Congress Themes

Call for Contributions

Resilient Cities 2018

9th Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation

Tracking implementation of the resilience targets of SDG 11

26 - 28 April 2018 | Bonn, Germany

Introduction and key themes for 2018:

Resilient Cities 2018 will take place over three days from **26 - 28 April 2018** including high-level plenaries, trainings, Reality Check Workshops, debates, and parallel thematic panel sessions which will feature discussions on a range of new and recurring themes related to urban resilience and adaptation to climate change. These themes will cover a variety of key resilience topics including: ecosystem-based adaptation; governance and collaboration; urban risk data and indicators; adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction planning and policy.

A core objective of the Resilient Cities congress series is to serve as the global resilience implementation forum. To advance this goal, a recurring topic throughout the various themes is:

- **Stocktaking: Reviewing the state of urban resilience and local implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
  In July 2018, the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will conduct a review of SDGs related to the "*Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies*" including SDG 11. In anticipation, Resilient Cities 2018 aims to review local and subnational implementation of SDG 11 including examples of actions, strategies, mechanisms, and tools. Therefore, contributors are encouraged to share how local actions are effectively contributing to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These examples may also refer to UN Frameworks that are recognized by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and contribute to its advancement, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the New Urban Agenda, and the Paris Agreement. Note: For all themes, contributors will have the option to explain how their submission is related to the local level implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Additionally, submissions on the following themes are particularly encouraged for **Resilient Cities 2018**:

- **Social cohesion: Building resilient urban societies** (theme 3)
  Focused on exploring cities' response to increased migration flows, as well as the impacts of social and political unrest in urban areas.

- **Resilient and resource efficient cities** (theme 4)
  Sharing innovative thinking and action around communities' shift towards sustainable lifestyles and the role of cities in fostering a circular economy.

- **Private sector engagement in resilience building** (theme 6)
  With a special focus on new partnerships with business and realtors while continuing the dialogue between the insurance industry and cities.

Contributions for our parallel sessions are also welcome under the new and recurring themes listed below (themes 1, 2, 5, 7 and 8).

Please read on for the overview and detailed descriptions of the suggested **Resilient Cities 2018** congress themes.

Summary overview of congress themes:

1. **Resilience in action: Local case studies and examples**
   - 1.1. Risk assessment and resilience planning
   - 1.2. Implementing resilience policies and actions
   - 1.3. Integrated climate action linking adaptation and mitigation
   - 1.4. Integrated, coherent resilience planning (e.g. social, economic, environmental, disaster risk)

2. **Resilience for all & all for resilience: Governance and collaboration**
   - 2.1. Multi-level governance: vertical policy integration and international-national-local cooperation and finance
   - 2.2. Horizontal integration: Strengthening city-region linkages and cities-to-cities partnerships
   - 2.3. Multi-stakeholder collaboration and community-based adaptation
   - 2.4. Inclusive resilience-building with vulnerable populations and informal settlements

3. **Social cohesion: Building resilient urban societies (*Key theme)**
   - 3.1. Receiving and integrating urban refugees: Challenges and good practices
   - 3.2. Mitigating impacts of social and political unrest

4. **Resilient and resource efficient cities: Transition toward a circular economy (*Key theme)**
   - 4.1. Effective water management strategies to reduce climate risks
   - 4.2. From waste to resources: Improving waste management practices at the city level
   - 4.3. Strengthening energy systems, including through enhanced efficiency and security
   - 4.4. Informed production and consumption choices: Shifting towards sustainable lifestyles
   - 4.5. Resilient city-region food systems

5. **Built environment and infrastructure systems' resilience**
   - 5.1. Ensuring resilience of critical infrastructure
   - 5.2. Data and ICT resilience
   - 5.3. Resilient and adaptive building and construction
   - 5.4. Ecosystem-based adaptation, including blue/green infrastructure

