to bridge science and policy in order to address the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal 11 of making cities, 'inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable'. Side events were also held on the ethics of climate change, a new society for a new climate, how to integrate social justice and health equity into urban greening.



Urban Resilience Programme

Work Areas



Work Area:

Technical Cooperation

Working directly with city actors local government, NGOs, civil society, regional and national governments allows the urban resilience work of UN-Habitat to identify and meet the needs of these critical partners in building urban resilience. The main vehicle for this cooperation is the City Resilience Profiling Tool, a robust and extensive methodology that has been developed over the past five years with exhaustive piloting and consultation with key end users. The Tool was given a boost in 2018 through the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilience action, co-led by UN-Habitat with UNISDR and financed by the European Commission (DEVCO).

Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient Action

This initiative seeks to support over 200 beneficiary cities to develop disaster risk reduction and resilience action through

tool development and piloting. By providing adapted tools and supporting guidance to local governments, the initiative is helping cities achieve the targets set out in the Sustainable Development Goals, notably Goal 11, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, notably target E. Results 3 and 5 are led by UN-Habitat and involve the development of the City Resilience Profiling Tool, and piloting in four cities: Asunción (Paraguay), Dakar (Senegal), Maputo (Mozambique) and Port Vila (Vanuatu). As the initiative is set to conclude in 2019, 2018 saw the completion of the Tool's methodology (result 3) and considerable advances in the implementation process (result 5).

More about the MCSR action:
[Making Cities Sustainable and Resilience Action](#)



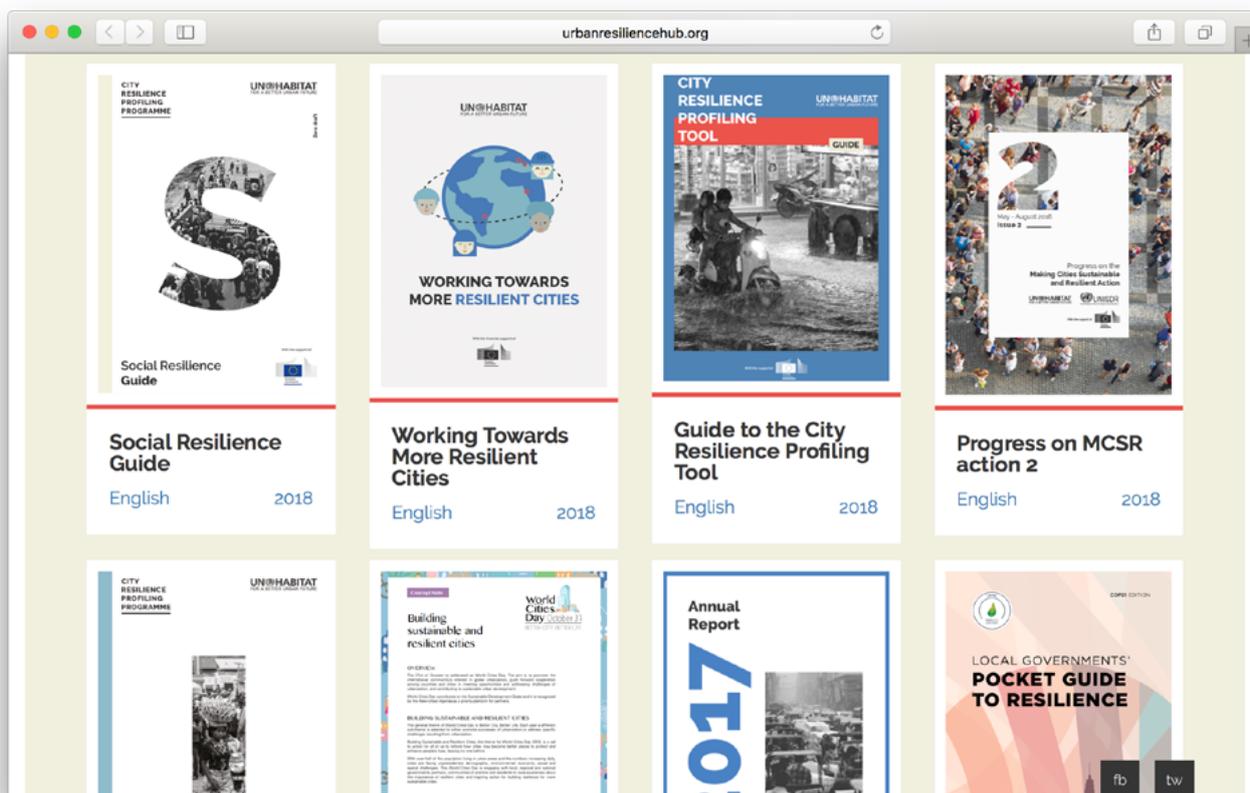
Figure 1. Blue - cities under results 1,2,4 of the MCSR action, Red - cities under results 3,5.

Result 3: focuses on key issues and challenges in linking early interventions in crisis-prone cities to long-term sustainable development.

Target: Develop and calibrate the City Resilience Profiling Tool together with a municipality.

In 2018, Result 3 was completed and a number of accompanying training products and modules of the methodology were

published. Given the complex nature of the CRPT, its development was supported by over 200 experts from various institutions, organisations and sector leaders. Development was finalized in 2018 with ongoing inputs from the pilot cities, particularly on developing the user experience of the tool and applicability in contexts as diverse as small developing island cities to large regional hub cities.



The Library - Urban Resilience Hub

Result 5: focuses on enhancing capacity to develop and implement plans to increase resilience in crisis-prone cities.

Target: implement the City Resilience Profiling Tool and develop Resilience Action Plans in 4 pilot cities.

| | Asuncion | Dakar | Maputo | Port Vila |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| Initiation | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Training | 2017-2018 | 2018 | 2017-2018 | 2018 |
| Data Collection and Analysis | 2018 | 2018 - ongoing | 2018 | 2018 - ongoing |
| Actions for Resilience | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Roadmap and Implementation | 2019 | 2019 (+) | 2019 | 2019 (+) |

Using the experience of 2018 in Maputo and Asunción, UN-Habitat defined the most effective and efficient model to implement the CRPT in cities. The CRPT Guide was published in 2018 to better inform partners working on this project about the implementation steps and capitalize on the lessons learned thus far in the MCSR Action.

