MCR2030 Europe and Central Asia Resilience Hubs
About MCR2030: Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) is a global partnership that has mobilized more than 1,600 local governments, representing over 532 million people, committed to strengthening their disaster and climate resilience. Twenty-three of these municipalities are recognized as Resilience Hubs – global leaders in disaster risk reduction (DRR). The partnership has also mobilized international organizations, national governments, private sector enterprises, academic organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). MCR2030 is a ‘who’s who’ of partners with unmatched expertise in and experience of supporting greater urban resilience.

Resilience Hubs: MCR2030 Resilience Hubs are local authorities that have been recognized for their established track record in DRR and resilience, and that are committed to supporting and mentoring other MCR2030 cities and municipalities. Resilience Hubs have a critical role in knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and the creation of learning opportunities for local governments.

Resilience Hubs provide a range of support initiatives that include, but are not limited to:

- hosting national, regional or international events on disaster and climate action
- coordinating study tours to showcase practical examples and share experience
- twinning with other cities to provide support and mentoring on specific issues
- providing technical assistance and capacity-building support to raise awareness and develop and implement disaster resilience strategies
- publishing and disseminating case studies of good practices, lessons learned and policy options
- providing access to partners who can support twin cities to progress along the MCR2030 resilience roadmap
- injecting seed financing or providing implementation support to other municipalities
- testing MCR2030 tools and contributing to the development of related guidance notes
- becoming a resource centre for urban resilience and/or a regional hub/secretariat for MCR2030.

MCR2030 Resilience Hubs can be contacted for support through the MCR2030 Dashboard: https://mcr2030dashboard.undrr.org/
Amadora, Portugal

Committed to an all-of-society approach to resilience

The municipality of Amadora has made an explicit effort to engage both its younger and more elderly populations in strengthening its disaster resilience. The municipality’s Senior Academy – Civil Protection Amadora initiative increases the awareness of disaster risks among its elderly population, while promoting elderly people’s role as active and productive citizens in society. The Senior Academy has received several awards and is recognized as an example of a successful intergenerational approach to resilience-building.

In tandem, Amadora organizes a range of awareness-raising activities in schools, as well as workshops and training sessions for the wider community, and also organizes logistical support for civil protection services. The municipality has committed to involving its entire community in developing local resilience strategies that cover prevention, preparedness, response and recovery efforts.

Amadora was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2022.

*Amadora’s commitment as a Resilience Hub*

• Organize training sessions to support other Portuguese cities on local resilience and share community resilience experience.

• Organize city-to-city exchanges on strengthening institutional capacity and disaster resilience governance.

• Organize a conference or webinar to promote the theme of resilience and MCR2030.

• Participate in national and international discourse on urban resilience.

• Support scientific research or technical publications about local good practices in DRR.

*Amadora’s official website: https://www.cm-amadora.pt/pt/*
Barcelona, Spain

Decades of experience of support and partnerships in urban resilience

The city of Barcelona has developed comprehensive risk management systems that take account of climate change, environmental challenges and other urban disaster risks. These systems have a strong focus on the socioeconomic dimensions of resilience. Under the overall coordination of the Department of Urban Resilience, the city’s approach to resilience has evolved over decades and become more integrated, with disaster resilience now firmly at the core of its Climate Plan 2018–2030. Barcelona has shared its expertise through joint projects with other cities such as Dakar and Maputo, and has also offered technical support to policymakers in Bogotá, Gaza City and Tunis. With fresh lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, the city continues to lead in the development of innovative solutions for urban resilience.

Barcelona was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2021.

Barcelona’s commitment as a Resilience Hub

• Enhance city-to-city cooperation.
• Exchange knowledge and promote the Barcelona model.
• Lead global advocacy on resilience-building and raise awareness.
• Strengthen partnerships with city networks and international programmes.

Barcelona’s official website: https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/en/
Bonn, Germany

A decade of dedication and collaboration to foster urban resilience

The city of Bonn has been a leader in climate adaptation, disaster management and resilience, both at the local and global levels. Prioritizing preparedness for floods and heatwaves, Bonn has hosted 10 ICLEI Resilient Cities Congress events and three Daring Cities conferences. In 2010, Bonn joined the United Nations’ Making Cities Resilient campaign, launching the MCR2030 initiative at the first Daring Cities event. Bonn’s strength in resilience lies in its collaboration and networking, notably through the Bonn Network International Civil Protection and Disaster Risk Reduction, bridging the United Nations with local stakeholders, academia and practitioners. Strategic objectives include raising risk awareness, conducting assessments and implementing local resilience strategies.

