



## SESSION DESCRIPTION

# A2 Brokering new partnerships & stimulating private sector engagement for resilience

## Presentations

**Date:** Thursday, 26 April, 2018

**Time:** 14:30-16:00

**Rooms:** S29-31

**Language:** English

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**Organized by:** ICLEI World Secretariat

### OBJECTIVE

Engaging the private sector in urban resilience and adaptation is not yet intuitive for local governments. Barriers in understanding each other persist, though both stakeholders recognize the need and urgency to work together. Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (MSMEs), for example, have a vast potential for supporting and implementing disaster & societal resilience while conducting business as usual. At the same time, MSMEs are very vulnerable to disaster risks in the cities they operate. By involving the private sector in urban resilience-building both sides could reap benefits. How do we make this happen?

Until recently, the term “private sector” in the context of urban resilience and adaptation has been synonymous to corporations. With examples from the Global North and Global South, the session explored how to include the insurance, the tourism, and the real-estate sector, as well as local SMEs and MSMEs in the cities’ efforts to increase resilience and achieve sustainable urban futures. Starting by acknowledging the potential of MSMEs for urban resilience building and social cohesion in the Global South, the discussion highlighted key findings from the forthcoming UNEP DTU Partnership “*Perspective Series*”, which explores the issue of private sector engagement in climate change adaptation with a special focus on MSMEs. The discussion then shifted focus to the global north geographically and to the insurance sector thematically. In the context of the EU Horizon 2020 project “*NAID: Nature Insurance Value Assessment & Demonstration*”, examples from Copenhagen, Denmark, Rotterdam, Netherlands, and Lodz, Poland were shared. These cities have developed tools for capturing co-benefits of NBS and operationalizing the implementation of such projects by tailoring them to the local environment, social and legislative local conditions.

The next presentation introduced six key planning documents that guide the resilience strategy of Jersey City, New Jersey, USA. In particular, participants learned how the City’s character was incorporated in the planning; how land-use regulations could support climate change mitigation efforts and at the same time encourage continued real estate investment; and how Jersey City’s Capital Improvement roadmap guides the City’s resilience investments. Last, a presentation from the City of Cape Coast, Ghana will ground-truth the discussion on the involvement of the private sector in urban resilience and adaptation efforts.



## OUTCOMES

- Participants were presented with some of the challenges and opportunities of involving the private sector (incl. SMEs, MSMEs, the insurance, real estate and tourism sector) in the process of urban resilience-building;
- They were inspired by on-the-ground examples of private sector's engagement in the Global North and Global South;
- They learned how cities quantify capital (and social) returns on resilience by implementing nature-based solutions;
- Discussed transferability of experience and how to improve involvement of the private sector in resilience building and climate change adaptation efforts

## METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator provided an overall introduction to the session and contributors. **(5 minutes)**
- Each presentation was allotted 10 minutes. **(5 x 10 minutes)**
- The facilitator managed questions and answers. **(30 minutes)**
- Closing remarks by the facilitator. **(5 minutes)**

## CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Stephan Zimmerman, Disaster Risk Management Specialist, The World Bank, Brussels, Belgium*

Presenter *Caroline Schaer, Researcher, UNEP DTU Partnership, Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark*

### **Unlocking the climate adaptation potential of MSMEs in the Global South**

Acknowledging the importance of micro, small & medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) to contribute to societal resilience in developing countries is essential and receiving increasing attention in the international arena. While representing 80% of businesses in developing countries and being crucial to employment generation and supporting livelihoods, they also have limited capacity to respond to climate and disaster risks, and are therefore more vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change. This presentation highlights key findings from the latest UNEP DTU Partnership (UDP) 'Perspectives' publication, which explores the role of MSMEs in building climate resilience.

Presenter *Peter van der Keur, Senior Scientist, Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland, Copenhagen, Denmark*

### **Operationalization of insurance value of nature based solutions. An Urban living lab approach**

The insurance value of ecosystems for mitigation of water related risks is assessed and tested through the co-design and implementation of nature-based solutions (NBS) with involvement of key stakeholders. Focus is particularly on hybrid blue-green and grey infrastructures aiming to build resilience to climate extreme events. Copenhagen, Rotterdam and Lodz develop tools for coupling biophysical, system dynamic and economic modelling and tailor NBS to the local environmental, social and legislative conditions. Economic valuation methods, including co-benefits and business models are to be developed to empower broader investments in NBS.



Presenters *Risa P. Goldstein, Partner, Goldstein Partnership Architects & Planners, Maplewood, NJ, USA;*

*Alexander D'Hooghe, Senior Partner, Org. for Permanent Modernity, Boston, USA*

**Jersey City: 6 Key Resiliency Planning Documents**

A presentation of highlights from the recently completed Jersey City Resiliency Master Plan initiated by the city of Jersey City, New Jersey, USA, post-hurricane Sandy of 2012. The presentation will cover the broad range of planning issues this Master Plan addresses, including large-scale urban systems risk assessment, key investment prioritization and long term phasing planning; and at a smaller scale, specific zoning and building code amendments, that support overall resiliency planning goals as new development proceeds.

Presenter *Ernest Arthur, Metropolitan Chief Executive, Cape Coast, Ghana*

**Together for a clean Cape Coast**

The Cape Coast Metropolitan Assembly recognizes the importance of a clean city to its sustainability agenda, especially in the area of investments and promotion of Cape Coast as the desired tourism destination in Ghana. In view of this, the Cape Coast Metropolitan Assembly appointed Sanitation and Tourism Ambassadors in 2017 to assist in the campaign for a clean Cape Coast. The Waste Management Department, the Environmental Health Unit and the Metro Sanitation and Tourism Ambassadors will visit schools, communities and the vendors in market places and small businesses to educate and collaborate. The Mayor will share the vision of this campaign and plans for enhanced private sector involvement in the future.

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**Further recommended reading**

UNEP DTU Partnership "Perspective Series": <http://www.unepdtu.org/PUBLICATIONS/Carbon-Market-Perspectives-Series>

EU Horizon 2020 project "NAID: Nature Insurance Value Assessment & Demonstration": [https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/206403\\_en.html](https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/206403_en.html)

Naidad, Nature Based Solutions, Nature Insurance value <http://www.naiad2020.eu/>

Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA), South Africa, [www.ccma.gov.gh](http://www.ccma.gov.gh)

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