Throughout 2018, UN-Habitat continued to provide targeted training and support to partners in the local government and those supporting the implementation in the cities via data

collection, analysis and expertise. Training was delivered in Barcelona or in the field by UN-Habitat, and also by local governments to their local partners in the piloting cities. The result is an initial training package that covers all aspects of the CRPT and, more generally, resources to help raise awareness and understanding of urban resilience. As the four cities are piloting, UN-Habitat's Barcelona office continued to provide support on trouble shooting, barriers, calibration and tailoring, outreach opportunities, and other aspects of implementation.

2018 training events and highlights

16th to 20th April

Workshop for focal points from the four pilot cities and Barcelona City Council. The workshop allowed for focal points to be updated on the final changes to the CRPT methodology and to share any challenges they faced in implementation. Barcelona City Council presented their [city-to-city cooperation with Maputo](#) and highlighted the exchange as a good practice in local-level exchange in on resilience. The Generalitat de Catalunya (Regional Government of Catalonia) also hosted a workshop for the four focal points on governance structures in Catalonia in order to extract commonalities and identify shared resilience challenges related to decentralisation.

16th November

During Barcelona Resilience Week, focal points from the cities as well as elected officials and technical civil servants gathered in Barcelona to share their experiences implementing the CRPT. The diversity of contexts was captured through various interventions in public events and the week ended with a closed-door meeting of the piloting cities to discuss barriers and share experiences as well as begin to visualize first cut results.

Throughout the year

In 2018, UN-Habitat visited all four piloting cities to deliver trainings and increase the political engagement in the process. During these visits (details below), high-level meetings were held with elected officials, press conferences were convened and technical workshops were organized.

Progress in Piloting Cities

Asunción

Data collection was completed in Asunción mid-2018 following considerable inputs from various departments in the local government as well as the regional and national governments. The data was also complemented by GIS data that served to verify or expand on existing sources. The resilience profile for the city was initiated in October 2018 with the first graphics circulated to key partners during the Actions for Resilience Workshop towards the end of the year.

A week-long mission was organized in October for UN-Habitat to visit the city, address bottlenecks through a diagnosis dialogue with main stakeholders, and establish the timeframe to deliver the final Actions for Resilience in line with the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient Action.

 [Asuncion City Profile](#)

Dakar

Implementation of the CRPT in Dakar was initiated in 2018 and relations were strengthened between the local government and UN-Habitat throughout the year. The incoming Mayor, elected mid-2018, is responsive to the ongoing work of UN-Habitat in the city. As interest and awareness of the project increased in Dakar, UN-Habitat was invited to several key events taking place in the city:

• **Resilience Approaches, 10th - 12th September:** Participation in the event helped raise awareness among the mostly West African participants and identified actors that may be engaged in the CRPT implementation.

• **CEPEM project, October:** Unemployment of young people in Dakar is estimated at 14.9% making it a major challenge for the local government and an important resilience consideration for the CRPT. A workshop organized under the CEPEM project (Couveuse d'entreprise pour la promotion de l'emploi par la micro-entreprise) allowed for exchange on key information around this issue.

 [Dakar City Profile](#)

Maputo

Data collection was completed in 2018 to allow for the development of provisional actions. The city's resilience profile was partially constructed in 2018 and shared with key partners in the city to develop and advance the actions for resilience. A diagnosis workshop was held in November 2018 to present the initial hypothesis and vectors of action and increase buy-in from partners.

The local government approved the proposal to establish a cross-departmental resilience unit in the city, following the model adopted by Barcelona City Council. In December, Terms of Reference for this Resilience Unit were presented to the municipality with the programme's support.

 [Maputo City Profile](#)

Port Vila

The collaboration between UN-Habitat and Port Vila Municipality was officially launched during Barcelona Resilience Week 2018 with the signing of a Letter of Agreement between the two parties. Implementation of the CRPT had initiated prior to the formal agreement and progress in stakeholder mapping was particularly fruitful in the city and resulted in early graphics and visuals for the resilience profile. The UN-Habitat focal point for the city in the Barcelona office travelled to Port Vila in mid-2018 to support data collection and analysis efforts in the city.

Lord Mayor Daniel also shared the experience of Port Vila building its resilience agenda with participants of the Barcelona Resilience Week during the Climate Action and Resilience dialogue.

 [Port Vila City Profile](#)

Partner Cities

In addition to the cities implementing the CRPT under the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient action, partner cities are also initiating or implementing the City Resilience Profiling Tool under different models. From far east Russia to the host city of UN-Habitat's Urban Resilience Programme, the adaptability of the CRPT is being tested in a variety of contexts.

Barcelona

Starting from March 2018, a second CRPT profiling exercise was initiated in Barcelona to support the preliminary analysis. This second iteration contributed to the development of the forthcoming Barcelona Resilience Strategy and the diagnostic work carried out by UN-Habitat team included support on data collection and data analysis with regards to 1) housing affordability, 2) access to services, 3) social exclusion and 4) gender inequalities in the cities.

Over the past year, Barcelona has been carrying out an operational plan that aims to create a framework and roadmap to deploy the main lines of action in the city and address risks and challenges mainly related to social resilience. The Resilience Department is hosting a series of workshops with various city council departments and multiple partners to develop a social resilience strategy for the city and promote a holistic approach to resilience-building. UN-Habitat participated in a number of these workshops in 2018 to provide expertise and insights. During several two-day workshops (2-3 July and

4-5 December), technicians from various organizations came together and shared inputs on the innovative approaches and tools being developed.

These workshops have been undertaken in collaboration not only with Barcelona municipality but also with 100 Resilience Cities.

