



SESSION DESCRIPTION

A1 Tracking the progress of urban resilience

Presentations

Date: Wednesday, 26 June, 2019

Time: 14:00-15:30

Rooms: S29-31

Language: English

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OBJECTIVE

In the past years, cities and municipalities implemented strategic plans towards resilience building. Despite the progress that has been made recently, monitoring, reporting and evaluating the climate change adaptation represents an issue in the urban context. How do we measure success? And how do we enable local governments to measure their disaster and climate resilience?

The session began with the presentation of the British Standard for City Resilience, which sets five fundamentals in the standardization to the urban resilience approach while providing practical guidance and tools for resilience building strategy. The following presentation introduced the RESCUE project, a holistic approach, which can help cities to generate resilience methodologies and planning strategies by using models and software tools to analyze the behavior and the response of strategic services to climate change impacts in Barcelona, Bristol, and Lisbon. It was followed by the presentation of the 12 adaptation indicators developed by the Helsinki Metropolitan Region to assess the success of the adaptation and resilience strategy.

The following two presentations addressed the performance assessment and evaluation aspect of resilience strategies. First, it was presented the Adaptive Gradients Framework, developed by the SAGE network, a participatory process to evaluate existing and develop more creative approaches to the resilience challenges in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Second, it was presented the Urban Environmental and Social Inclusion Index (UESI), which provides a tool for determining cities' environmental performance and social equity outcomes. Finally, Taoyuan City Government presented the innovation process of the city ponds by highlighting the progress in building local resilience.

OUTCOMES

- Participants learned how to use spatial data for the assessment of adaptation strategies and climate resilience, and how this information can be illustrated;
- Participants got an overview of existing climate adaptation frameworks and their applications;
- Participants will take this knowledge with them to apply in their own communities, cities and regions.



METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator provided an introduction to the session topic and contributors. **(5 minutes)**
- Each presentation was allotted 10 minutes. **(6 x 10 minutes)**
- The facilitator managed questions and answers. **(20 minutes)**
- Closing remarks by the facilitator. **(5 minutes)**

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *David Dodman, Director, Human Settlements Group, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), London, United Kingdom*

Presenter *Caroline Field, Committee Chair – British Standard for City Resilience or Associate Director, Arup, London, United Kingdom*

The new British Standard for City Resilience

The British Standard for City Resilience sets five fundamentals of resilience breaking through organisational, political and societal boundaries, and influencing city culture, structures and processes. This Standard provides practical guidance and tools for organising, prioritising, planning and delivering increased city resilience through a process of continuous improvement. This proactive approach is intended for use by all stakeholders who contribute to city resilience, whether from the private, public and third sector.

Presenter *Maaria Parry, Climate Specialist, Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority (HSY), Helsinki, Finland*

Indicators for adaptation in the urban context: Case Helsinki region

The Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority HSY is the municipal body promoting the implementation of the Helsinki Metropolitan Area Climate Change Adaptation Strategy; to understand the success of this strategy HSY has developed 12 indicators for adaptation and resilience. These indicators explore vulnerabilities and resilience factors of the four cities in the region. (Some indicators will be illustrated using map-based information and graphical tools which make the communication of climate change adaptation easier.) A uniform set of indicators for every city or region might not point out the specific needs for one city well enough; however, they can be a source of inspiration for other cities in the European context.

Presenter *Elisabeth Hamin Infield, Professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, United States*

Evaluating infrastructure choices: The Adaptation Gradients Framework

Hybrid approaches, including combinations of traditional structural measures, greener infrastructure approaches, social and regulatory initiatives, are needed to implement coastal protection measures. The SAGE network has developed the Adaptation Gradients Framework to conduct sophisticated and multi-disciplinary evaluations, feasible in resource-limited situations and communicable to decision-makers.



Presenter *Ryan Thomas, PhD Student, Cornell University, Ithaca, United States*

Diego Manyá, Research Associate, Yale FES, New Haven, United States

Are cities meeting goals for equitable environmental growth?

The Urban Environmental and Social Inclusion Index (UESI) provide a tool for determining cities' environmental performance and social equity outcomes. This tool highlights the potential applications, benefits and challenges of leveraging large and innovative datasets to track urban environmental performance.

Presenter *Marie Angelique Go, City Administrator, City Government of Zamboanga, Zamboanga, Philippines*

Human security as a pillar of resilience

The National Resilience Council (NRC) launched a Disaster Resilience Scorecard (DRS), a set of localized metrics for the use of internal and external stakeholders for local governments units to bring disaster risk and reduction management (DRRM) to the local level.

Presenter *Li-Teh Lu, Director General, Taoyuan City Government, Taoyuan City, Chinese Taipei*

The applications of Taoyuan's ponds in climate change mitigation and adaption

Ponds were dug by people of Taoyuan in early days to overcome the irrigation problem. Following the change of time, the ponds are now used not only for water conservancy and agriculture, but also as a strategy for climate change mitigation and adaptation. As ponds are deemed as an important landscape and culture of Taoyuan City, the City has therefore carried out various application survey and renovation plans.