

CITIES
2018 • CONFERENCE
IPCC

**Cities &
Climate Change
Science
Conference**

MARCH 5 - 7, 2018

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

Outcomes of the Conference

Maryke van Staden, ICLEI, CitiesIPCC Scientific Steering Committee Member
Resilient Cities 2018, 27 April 2018

Why cities?

Share of the Urban Population Worldwide



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2014). World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision, custom data acquired via website.

Share of Urban Population on all Continents



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) (2016), online database.

Why cities?



Cities are both key to solving the challenge of climate change and highly vulnerable to its ill effects.

History

IPCC AR 5 – Cities are highlighted as an increasingly important topic

43rd IPCC Plenary April 2016, discussion on proposals for a Special Report on Cities in AR7 Cycle

44th IPCC Plenary October 2016, proposal for CitiesIPCC conference approved

Contribute to AR 6 and AR 7 Specifically Special Report on Cities

Conference aims and goals

Conference aims:

- to inspire the next frontier of research focused on the science of cities and climate change

Primary goals:

- to assess the state of academic and practice-based knowledge related to cities and climate change,
- and to establish a global research agenda based on the joint identification of key gaps by the academic, practitioner and urban policy-making communities

Specific goals:

- to stimulate research underpinning effective and efficient urban responses to climate change
- to provide inputs to the products of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Expected outcomes

- ❑ Improve scientific knowledge and stimulate new research
- ❑ Forge stronger partnerships between communities
- ❑ Promote joint knowledge production
- ❑ Connect data platforms and initiate new ones
- ❑ Catalyze funding to meet these goals

CitiesIPCC Partnership



Scientific Steering Committee

- **Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal**
Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand
- **Dr. Helen Cleugh**
CSIRO Climate Science Centre, Australia
- **Prof. Valérie Masson-Delmotte**
LSCE, France
- **Seth Schultz**
C40 Climate Leadership Group, USA
- **Prof. Richard Dawson**
Newcastle University, UK
- **Dr. Debra Roberts**
eThekweni Municipality, Durban, South Africa
- **Prof. Dr. Diana Ürge-Vorsatz**
Central European University, Hungary
- **Dr. Gian Carlo Delgado**
National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico
- **Prof. Roberto Sanchez**
El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Mexico
- **Prof. Xuemei Bai**
Australian National University, Australia
- **Dr. David Dodman**
International Institute for Environmental Development, UK
- **Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig**
NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, USA
- **Dr. Aliyu Barau**
Bayero University Kano, Nigeria
- **Lykke Leonardsen**
City of Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Prof. Karen Seto**
Yale University, USA
- **Prof. William Solecki,**
CUNY Institute for Sustainable Cities,
USA
- **Maryke van Staden,**
ICLEI, South Africa
- **Dr. Megan Melamed,** International
Global Atmospheric Chemistry (IGAC), USA

Conference participation

- **Academics**
 - **Researchers**
 - **Policy makers**
 - **Urban practitioners**
 - **Private sector representatives**
 - **Indigenous leaders**
 - **Youth**
-
- **700+ delegates**
 - **64 countries**
 - **32% participants from Global South**
 - **49% women, 51% men**



Conference themes

1. Cities and climate change: imperatives for action
2. Urban emissions, impacts and vulnerabilities: science and practice of cities
3. Solutions for the transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient cities: science and practice for cities
4. Enabling transformative climate action in cities (advancing science and advancing cities)

Conference sessions

- 7 plenaries
 - 49 thematic sessions
 - 7 sessions led by SSC
 - 76 posters
- Cities and global agendas
 - Energy systems
 - Climate finance
 - Inclusion and informality
 - Co-benefits
 - Knowledge systems
 - Environmental justice
 - Big data and smart cities
 - Policy-practitioner-academia interactions
 - GHG emissions
 - Urban climate information
 - Climate risks and vulnerabilities
 - Human health and climate change
 - Urban climate governance
 - Urban adaptation and resilience building

Outcomes

- **Conference Proceedings**
- **A global research agenda** on cities and climate change that advances climate change science and gives recognition and visibility to the knowledge generated by urban stakeholders
- **Enhanced understanding of the impacts of climate change** at the urban level, the range of possible responses and the role of cities in the implementation of the Paris Agreement; and
- **Better informed climate decision-making at the local level**, as a result of improved relations between the policy, practice and the scientific communities working on/in urban areas, through new projects, platforms and partnerships.

CitiesIPCC Global Research and Action Agenda

- Co-produced from inputs from plenary and parallel sessions, posters, commissioned papers and conference discussions
- Will be drawn together by CitiesIPCC SSC and support team
- Presented as part of official CitiesIPCC Conference Report at 48th IPCC Plenary, October 2018

CitiesIPCC Global Research and Action Agenda

Key Aspects

- Challenges of Scale
- Data, modelling, scenarios at the city scale
- Importance of systems approach and multiple knowledge systems

Call for Research and Action

- Informality
- Governance
- Consumption + Production
- Natural and Built Infrastructure
- Finance
- Urban Climate Science
- Vulnerability, risk and resilience
- Urban Planning and Design

Approaches for academic, urban practitioner and policy-making communities to support Research and Action Agenda

- Global
- National
- Local

Thanks for your time!

Stay updated with the outcomes and related events

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