MCR2030 sign-up webinar: Building the disaster resilience of cities in Asia-Pacific

On 15 July 2021, UNDRR Regional Office for Asia-Pacific (ROAP), jointly with the United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, launched Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) in Asia and Pacific. Co-created by 11 international organizations and city networks, MCR2030 is a global initiative that aims to help cities build their resilience against all forms of disaster. The initiative is free for all cities to join. By joining MCR2030, cities will have access to tools, guidance and capacity building to progress along the Resilience Roadmap: Stage A: Understanding their disaster risks; Stage B: Planning against disaster risks; and Stage C: Implementing their plans to reduce risks and build resilience. Serving as the MCR2030 Global Secretariat, UNDRR GETI shared how cities can join and get access to the MCR2030 dashboard, an online platform used to facilitate city access to resources and tools of participating entities that can help cities improve advocacy, share knowledge and experiences, establish mutually reinforcing city-to-city learning networks, access technical expertise, connect multiple layers of government and build partnerships. Open to all interested cities and participating entities, join MCR2030 at https://mcr2030.undrr.org/join.

For more information and the recording: https://www.undrr.org/event/mcr2030-sign-webinar-building-disaster-resilience-cities-asia-pacific
Dealing with solid waste, especially plastics, has been one of the underlying challenges faced in many cities around the world. This MCR2030 webinar, one in a series, held on 7 July 2021 highlighted the Urban Ocean Program of Resilient Cities Network (R-Cities), one of the MCR2030 Core Partners. The programme focuses on utilizing the principles of circularity to address this specific issue of plastic waste. Speakers from the Urban Ocean Program, Ocean Conservancy, and New Materials Institute shared insights on the criticality of the plastic waste issue, introduced the Circularity Assessment Protocol (CAP), and showcased the experience of Semarang city in Indonesia in utilizing the CAP tool and apply the findings to improve city resilience planning. While the Urban Ocean Program focuses on cities along the coast, the tools and approach introduced are applicable to all cities. They help cities to take the resilience lens in addressing the interrelated challenges of urban development and plastic waste. The event was attended by 105 participants from 44 countries and territories.

Online training workshop on strengthening cities’ resilience to climate and disaster risks

Aiming at enhancing city capacities to integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction into wider city development plans and strategies, the training provided opportunities for participants to practice using the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities and discuss extensively the use of nature-based solutions in building greater resilience to climate and disaster risks. This three-day virtual training workshop was organized from 23-25 June 2021 by the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC.AP) of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in close collaboration with UNDRR, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities – Network (EPIC-N). The training was joined by 54 participants from 17 countries, especially in Asia.

Reducing city risks by taking the circular approach to address plastic waste

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Cities Race to Resilience: Collaborative efforts of city networks to accelerate climate actions

The Asia Pacific Cities Race to COP26 at the Asia-Pacific Climate Week on 8 July 2021 marked an official launch of the Cities Race to Resilience — an official track for cities to join the UNFCCC Climate Champions Race to Resilience campaign launched in January 2021. The Race to Resilience is the global sibling campaign to Race to Zero run by the COP26 Presidency and High-Level Climate Champions to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions and investors to help frontline communities build resilience and adapt to the accelerating impacts of climate change. The Cities Race to Resilience has been brought together by several city networks and organizations working on raising the profile of urban resilience action, including the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM), C40 Cities, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), the Resilient Cities Network, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), CDP, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), World Resources Institute (WRI), and the Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030). Cities already joining MCR2030 can be fast-tracked in the Cities Race to Resilience.

For more information:

For more information and the recording:
https://www.undrr.org/event/mcr2030-undrr-rcities-urban-ocean-program-utilizing-principles-circularity-address-plastic

For more information:
https://citiesracetoresilience.org/
Globally, the building and construction sector represents a huge contribution to climate change and environmental issues. The sector is responsible for close to 40% of energy-related carbon emissions, plus 40% of virgin raw material use. Across the global network of the World Green Building Council, over 40 rating tools are administered within the built environment at a range of geographic scales – ensuring the continual development of net zero, healthy, sustainable building and cities that enhance equity and resilience. The MCR2030 webinar, one of a series, held on 14 July 2021 brought together speakers from across the WorldGBC global network from Colombia, Germany, Australia and the United States to share insights and lessons from their experience with running international rating tools, offering expertise and strategic guidance to all policy makers looking to make a difference to the environmental footprint of their buildings and cities. A total of 234 participants from 72 countries attended the session with simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, French, Spanish.