6. **Reinventing business as usual: Private sector engagement in resilience building (*Key theme)**
   - 6.1. City-business collaboration and realizing the resilience dividend
   - 6.2. New partnerships for resilience: Insurance industry and cities
   - 6.3. Real estate and tourism industry's role and contribution to urban resilience

7. **Knowledge is power: Informing and mainstreaming good practice**
   - 7.1. Improving data collection and knowledge sharing for evidence-based adaptation planning
   - 7.2. Resilience indicators and standards
   - 7.3. Monitoring and evaluating implementation (measurable, reportable, verifiable, accountable)

8. **Critical and emerging themes in urban resilience**
   - 8.1 Managing climate-related health risks, including vector borne diseases
   - 8.2 Loss and damage implications for cities, coastal regions, and Small Island Developing States
   - 8.3 Innovative finance mechanisms for climate compatible development

9. **Other**

Resilient Cities 2018 call for contributions themes and subthemes:

Theme	Description
1. Resilience in action: Local case studies and examples *This category welcomes examples of different types of plans from comprehensive adaptation plans, climate-related disaster risk management strategies, climate adaptation and mitigation plans, and integrated resilience planning approaches, among others. Contributions under this theme will also share local governments' experience in implementing such adaptation policies and actions including challenges and opportunities that can lead to success or setbacks.*	
1.1. Risk assessment and resilience planning	This category will feature case studies of risk and vulnerability assessments and/or urban resilience plans. These examples may include specific tools, methods, frameworks and/or resources for technical assistance. Cities in the process of developing their climate change adaptation plans and policies will share their experience and present useful tools, planning concepts, and approaches to assist other local governments along their resilience path. Cities with completed adaptation plans will share lessons learned and details on the planning process, including challenges and solutions for replication elsewhere in the world. In addition, this category will feature examples and case studies of cities and Small Island States at all stages of adaptation planning.
1.2. Implementing resilience policies and actions	Examples and case studies of cities and Small Island States implementing adaptation policies, projects, and actions are welcome under this category. Cities will share lessons learned from the process, advising other local governments on how to improve their procedures and success rates based on common challenges. Contributions may also discuss the level of political leadership and autonomy necessary to ensure implementation. This might include cooperating with different stakeholders and partners, as well as responding to positive or negative responses from the community.
1.3. Integrated climate action linking adaptation and mitigation	Instead of considering climate change adaptation and mitigation as separate, competing topics, cities can pursue an integrated, complementary approach. There is a need to further explore the conceptual and practical relationship between adaptation and mitigation, including synergies and conflicts, and investigate the role of urban spatial planning in facilitating integrated climate action. Examples and lessons learned from cities developing and implementing integrated climate action plans and strategies will be shared. Contributions shall also discuss the synergies and trade-offs between these two areas and focus on institutional barriers and solutions.
1.4. Integrated, coherent resilience planning (e.g. social, economic, environmental, disaster risk)	This category will feature examples and case studies of cities, regions, and Small Island States with integrated resilience strategies that simultaneously consider social, economic, environmental and/or disaster risk concerns. Contributions may highlight cross-sectorial approaches that address interdependencies between sectors (e.g. business, health, resources, housing, infrastructure, energy, resources, land use management, etc.) and city systems to increase efficiency, institutional performance, and quality of life.

2. Resilience for all & all for resilience: Governance and collaboration

Effective urban resilience strategies depend on the capacity of local governments and institutions to implement evidence-based actions, in cooperation with multiple stakeholders and levels of government. In this matter, good governance is essential to support the proliferation of successful practices and provide the basis for sustainable and equitable climate policies. This includes inclusive governance structures that engage the urban poor and the informal sector as well as other socially marginalized and disaster-vulnerable populations. Questions of governance and obstacles to promote vertical and horizontal policy integration and financing will be part of this category. In addition, strategies to include marginalized groups through participatory approaches for achieving inclusive and resilient urban development will be discussed.