 [Barcelona City Profile](#)

Yakutsk

Progress in data collection and analysis was considerable in 2018 and the implementation of the CRPT in Yakutsk was welcomed by the incoming administration (mid-2018). The work of the city is further being recognized through its nomination for the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize (results 2019). The city's preliminary resilience profile was published on the Urban Resilience Hub showcasing a sample of the data and information gathered under the CRPT process. Representatives from Yakutsk City Council travelled to Barcelona to participate in Barcelona Resilience Week and share their perspectives on resilience, climate action and the CRPT implementation process in their city. The incoming Mayor has responded positively to the initiative with early signs that she supports the continuation of the initiative.

 [Yakutsk City Profile](#)



City Resilience Profiling

Tool Developments

As the range of cities working with UN-Habitat to implement the CRPT broadens, the tool is continually calibrated to take account of new contexts, challenges and features. In 2018, the main lessons learned came from the cities piloting implementation under the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient Action, and inputs gathered during Barcelona Resilience Week 2018.

Accessible and adaptable to any human settlement

The comprehensive system of quantitative and qualitative indicators was consolidated in order to guarantee evidence-based and data-informed resilience diagnosis across urban system sectors. The regular dialogue and exchange with focal points from the field helped reduce the initial number and complexity of the indicators to a level that is more accessible for all local governments. The harmonization of the data entry forms has also facilitated the input process for beneficiary local governments.

Global development framework alignment

A system of benchmarks for each indicator was finalized in 2018 and was the opportunity to measure the findings in piloting cities against international development agendas, goals and standards. This benchmarking process uniquely positions the CRPT to contribute to the localizing of global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, at the urban scale by allowing implementing local governments can track

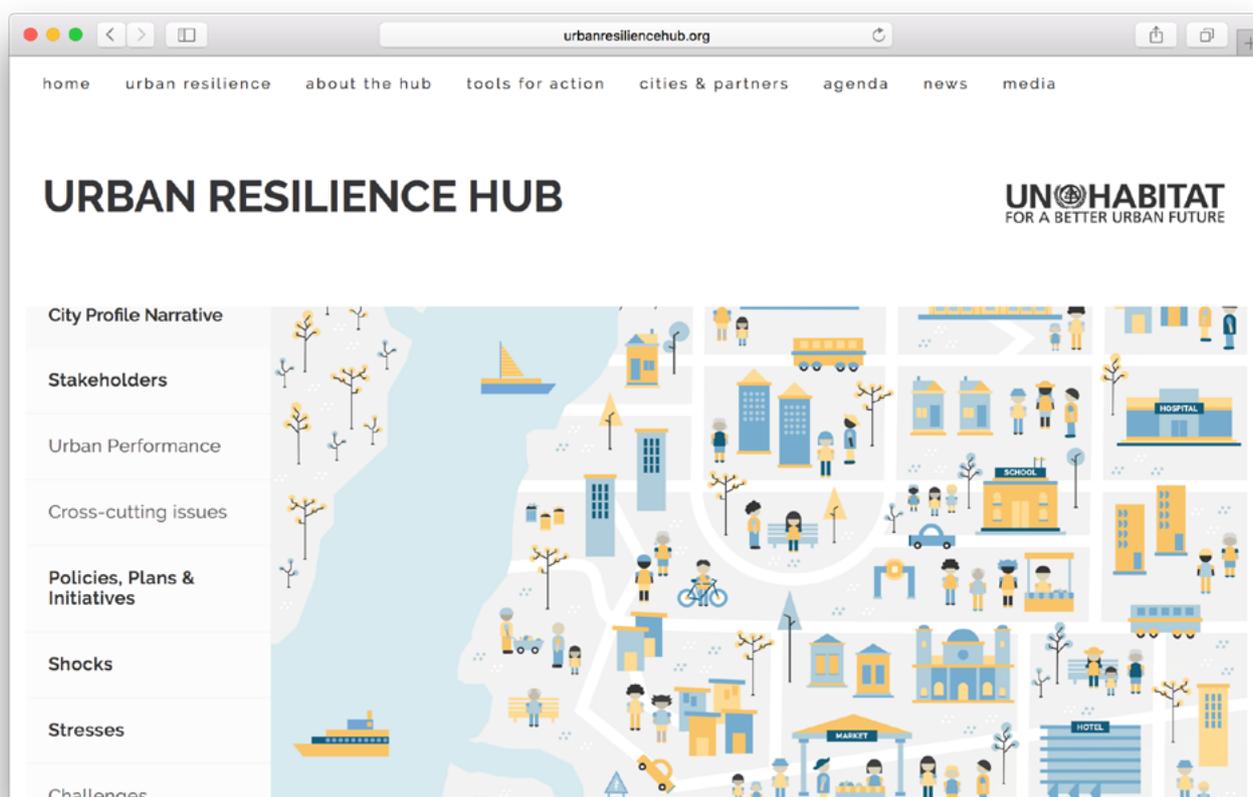
progress and monitor improvements in the attainment of the Agenda 2030.

A visual profile of urban resilience

The benchmarking process finalized in 2018 and the advanced data collection in the piloting cities were the missing piece for the creation of the visual resilience profiles of each city. The profile contains the data and information gathered and analysed through the CRPT and presents a visual and interactive dashboard for users. The modelling is currently being tested with pilot cities as a method to facilitate the process of increasing buy-in, defining actions and road mapping next steps. An early version of the profiles was shared at the World Urban Forum 9 during an interactive session in which participants were able to ask questions and provide inputs.

Incorporating ongoing plan, programmes and initiatives

As highlighted by local government partners, any effort to promote resilience must take into account ongoing work in the city. Impact is not immediate and recently launched initiatives may not yet be bearing their fruit however overlooking them will provide an incomplete resilience analysis and may result in duplicate efforts. To include this consideration in the CRPT, an extra layer of mapping has been included to capture the ongoing plans, programmes and initiatives in the city and better understand the political context.



Knowledge

After five years of collaborative learning with local governments, city actors, resilience-building organizations and academia among others, the Programme has accumulated a sound knowledge base and a range of knowledge products that can support different types of cities. In 2018, efforts were scaled-up to make this knowledge more widely available to a broader audience.

