

Urban Resilience community to gather at Resilient Cities 2016

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[BONN, 11 June 2016] Resilient Cities 2016 is the seventh in a series of annual events, organized by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability and hosted by the city of Bonn, that serve as **the global annual platform** for knowledge exchange, robust debate, innovative thinking and strategy development **on urban resilience and climate change adaptation**. It is the premier reporting platform for local progress on the resilience targets of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11.

The Resilient Cities congress 2016 will take place in **Bonn, Germany**, on **6-8 July**.

The event this year will have a particular focus on: **inclusive and resilient urban development, financing urban resilience** and **implementing global frameworks**. After IPCC's decision to call an International Scientific Conference on Climate Change and Cities, Resilient Cities 2016 will also be an important milestone for the urban resilience community to start a new chapter in the scientific conversation on urban sustainability.

"Bonn is the place where the UN is shaping a sustainable future, bringing together major global agendas. In the climate agenda, 2016 shall kick off a new era. SDG 11 outlines resilience and offers a new framework for urban agendas. This 7th edition of the Resilient Cities congress series will again be the platform for hundreds of local leaders, experts and civil society representatives to discuss their positions, strategies and evaluation," said Ashok Sridharan, Mayor of Bonn and member of ICLEI's GExCom. "New cooperation frameworks, bright ideas, skills and funds are what allows urban agendas to be pursued. I'm confident that Resilient Cities 2016 will stimulate the advancement of global agendas."

The congress is a unique meeting point for UN experts, local leaders, NGOs and urban planners, informal workers and representatives of multilateral financial institutions, banks, insurance companies.

Examples of the diversity of themes, speakers and participants, may include:

- Vida Tangwam of the **Informal Hawkers' and Vendors' Association (Accra, Ghana)**, who will be presenting inclusive risk reduction strategies in the markets of Accra, together with Esther Ofei Aboagye, former director of the Institute of Local Government Studies in Accra, and experts from WIEGO.
- Muhammed Lutwama, executive director of ACTogether Uganda, and Ofelia Bagotlo, national community leader of the **Homeless Peoples Federation of the Philippines**, who will present Slum/Shack Dwellers International's "*Know Your City*" campaign, linking community slum data to urban resilience.
- The **Financing Resilience forum** will engage **local governments, insurers, investors, funding agencies and the private sector** on the need for local capacity-building to develop and implement sustainable and resilient projects. Speakers include: Lea Müller, Swiss Re; Hans-Peter Egler, Global Infrastructure Basel (GIB) Foundation; Josef Leitmann, GFDRR/World Bank; Butch Bacani, UNEP FI - PSI; Peter Baum, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; Florian Wieneke, KFW; Mairi Dupar, CDKN - ODI.
- Several **city-level case studies** will be presented and discussed in a series of in-depth workshops: Can Tho and Da Nang (Vietnam), on the emerging climate risk related issues in these coastal cities; Bangkok and Pak Kret (Thailand), sharing experiences and lessons learned from water management projects; Paris, on the city's urban cooling strategy to adapt to climate change.
- A **special session on the topic of forced migration** will also take place, exploring how cities are incorporating forced migration related initiatives in their urban climate adaptation and resilience planning. Alfredo Zamudio, director of the Nansen Center for Peace and Dialogue, will deliver a keynote speech.

Check resilientcities2016.iclei.org for the latest updates on the program and our [media kit](#) for highlights of the program and media opportunities.

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Note to editors:

ICLEI is the leading global network of over 1,500 cities, towns and regions committed to building a sustainable future. By helping the ICLEI Network to become sustainable, low-carbon, ecomobile, resilient, biodiverse, resource-efficient, healthy and happy, with a green economy and smart infrastructure, we impact over 20% of the global urban population.

Find more information on www.iclei.org

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