2.1. Multi-level governance: vertical policy integration and international-national-local cooperation and finance	Support from higher levels of governance is needed for effective local resilience implementation. Those frameworks can take many forms, such as laws and standards, financial incentives linked to performance indicators, advisory panels to monitor progress, technological tools to track financial flows, funding programs by international, national or regional governments and pilot projects. Furthermore, local governments' input on local needs and realities should be incorporated into national and international decisions and policies. Examples of local-national-international cooperation and policy integration will be showcased. Examples of frameworks, methods, and tools for increasing transparency and accountability for designing and implementing resilience policies and projects are also welcome.
2.2. Horizontal integration : Strengthening city-region linkages and cities-to-cities partnerships	In an effort to improve the effectiveness of local public services delivery and the implementation of development strategies, horizontal integration between regions (city-region networks), metropolitan regions or even between municipalities and its agencies is important to ensure the health of regional systems (e.g. water catchments, transportation, electricity grids, food supply). These systems are complexly interdependent, sometimes sharing several different functions and reaching beyond the city boundaries to the wider region. Accordingly, its exposure to climate change shocks poses a risk to the system and the city-region resilience as a whole. Thus, cities need resilient, integrated infrastructure, designed and managed at the city-region scale. In addition, international cities-to-cities partnerships on resilience provide a valuable opportunity for shared learning and exchange between cities facing similar risks. Examples for city-region and cities-to-cities partnerships will be shared.
2.3. Multi-stakeholder collaboration and community-based adaptation	Due to its complexity and interdependencies, resilience building depends on knowledge, ownership and support from various stakeholders. Collaboration is a key element for reducing uncertainties and building trust through effective measures based on transparency. Representatives from all sectors (local government/public, private including small businesses and enterprises, academic, research, civil society, non-government organizations, including faith-based organizations) can share experiences and best practices for effective collaboration. Examples of community-based solutions for urban resilience will also be shared. These include bottom-up approaches to risk and vulnerability assessment as well as planning and policy development and implementation. Contributions under this theme might also explore advances in participatory approaches considering gender-sensitive aspects, fostering youth participation and promoting the inclusion of marginalized groups such as the urban poor, informal workers, LGBT, elderly, disabled,

	indigenous, refugees and internally displaced populations.
2.4. Inclusive resilience-building with vulnerable populations and informal settlements	The rapid rate of urban growth and proliferation of informal settlements in highly vulnerable locations adds to the complexity of urban resilience and adaptation, especially in cities struggling to reduce poverty and increase economic growth. Examples and lessons learned will be shared on working with the informal economy, informal institutions, and residents of informal settlements as full citizens in land-use and resource management decisions to reduce their vulnerability. Inclusive governance structures and policy approaches will be explored. These may address obstacles and solutions related to slum upgrading, legal rights and legislative mechanisms (e.g. land tenure), gentrification and relocation, and collaboration with representative associations of informal workers and residents in official resilience efforts.

3. Social cohesion: Building resilient urban societies

Contributions in this category focus on examples of good practice on how cities are facing rapid social change while managing social tensions resulting from political and civil unrest. Local governments' efforts to build socially cohesive communities, promoting inclusion and creating a sense of trust and belonging for forced migrants, internally displaced people and refugees will fall under this theme. Actions placing social cohesion as a priority embedded in policies and processes will also be showcased. Additionally, cities mechanisms to plan and react to social-political conflicts and the threat of terrorism in urban areas are welcome in this category.