Training Material

One of the key roles of UN-Habitat in the implementation of the CRPT is to train local government partners on the methodology and, more broadly, good practices in resilience building at the local level. A training package has been tested and delivered to all partner city focal points who, in turn, become trainers for other local partners. Anchoring knowledge across various institutions in the local government and beyond is ensuring the sustainability of resilience efforts beyond UN-Habitat's intervention. In 2018, these tools were tested in preparation for the launch of finalized training products in 2019.

UN-Habitat also supported United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) develop a [peer-learning paper on disaster risk reduction](#). This paper aims to encourage cities within the UCLG network and beyond to reinforce their efforts to localize the Sendai Framework and, by doing so, create more resilient cities and a safer future for their citizens.

Enhancers for Urban resilience

The Enhancer series was designed by UN-Habitat as a way to extract modules from the City Resilience Profiling Tool that focus on specific resilience themes or cross-cutting issues. The Enhancers are designed to be user-friendly and are aimed at local governments or city actors that are seeking to establish dialogue in their cities around key resilience themes. The Enhancers include an extensive set of indicators (extracted from the full CRPT) as well as a methodology to evaluate ongoing resilience efforts in the city.

The Enhancers also provide essential context to the issue in question, which further facilitates analysis of their city's resilience in relation to the issue and create a snapshot of the city's strengths and vulnerabilities, hereby allowing users to set priorities for research and policy-making. In 2018, a number of enhancers were published in their zero draft or full format.

Climate Action: The impacts of climate change are impacting on people's wellbeing and livelihoods across the world. As the principle emitters of emissions, cities must be at the centre of climate action. This Enhancer helps identify trends, vulnerabilities, and synergies within an urban system, providing a basis on which to initiate climate action.

Gender equality: Women and men, girls and boys, each experience urbanisation and benefit from its opportunities differently according to their gender identities. This Enhancer helps gather relevant information on the relationship between gender, human development, and city resilience, in order to mainstream gender equality in cities.

Upgrading from informality: More than one quarter of the world's urban population lives in informal settlements. Informal settlements create marginalisation and segregation, and their inhabitants are often more vulnerable to health risks, natural disasters, and a lack of basic services. This Enhancer outlines a series of indicators to help local governments evaluate informality in their city.

Social resilience: Social resilience encompasses a variety of topics, from citizen wellbeing to the delivery of services. This Enhancer has three angles of analysis: understanding vulnerability from a social perspective, considering all vulnerabilities in relation to human rights; assessing the availability of services in response to people's needs; and formulating actions for resilience that adapt to local needs and can be implemented by local stakeholders.

Resource efficiency: The consumption of natural resources has increased to unsustainable levels due to poor management, population growth and rapid urbanisation, with cities now using billions of tonnes of raw materials to sustain their urban lifestyles. The concept of resource efficiency, outlined in this Enhancer, offers the opportunity to promote responsible use of resources while maintaining a good standard of living.

Human rights: The human rights-based approach elaborated in this Enhancer helps identify a pattern of human rights fulfilment between individuals (the rights-holders) and the state, whose duty it is to protect their rights. According to this Enhancer, non-discrimination, participation, accountability, and the rule of law must be central principles of resilient urbanisation.



Flagship publication: Update on Trends in Urban Resilience 2019

The call for case studies for the 2019 edition of Trends in Urban Resilience was launched in 2018. The process called for innovative practices in urban resilience from across the world to establish a state of the arts in this field. With overwhelming responses from numerous countries (India, Bangladesh, Colombia, Jamaica, Mexico, Brazil, Haiti, Tanzania, Jordan, Chad, France, among others), the topics covered include: housing construction, informal and formal human settlements, energy supplies, climate change (sea level rise, heavy rainfalls, etc.) and natural disasters (earthquakes, flooding, etc.) urban security, sustainable consumption, response to emergencies, growing small – to - medium cities, health and transportation system, high pollution rates, disaster risk reduction and management and human displacement due to conflict. With such active participation, UN-Habitat is well positioned to deliver the report in late 2019. The outcome of all six dialogues held during Barcelona Resilience Week also provided valuable inputs the forthcoming 2019 report.

Trends in Urban Resilience

Supporting Housing Guidelines After Disaster

In 2018, UN-Habitat continued the partnership with AXA insurance to develop a set of guidelines on post-disaster housing and organized a series of consultation and presentation events: the first at the Global Shelter Cluster meeting in Geneva (October), and the second during Barcelona Resilience Week (November). Inputs and initial feedback were positive and the final launch of the Guidelines was confirmed for the Global Platform in Geneva in May 2019. This joint UN-Habitat/AXA initiative draws on extensive experience to provide more equitable, coordinated, and comprehensive technical assistance.

In the wake of natural disasters, housing is the aspect of infrastructure most affected and can account for up to 50% of reconstruction costs. Inadequate design, lack of awareness

of potential risks in planning, poor materials, are among some of the causes. Despite the damage, post-disaster housing reconstruction offers an opportunity to 'build back better' or 'build back safer', improving previous shortcomings in design and materials and building more hazard-resilient, durable, and environment-friendly housing. Development of the guidelines has drawn on existing initiatives that are already designing hazard-resistant housing, raising awareness, and offering training in humanitarian shelter response.

Overview of the Housing Guidelines After Disaster

ISO standard for Resilient Cities

Internationally recognised standards on urban resilience would provide much-needed guidance for national, subnational and local governments, the private sector, and citizen associations. With the introduction of international and measurable goals for cities, the guidelines would also provide stakeholders with incentives to reach pre-established targets, and legitimise models of resilience-building and financing. In April 2017, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) endorsed resolution 134 establishing a New Working Item Proposal, entitled, 'Security and Resilience – Framework and Principles for Urban Resilience', taking a first step towards creating a comprehensive and certifiable international standard for urban resilience.

UN-Habitat refined its universally-applicable methodology for urban resilience to serve as a basis for establishing this global standard and delivered a concept note in 2018.

