



Resilient Cities

The annual global forum on urban resilience and adaptation

Background information and partnership opportunities



Resilient Cities 2015: 8-10 June 2015, Bonn, Germany



NACHHALTIGKEIT.
SUSTAINABILITY.
DURABILITÉ.
BONN.



World Mayors
Council on
Climate Change





Every year

- Over 450 participants
- from more than 60 countries
- 3 days with over 40 sessions

What is Resilient Cities?

Resilient Cities is the annual global platform for urban resilience and climate change adaptation. It is convened by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and co-hosted by the World Mayors Council on Climate Change and the City of Bonn. Resilient Cities was launched in 2010 with the goal of forging partnerships and dialogues that matter, with lasting impacts for cities. Five successful editions have made this goal a reality.

Special features of Resilient Cities

A legacy of leadership

Resilient Cities is organized by ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability, which has been globally supporting cities in the field of climate change adaptation and resilience building for more than a decade. The forum builds upon a global partnership of more than 40 organizations highly engaged at the city level in this area, a Program Committee of renowned experts in the topic, and committed high level patrons actively involved in the Resilient Cities strategy.

Diversity and high quality audience

With a community of practitioners including local government experts and leaders, researchers, students, academics, businesses, international organizations, and NGOs, the Resilient Cities global forum leads by example. It offers a multi-discipline approach to stakeholder cooperation, capacity building, and knowledge sharing from experts around the world.

Interaction beyond networking and idea generation

The Resilient Cities forum is the place where partnerships are forged and strengthened, where results are showcased, challenges are addressed, and opportunities identified. After four editions, it is now clear that the community around the Resilient Cities forum is one of the most active in the field of urban resilience and climate change adaptation. The result is a global hub of expert participants and speakers leading in cutting edge policy, plans, and actions on urban adaptation and resilience.



“Urban resilience doesn’t happen overnight, but with appropriate support and when linked to networks of practitioners, even cities with limited capacity and money can implement climate resilience projects.”

Heather Grady
Vice President of Foundation Initiatives,
Rockefeller Foundation



“In my opinion, we can be optimistic... because we have something very important: the triple A, I shall say: Ambition, Action, Alliances. The ambition to cope with climate change and its impacts! Action in mitigation and adaptation! Alliances with our peers, our communities, with stakeholders and other levels of governance!”

Jürgen Nimptsch
Mayor, City of Bonn, Germany; Vice Chair, World Mayors
Council on Climate Change



Congress program

General Program

The Resilient Cities series aims to cover all aspects of resilience. During presentation sessions, workshops, and panel discussions, over 200 leading experts every year present on established and emergent practices in urban resilience. Ideas for cities in all phases of adaptation planning are discussed. Parallel sessions focus on topics such as finance, multi-stakeholder collaboration, planning and policy-making, and ecosystem based adaptation. Specific aspects of adaptation are highlighted each year in thematic forums.

Thematic Forums

Select aspects of adaptation are highlighted each year during full or half day thematic forums. Previous forums include:

Resilient Urban Food Systems Forum (2013)

Over seventy interdisciplinary actors gathered for one day to discuss the implementation of resilient city-region food systems. The forum covered six sessions including partner-led workshops, nine city case study presentations, and open sessions of the Mayors Adaptation Forum. During special breaks, participants connected with innovators like forum sponsor Plantagon International AB.

Resilient Building and Construction Forum (2014, 2013, 2012)

This forum saw the exchange of information, experiences, and dialogue on buildings at risk, environmental impact considerations, and green and resilient building design and construction. The forum convened in 2012 and for a half day in 2013 in cooperation with the US Green Building Council on behalf of the World Green Building Council and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

Resilient Urban Logistics Forum (2012)

Organized in cooperation with Deutsche Post DHL, this full day forum focused on solutions for resilient urban logistics. Congress participants were engaged at a special exhibition and in four dedicated sessions. These sessions consisted of an opening panel, an interactive workshop, case study presentations with local governments, Siemens, SAP, and DHL, and a closing discussion.

Mayors Adaptation Forum

In cooperation with the World Mayors Council on Climate Change, this annual forum fosters close dialogue between local and global leaders. Mayors and municipal leaders discuss how to advance local adaptation and resilience agendas and commit to these ideas in an annual Bonn Declaration of Mayors. They also connect to global climate decisions through campaigns and commitments like the Durban Adaptation Charter for Local Governments.

Reality Check Workshops and City Case Studies

Resilient Cities provides a unique opportunity for local governments to showcase their work on adaptation and resilience. 'Cities in Focus' sessions show how different cities approach similar aspects of adaptation. Participants also engage with cities and project stakeholders in interactive workshops on adaptation practice. These include Reality Check Workshops, a signature congress element focusing on adaptation action in a specific city. City delegates share lessons learned and receive feedback from peer cities and global experts. Reality Check Workshops have featured Dhaka, Bangladesh; Durban, South Africa; Miami, USA; Quito, Ecuador (2010); Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Lagos, Nigeria; London, UK; Semarang, Indonesia (2011); Sorsogon, Philippines; Copenhagen, Denmark; La Paz, Mexico; Ancona, Italy (2012); Vancouver, Canada; Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (2013); Bologna, Italy; Santiago, Chile (2014).

Partnership opportunities

Run a forum

Thematic forums are special program elements of each Resilient Cities conference. Forums provide key partners the opportunity to hold panel discussions, presentations, workshops, and debates on topics of importance to their field of expertise. We can assist in ensuring that essential topics for resilient cities are covered and that your forum is well received by the audience. Forums are an outstanding opportunity to network and gain exposure to leading concepts, thoughts, and experts on the topic of city resilience.