3.1. Receiving and integrating urban refugees: Challenges and good practices	Many cities have witnessed an unprecedented humanitarian crisis due to the inflow of forced migrants. Lessons learned from these experiences have broad implications on resilient urban management, urban planning, infrastructure adjustment, and social policy implementation. This category will feature local experiences with managing the influx of individuals forced to migrate, internally displaced people, and refugees. Contributions may include examples of cities accommodating climate refugees, as well as disaster and conflict-induced migrants, with applicable and replicable lessons learned for urban climate adaptation and resilience planning.
3.2. Mitigating impacts of social and political unrest	Social unrest and political conflicts often lead to demonstrations, strikes, and even outbreaks of violence in urban areas, leading to insecure situations for participants and bystanders alike As population centers and hosts of large public gatherings, cities are also targets for terrorism including attacks motivated by broader political or social strife. Civil unrest events typically occur in public spaces and can disrupt city services, infrastructure, business, and livelihoods. Separately, violent unrest or terrorism threatens public safety, vulnerable communities, private property, and critical public infrastructure, resulting in the worst cases in loss of life and a breakdown of order and urban systems governing the flow of goods and services. During times of heightened political and/or social strife, local officials must be prepared to protect residents' rights as well as their safety and the well-being of their communities. This category welcomes contributions on cities' efforts and strategies to plan for and manage civil unrest while mitigating its impacts related to disorder, fear, or violence.

4. Resilient and resource efficient cities: Transition toward a circular economy

In pursuance of increased resilience, cities need to undertake measures to properly manage and conserve essential resources in order to overcome shocks and threats while relying less heavily on their existing resource base. As climate change reshapes economy and widens inequality, resource efficiency can help cities minimize resource extraction, consumption, and disposal with minimum environmental impacts. Additionally, better informed production and consumption practices may promote behavior changes shifting societies towards more sustainable lifestyles. Therefore, resilience and resource efficiency agendas are complementary and have the potential to support the transition towards sustainable development while advancing the goals of a range of global commitments: the New Urban Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals. Contributions under this theme will explore the complementarities associated with urban resilience and resource efficiency. This may include local and regional governments' actions for understanding resource flows enabling decision makers to identify opportunities for transitioning towards a more circular economy. Best practices on building the necessary institutional capacity and promoting significant changes on how resources are extracted, transformed, recycled and re-used, as well as the establishment of effective water-energy-waste schemes and resilient city-region food systems will also be discussed.

4.1. Effective water management strategies to reduce climate risks	Strategies focused on managing floodwaters during wet seasons, maintaining water security during droughts, and tackling salinity intrusion – which contaminates potable sources and peri-urban agricultural areas that service the cities – will be shared in this category. Cities and experts will share innovative integrated approaches and strategies for ensuring water resource efficiency, and discuss institutional and technical challenges and solutions for improving water management. Perspectives on collaboration among cities for dealing collectively with transboundary water issues in a comprehensive way at a regional level are also welcome.
4.2. From waste to resources: Improving waste management practices at the city level	Waste management is crucial for resource efficiency due to its potential for increasing productivity with fewer resources and lower costs while at the same time reducing health-related risks in the event of disasters (e.g. clogged drains exacerbating flooding impacts or creating breeding ground for mosquitos and parasites). This category welcomes contributions that demonstrate local governments' strategies and mechanisms to effectively collect, dispose, treat and reuse waste (household waste, commercial waste, demolition waste, industrial waste, clinical waste, electronic waste etc.) in order to increase urban resilience. Innovative initiatives related to waste prevention, reuse and recycling in which waste is considered a resource (generating energy, composting for agriculture, filtering pollutants etc.) are also welcome.
4.3. Strengthening energy systems, including through enhanced efficiency and security	Rapid and disperse urbanization and population growth increases demand for resources, overstretching existing infrastructure. In addition, extreme weather events, disasters and accidents endanger energy supply systems. The result is system failures during extreme events and, for many cities, regular power cuts during peak hours. Both disrupt daily activities and lead to failures in other vital urban systems such as transportation, public health, and emergency services. Contributions under this theme may discuss energy efficiency and security measures as relevant aspects of urban resilience.