Throughout 2018, UN-Habitat together with working groups WG1 and WG5 within ISO/TC 292, organised a series of meetings to finalise a draft of a New Working Item Proposal. During a high-profile ISO meeting held from 7th-10th of October 2018 in Stavanger, Norway, the draft proposal was approved for publication as an ISO Technical Report – ISO/TR 22370 – and the ISO agreed to UN-Habitat developing a new international standard for urban resilience. The Technical Report is due to be published by May 2019 once all comments and suggestions from the ISO/TC 292 committee members have been incorporated.



Partnerships, Advocacy and Outreach

The launch of the Urban Resilience Hub in 2018 marked increased efforts of the Programme to promote awareness of urban resilience and share the latest thinking and action from across the globe. The year also saw many major events organized on or around the theme of sustainable urban development and UN-Habitat's Urban Resilience Programme was a leading actor in these global discussions.

Urban Resilience Hub

Since its launch in February 2018 at the World Urban Forum, the Urban Resilience Hub by UN-Habitat has received over 13,000 hits with over 100 new content pages published by external experts, programme partners and the UN-Habitat. The online platform is an integral part of the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient Action as it hosts a key part of the implementing cities' resilience profile and provides a platform to showcase progress, results and impact.

The Food for Thought and Resilience Pills sections of the website have harvested inputs from global organizations, academia and civil society organizations working on topics related to urban resilience seeking to share their experiences with the global community. The Library of resources has grown to include 36 leading tools and guidance material fully open to users, and the city profiling now includes over 30 city profiles.

 [Urban Resilience Hub](#)

Communication products

To maximize the up-take of tools and guidance, numerous communication products were developed over 2018, with a particular focus on producing audio-visual material accessible in different languages. From introductory flyers to in-depth interview with local leaders on their work, the Urban Resilience Hub and the supporting media channels (YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) are producing regular content with greater interaction from the growing public.

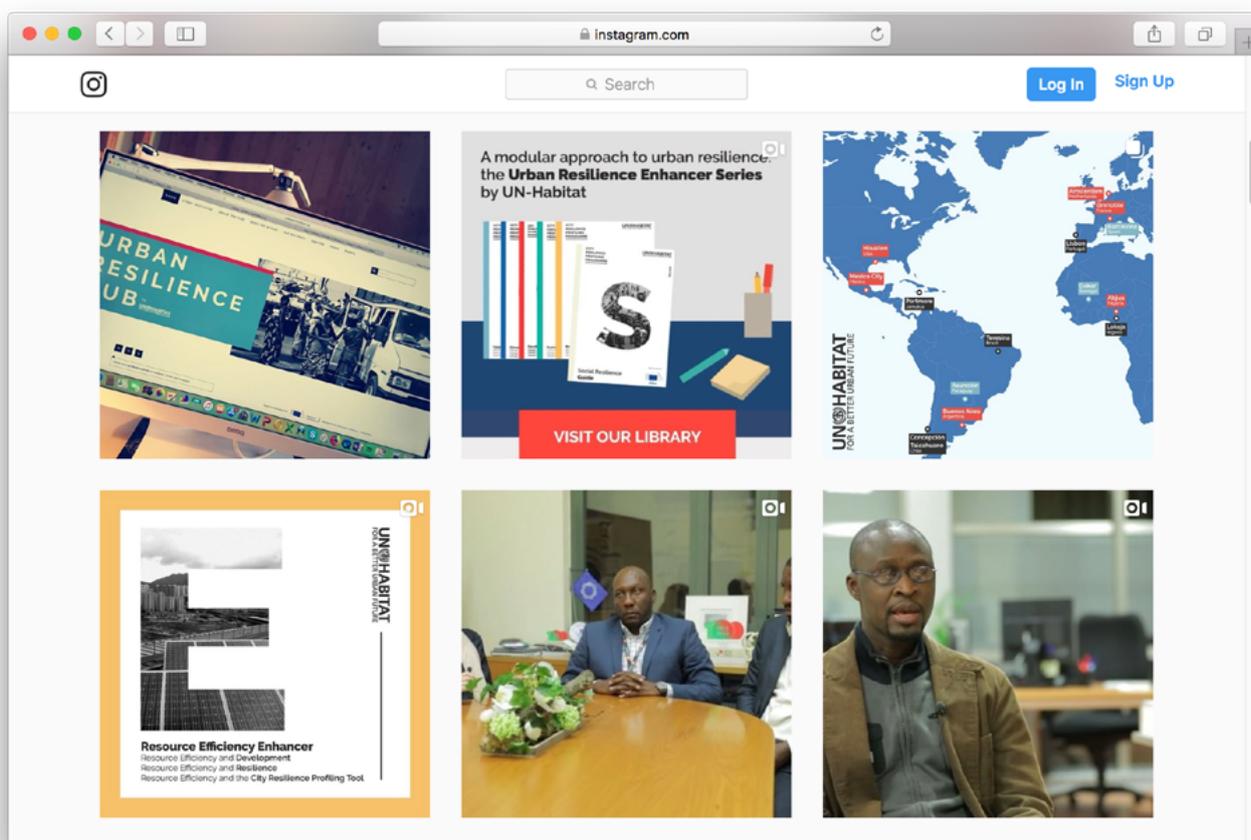
- Video Barcelona Resilience Week
- Interviews: people-centred stories (Gaza, Maputo, Dakar)
- Flyer Urban Resilience and UN-Habitat
- Press Kit: English, Spanish, French, Russian,

 [UResilienceHub](#)

 [UResilienceHub](#)

 [UResilienceHub](#)

 [UResilienceHub](#)



Global fora, Dialogues & Events

UN-Habitat Urban Resilience Programme continues to maintain a strong presence at forums and events that bring together experts and practitioners in the field of urban resilience and urban development.

World Urban Forum 9

The leading global forum on urbanization

The Programme sought to increase visibility to the experiences championed by UN-Habitat and partner cities (Asunción, Barcelona, Maputo) through a series of events and online campaigning in the framework of the World Urban Forum. Highlight events included:

- Training session for Forum participants (80+) on the City Resilience Profiling Tool, 'How Resilient is your City?' highlighting the success stories from Barcelona;
- Launch of the Trends in Urban Resilience flagship publication;
- Participation in the key dialogue on Making Resilient Cities;
- Press release on the launch of the Urban Resilience Hub by UN-Habitat;
- General Assembly of United Cities and Local Governments.