Bonn also strives to strengthen vertical links between local and national governments, while fostering horizontal collaborations among diverse partners, including communities, the private sector, academia, the media and political leaders. Bonn actively shares knowledge and experience, fostering a culture of learning and collaboration with other cities.

Bonn was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in June 2023.

Bonn’s commitment as a Resilience Hub

• Host a regional forum on adaptation.

• Organize a round table with other Resilience Hubs, local networks and stakeholders.

• Organize a series of webinars and lectures on sustainability and resilience.

• Host study tours and participate in the global agenda on adaptation and resilience.

With a population of nearly 3 million people, Greater Manchester’s Resilience Strategy for 2020–2030 puts communities at its heart. It addresses common hazards such as infectious diseases, river flooding, industrial accidents, loss of basic services and malicious activity such as terrorism. The strategy also incorporates commitments to innovation, inclusive governance and leadership for resilience, embedding DRR across different policy agendas, in addition to emergency preparedness. The metropolitan area has established a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral governance structure, the Greater Manchester Resilience Forum, ensuring institutions work in partnership to deliver Greater Manchester’s resilience agenda. Its innovative solutions for bolstering urban resilience include the transformation of a park to support flood protection through nature-based solutions, the IGNITION project on innovative financing solutions for nature-based projects, the TRANSCEND digital platform, which fosters a more risk-sensitive approach to development, as well as the Digital Exclusion Risk Index, which provides insight into digital resilience and where digital exclusion is most likely to occur. The Greater Manchester Resilience Forum has also partnered with the National Consortium for Societal Resilience [UK+] to strengthen societal resilience in Greater Manchester.

Greater Manchester was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2021.

*Greater Manchester’s commitment as a Resilience Hub*

- Collaborate with other cities on resilience-building projects.
- Publish and disseminate lessons learned and good practices.
- Develop partnerships with academic and research institutions within the city.
- Coordinate DRR-related study tours for interested city representatives.
- Support knowledge transfer and the implementation of DRR peer reviews using the Uscore2 methodology.

*Greater Manchester’s official website:* https://www.manchester.gov.uk/
The city of Helsingborg has developed a comprehensive DRR framework that includes core processes for identifying risks and vulnerabilities, continuity management and crisis management. The framework engages and empowers its city departments and municipal companies to build resilience through awareness-raising, mitigating actions and continuous learning processes. Helsingborg combines emerging technology with municipal data to integrate disaster risk and resilience into urban planning. Interactive maps simulate risk scenarios throughout the city, promoting risk awareness in the early stages of urban development plans. Transparent, functional and iterative planning processes ensure shared ownership of initiatives among stakeholders. Helsingborg already plays a key role as an international hub on urban resilience. In 2022, the city’s H22 City Expo brought together industry visionaries and innovators from over 45 countries and 150 visiting municipalities to explore how more sustainable, resilient and thoughtful cities can be created.

Helsingborg was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2021.

**Helsingborg’s commitment as a Resilience Hub**

- Develop a citywide innovation initiative towards becoming a smarter and more sustainable city.

- Plan and host the annual national MCR2030 network meeting.

- Organize a working group on natural accidents.

- Coordinate study tours to showcase practical examples and share experience.

- Update city risk and vulnerability assessments and crisis management plans.

- Contribute to meeting the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 through its commitment to ongoing environmental efforts and climate and energy planning.

**Helsingborg’s official website:** https://helsingborg.se/
Holon, Israel

From emergency management to disaster risk reduction

The city of Holon has a well-established emergency management system focused on preserving the continuity of key services and critical infrastructure systems. Protecting such critical assets enables a quicker recovery in the event of disaster. Holon regularly practises its emergency procedures with its residents, and every school in the city holds four emergency exercises per year under the supervision of the municipality.

To promote social and economic inclusion, Holon has established neighbourhood community centres that provide spaces for people to connect. These centres support low-income populations through fundraising and the distribution of food packages. The municipality also prioritizes urban renewal projects in underprivileged areas to improve living conditions and reduce disaster risk. Holon is also addressing climate change challenges through initiatives that include developing green spaces, building underground reservoirs for floodwaters, promoting sustainable transport and implementing stringent building codes.

