

City-level capacity-building for resilience

Side event at **CAPACITY BUILDING HUB: Local Governments and Cities Day**

Saturday, December 7, 2019, 10:00 – 11:30



Panelists:

Alexandros Makarigakis IHP - UNESCO
Carmen Vogt GIZ
Jennifer Lenhart WWF
Marcus Mayr UN-Habitat
María Mániz Costa GERICS
Maryke van Staden ICLEI
Salemmul Huq ICCCAD

Presenters:

Katarzyna Wieszczyńska SDU
Corina Angheloiu ICL

Moderator:

Nicola Tollin SDU



Organizers



Partners



With Financial Support from



Description:

The session aims at discussing and understanding challenges and opportunities for building capacities for urban resilience transition; responding to the Cities-IPCC call for fostering dialogue between practitioners, policy makers and researchers; to develop and promote peer-to-peer learning across regions, sectors and disciplines. The session will report the results of the first edition of the BLOXHUB Summer School on Urban Resilience that brought together 26 practitioners, policy makers and researchers and 30 lecturers from 30 countries, in Copenhagen in September 2019; as well as the preliminary results of the current research on capacity building and skills development needs, led by the University of Southern Denmark, in collaboration with researchers from Imperial College London, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University IUAV of Venice.

The session is ultimately aiming at expanding the collaboration for developing capacity building activities able to support an ambitious and timely transition of cities toward resilience, through systemic actions able to integrate climate mitigation and adaptation.

The session is be instrumental to understand and respond to capacity building needs on urban resilience, having an impact in raising ambitions and taking urgent actions for promoting the resilient transition of cities, through evidence-based decision making and integrated actions, coupling climate adaptation and mitigation, both in the global south and in the global north.

A short report of the session will be realized with the key messages and recommendations.

The results of the session will contribute to the further development of the Summer School on Urban Resilience and partners' capacity building activities in general.

Selected participants to the session will be interviewed in the frame of the current research project aimed at understanding knowledge gaps, capacity building and skills development needs for urban resilience.

BLOXHUB Summer School on Urban Resilience 2019

International Urban Resilience Academy (IURA) is a platform for education and capacity building activities on Urban Resilience, at Civil and Architectural Engineering, University of Southern Denmark. <https://www.sdu.dk/en/iura>

BLOXHUB Summer School on Urban Resilience 2019 was the first activity of IURA. <https://bit.ly/2QrAHZC>

The summer school aimed at providing multi-disciplinary knowledge and perspectives on the different global and local challenges in cities of the Global South and the Global North. Through lectures and problem-based workshops, using Copenhagen's real-life experience and challenges as a living laboratory, the participants gained necessary skills and knowledge to develop informed policies, strategies, plans and solutions for urban resilience.

Research: *Understanding Urban Resilience*

Understanding Urban Resilience is a collaborative research project with researchers from University of Southern Denmark, Imperial College London, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University IUAV of Venice, that seeks to investigate the knowledge and capacity building gaps, as well as barriers and opportunities for the operationalization of urban resilience. Urban resilience is defined as addressing both causes and effects of four key global challenges: urbanization, sustainability, development and climate change, in the frame of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, New Urban Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

The research is based on interviews and surveys with researchers, practitioners and policy makers working on urban resilience. The research aims at advancing knowledge and supporting evidence-based policies and actions understanding

The current key knowledge gaps for urban resilience, and how to bridge systemically these gaps.

The capacity building and skills development need and how to respond to these through education and training, including life-long learning and knowledge exchange.

The barriers and opportunities for the operationalization of urban resilience, and how to support the urban resilience transition.

Agenda:

10.00 – 10.10

Nicola Tollin, Professor WSR on Urban Resilience
University of Southern Denmark
Setting the stage

10.10 – 10.20

Katarzyna Alicja Wieszczyńska – Research Assistant
University of Southern Denmark
Presenting the results of the *BLOXHUB Summer School on Urban Resilience 2019* and introducing to the activities of the *International Urban Resilience Academy*

10.20 – 10.30

Corina Angheloiu - Researcher
Imperial College London
Framing the “Understanding Urban Resilience” research and its highlights on (i) Key knowledge gaps; (ii) Capacity building needs; and (iii) Opportunities and barriers to urban resilience operationalization

10.30 – 11.25

Panel discussion with Q&A on three topics:

Which are the current **key knowledge gaps for urban resilience**?

Which are the needs for **capacity building in urban resilience**?

Which are the **barriers and opportunities for urban resilience operationalization**?

Panellists:

Alexandros Makarigakis Programme Specialist, Water for Human Settlements,
International Hydrological Programme, Natural Sciences Sector,
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO

Carmen Vogt Programme Director,
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ

Jennifer Lenhart Global Lead,
WWF CITIES, World Wide Fund for Nature WWF

María Máñez Costa Senior Researcher,
Climate Service Center Germany GERICS, Helmholtz Center Geesthacht

Marcus Mayr Urban Climate Change Specialist,
United Nations Human Settlements Programme UN-Habitat

Maryke van Staden Manager of the Low Emissions Development Program,
Director of Bonn Center for Local Climate Action and Reporting
ICLEI World Secretariat

Saleemul Huq Director,
International Centre for Climate Change and Development ICCCAD,
Independent University, Bangladesh IUB

11.25– 11.30

Nicola Tollin, Professor WSR on Urban Resilience
University of Southern Denmark

Closing remarks