High Level Integration Segment of ECOSOC

Resilient Cities: Strengthening the Humanitarian-Development Nexus

From the 1st to the 3rd of May, the 2018 **Integration Segment of ECOSOC** was held in New York under the theme, "Innovative communities: leveraging technology and innovation to build sustainable and resilient societies". As one of the main actors involved in building urban resilience, UN-Habitat hosted a side-event that had the objective of bringing the development and the humanitarian agendas closer together. The event

included several panellists from the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**, **UNISDR**, **Columbia University**, the **Global Alliance for Urban Crises**, the **UN Major Group on Children and Youth**, and UN-Habitat itself that discussed how to enhance this nexus in urban contexts and from the local level.

Throughout the session, all stakeholders agreed that building resilience in cities is becoming essential both to push forward the international development and the humanitarian agenda. They also agreed on strengthening the call for an evidence based approach built that uses "local wisdom" and the existing capacity of stakeholders on the ground.

Resilient Cities Congress

Global commitment to collaborative resilience building on display in Bonn

The Resilient Cities Congress, held in Bonn, Germany, and convened by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability – brought together local government representatives, academia, civil society, journalists and international organizations to advance the resilience agenda and forge synergies for action.

UN-Habitat held a training session on the City Resilience Profiling Tool, attended by local government representatives from as far off as Mexico, Turkey and Fiji. The special guest was the Mayor of Pemba, Mozambique, Tagir Assimo Carimo who gave a testimony of the challenge and actions being taken in the coastal city to address climate change and build resilience. The participants (+30) were introduced to the CRPT approach and invited to create a city resilience snapshot of their city and complete a short exercise on the climate risks their city is likely to face.

Latest news from ICLEI about the **Resilient Cities Congress**



Regional Conference: Climate Change and Resilience: Lessons from West Africa

UN-Habitat at the Climate Change and Resilience conference, Dakar

UN-Habitat's focal point for implementing the City Resilience Profile Tool in Dakar participated in the regional conference Climate Change and Resilience: Lessons from West Africa, which took place from in September 2018 in Dakar, Senegal. Organised by the international NGO Innovations-Environnement-Développement Afrique, the conference aimed

to create a multi-actor platform to share knowledge, practices, real cases and political consequences of the links between climate change and resilient economic development with a regional perspective.

The considerable presence of regional actors working on resilience (African Development Bank, the OECD, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Global Green Growth Institute) allowed UN-Habitat to engage with these critical actors.

| Event | Destination Country | Destination City | Date | Role of UN-Habitat/ outcome |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|--|
| Inter Agency Standing Committee EDG | USA | N.Y | April 27 | Board member |
| Smart Island Congress | Spain | Palma de Mallorca | April 23 | Presenter, including focal point from Port Vila, Vanuatu |
| Resilient Cities Congress | Germany | Bonn | April 26 | Session conveners |
| Future Cities Show Conference | United Arab Emirates | Dubai | April 9 | Presenter |
| VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas. | Colombia | Cartagena | June 17 | Participants |
| Adaptation Futures 2018 | South Africa | Cape Town | June 20 | Presenter |
| UCLG Congress | Indonesia | Surabaya | September 12 | Presenter |
| AXA Guidelines workshop at the Global Shelter Cluster | Belgium | Brussels | September 28 | Convener |
| Climate Resilient Cities and Infrastructure | Belgium | Brussels | October 20 | Presenter |
| Urban Resilience Asia Pacific Conference | Australia | Sydney | November 8 | Presenter |
| Adaptation Futures 2018 | South Africa | Cape Town | June 20 | Presenter |
| Climate Resilient Cities and Infrastructures | Belgium | Brussels | October 20 | Presenter |

Partnerships and Communities of Practice

As global commitment to building more resilient cities grows, new opportunities for partnerships and collaborations arise. UN-Habitat is engaged a number of key initiatives that seek to coordinate global efforts and increase effective across the board through exchange and synergy promotion.

Medellin Collaboration for Urban Resilience

The Medellin Collaboration for Urban Resilience (MCUR) aims to jointly collaborate on strengthening the resilience of all cities and human settlements around the world by supporting local, regional and national governments in achieving the mandates set out in the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. As a pioneering partnerships platform, it is addressing its activity by providing knowledge and research, facilitating access to local-

level finance and raising global awareness on urban resilience through policy advocacy and adaptation diplomacy efforts.

In 2018, the MCUR members joined forces to put the urban resilience discussion at the core of the World Urban Forum 9. Among more than 20 events and activities organized by MCUR members at WUF9, a session on "Enhancing city resilience through international collaboration" put together voices from 100RC, C40, World Bank, ICLEI, UNISDR and the Mayor of Accra, Ghana, Mr Adjei Sowah.

In 2018, the MCUR (through C40 leadership) put in place the Adaptation Diplomacy project. Adaptation Diplomacy's overarching objective of is to support cities in the Global South to adapt to climate change and build urban resilience. Within this framework, a Policy Dialogue Day (Nov 6) was convened in Quezon City, Philippines, under the topic "Synergies and benefits: embedding adaptation and resilience in city action" with UN-Habitat's participation.

Another project's reached milestone was the launch of "Data speak louder than words" publication. This is the principle research product of the project, led by ICLEI in collaboration with C40, 100RC, UN-Habitat and SDI.

In 2018, the Medellin Collaboration receives a membership request by UCLG, with the endorsement of UN-Habitat.

Making Cities Resilient Campaign **Strengthened commitment from UN-Habitat to the future of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign**

Launched in May 2010, the Making Cities Resilient Campaign: "My City is getting ready!" has raised both awareness and political commitment to disaster risk reduction and resilience. The campaign has gathered over 4,000 cities that have pledged to build resilience, with many more who are adopting the tools and approaches promoted by the campaign. The campaign is guided by a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee composed of local government associations, international organizations, humanitarian organizations and academia.