UN Egypt enhances capacity for integrating climate change adaptation and DRR in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027

Two orientation sessions facilitated by the UNDRR Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS) with UNDRR GETI were organized this quarter to address the needs of the UN Egypt Programme Management Team towards the development of the Egypt UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027. The first session held 8 July targeted Egypt's Programme Management Team and was attended by 13 representatives from ITU, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNIDO, UNV and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) together with UNDRR ROAS staff. The RCO opened the session emphasizing the importance of risk-informing development while UNDRR and UNDP provided an overview of disaster and climate risk in Egypt, respectively. Participants brainstormed how climate and disaster risk management affect sustainable development and what key actions could be taken in order to prepare for prioritization. A second session was held for participants of the “Planet Pillar” working group to share guidance materials to help ensure Cooperation Framework theories of change take into account both climate and disaster risk.

Using rating tools to enhance building and city resilience

Globally, the building and construction sector represents a huge contribution to climate change and environmental issues. The sector is responsible for close to 40% of energy-related carbon emissions, plus 40% of virgin raw material use. Across the global network of the World Green Building Council, over 40 rating tools are administered within the built environment at a range of geographic scales – ensuring the continual development of net zero, healthy, sustainable building and cities that enhance equity and resilience. The MCR2030 webinar, one of a series, held on 28 July 2021 provided in-depth information to help cities, local authorities, and their partners understand better what the Gap Fund is and how to access Gap Fund support. The discussion included the information on the type of support provided (and not provided) by the Gap Fund, the eligibility criteria and relevant application process. It also highlighted some examples of the types of successful projects and key components of what makes these applications successful. A total of 206 participants from 78 countries/territories participated in this session jointly organized by MCR2030, UNDRR, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the World Bank, and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM).

Improving quality and bankability of urban climate investment projects with the Gap Fund

Launched in September 2020, the City Climate Finance Gap Fund (Gap Fund) aims to help cities in low- and middle-income countries strategize, plan and prepare climate mitigation and adaptation projects. The Gap Fund helps cities at an early stage by offering free technical and advisory services to prioritize and prepare urban climate investments, improve quality and ensure projects are bankable. This MCR2030 webinar, one in a series, held on 28 July 2021 provided in-depth information to help cities, local authorities, and their partners understand better what the Gap Fund is and how to access Gap Fund support. For more information and the recording: https://www.undrr.org/event/mcr2030-undrr-eib-gcom-wb-getting-know-city-climate-finance-gap-fund


Download the guidance note or training package modules online: https://www.undrr.org/publication/integrating-disaster-risk-reduction-and-climate-change-adaptation-un-sustainable
109 professional safety education instructors of the Citizens’ Coalition for Safety (CCS) from 12 regions have participated in the training of trainers series facilitated by UNDRR ONEA to build their capacity as DRR educators. Trained instructors are mandated to deliver the programme to schools in Korea as one of the activities of the 2021 Korean School Safety Programme supported by UNDRR ONEA with MOIS and Incheon Metropolitan City which aims to educate 5,180 students including those with special needs in 52 schools including those in remote areas. It targets training through 259 sessions until November 2021. An online web-based quiz was newly introduced as an education tool to replace the paper-based Riskland game where in-person learning is not allowed in schools due to COVID-19 restrictions. Trainees said: “The concept of DRR and its importance should be at the core of all types of safety education in school.” “I’ll teach with more focus on prevention and preparedness rather than response.” “Hands-on training on the new online quiz and Zoom really helped me to be ready for remote learning.”
MCR2030: Strengthening national-local collaboration towards making cities resilient in Asia-Pacific

Organized as part of the 8th UCLG ASPAC Congress, the side event was held on 8 September 2021 to emphasize the role of national municipal association in accelerating local actions and driving long-term local resilience. The panel discussion was represented by Mayor of Padang City - Indonesia, Mayor of Legazpi City and representative of the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), Executive Director of Association of Indonesian Municipalities (APEKSI) and Executive Secretary General of Association of District Development Committees for Nepal (ADDCN). They extensively exchanged views on the importance of resilience building and the roles of national municipal association in providing support to member cities. As an outcome of this event, the League of Cities of the Philippines announced its plan to engage with MCR2030 and step up its support in awareness raising and capacity building with cities in the Philippines. Jointly organized by UCLG ASPAC, UNDRR and the MCR2030 Regional Coordinating Committee for Asia-Pacific, the event welcomed 189 participants from over 33 countries and territories.