4.4. Informed production and consumption choices: Shifting towards sustainable lifestyles	Promoting sustainable, resilient lifestyles that minimize environmental degradation and risk depends on understanding production, consumption and disposal behaviors. This is crucial for integrating sustainability principles and practices while encouraging responsible choices and fostering behavior change. This theme welcomes contributions sharing multi-disciplinary approaches towards integrating such practices across different sectors in order to reduce risky behavior that might erode adaptive capacity of societies as well as ecosystems. Good practices on empowering individuals to rethink their way of living (through education, awareness raising, capacity building) and providing appropriate frameworks to encourage the adoption of more sustainable and resilient lifestyles will be discussed under this theme. Additionally, the implementation of tools and methods for measuring the benefits of sustainable lifestyles and its contribution to equitable socio-economic development and resilience building may also be discussed. (*Please note: Contributions should center on *urban adaptation and resilience*, *not* *climate mitigation topics, e.g. reducing carbon footprints)*.
4.5. Resilient city-region food systems	Urbanization, dependency on external food production, inadequate distribution networks, inefficient markets, and threats to global supplies put urban food systems and the food and nutritional security of citizens at risk. Cities must design and develop food systems to suit their own geographical, climatic, and socio-economic conditions. This may involve redesigning distribution, strengthening rural-urban linkages, establishing urban food networks, introducing local and national policies to institutionalize and encourage urban and peri-urban agriculture, and implementing ecosystem-based solutions. Technology and innovation is vital in this process. Examples from around the world illustrating resilient city-region food systems will be showcased.

5. Built environment and infrastructure systems' resilience

Urban economies and societies depend on built infrastructure and the efficient management of resources for the delivery of goods and services. Urban growth combined with climate change interferes with delivery and management systems and can lead to damage or severe strain on built infrastructure. This category welcomes examples of disaster-proof, smart, adaptive, and integrated infrastructure. This includes green building design and construction; intelligent, multi-purpose architecture; and blue/green infrastructure that utilize ecosystem services provided by biodiverse environments for ecosystem-based adaptation. In addition, this category will explore the value and vulnerabilities of data management systems?

5.1. Ensuring resilience of critical infrastructure	Critical infrastructure (CI) is a term to describe assets essential for the functioning of a society and economy, such as water and electricity supply, public health systems, and transportation. This category welcomes contributions focused on ensuring the resilience of these assets through disaster-proofing, efficient land use planning or the creation of synergies among various CIs and the urban environment. Special light will be shed on resilient transportation systems and their contribution to enhancing climate resilience in urban spaces – a connection that has long been neglected in adaptation discussions in favor of mitigation. To develop this important topic further, this category is seeking for practical examples of addressing resilience in urban mobility.

5.2. Data and ICT resilience	Cities' services are increasingly dependent on centralized, highly complex and interconnected Information and Communication Technology (ICT) systems which generate and store significant amounts of data, including for risk assessment, management, and disaster response. Challenges related to data security and reliability are inevitable. How can cities ensure the security and integrity of their data? When are hi-tech ICT solutions preferable to low-tech solutions and when can they lead to mal-adaptation or overburden resources? How can cities guarantee the continuity of essential ICT support systems (e.g. for transport, healthcare, public safety and security) in the face of climate related shocks and stresses? What resources should cities put toward these systems? This theme welcomes contributions that will advance the debate on data security and management in cities. This may include examples of innovative data management solutions that leverage digital information efficiently while protecting it against malicious violations, unintentional damage and natural disasters.
5.3. Resilient and adaptive building and construction	This category welcomes contributions focusing on adaptive, resilient, and green building and construction methods; strategies and approaches for combining mitigation with adaptation measures (e.g. green roofs); and innovative architectural and engineering solutions (e.g. raising the floor height, floatable foundations). Strategies for utilizing urban design and public space to reduce disaster risk and combat the Heat Island Effect will also be shared.
5.4. Ecosystem-based adaptation, including blue/green infrastructure	This category features examples of ecosystem-based adaptation strategies, including projects utilizing green and blue (water) spaces with the aim of preserving valuable ecosystem services and building resilience. Blue-green infrastructure can be used to integrate ecosystem based adaptation into spatial planning and urban design. Approaches for achieving ecosystem-based adaptation and examples of implemented projects will be discussed. Especially in focus: Blue/green/gray infrastructure that leverages the city topography to reduce risk.