Holon was recognized as the first MCR2030 Resilience Hub in Israel in January 2023.

Holon's commitment as a Resilience Hub

- Host an international conference/training programme on the topic of a support site for populations.

- Host an emergency preparedness exercise in Holon, inviting other cities in the MCR2030 network.

- Conduct DRR research and write a joint assessment on the active involvement of the civil population in DRR efforts.

Holon's official website: https://www.holon.muni.il/English/CityOfHolon/pages/cityofholoninfo.aspx
An extreme cloudburst event in 2014 forced Malmö to address its vulnerabilities as a coastal post-industrial city. Since then, Malmö has worked strategically to increase its resilience to climate-related hazards, taking a systematic and multi-hazard approach to risk management. In 2022, the city completed a special coastal protection analysis, with a coastal protection strategy expected to be finalized in 2024. Malmö is in the process of making the city more resilient to prolonged heatwaves, an issue that it is keen to learn more about from interested partners. The city was acknowledged as Sweden’s most environmentally friendly municipality in 2021 and 2022, with efforts under way to cut energy use in city-owned buildings by 30 per cent.

Malmö is a long-established leader in urban resilience and hosted the 2021–2022 ICLEI World Congress, a global platform where local governments showcased their sustainability initiatives and exchanged ideas.

Malmö is one of the 150 regions that have signed up to the European Union Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change and was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in May 2022.

Malmö’s commitment as a Resilience Hub

• Develop into an active Resilience Hub with extensive participation from various stakeholders, including city administration, academia, the private sector and NGOs.

• Host national and regional forums and meetings on urban resilience.

• Collaborate with universities on developing training programmes on DRR and resilience, and promote these programmes via MCR2030 channels.

• Seek opportunities to twin with other cities and offer structured study visits.

Malmö’s official website: https://malmo.se/Welcome-to-Malmo.html
Matosinhos, Portugal

Prevention and community risk management coupled with international outreach

Matosinhos has launched several initiatives to address disaster risks, including a 10-year Zero Fires strategy to prevent forest fires, which consists of managing fuel consumption through three basic axes: cleaning, tackling invasive species and reforested with autochthonous species. The city has carried out more than 5,000 community awareness-raising campaigns since 2009. In 2021, it created the Awareness Academy, through which the population can learn about various day-to-day risks via simulations and virtual reality. Matosinhos also shares knowledge and experience in resilience-building with Portuguese-speaking cities, including municipalities in Brazil, as well as Dili in Timor-Leste. Matosinhos hosted the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2021, which brought together more than 1,200 participants from 48 countries and various stakeholder groups.

Matosinhos was recognized as the first Resilience Hub in Portugal in May 2022.

Matosinhos’ commitment as a Resilience Hub

- Organize events for Portuguese cities on local resilience and support the adoption and adaptation of measures to raise awareness of self-protection.

- Develop joint awareness-raising projects and strategies for the application of new technologies in DRR.

- Organize city-to-city exchanges and support Portuguese-speaking countries, especially cities in Timor-Leste, to become members of MCR2030.

- Provide training to share expertise with other cities through webinars and/or study visits.

Matosinhos’ official website: https://www.cm-matosinhos.pt/
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<th>Milan, Italy</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Addressing extreme weather events through innovation and partnership</strong></td>
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<td>Milan has significant experience in developing green infrastructure projects to address social and infrastructure-related impacts of climate change. In 2017, the municipality established the City Resilience Department, which is responsible for mainstreaming resilience in the city’s development and in its programmatic actions. Since then, Milan has demonstrated a consistently strong commitment to building urban resilience through participation in various national and international initiatives, including with MCR2030 partners. The city has expertise and experience that can be used to identify and access international funds, technical assistance and partnerships that support urban resilience projects.</td>
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<td>Milan was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2021.</td>
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<td><strong>Milan’s commitment as a Resilience Hub</strong></td>
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<td>• Introduce other cities to Milan’s resilience methodology.</td>
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<td>• Provide technical assistance and support training to enhance resilience awareness, with a particular focus on Italian municipalities.</td>
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<td>• Organize and host bilateral meetings, site visits and learning exchanges to share and explore common tools and resources with other cities in the MCR2030 network.</td>
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<td>• Establish a national coordination mechanism that can actively support and help Italian cities join MCR2030, together with the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI) and Local Agenda 21.</td>
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<td>• Share the city’s experience in and projects on innovative financial solutions, such as the adoption of a transition fund and the participatory budgeting system.</td>
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<td><strong>Milan’s official website:</strong> <a href="https://www.comune.milano.it/">https://www.comune.milano.it</a></td>
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Province of Potenza,
Italy