Training of Trainers on resilience and localization of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for UCLG ASPAC network

With the invitation of UCLG, UNDRR GETI co-facilitated the delivery of the Training of Trainers session on resilience and localization of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at the breakout session of the 8th UCLG ASPAC Congress on 9 September 2021. This training is an intensive version of the learning module on the localization of the Sendai Framework developed by UCLG in partnership with UNDRR and UN-Habitat. It includes mini lectures on understanding resilience, the Sendai Framework for DRR and its linkage with other global agendas, and the financing for resilience implementation. Trainees also participated in various group exercises including a role play on resilience planning and decision making. The session expected to raise awareness on DRR and resilience aspect in Asia Pacific region as well as encouraging cities to be a part of Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030).

ASEAN training: Comprehensive climate & disaster risk management

As part of the Korean National Disaster Training Institute (NDTI) Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building Program for AMS (3rd edition) for ASEAN member states, UNDRR GETI was invited to facilitate a training and discussion session on disaster risk management strategy. The session provided an opportunity for 20 senior officials from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam from disaster management authorities and ministries of the environment, health, interior, foreign affairs, and social welfare to discuss common challenges to risk-informed climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction decision-making and planning, and how applying comprehensive climate and disaster risk management (CRM) principles can help inform options and actions. The materials were based on new and emergent UNDRR guidance and its complementary training package on CRM, including guidance on integrating DRR into national adaptation plans (NAPs). Additional guidance is forthcoming.
**Practical methods for DRR investment acceleration through organizing DRR strategy in the local perspective**

On 15 September 2021, this webinar jointly organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Asian Disaster Risk Reduction Center (ADRC), UNDRR and MCR2030 as part of the MCR webinar series was dedicated to understanding practical methods for DRR investment acceleration through organizing DRR strategy in the local perspective. Mr. Kozo Nagami, Group Director for DRR Group and Deputy Director General, Global Environment Department, JICA, introduced JICA’s Global agenda covering 3 priority areas on pre-disaster investment on DRR and critical infrastructure, establishment of overall DRR institutions, and Build Back Better. Mr. Masaru Arakida, Director, Research Department, ADRC, later unpacked the 8-step practical method for developing local DRR strategies and plans in which JICA uses to help cities accelerate pre-disaster investments. 230 participants from 55 countries and territories joined the discussion on the capacity building and technical support provided by JICA to countries and cities on this subject. The approach and guidance introduced in this webinar is available to all MCR2030 participating cities.

For more information and the recording: [https://www.undrr.org/event/mcr2030-undrr-jica-practical-methods-drr-investment-acceleration-through-organizing-drr](https://www.undrr.org/event/mcr2030-undrr-jica-practical-methods-drr-investment-acceleration-through-organizing-drr)

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**International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses**

Join the 2021 International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is an opportunity to acknowledge the progress being made toward reducing disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health. The 2021 edition will focus on "International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses".

- **Join the 2021 International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction campaign**

- **2021 IDDRR: Concept Note: #OnlyTogether**
  [https://www.undrr.org/media/73405/download](https://www.undrr.org/media/73405/download)

- **2021 IDDRR: International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses - Key Messages**

- **2021 IDDRR Campaign Toolkit**
  [https://iddrr.undrr.org/share](https://iddrr.undrr.org/share)
Upcoming UNDRR ONEA & GETI Training & Events:

Online Training:

**20 September – 3 December**
ACCESSIBLE E-learning Course: Making cities resilient: Developing local disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies (2021 Fall Edition)
Organizers: UNDRR GETI & UNITAR

**6 December 2021 - 13 March 2022**
Organizers: UNDRR GETI & UNITAR

Webinar & Events:

**7 October 2021 (Thu)** - 10:30 London | 11:30 Geneva/Cairo | 12:30 Nairobi | 16:30 Bangkok | 17:30 Beijing | 18:30 Incheon
[MCR2030 Webinar] The Power of Resilience: Developing Local Sustainable Finance
Organizers: Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), UNDRR & MCR2030
For more information: https://www.undrr.org/event/mcr2030-undrr-cbi-power-resilience-developing-local-sustainable-finance

