



## **C2 Multicultural Approaches to Resilience of Urban Areas**

### **Panel discussion**

**Date:** Thursday 27 June 2019

**Time:** 9:00-10:30

**Rooms:** S30-32

**Language:** English

**Contact:** Albrecht Beck

**E-mail/web:** [office@prepared-international.org](mailto:office@prepared-international.org)

**Organized by:** ICLEI

#### **OBJECTIVE**

During the last decades, cities were characterized by migrant flows that resulted in the grow of multicultural societies and the enlargement of non-native communities. At the same time, cities are increasingly investing in augmenting their adaptation levels to climate change, learning how to co-live with natural disasters, building in places and ways which consider the possibility of disasters happening, developing and approving policies, regulations and plans for resilience enhancement in the short, medium and long run. In this new context, one of the most important things is to involve all the citizens in the new challenging aspects that are rising in these years. When speaking of natural disasters, not being aware, not knowing who to call, how to act, where to look for updated info, is a key reason of exposure to severe risk, and this is particularly true for non-native inhabitants. Cities are made of and by citizens, which need to be seen as key actors to effectively gain results out of policies and investments. It is obvious that a key point to strengthen the resilience of cities is to engage and include as many citizens as possible, but at the same time it shows that in several parts of the world the percentage of citizens engaged, included and aware of emergency management systems is decreasing.

The European Project AMARE-EU is focusing specifically on ***developing concrete, low cost and easy to be applied solutions to involve and engage those who, due to linguistic, social, economic, cultural factors, are at severe risk in case of disaster***. This will, together with developed guidelines and good practices, constitute a **toolkit supporting city administrators** in ensuring most effective involvement of non-native citizens in prevention and preparedness strategies, for creating safer and more resilient communities.

This panel will discuss experiences from several cities and experts on how to best integrate non-native population into resilience building and response preparedness. In addition, it shall provide strategy on how other parts of the world can make use of the project results.



## OUTCOMES

Participants will gain a better understanding of:

- Experiences and best practices made by different strategies for the integration of non-native communities into resilience building
- Key problems and existing gaps with the integration of non-native communities in resilience building
- Current status of AMARE-EU project in regard to toolkit development and how cities can use the toolkit

## METHODOLOGY

- Facilitator will briefly introduce the topic **(5min)**
- First panelist will introduce the AMARE-EU project and the first results produced **(10min)**
- The following panellists will answer a specific question from the facilitator (see below) to provide an overall picture on the situation in this field of urban resilience building **(each about 5 min)**
- The facilitator will manage questions and answers from the audience. **(25 minutes)**
- The facilitator will conclude with closing remarks. **(5 minutes)**

## CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Albrecht A. Beck, Managing Director, Prepared International (PPI), Samerberg, Germany*

### **Resilience, Urban Response and Inclusion**

CV: Albrecht is the Managing Director of Prepared International (PPI) focusing on emergency preparedness and resilience building. Next to this, Albrecht is the Head of the Competence Center for Disaster Risk Diplomacy in Vienna which concentrates on conflict-sensitive Disaster Risk Reduction. In this role, he had been establishing and heading the “Professional Dialogue”, the cooperation on life-saving between Israel, Jordan and Palestine. Previously, Albrecht had been leading the field of Mass Evacuations in the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and had been working for UN-OCHA and UN-DPKO. He is a member of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team and been in leading positions in numerous mass disaster responses like Nepal Earthquake and Balkan Floods.

Panelist *Francesca Borga, Senior Project Manager, EPC srl, Vincenza, Italy*

### **Presentation of AMARE-EU Project and the preliminary results**

CV: Francesca is a senior project manager and responsible of “European and Funded Projects” departments in EPC srl, she is the coordinator of the European Project AMARE-eu – Adoption of Multicultural Approaches towards Resilience Enhancement in the EU. Graduated in Management Engineering at the Milano Polytechnic University (Italy) in 2000, Francesca has over 15 years of professional experience in projects management, project communication and monitoring of complex and multi-partner projects, mainly funded by national or European funds. In the last five years, she provided support mainly to local and regional authorities, research institutions and



other territorial entities in accessing and managing projects in the fields of Civil Protection, Sustainable Development, Urban Mobility, Territorial Cooperation and Environment.

Panelist *Georgios Stratigis, Executive Civil Protection Officer, Municipality of Heraklion, Heraklion, Crete*

**Why introducing a Multi-cultural approach to Resilience building for Urban Areas?**

CV: Georgios is the Executive Civil Protection Officer of the Municipality of Heraklion on Crete. He is Coordination the response and restoration units of the city and at the same time is responsible for the civil protection volunteers. Georgios had been part of several disaster preparedness projects, lately of the project PACES. Georgios is a trained police officer.

