



UNISDR
The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



Photo credit: Alessandro Zanchini

Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience



This Programme will address one of the key underlying drivers of disaster risk: poor urban governance. By 2050, 70% of the world's population will live in urban areas. As cities continue to grow, exposure of lives, livelihoods and economic, social and environmental assets is set to increase exponentially. The local level is the frontline of addressing disaster risk and is where significant gains can be made.

Awareness and capacity-building through the Making Cities Resilient Campaign

The Campaign is UNISDR's main tool for advocating disaster resilience at the local level. It supports sustainable urbanisation by: promoting actions that build resilience; increasing local understanding of disaster risk; and encouraging disaster risk reduction and climate change to be a policy priority. The

Campaign comprises 1,640 participating cities and has established a global network of experts and advocates. In 2014-2015, UNISDR will continue to promote political commitment to urban resilience by encouraging municipalities to sign up to the Campaign and implement its Ten Essentials. UNISDR will train decision-makers from Campaign cities and develop an online urban resilience market place, hosted by PreventionWeb, linking cities, peer experts and partners.

Increased understanding of current and future risks in 100 cities

UNISDR will support cities to account systematically for disaster loss and to develop probabilistic estimations of future disaster risk. It will provide evidence to support the integration of climate change adaptation measures in development activities. UNISDR will work with selected Campaign cities to establish local disaster loss databases, develop urban probabilistic hybrid risk models and build capacities to analyse and apply the data in the context of public investment, land use and urban plans.

Local resilience and investments measured

The Local Government Self-Assessment Tool (LGSAT) is the first global attempt towards measuring the progress of risk reduction at the local level. It is currently applied by 556 cities to improve understanding of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in the local context. The self-assessment reports can be used as a baseline of disaster risk reduction actions by local governments. Collectively, these reports can provide a better understanding of how to strengthen local resilience and address challenges. UNISDR will continue to assist cities to measure their progress through the LGSAT, as well as further disseminate and develop the tool.

Climate and disaster resilient city action plans

UNISDR will continue to assist Campaign cities to strengthen the resilience of critical urban systems to prepare municipalities for major hazards. In coordination with partners, including the private sector and academia, UNISDR will utilise tools such as the new City Resilience Scorecard. The Office will facilitate Resilient City Action Plans that are comprehensive, actionable, measurable, and aligned with the long-term plan of the city. As part of this, UNISDR will build the capacity of responsible offices and facilitate policy dialogues between cities and national counterparts, as well as private sector and development partners.

Worldwide initiative for safe schools

In the lead-up to the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015, a group of 10 or more interested countries will be encouraged to become "Safe Schools Country Champions" and pledge action to a worldwide initiative. To build social demand UNISDR will develop and lead a preliminary "crowd-sourcing" initiative to help locate vulnerable schools. This will be based on three key pillars of safety: disaster-resilient educational facilities; disaster risk reduction integrated into school curricula; and school preparedness.

2014-2015 Resource Requirements (All figures in '000 US\$)

3. URBAN RISK REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE		9,557
3.1	Campaign advocacy and capacity development	1,200
3.2	Increased understanding of current and future local risks in 100 cities	1,300
3.3	Measure local resilience and investments	1,400
3.4	Climate and disaster resilient city action plans	2,058
3.5	Worldwide initiative for safe schools	2,500
Programme Support Costs (PSC)		1,099