



## **SIDE EVENT**

### ***Building Safer and Resilient Cities and Settlements*** ***Tuesday 21 May 2013, 14:00 – 14:55, Room - C-CCV***

<b>Organizers</b>	UNISDR, UN-Habitat, UCLG, Marsh
<b>Background and Rationale</b>	<p>The cost of urban disasters during 2011 alone is estimated at over \$380 billion with the largest impacts felt in Christchurch, New Zealand; Sendai in Japan, and Bangkok. The social and economic impacts on these cities were not only felt within the immediate areas, but also nationally and globally. In addition, disasters in the Philippines in 2012 and hurricane Sandy which hit both the Caribbean and the States demonstrate the needs and gaps in cities and systems for promoting urban resilience. Experience shows that urban settlements and their capacity to withstand and recover from disasters vary considerably in Asia –Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa for instance and no baselines, tools and guidance to cities are available to strengthen capacity of urban areas to withstand crises. With 50% of the world's population already in cities and substantial projected urban population increases over the coming decades, the rationale for new tools and approaches that strengthen the capacity of local administrations and citizens to better protect human, economic and natural assets of our towns and cities is strong. Currently, most approaches are risk based, or disaggregated to sectors, as standards are either not developed or harmonized in an urban approach. Incentives for urban governments and urban planning and local communities to increase resilience do not exist yet.</p> <p>Since 2010, the UNISDR Making Cities Resilient campaign has spurred cities to commit in making their cities resilient and has established a fairly successful monitoring mechanism to review and assist cities in measuring their progress in the implementation of disaster risk reduction.</p> <p>UNISDR and UN-Habitat with partners such as UCLG , Marsh and partners of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign will focus on establishing clear standards, city resilience profiles and menu of tools for cities. Such profiles will be developed through multi stakeholder process in cities that urban authorities, planners, engineers, Government and NGOs, private sector, architects, economists, and other professionals who manage and develop cities can target and use to ensure cities actually do become <b>measurably more resilient, identify weaknesses and strengths and use tools to make progress that can be compared.</b></p> <p>The event will bring together cities and city networks, National Governments, civil society, UN agencies, the private sector to discuss strategies to build safer and resilient urban settlements.</p>
<b>Session Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What and how has local HFA helped in measuring local and urban resilience?</li><li>- What will be the core components of urban systems model and</li></ul>

	<p>global standards framework and how cities, humanitarian and development actors can benefit from this?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is the role of cities and networks, partners and urban stakeholders in defining an urban model for building resilience and which tools and capacities are needed? Which stakeholders do we need to connect to in an urban context beyond sectors?</li> <li>- Which type of actions can be undertaken in cities and towns to promote resilience before crises and in urban disasters based on experiences to date of agencies and cities?</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion agenda and structure</b>	<p><i>Moderated by: Mohamed Boussraoui, UCLG</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. City resilience profiling programme and urban systems model for resilience (Dan Lewis, UN-Habitat)</li> <li>2. Status of Disaster Risk Reduction in Cities and Localities Local HFA (Abhilash Panda, UNISDR)</li> <li>3. Working with the private sector to reach city risk maturity and build resilience (Eddie McLaughlin, Managing Director, Marsh)</li> <li>4. Question and Answer</li> </ol>
<b>List of expected outcomes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To galvanize support on promoting resilience in cities and urban settlements globally</li> <li>2. Outline key elements of a global monitoring system, urban systems model for urban resilience with cities, city networks and partners and milestones for 2015 and beyond</li> <li>3. Discussion on menu of tools and options for cities, urban authorities, private sector to build safer and resilient urban settlements</li> </ol>