Panelist *Ratko Dimovski, Associate for disaster management, City of Skopje, Skopje, Macedonia*

**The Migrant Situation as a challenge for urban administration**

CV: Ratko Dimovski is the High associate for disaster management for the Macedonian capital city, City of Skopje. He is responsible for the planning of short term, midterm and long-term activities for strengthening the local and regional level urban resilience, with a special expertise on the subject of protection and rescue. Ratko holds an LL.M. in international law and international relations and has previous experience in the private sector, as a founder of a transportation startup company, but also in the public sector working in the Civil court in Skopje. He was one of the writers of the current Law for fire protection and Law for protection and rescue in his home country. Ratko also has served as a teacher for students in the post-high school education system on the subject of System for protection and rescue – local and state level in the Marie Curie educational institution in Skopje.

Panelist *Yusuf Apacik, Professional Climate Adaption, City of Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands*

**The planes of Babel: Challenges of Multilingual Societies in Emergency Preparedness**

CV: Yusuf is a Professional for Climate Adaption at the Ciy of Rotterdam. As a policyworker he is highly interested in reaching out to citizens of multicultural background. He is working on a participation project regarding climate adaptation and urban greenzones in one of the most multicultural neighborhoods of Rotterdam. Yusuf studied public administration at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam.

Panelist *Ib Jestergaard, Center Manager, Videnscenter for Integration, City of Velje, Denmark*

**Experiences from Velje’s Center for Integration**

CV: IB Jestergaard is the brains behind the smart city initiative and the resilience city





initiative of the Velje Community. He is also the founder and director of the Resource Center for Integration and has extensive experience in, and excellent understanding of migrant integration. He has dedicated most of his 30-year career on migrant education and integration, primarily in language training of migrants. For the past 18 years he had developed programs in integration. He has also experience in implementing EU projects, first as Expert Evaluator of EU programs on training of child and adult immigrants, and in recent years as Project Director of EU-supported projects.

Panelist *Sandra Federici, Communication Manager, Lai Momo NGO, Italy*

**How important was the implementation of a multicultural approach in dealing with the post-earthquake emergency in the Emilia Region in 2012?**

CV: Sandra Federici has over 20 years of experience in the coordination of publications, researches, projects. Since 2000, she has been coordinating several projects about intercultural dialogue, social inclusion, communication, cultural cooperation with African countries, research. She has worked as research coordinator and project manager for several EU-funded projects, and as Artistic coordinator for The ACP-EU Courier and SPORE magazines. She is the editor-in-chief of the biannual journal *Africa e Mediterraneo*, published since 1992 on economic, historical, social and cultural issues in the African context. Since 2014, she has been coordinating *Bologna cares!*, the SPRAR communication campaign in Bologna. She holds a PHD (2018) from Université de Lorraine and Università Statale di Milano with a research about “The emergence of comics by African authors in the francophone cultural field”.

Panelist *Antonio Nicola De Marco, Director Urban Authority sector, Catanzaro Municipality, Catanzaro, Italy*

**On-site experiences in integrative resilience building**

CV: Antonio De Marco, 66 years old, holds a degree in Law. He is the Director of the Strategic Programming and EU Funds sector for the municipality of Catanzaro. He was General Director of the Economic Development, Employment and Social welfare department of Calabria region, and Director of the regional Urban planning department. He was the Regional Authority for the EU FSE devolved to Calabria Region POR 2007/2'13. Among his expertise are policies of urban development and management of EU funds.

Panelist *Saida Choug, Project Manager and Head of delegation, ASSFAM – Groupe SOS, Lyon, France*

**How can civil society contribute to urban resilience building by integration?**

CV: Saida has a 16-years strong experience in developing and managing social services and leading social projects with a multidisciplinary team, volunteers and experts. She is managing since many years' different programs on Migrant's inclusion as it is mandated by the French Ministry of immigration. She is a graduate of the master's degree in International Business Affairs from the University of Valenciennes and the master's degree in Management and Law from Chambéry Business School in



France. She also had an international career as business Manager in American groups in New York. Saïda also works as Professor for several schools with a special approach to the youth people in difficulties, minors delinquents and radicalization prevention.

Panelist

*Name, Role, City in South America (TBC)*

What challenges on integration of non-native in urban response is a city in South America facing? (TBC)