The province of Potenza is prone to several natural hazards, including landslides, flooding, earthquakes and forest fires. To deal with this challenging context, the province has a permanent regional coordination network to oversee efforts to reduce disaster risk. The network has a wide responsibility, from investments in structural infrastructure to public awareness-raising campaigns. For more than 20 years, the provincial authority has supported its 100 municipalities – many of which are small in size and population – to implement disaster risk-informed local development policies. The Provincial Civil Protection System, in tandem with the province’s #weResilient strategy, has strengthened its governance and coordination capacities, which has improved links between local, regional and national civil protection frameworks.

The province of Potenza was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2022.

Province of Potenza’s commitment as a Resilience Hub

• Organize information campaigns and training sessions on local resilience governance and MCR2030 for cities.

• Host international events to contribute to the implementation of the MCR2030 resilience roadmap.

• Organize city-to-city exchanges and/or peer reviews on governance, smart cities, risk mitigation, waste management, industrial hazard management, digital resilience and other regional issues.

• Establish formal twinning cooperation with cities and other governments to exchange and capitalize on mutual best practices.

• Provide formal assistance to the cities that joined the 2010–2020 Making Cities Resilient campaign to boost their engagement in the MCR2030 network.

• Create a virtual IT platform and a physical IT hub to promote co-working and co-learning activities and coordinate resilience initiatives.

Province of Potenza’s official website: https://www.comune.potenza.it/
Venice, Italy

A long story of successes in cultural heritage resilience

Venice, with its millenniums-long history and unique cultural heritage, has exceptional expertise in flood risk management and in adapting to climate change-related challenges.

The successful operation of the Modulo Sperimentale Elettromeccanico (MOSE) flood barriers since October 2020 and the glass barriers protecting St. Mark’s Basilica from saltwater intrusion are the most evident examples of a complex strategy based on a holistic approach. This achievement represents a milestone in Venice’s transition from being a city “at risk” to one that is “protected and resilient”. 

Venice’s success is not solely attributable to engineering but also to the implementation of various initiatives, continuous learning and adaptation to the specific needs of the city. This highlights the importance of adopting customized solutions to address challenges related to coastal protection and climate adaptation. Venice’s approach to cultural heritage protection aligns with global sustainability goals, both environmentally and socially.

Venice is an international cooperation laboratory and was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2023.

Venice’s commitment as a Resilience Hub

- Share the city’s experience in sea level rise adaptation and transfer knowledge on urban solutions.
- Share the city’s experience in early warnings for critical meteorological events.
- Provide training and consultation based on the city’s experience in protecting cultural heritage from disaster risks.

Venice’s official website: https://www.comune.venezia.it/en
The city of Wroclaw has developed a comprehensive approach to reducing disaster risk, making it a national role model for local resilience-building. This in turn is supporting greater investment in infrastructure, more effective public awareness-raising campaigns and stronger emergency management planning. Despite significant challenges, including a fivefold increase in energy prices, major pollution of the city’s main river and the arrival of 250,000 refugees from Ukraine in 2022 alone, Wroclaw has remained committed to its vision of a climate-resilient, green future.

Wroclaw is guided by its Climate Change Adaptation Plan, which includes the European Union-supported GrowGreen project – a project that supports nature-based solutions to address the city’s development challenges. This involves collaboration between the city authorities, the local university and citizens. Wroclaw has also introduced a policy to include nature-based solutions in all municipal investments and has created a provision for citizens to submit funding applications for green initiatives.

Wroclaw was recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub in November 2022.

Wroclaw’s commitment as a Resilience Hub

• Organize online training sessions to support other cities in designing and implementing nature-based solutions.

• Produce a publication focusing on practical solutions and lessons learned of nature-based solutions in Polish and English.

• Organize city-to-city exchanges on nature-based solutions.

• Organize an international conference on water in coordination with academia.

Wroclaw’s official website: https://www.wroclaw.pl/en/