**13 October 2021 (Wed)** - 15:00 - 16:15 GMT+9 (South Korea)
Inter-Regional Dialogue on Cooperation - Application of Cutting Edge Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction in China, Japan and Korea
Organizers: Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) & UNDRR ONEA
For more information: https://www.undrr.org/event/tcs-and-undrr-onea-webinar-inter-regional-dialogue-cooperation-application-cutting-edge
For updates on upcoming UNDRR ONEA & GETI Training and Events, please visit: [https://www.undrr.org/about-undrr-where-we-work/incheon#CalendarofEvents](https://www.undrr.org/about-undrr-where-we-work/incheon#CalendarofEvents)

**Useful Resources:**

- **PreventionWeb - new look!**
  The global knowledge sharing platform for disaster risk reduction and resilience
  Visit the new website: [https://www.preventionweb.net/](https://www.preventionweb.net/)

- **Capacity Development for DRR**
  Troubling partnerships: Perspectives from the receiving end of capacity development by M. Hagelsteen, Becker and P. Abrahamsson (2021), International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, 59, 102231
  The purpose of the study is to explore the perspectives of internal partners involved in capacity development initiatives for disaster risk reduction (DRR) or climate change adaptation (CCA) in selected member states of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to understand their perspectives on challenges and possible solutions.

- **Climate Change**
  Promoting synergy and alignment: between Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in the context of National Adaptation Plans
  This publication is a supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines. The supplement focuses particularly on the opportunities that the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process provides to national authorities and stakeholders for integrating risk-centred approaches and in creating synergies and effective connections with disaster risk reduction efforts. It should be used in conjunction with the NAP guidelines.

- **Local Resilience**
  From CDRI Masterclass assignment submission
  - [Strategizing for urban risk and resilience in Thane’s coastal settlements](https://www.undrr.org/) by Priyanka Panjwani
  - [Inclusive Ecological Infrastructure for Resilience – A case study of Bonn, Germany](https://www.undrr.org/) by Fabian Rackelmann
  - [Building the resilience of water infrastructure in Lima, Peru](https://www.undrr.org/) by Susana M. Rojas Williams
  - [Flood resilience assessment and possible solutions to decrease flood vulnerability of a city](https://www.undrr.org/) by Murat Yeğin

**Expert DRR blog:**
- [Milan at MCR2030: Transforming Streets with Tactical Urbanism by Piero Pelizzaro (2021)](https://www.undrr.org/)
- [Observe to predict, predict to prevent: Kraljevo’s Approach to DRR by Zdravko Maksimović, City of Kraljevo (2021)](https://www.undrr.org/)
Publications

- **2021 State of Cities Climate Finance**
  The 2021 State of Cities Climate Finance Report examines the current state of urban climate investment, the barriers to reaching the needed investment levels, and the steps to overcoming these challenges. Produced by the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (the Alliance), the report contributes to the Alliance’s mission to mobilize city level climate finance at scale by 2030. The report delivers its findings in two parts: 1) the landscape of urban climate finance, and 2) the enabling conditions for urban climate finance

- **Global State of National Urban Policy 2021: Achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Delivering Climate Action**
  National Urban Policy (NUP) is a key instrument to achieve sustainable urban development in a shared responsibility across countries, regions and cities. The COVID-19 crisis has amplified the potential of NUPs in shaping more resilient, green and inclusive cities as part of countries recovery packages. This report reviews NUPs of 162 countries across the globe. The overarching objective of the report is to assist national governments in advancing their NUP processes, especially in creating a stronger link between NUPs and urban-related global agendas and in mainstreaming climate action into NUPs. The report is a co-creation of the OECD, UN-Habitat and Cities Alliance, as a key outcome of the National Urban Policy Programme, a global partnership launched in 2016 at the Habitat III Conference.

**Resources for Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)**

**UNDRR**

- Past UNDRR COVID-19 webinars - see each event for recordings and/or presentations:
  https://www.undrr.org/drr-and-covid-19/webinars#pastevents

- UNDRR: DRR and COVID-19 resources

**PreventionWeb**

- COLLECTION: Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
  https://www.preventionweb.net/collections/coronavirus19

**WHO (World Health Organization)**

- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak
  https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) advice for the public

- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) training: Online training
  https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/training/online-training

- Strategic preparedness and response plan for the new coronavirus (WHO, 2020)