6. Reinventing business as usual: Private sector engagement in resilience building

Contributions in this category focus on how to realize local governments' resilience plans and initiatives by leveraging innovative private sector partnerships. Ways to include local businesses as well as the real estate, tourism, and insurance industries in supporting city resilience efforts from planning to implementation will be discussed. Examples of steering private investment and building effective People-Public-Private Partnerships (PPPPs) for innovation in climate change adaptation and urban resilience will be shared.

6.1. City-business collaboration and realizing the resilience dividend	Much of the infrastructure, buildings, land, services, and jobs that define an urban area belong to the private sector. Building a truly resilient city is impossible without ownership and investment from the private sector including local businesses. This category welcomes examples of innovative private sector initiatives, ESG programs, and city-business partnerships aimed at improving physical, environmental, and/or socio-economic resilience. Ways of sharing, measuring, and marketing the added value of resilience shall be explored, as well as ways to reduce the risks of long term resilience investments. In addition, examples of successful collaboration with Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) – which are often the backbone of economy in cities of the Global South – are welcome.

6.2. New partnerships for resilience: Insurance industry and cities	The insurance industry is a key stakeholder to engage throughout the resilience planning process due to its extensive experience in risk assessment, modelling, and management. Disaster risk financing in the form of insurance and other risk transfer techniques is also an essential tool to consider when designing and funding resilience strategies. This category welcomes examples of public-private partnerships with insurance partners aiming to increase urban resilience. It also seeks examples of risk transfer strategies applied by local governments and (re)insurance companies, including international risk transfer instruments (catastrophe risk insurance), local risk transfer mechanisms (e.g. through municipal budget reserves for disasters), and community-based disaster risk transfer (e.g. micro-insurance and social safety nets, esp. for urban poor communities). Innovative reinsurance schemes (e.g. Flood RE) will also be discussed.
6.3. Real estate and tourism industry's role and contribution to urban resilience	The real estate industry has significant influence over the condition and function of urban landscapes (also urban sprawl) through construction activities and property market prices. For this reason, it often also influences citizens' behavior and lifestyles (e.g. transportation patterns). To achieve urban resilience, it is crucial to include this important actor in citywide adaptation and disaster resilience efforts. Similarly, the tourism industry constitutes a key partner in city landscape configuration and often, due to the location of their assets (e.g. coastal areas), they are particularly exposed to climate change impacts and disasters. This category welcomes submissions that highlight the role of these two private sectors in urban resilience building through concrete examples of collaboration with cities. Solutions that could increase adaptive capacity within the real estate and tourism industry through public and private interventions are also welcome.

7. Knowledge is power: Informing and mainstreaming good practice

Contributions under this theme showcase examples of how local government practitioners and stakeholders manage information for evidence-based adaptation and resilience action. This includes strategies for knowledge generation including data collection, analysis, and information sharing between public and private institutions. It also relates to the creation and application of standardized indicators and measurements as well as individual approaches to monitoring and evaluating implementation in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner.

7.1. Improving data collection and knowledge sharing for evidence-based adaptation planning	High quality data and information on climate change impacts at the local level, as well as cities' vulnerability and "readiness" to adapt are needed to provide a basis for informed decision-making. Tools and strategies for improving data collection and interpretation, as well as accessing and sharing data between agencies and stakeholders will be presented. This can include strategies for bridging the researcher-practitioner divide, making data publicly available (e.g. open data), or establishing institutional frameworks for sharing information. This category also welcomes examples of how spatial data and analysis tools, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can be used throughout all phases of adaptation planning, from risk assessment to disaster response, to increase urban resilience.
7.2. Resilience indicators and standards	Creating more resilient cities and communities has been established as a core goal of international agreements, including the Sustainable Development Goals, The Paris Agreement (UNFCCC), and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). Resilience to disasters and climate risks is also an