Host a side event

Side events are a great way for your organization to be involved in Resilient Cities. Coinciding your event with the congress helps you reach a wider audience and extend the dialogue on urban resilience. Side events have included a Plantagon International AB and ICLEI “Urban Agriculture Strategy Meeting” (2014), the Climate and Development Knowledge Network’s workshop “Subnational Climate Compatible Development” (2013), an International Renewable Energy Agency workshop “Renewables for Resilient Cities” (2012), and a UN University and UN Habitat event “Building Capacity on Urban Resilience in Universities” (2011).



Sponsor a session

Reach experts, practitioners, and city officials during a dedicated one and a half hour session at Resilient Cities. Sponsor a workshop, training, panel discussion, or presentation session on a congress theme related to your organization. Previous sponsored sessions included “Measuring urban resilience infrastructure,” sponsored by Siemens (2013), a workshop on “Adaptation and mitigation in the Rhine river basin in North-Rhine Westphalia,” sponsored by the German state of NRW (2014).

Showcase your work as an exhibitor

Resilient Cities offers a unique opportunity for cities, organizations, businesses, and academic institutions to present projects at the congress exhibition area and interact directly with a wide array of experts from various geographical and professional horizons. You may launch your initiatives and publications either at the exhibition stand or on stage during a coffee break. Previous congress exhibitors included: Deutsche Post DHL, ARUP, German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), UN-Habitat, the European Investment Bank and Esri.



"I leave with a lot of experience not only to make my city, Bangkok, more climate adaptive but also to make its residents more aware of resilience."

Sermsook Noppun

Environmentalist, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Thailand



"Just like sustainability, resiliency is a journey not a destination. Together, we have embarked on this important journey to find the answers to these questions, which will pave the road to a more sustainable and more resilient built environment."

Jason Hartke

Vice President, National Policy, U.S. Green Building Council, Washington, DC, USA



"Now, in the run-up to Lima and Paris, is the time for city leaders to interact effectively with national governments. This is why I'm pleased to see the success of Resilient Cities... paving the way for cities around the world to play a key role in the upcoming international climate negotiations."

Christiana Figueres

Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)



"Resilient Cities 2014 was a great opportunity to connect with colleagues from around the world, and also from home. I can see many collaborations growing over the next few years."

Alex Aylett

Banting Postdoctoral Fellow, MIT, Cambridge, USA; Professor, National Institute for Scientific Research (INRS), Montreal, Canada



"I've learnt a lot from this congress. I'm sure that all these discussions and suggestions and ideas will help and give a great assistance for my town and also for my country... I will always encourage other cities to join so that together we can fight climate change and reach our goal. All of us should seize this opportunity to provide our assistance."

Mario Désiré Bienvenu

Mayor, Municipal Council of Curepipe, Curepipe, Mauritius



More of Resilient Cities

Resilience Resource Point

The Resilient Cities website offers more than 100 studies, reports, handbooks, and books covering topics such as urban resilience planning, adaptation policy development, resilient development, costs and finance, risk reduction, food systems, and resilience methodologies and tools.

More than **100** publications

Monthly updates and social media

Monthly newsletter updates from Resilient Cities provide the latest project news and information on ICLEI's adaptation and resilience work. Newsbits are also shared on www.iclei.org/resilient-cities and via Twitter and our partner networks.

Over **6500** subscribers

More than **3800** followers

Webinar series

From September to November, ICLEI hosts an annual series of webinars on urban resilience and adaptation. The webinars feature expert speakers and local government representatives who build on conversations initiated at Resilient Cities. The webinars provide an opportunity for congress attendees and others to stay connected and up to date on urban resilience.

11 webinar sessions

Over **380** participants

Congress outcomes

Key outcomes of the Resilient Cities congress are summarized in an annual report distributed to participants and partners. More in-depth information is available in the congress proceedings, a collection of papers by congress speakers. The proceedings from 2010 to 2014 contain over 130 articles by leading experts in the field of urban adaptation and resilience. Lastly, presentations from the congress series are available on the Resilient Cities website.

Over **130** articles in **2** books and online

Over **620** presentations





Save the Date!

Resilient Cities 2015

8-10 June 2015

Bonn, Germany

For the sixth year, the Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation will provide a platform to discuss and create solutions. Key themes this year will include: integrated planning approaches, communicating resilience and applying ICT solutions in disaster management, and urban risk data and analysis.

Resilient Cities 2015 Call for Contributions

1 October - 10 December 2014

Contribute to the Resilient Cities 2015 congress! Proposals will be accepted for presentations, panels, workshops, trainings, posters, Reality Check Workshops, and co-events. Submit online at resilientcities2015.iclei.org



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Resilient Cities series

Patrons have been:

- **Helen Clark**, Administrator, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) (2011, 2013 and 2014)
- **James Nxumalo**, Mayor, eThekweni Municipality/Durban, South Africa; ICLEI Vice President and Resilient Cities portfolio holder (2013 and 2014)
- **Christiana Figueres**, Executive Secretary United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- **Dirk Niebel**, German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development (2010 and 2013)
- **Norbert Röttgen**, (Former) German Federal Minister for Environment, Nature and Conservation and Nuclear Safety (2010 and 2012)
- **Joan Clos**, UN Under Secretary General and Executive Director, United Nations Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (2011, 2012, and 2013)
- **Margareta Wahlström**, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNISDR (2012 and 2013)
- **Peter Altmaier**, German Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (2013)

Resilient Cities series partnership

Corporate sponsors 2013:



Key Solution partners 2012:



Silver sponsor 2011:



Corporate sponsor 2010:



Media partners:



Corporate sponsors 2014:



Previous supporting partners:



Endorsing partners (current and previous):

