



The Resilient City We Need

25 - 26 September 2019
India Habitat Centre, New Delhi



Urban Lab 2 – ‘Mainstreaming City Resilience Strategies’

Date: Wednesday, September 25th, 2019

Time: 11.30 am to 01.30 pm

Venue: Amaltas Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Overview:

Cities are estimated to support more than 40% of India’s population and more than 75% of national GDP by 2030. National programs like Smart Cities and AMRUT focus on improving city infrastructure and service delivery to ensure that cities develop in a sustainable manner, creating a livable environment for its citizens. However, added to the stresses of urbanization, cities are challenged with acute shocks like flooding, earthquake, heat wave, etc., that pose risk to the urban infrastructure, quality of urban life and the entire urban systems. Given the significance of India’s urban development, building urban resilience will be key for safeguarding urban investments, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and implementing the New Urban Agenda (NUA). As India urbanizes with increasing risk to acute shocks, it is evident that the city we need is a ‘Resilient City’.

To this end, the Urban Lab 2 will focus on how cities can embed resilience within their urban planning and governance processes and maximize the resilience dividend by mainstreaming it within their ongoing urban development activities. The objective is to enable the stakeholders to identify the way forward for improving sectoral and inter-department coordination for effective implementation of strategies for urban resilience building.

Objectives and Expected Outcomes of the Session:

- Providing an interactive and collaborative platform for participants to jointly identify and discuss multi-tiered (governance, financial, social) challenges in cities to adopt resilience strategies.
- Encouraging knowledge-sharing and peer-learning that will enhance skills, expertise and competencies in tackling specific issues of adapting city resilience strategies.
- Offering directions and way forward to participants for working with diverse stakeholders to implement effective resilience and climate adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Target Participants:

A total of about 25-30 participants from various stakeholder groups working in the urban space – including ULB officials, policy think-tanks, urban planners and practitioners, climate and environmental development experts, financial and technical experts, consultants, research organizations, and NGOs/civil society organizations.

Key Questions to be Addressed:

- What are the existing institutional and policy frameworks to enable resilience planning in Indian cities as it applies to - 1) Urban Development and Governance, 2) Infrastructure Investments and Urban Finance, 3) Social Cohesion and Inclusion, and 4) Climate Change and DRR?
- Who are the different stakeholders and actors that can drive the resilience agenda in Indian cities with respect to providing leadership, technical support and resources for formulation and implementation of city resilience strategies in the context of the 4 identified themes?
- Which tools and approaches (partnerships, mechanisms, technology or solutions) have worked when it comes building urban resilience in India in the context of the 4 identified themes?
- How can cities and the national government quantify, monitor and evaluate the successes and benefits for scaling up such initiatives?

Session Format: World Café***PART ONE: Welcome, Introduction and Setting – 20 minutes***

After the welcome remarks and setting of context, the session coordinator introduces the participants to the ‘World Café’ process and sets the context. The participants are divided into groups of 5-6 per the 4 identified themes with a pre-assigned Moderator for each theme/table. The 4 identified themes are:

- 1) Urban Development and Governance,
- 2) Infrastructure Investments and Urban Finance,
- 3) Social Cohesion and Inclusion, and
- 4) Climate Change and DRR

PART TWO: Group Rounds and Questions – 80 minutes

Each round is prefaced with some key questions pertaining to the strategy for discussion amongst the group (listed in the previous section). At the end of the designated time period of 20 minutes per round, the group moves to the next theme/table with the pre-assigned Moderator remaining constant, and the next round of questions begin. The Moderator welcomes the next group and briefly fills them in on what was discussed in the previous round. For instance, the group which has started discussing Round 1 questions under the theme of ‘Urban Development and Governance’ would move to the next table after 20 minutes and have the opportunity to discuss Round 2 questions under the ‘Infrastructure Investments and Urban Finance’ theme, and so forth.

PART THREE: Harvest – 20 minutes

After the group discussions in 4 rounds, the Moderators are invited to share and present key insights and recommendations from the discussions with all the groups.

Session Details and Agenda:

11.30 am – 11.50 am	Introductory Session	
11.30 am – 11.40 am	Welcome & Introduction	Introduction to the Urban Thinker’s Campus and Welcome Remarks <i>Mr Shri Prakash, Distinguished Fellow, Transport and Urban Governance Division, TERI</i> <i>Mr Sanjay Seth, Senior Director, Sustainable Habitat Program, TERI*</i>
11.40 am – 11.50 am	Setting the Context	Introduction to the World Café format and guidelines - and elaborating the key questions to be addressed in the group discussions <i>Ms Adishree Panda, Research Associate, Centre for Urban Planning & Governance, TERI</i>
11.50 am – 01.10 pm	Discussions on ‘Mainstreaming City Resilience Strategies’	
Theme 1: Urban Development and Governance Moderator: Mr Mahesh Harhare, Chief Resilience Officer (CRO), Pune		
Theme 2: Infrastructure Investments and Urban Finance Moderator: Dr Ravikant Joshi, Senior Expert – Urban Management & Urban Finance, UMC		
Theme 3: Social Cohesion and Inclusion Moderator: Dr Kanak Tiwari, Team Lead, Child Friendly Smart Cities and MPD - 2041, NIUA		
Strategy 4: Climate Change and DRR Moderator: Dr Kavya Michael, Associate Fellow, Centre for Global Environment Research, TERI		
01.10 pm – 01.30 pm	Key Takeaways	Presentations by Moderators Wrap-up by TERI

*To be confirmed