The Challenge of Building a Resilient Porto Alegre
Translated Executive Summary of Porto Alegre’s Resilient Strategy
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THE FUTURE BEFORE US

Dreams are often the beginning of the story about the great achievements. By the anniversary of the 250 years, to take place in 2022, we dare to dream of a more resilient Porto Alegre. This strategy is how we plan to begin to make this achievement a reality.

We want Porto Alegre, today a world reference in participatory processes, also advances in tackling its chronic and acute risks. Above all, we want to be a place to exercise the fullest form of collaboration between government bodies, private sector, communities and citizens. Have for ideal rely on the work of all in the transformation of our Municipality in a reference in building resilience, inspiring nearby towns of Latin America and perhaps repeating with resilience international recognition of the Participatory Budget.

To be more resilient to Porto Alegre to meet the challenges of low diversification of the economy, the lack of integration of practices and concepts of health, safety and education, build solutions for families still living in informal areas, reverse the lack of organization protection system hydrological, geological and anthropogenic disasters, come to consensus on how it should be mobility in Porto Alegre and finally incorporate the resilience permanently in the planning of the city.

The selection of Porto Alegre for the first cities of Team Challenge 100 Resilient Cities, sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, in December 2013 represents the city's commitment to build a better future for its citizens. For this, the city faced the complex challenge of joint research, building ideas, concepts and planning to create the first Resilience Strategy of the City.

Resilience strategy of Porto Alegre proposes the vision to make the most resilient city and a model for other city in Latin America in this regard. It was developed six strategic objectives that will guide the city to achieve this vision. To support the development of the objectives were defined 25 goals for increased resiliency in different aspects of the city and more than 60 high-impact initiatives that contribute substantially to the increased resilience of the city by 2022. Porto Alegre’s strategic objectives are to have a city of:

1. Dynamic and Innovative Ecosystems

   Owning a diversified economy that fosters creative economies, collaborative and new technologies; developing degraded areas of the city; explore the agricultural productive potential of rural areas and stimulate the production of organic and family farming.

2. A Culture of Peace
Democratize access to quality education, preventive health and public safety; focus on the integration of concepts, practices and systems; widen and improve preventive, restorative and collaborative action; reduce social inequalities; develop initiatives aimed at guaranteeing the fundamental rights of cultural identity, sexual, gender and ethnic groups.

3. Risk Prevention

Have a risk prevention system, especially the flooding, flooding and organized and effective slip; prevent the occupation of areas susceptible to these risks; protect families from losing their belongings; prevent the displacement of people; prevent accidents that affect the environment.

4. Quality of Mobility

Guests have a system that meets the needs of Porto Alegre with integrated alternative modes, relieved traffic, punctual public transportation, universal accessibility and sidewalks without damage or irregularities.

5. Land Legality

Have a process of land regularization able to eliminate the informal settlements; provide basic water, electricity, sanitation and transportation to all; exercise the dialogue with all stakeholders based on trust, collaboration and transparency.

6. Participatory Budgeting and Resilient Management

Owning a management model that promotes a culture of resilience in all city actions and a qualified participatory budgeting that contributes to the increased resilience of the City.

The construction of the strategy with the collaboration of actors from the public and private sectors, academia, community leaders and the third sector. In particular, there is the contribution of local networks resiliency of the 17 regions of interest, which brought a better perspective of regional challenges for the city and the opportunities that are already underway and should be incorporated in a long-term work.

The development of this strategy sought to enhance the efforts already created or running in the city to increase its resilience compared to the chronic and acute shocks already facing, while targeted the future to identify new challenges that we face.

I knew little about the concept of resilience and were incorporating its design while we discovered its qualities, many of them already present in our city. Beginning in February 2014, the development process of Porto Alegre strategy, held numerous meetings with university, city government, community leaders and NGOs have organized themselves into working groups to define the focus areas of the strategy,
increase knowledge through research the challenges and build initiatives that would strengthen the resilience of the city.

Resilience strategy of Porto Alegre, a result of this collaborative work is an important step in making the city able to transform and adapt to the different challenges it faces. Be resilient, so it is a new and necessary goal for Porto Alegre and all other cities in the world.