WHO ARE WE?

We are a global city-led nonprofit organization that brings together knowledge, practice, partnerships, and funding to empower our member cities. Arm in arm with those cities, we help them build a safer, more equitable, and sustainable future for all their residents.

WHAT IS CITY RESILIENCE?

City resilience is about making a city better, in both good times and bad, for the benefit of all its citizens, particularly the poor and vulnerable.

We define resilience as the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.

WHAT DO WE DO?

We co-create urban solutions to address complex and interrelated urban challenges, so that cities and communities thrive.

Imbedded in our guiding holistic resilience approach, we are focused on three cross-cutting themes and two thematic deep dives to orient program delivery.

PROJECT EXAMPLE: VALUING NATURAL ASSETS

Melbourne’s urban forests improve city safety, health, and wellbeing

Melbourne leverages the value of natural assets through a cohesive, metro-wide urban forestry and biodiversity strategy, that will reduce the city’s heat island effect, mitigate flooding, foster social cohesion, and improve public health.

As we have seen around the globe during the COVID-19 pandemic, citizens need more access to open, green space, adding to the evidence for valuing green (and blue) natural assets even further.

The Urban Forest Strategy will drive reforestation and natural asset development across the full metropolitan area, allowing the city to reclaim more of its natural biodiversity and the benefits it bestows. From a resilience perspective, a greener Metro Melbourne means shadier, cooler metropolitan areas, lower flood risk, and less storm water and damaging nutrients entering waterways and Port Phillip Bay.

Furthermore, by aiming for a greener Metro Melbourne, the Urban Forest Strategy is expected to unlock further co-benefits for residents, including reduced obesity levels, better mental health, and more active lifestyles.

HOLISTIC RESILIENCE

3 cross-cutting themes
2 thematic pillars

Resilient Recovery (Health)
Equity
Economic Opportunity

Climate Resilience
Water Resilience
Community Resilience
Energy Resilience

Circularity
Waste Management
Food Systems
Resilient Infrastructure
RESILIENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND (RCIF)

Our RCIF channels financial support into pilot projects that can deliver immediate benefits for vulnerable communities while ensuring long-term resilience benefits accrue to cities.

It is a grant-based fund for members of Resilient Cities Network, meant to catalyze prioritized resilience projects from city strategies and leverage funds thematically and geographically.

RESILIENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND (RCIF)

“The reach, achievements, and vision of the Resilient Cities Network are impressive. Speaking on behalf of the Board of Directors, I can say that we feel deeply inspired by the commitment of the organization to support the critical needs of vulnerable communities by implementing projects that address multiple shocks and stresses and are improving the lives of people.”

Mayor Sylvester Turner
City of Houston, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Resilient Cities Network

“The reach, achievements, and vision of the Resilient Cities Network are impressive. Speaking on behalf of the Board of Directors, I can say that we feel deeply inspired by the commitment of the organization to support the critical needs of vulnerable communities by implementing projects that address multiple shocks and stresses and are improving the lives of people.”

Mayor Sylvester Turner
City of Houston, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Resilient Cities Network

CITIES FOR A RESILIENT RECOVERY (C2R)

C2R is an open, participatory, and collaborative platform where cities can exchange knowledge and learning, take stock of the current situation, and identify key actions and initiatives to address the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic crisis and further future-proof their systems in the face of global challenges. It is a coalition of cities and resilience practitioners committed to taking leadership, to embedding resilience in recovery, and to supporting each other through the recovery planning process.

PROJECT EXAMPLE: CURATING AND SPREADING BEST PRACTICES THROUGH CITY PARTNERSHIPS

Addressing flooding risks in Surat, India

The cities of Surat and Rotterdam created a partnership around integrated flood management and a strategy that combines flexible urban spaces to increase water retention/flow capacity.

Learning from the experiences in the Netherlands, the city of Rotterdam has supported Surat in addressing severe flooding issues around social housing projects through water plazas.

RESILIENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND (RCIF)

Mayor Sylvester Turner
City of Houston, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Resilient Cities Network

Dr. Adriana Campelo
Director of Resilience, City of Salvador, Brazil, Resilient Cities Network Member City

“There was a layer of invisible citizens who were not in any kind of statistics. People started to say the country needs to have a plan for these people, needs to be accountable for these people.”

Dr. Adriana Campelo
Director of Resilience, City of Salvador, Brazil, Resilient Cities Network Member City

“We partnered with Resilient Cities Network because they bring a unique connection to their member cities and Chief Resilience Officers, as well as a holistic view of resilience and the critical role cities can play in solving multifaceted challenges. We believe that this approach is critical to developing lasting solutions for people and the ocean.”

Susan Ruffo
Executive Director, The Circulate Initiative, Resilient Cities Network Partner/Funder

Join us on the journey to urban resilience

info@resilientcitiesnetwork.org
resilientcitiesnetwork.org