

Side Event: War In Cities: Enabling Resilient Services And Safety For Urban Populations In Armed Conflicts	
ORGANIZATION (PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS)	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Palang Merah Indonesia (Indonesian Red Cross Society)
DATE/TIME	27 July, 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.
VENUE	Crystal 4
DESCRIPTION	<p>There has been a dramatic rise in urban armed conflict in the twenty years since Habitat II. Today, some 50 million people live in increasingly unsafe and impoverished conditions because of armed conflicts that dominate the cities, towns and informal settlements in which they live. Destruction and insecurity has forced huge numbers of people to flee their homes, resulting in millions of urban internally displaced people (UIDPs). The impact of conflict can be seen in cities as diverse as Aleppo, Bangui, Gombe and Donetsk.</p> <p>Sustainable urban development is severely hindered by armed conflict and chronic urban violence, often leading to major development reversals. The corrosive impact of violence on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) puts millions of people at risk of being “left behind” in dangerous and neglected urban areas.</p> <p>This event will contribute directly to policy discussions around resilient urban services and infrastructure in the New Urban Agenda by raising the particular challenge of infrastructure and service continuity in violent urban environments. It will look at the role of urban planning in fragile contexts to ensure essential services are resilient to shocks and stresses, and show how urban services and infrastructure can be better supported in these contexts. Important policy conclusions will be proposed to support local authorities, civil society and humanitarian action in urban armed conflict.</p>

