

UNFCCC Adaptation Calendar 2015

Building Climate Resilience in Urban Areas



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

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UNFCCC Adaptation Calendar 2015

Building Climate Resilience in Urban Areas

Action in urban centers is essential for successful climate change adaptation. By 2050, an estimated 6.2 billion people or 70 per cent of the global population will be living in cities. Climate risks in urban areas are increasing, including rising sea levels and storm surges, heat stress, extreme precipitation, flooding, landslides, drought, and water shortages, which will have widespread negative impacts on people, economies and ecosystems, including health, livelihoods and assets.

To meet the needs of a rapidly growing urban population, a window of opportunity exists with USD 6 trillion expected to be invested in urban infrastructure development by 2030. The choice in the design and performance of the new urban world will define the success or failure of the global path to climate resilient, low-emission development.

This postcard calendar showcases examples of initiatives to build climate-smart, resilient and livable cities, to adapt to the impacts of climate change now, and to prepare for the future.

Cover photo: Ben King, <bikeben.com>; View of Cappadocia, Turkey. For more than 1000 years, people have made their homes in the soft rock of Cappadocia, creating an urbanized, underground cultural landscape, adapted to the natural environment.



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JANUARY

2015

MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31								



Building economic and livelihood resilience: Cash transfers and safety nets are enabling low-income groups to adapt in Kelurahan Pabean, Central Java, Indonesia, where batik production is threatened by increasingly frequent floods



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Photo: John Taylor, Yayasan Kota Kita. Batik production in Kelurahan Pabean, Central Java, Indonesia is threatened by increasingly frequent floods

For further information see <unfccc.int/6994> or scan the QR code



FEBRUARY

2015

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28								



Building partnerships and undertaking research: Collaborative efforts are supporting decision-making for healthy, safe and climate resilient housing and communities in urban areas in the UK



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Photo: Nell Moralee, Flickr Creative Commons <goo.gl/n7iXLS>
Flooded road in Devon, UK

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MARCH

2015

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					



Resilient food and agricultural systems: Urban and peri-urban agriculture is improving the nutrition and livelihoods of poor families in urban areas in Caracas, Venezuela



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Photo: ©FAO/Giuseppe Bizzarri, FAO Photo Library. Urban garden cooperative workers laying down irrigation lines in a lettuce bed in Caracas, Venezuela

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APRIL

2015

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27	28	29	30										



Strengthening the knowledge base for adaptation: Improved understanding of climate impacts and risks, developing practical approaches for adaptation, and sharing experiences is supporting adaptation in Chinese cities



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Photo: Jennifer Lenhart.
The Urban Observer <exploring-and-observing-cities.org>, Shanghai

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MAY

2015

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Building climate resilience in transport and telecommunications systems: Long-term planning and investment in New York City is helping communities impacted by Hurricane Sandy to rebuild, and increasing the resilience of transport and telecommunications infrastructure, utilities and buildings citywide



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Photo: Jakob Montrasio - Flickr. New York City from the Empire
State Building

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JUNE

2015

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29	30												



Sustainable urban drainage systems: Suburban regeneration including ditches, retention ponds, green roofs and green spaces has increased climate resilience in Malmö, Sweden, through decreasing rainwater runoff even in heavy rainfall events, and increasing green space, ecosystem services and community spirit



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Photo: City of Malmö. Sustainable urban drainage systems,
including ditches, retention ponds, green roofs and green spaces
in Augustenborg, Malmö

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JULY

2015

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Private sector engagement and investment in adaptation: Private sector entities are enabling climate resilience and increasing investment in cities, as shown by the UNFCCC private sector initiative of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation



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Photo: Private Sector/World Bank Photo Collection Yang Aijun /
World Bank. High-rise buildings in Tianjin

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AUGUST

2015

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Supporting ecosystem services from the ground up: Citizen-initiated efforts to build green roofs and community gardens are enhancing ecosystem services in Saint Petersburg, Russia



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Photo: Maria Ignatieva "Citizens green roof in St Petersburg"

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SEPTEMBER

2015

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28	29	30											



Integrating adaptation into planning at the local government level: Sharing knowledge and resources to support decision-makers in cities in India and the Philippines is building resilience and creating safer, healthier communities



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Photo: Dominic Chavez/World Bank. Boys play in a makeshift
boat in the Taytay River, the Philippines

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OCTOBER

2015

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Adapting housing and urban settlements: Integrating adaptation into urban development and environmental management strategies and plans, and supporting people living in unplanned and underserved coastal settlements is building resilience in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania



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Photo: Rob, Flickr Creative Commons: <goo.gl/hGGQEW>
<bbmexplorer.com> Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania from the air

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NOVEMBER

2015

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						



Strengthening knowledge and translating research into action to develop natural solutions for climate resilience in cities: Research focussed on enabling protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services is enabling adaptation in Berlin, Rotterdam, Salzburg, Stockholm, Barcelona, Helsinki and New York



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Photo: Dagmar Haase. Nature offers a great potential for improving the quality of life of urban citizens and to increase the resilience of cities

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DECEMBER

2015

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28	29	30	31										



Making the connections to enable cities to adapt and build climate resilience: Global, regional and local networks are making a difference and gaining momentum through enabling collaboration and sharing inspirational innovative practices and knowledge



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Photo: Jennifer Lenhart
The Urban Observer <exploring-and-observing-cities.org>, Shanghai

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