As the chairing member of the Steering Committee, UN-Habitat hosted the 6th edition of the Committee Meeting in the framework of Barcelona Resilience Week 2018. In her opening remarks, Ms. Christine Musisi, Director of External Relations Division, reiterated the commitment of UN-Habitat to the campaign's partnerships and to supporting cities to address resilience through one of its key tools, the City Resilience Profiling Tool. Through the participative workshop, participants including C40, ICLEI, the European Commission reflected on the future steps of the Campaign and put forward proposals to amplify and expand the objectives past the 2020 foreseen project end.

Global Alliance for Urban Crises

The Global Alliance for Urban Crises is a global, multi-disciplinary and collaborative community of practice, promoting a vision of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and towns. Through the GAUC, urban communities and their leaders can be better equipped and prepared to face urban crises and emergencies. Its membership is organised across four working groups, each corresponding to a specific thematic objective. Together with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), UN-Habitat is mandated to co-leading Working Group 4: ensuring that humanitarian response initiatives include elements of resilience-building, and that they leverage the greatest impact in cities most at risk.

Over 2018, benefitting from generous support and commitment by the European Commission DG-ECHO, the activities of WG4, and of the Alliance in general, focused on two mutually-reinforcing work streams. Three regional consultations were organised in Surabaya (Indonesia), Kampala (Uganda) and Beirut (Lebanon), in order to gather local authorities' experience in dealing with urban crises, from a cross-contextual perspective. Drawing on its diverse composition and expertise, the working group has been working on the development of a knowledge product that would define an array of key priorities to be followed, in order to narrow the gap between humanitarian intervention and longer-term development programming. The paper is part of a series of four knowledge products that will be released by the Alliance's four working groups in February 2019.

RESCCUE

The RESilience to Cope with Climate Change in Urban Areas project gathers a diverse consortium of partners from the private, public and non-governmental sector, with the scope of providing cities with innovative models and solutions to better face impacts of shocks and stresses related to climate change. Under the European Union Horizon 2020 framework, the project is being implemented in Lisbon, Barcelona and Bristol over a period of four years (2016-20).

Throughout 2018, UN-Habitat worked closely with the Portuguese National Laboratory for Civil Engineering (LNEC) – and other consortium partners -, in order to provide the RESCCUE cities with a Resilience Assessment Framework to be applicable in each research site, as well as to deliver a structured resilience diagnosis that would inform next steps in the formulation of tailored resilience actions. The results of this collaborative effort were presented at the 5th Project Meeting in Oporto (November 2018), receiving overall validation by the three municipalities involved in the Project as well as by the wider consortium.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee

UN-Habitat's membership of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee is result of the Agency's commitment to Human Settlements in Crisis outlined in the Strategic Policy on the same topic (2007). Participating in the two annual Humanitarian IASC Principal meetings, UN-Habitat's Executive Director travelled to Geneva to attend the conference chaired by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC). In 2018 the Principals meeting discussed operations in four countries: Afghanistan, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen

 [More about this](#)

Press and Media

The highlights of press coverage over 2018 with the Barcelona Resilience Week in November 2018. 26 articles were published before, during and after the event by mainstream media and on partner websites. The news coverage included interviews with experts from the conference, reports on significant progress made during the week, such as the signing of an agreement with Port Vila, Vanuatu, and a number of articles on the Resilience Dialogues for audiences in the areas of urban design, development, sustainability, and others. Articles on Barcelona Resilience Week came from across the world, including from news sources in Spain, Nigeria, and a number of international organisations such as UCLG, UNISDR and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), amongst others. The World Cities Day celebration in Barcelona also attracted press coverage in local media in Barcelona.

Summary of all press coverage

 [In the news](#)

Programme Updates

Agreements

Signing cooperation or other types of agreements with partnering organizations allows UN-Habitat to be on the forefront of the latest research, action and thinking on urban resilience. In 2018, the following organizations became or continued their formal working partnership with UN-Habitat's Urban Resilience Programme:

- Generalitat de Catalunya
- Fira de Barcelona
- C40
- Barcelona City Council
- AXA Insurance
- Yakutsk City Council
- UIC (Universitat Internacional de Catalunya)

Human Resources

The team working in the Barcelona office was largely maintained over 2018 with the addition of four professionals recruited to support the definition and implementation of the CRPT in the four pilot cities under the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient Action. The focal points working in the partner cities continued to show commitment to the Programme and the invaluable support of interns and volunteers has ensured the punctual delivery of outputs as foreseen.

The newly elected Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, entered office in the beginning of 2018 and visited the Barcelona office to learn more about the Programme and meet the team.

Mid-term Evaluation

The mid-term evaluation of the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilience was completed in 2018 and covered the Results implemented by UN-Habitat and UNISDR. Inputs were gathered from key partners of the Programme and the overall evaluation was extremely favourable on the delivery of the results under UN-Habitat's mandate. The mid-term evaluation set forward three main recommendations for the Programme:

- Develop additional learning resources to depict different experiences of how resilience is institutionalized across different cities, advantages and disadvantages of different approaches.
- Develop educational materials easily accessible for the cities and actively cater them to the cities.
- Simplify the City Resilience Profiling Tool

The management response has been submitted to the evaluator and evaluation committee and will be followed-up accordingly in 2019.