	important consideration for public and private development strategies and investment decisions. To advance, there is a need for standardized indicators and risk data to measure and monitor resilience. This category welcomes contributions related to the further development and implementation of international indicators and standards (general or sector-specific) on resilience (e.g. ISO 31721, indicators for UN targets, resilient infrastructure standards, etc).
7.3. Monitoring and evaluating implementation (measurable, reportable, verifiable, accountable)	MRV approaches increase visibility of local resilience actions while supporting transparency, accountability, and results-based planning. This category will feature examples of local, national, or international Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems and reporting platforms used by cities that track resilience in a way that is measurable, reportable and verifiable (MRV) (an example of measurable target is: "*halve the number of residents at risk from landslides by 2030*"). These systems may also help to capture local contributions toward national or international targets, supporting vertical integration. Cities' experiences in designing their own M&E systems using MRV thinking may also be shared.
8. Critical and emerging themes in urban resilience *This category includes current and pressing issues for urban resilience in 2018. Some issues, such as climate related-health risks are not new, but represent serious challenges where further attention and support is needed. Cities must prepare for when disasters happen and be ready to appropriately respond and recover. Increasing climate change pressures however, are testing cities' preparedness and resilience capacity demonstrating that there is much more to be done. This category will also explore responses to unavoidable loss and damage (L&D) from climate change by cities and communities. Lastly, finding innovative financing approaches is a critical need for cities determined to shift to climate compatible development. Emerging challenges and opportunities, as well as questions of how local governments can anticipate and respond to future developments that impede their transformation to resilient, low carbon communities are to be discussed.*	
8.1. Managing climate-related health risks, including vector borne diseases	While climate change is anticipated to have profound implications for public health and well-being, the relationship between health and climate change is currently underexplored. Cities ought to integrate health considerations into their adaptation planning and prepare for the increasing risk of vector-borne diseases (e.g. malaria and dengue fever) on their territory, as well as for the imminent heat-related risks and neglected Water and Sanitation (WASH) management consequences. Examples of how cities prepare and respond to disease outbreaks or other health risks (dehydration, cardiovascular, respiratory, stomach and intestinal illness due to heat waves, poor air quality and heavy precipitation) will be showcased, while policy-making and approaches for integrating health into urban planning and resilience strategies (e.g. improving WASH infrastructure and promoting behavioral change) will also be shared.
8.2. Loss and damage implications for cities, coastal regions, and Small Island Developing States	As sea levels rise and landscapes transform due to climate change, certain impacts will be unavoidable, requiring cities to cope rather than adapt through measures such as relocation. Contributions under this theme will explore emerging mechanisms for dealing with inevitable and unavoidable loss and damages (L&D) incurred as a result of climate change. Contributions may also discuss the current mandate of the Warsaw International Mechanism for L&D associated with Climate Change Impacts and challenges regarding action and support for its implementation at the local level.

8.3. Innovative finance mechanisms for climate compatible development	This category welcomes contributions illustrating creative and innovative approaches and mechanisms for financing climate compatible development both in the Global North and the Global South. This may include green bonds, community-driven finance mechanisms (e.g. locally managed funds), or bundling projects within or between cities. Examples of shifting toward green economy, ecotourism and other actions to simultaneously address environmental and economic concerns within the city will also be shared.

9. Other themes

This category provides an opportunity for contributions addressing aspects of resilience and climate change adaptation which are not yet covered by themes 1-8 for the Resilient Cities Program Committee to consider for inclusion. Potential issues not raised above may include mal-adaptation, climate change and human security, and the psycho-social aspects of resilience. Other examples could focus on positive innovations and trends, e.g. online "marketplaces" for resilience solutions and innovative technology used for adaptation planning and implementation of resilience strategies. Contributions in this category may also follow up on initiatives, research, or case studies featured at previous Resilient Cities congresses.