





# HABITAT-III Side Event "Climate change and urban disaster resilience"

The One UN Pavilion, Room B
Thursday, 20 October 2016, from 8.30 am until 11.30 am

## Lead organizers:

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations University (UNU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

#### Other partners:

UN-HABITAT, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), World Health Organization (WHO), Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), International Association for Urban Climate (IAUC), Urban Climate Change Research Network (UCCRN), Future Earth

## **Description of the event:**

Disaster risk in cities is on the rise due to the intersection of two global megatrends: urbanization and climate change. The side event aims at providing a state-of-the-art overview and reflection on knowledge based solutions for improving urban resilience and reducing urban risks from natural and climatic hazards. Combining science, practice and policy-makers, the session will offer answers to three main questions of urban sustainability:

- Which future trends in urban risk are to be expected, particularly in countries with rapid urbanization and high exposure to natural and climatic hazards?
- Which opportunities do exist to harness the social and economic development potential of urbanization for the long-term mitigation of risk and the facilitation of sustainable adaptation?
- How can and should long-term and proactive risk reduction in the city be guided by different adaptation paradigms of resistance, resilience and/or transformation?

This integrated, solution driven side event proposed by UNESCO, UNU and WMO will:

- Address needs, gaps, and a way forward to develop city-tailored guidelines for integrated knowledge tools to build resilient urban communities from natural and climatic hazards;
- Establish national, regional and international partnerships;
- Transfer knowledge via sharing experiences of good practices and innovation.

# **Focal points for contacts:**

Prof. Alexander Baklanov, WMO <abaklanov@wmo.int>,

Dr. Matthias Garschagen, UNU <garschagen@ehs.unu.edu>,

Dr. Alexandros Makarigakis, UNESCO <a.makarigakis@unesco.org>,

Mr. Soichiro Yasukawa, UNESCO <s.yasukawa@unesco.org>

Part 1 (08:30 to 10:00 am):

#### Climate Change and Urban Disaster Resilience: Current and Future Challenges

**Introduction by the moderator: identification of key questions, etc.** (5-10 min)

Moderator: Mr. Filiep Decorte (UN-HABITAT)

Urbanization and climate change: Evolving risks from two colliding mega-trends

(10 min)

Speaker: Dr. Matthias Garschagen (UNU-EHS)

**Disaster Resilient Architecture** (10 min)

Speaker: Mr. Soichiro Yasukawa (UNESCO - DRR)

Synthesis of the IPCC 5th Assessment WGII chapter on urban adaptation (10 min)

Speaker: Prof. David Satterthwaite (IPCC, IIED)

Integrated approach for urban weather, climate, environment and water systems:

from research to urban information service (10 min)

Speaker: Prof. Gregory Carmichael (WMO, University of Iowa)

Panel discussion (40 min)

Panelists: the above mentioned speakers and

Dr. Koko Warner (UNFCCC),

Dr. Patricia Romero-Lankao (UCCRN, NCAR),

Dr. James Voogt (Western University, Canada, President of IAUC), Prof. Edgar Armando Peña Figueroa (Universidad de El Salvador)

Part 2 (10:00 to 11:30 am):

**Urban Disaster and Climate Risk: Solutions and Ways Forward** 

**Introduction by the moderator** (5 min)

Moderator: Dr. Alexandros Makarigakis (UNESCO)

Best practices in megacities: benefit of climate-smart cities (30 min)

Urban Integrated Services and Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems: WMO practices and an experience from Shanghai

Speaker: Prof. Alexander Baklanov (WMO) and

Dr. Zhenlin Chen (Shanghai Meteorological Service)

Lessons Learned from Air Quality Management in Mexico City

Speaker: Dr. Luisa Molina (Molina Center and WMO GURME SAG)

Climate resilient urban planning for high density Asian cities - an experience from

Hong Kong

Speaker: Prof. Edward Ng (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Flashlights: Urban risk reduction solutions from selected projects and programs

(30 min)

Speakers: Dr. Shona Paterson (Future Earth Coasts),

Ass. Prof. Shagun Mehrotra (UCCRN) and

Prof. Edgar Armando Peña Figueroa (Universidad de El Salvador)

- Panel discussion (20 min)

Panelists: the above mentioned speakers,

Prof. Gangwoong Lee (WISE/KMA)

- Concluding remarks by the moderators (5 min)