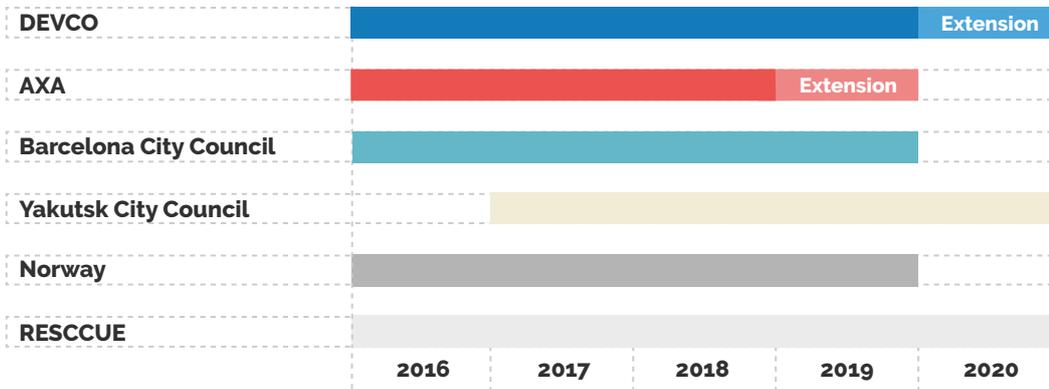


Financial situation

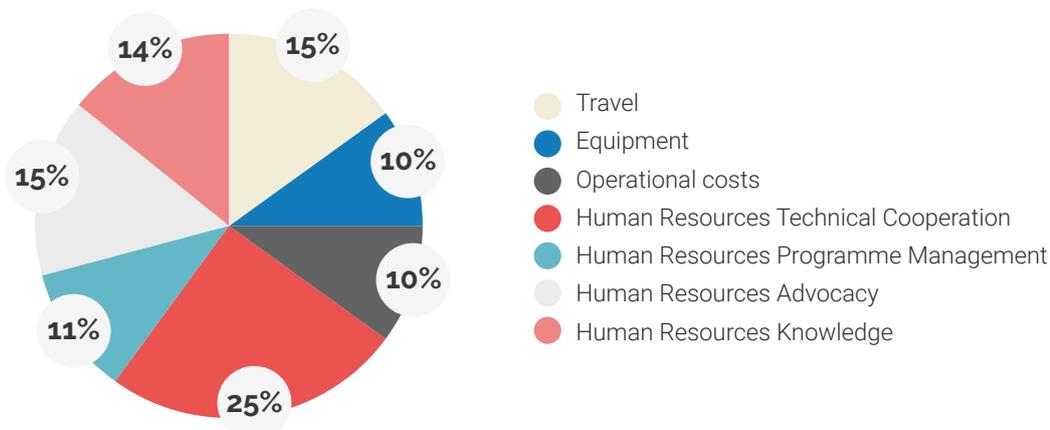
UN-Habitat’s urban resilience work continues to attract interest from a growing number of cities and new modalities to fund implementation in more cities is continually being explored. The diversity of financial contributions to the Programme should

ensure longevity to projects and create a financially stable environment in order to provide the best possible service to beneficiary cities. The ongoing collaboration with the European Commission DEVCO remains the largest source of income for the Programme with renewed contributions from the Government of Norway and Barcelona City Council supporting all aspects of the Programme.

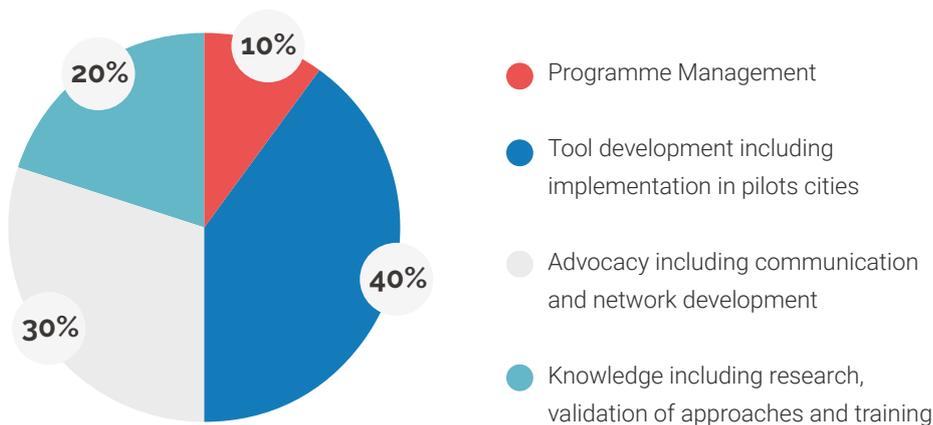
Overview of grants



Expenditure 2018 by type



Expenses by work area



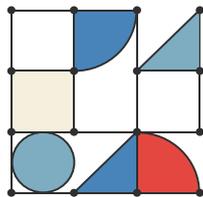
Conclusions and prospects

In 2018, scientists highlighted that our current efforts to address climate change and towards the vision of a sustainable world, were insufficient. In 2019 and beyond, UN-Habitat will scale-up efforts to play its part in ensuring that cities are safe, resilience, sustainable and inclusive places for people to live, particularly by addressing the risk and disaster agenda. The support provided by UN-Habitat stands to empower many more cities to understand and address their risks. In this regard, the Urban Resilience Programme has set even more ambitious targets for the coming year and scale-up impact on those living in cities.

The positive experiences in the cities implementing the City Resilience Profiling Tool have given the Programme important guidance on how to scale-up technical cooperation with cities. An early tendency that we can see from our partner cities is that the CRPT sets them up well to create long-term resilience mechanisms in the cities. In two of the cities, the Municipality is exploring options to create a resilience unit, building on the new partnerships formed in the city and strengthening the evidence base created through data collection and analysis. The Programme will continue to track these cases and communicate to the wider resilience community on the practice.

As we approach the final year of Target E of the Sendai Framework in which local governments are called upon to develop disaster risk reduction strategies, we will seek to reach more potential cities partners through bolder outreach and communication in 2019. Although there will be no Barcelona Resilience Week in 2019, the numerous local and international events provide a fruitful backdrop to present the Programme in innovative ways. Extracting the stories and the human element of urban resilience will be the tone of much of our outreach work over the coming year.

Our growing number of communities of practice (Medellin Collaboration on Urban Resilience, Global Alliance for Urban Crises, among others) are increasingly called for collective efforts to move towards more active collaboration. UN-Habitat will seek to lead these efforts and put forward a clear and win-win path for all partners to work together towards our common goal of building more resilient cities.



If your organization would like to support or find out more about UN-Habitat's Urban Resilience work, please contact us at

info@cityresilience.org
www.unhabitat.org/urbanresilience

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