



## SESSION DESCRIPTION

Session description as of 26 May 2013

# P2 Financing the Resilient City: Challenges and opportunities

**Date:** Sunday, 2 June 2013

**Time:** 09:00-11:00

**Room:** Plenary (S29-32)

**Session language:** English

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## OBJECTIVE

For the local level to adapt, enormous financial and human capital is required. A recent global survey on the Progress and Challenges in Urban Climate Adaptation Planning carried out by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in cooperation with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability confirmed that securing funding for adaptation work is amongst the top challenges (85% of 468 surveyed cities) of local governments.

Estimates have put the figure for climate change adaptation costs at US\$80-100 billion per year, of which 80 percent will be borne by urban areas.

Despite increasing awareness of such a reality, when thinking about financing climate change adaptation and resilience at the local level, major challenges seem to still be in the way for all actors involved. Any improvement in adaptation and resilience financing needs to happen along improvements in financial management practices across the board and turn the current challenges faced at all level (international, national and local, including the involvement of the private sector at the local level) into opportunities.

The ICLEI Global Report on Financing the Resilient City launched in 2011 called for a bottom-up financing approach towards building urban resilience beyond the project level. Since its publication, local and international actors have responded through further investigation and discussion of adaptation financing approaches. However, the key guiding questions--What needs to be done by whom, and how, in order to begin the cycle of local investment in resilience upgrades?--remain largely unaddressed.

As each city grows and renews itself, each type of institution has a specific role and responsibility to fulfill to transform today's vulnerable urban districts and infrastructures into more resilient places. Further, strategic exchange is needed to concretely define how different governments, international funds, businesses, investors, banks, financiers, and development co-operations must collaborate within a coordinated timeframe to adapt and achieve resilience. What regulatory and planning reforms are required? What new financial incentives and instruments need to be established to 'mainstream' resilience into conventional urban development or redevelopment investments? Who will bear what part of the risk at different stages of redevelopment?

Each presenter will be provided the opportunity to briefly highlight the expectations of their institution before a moderated strategic discussion ensues building on the challenges and opportunities highlighted in the briefing documents for speakers and on the above questions.

## METHODOLOGY

A session facilitator will provide an overall introduction to the session topic and contributors, before handing over to the first speaker. **(5 minutes)**

Each speaker will be allotted 5 minutes to articulate the role of his/her institution in financing urban resilience and adaptation **(9 x 5 minutes)**

The facilitator will address questions on challenges and opportunities that each institutions see in financing local resilience and adaptation from their working perspective and experience and in specific relation to the challenges faced address questions such as:

What regulatory and planning reforms are required?

What new financial incentives and instruments need to be established to 'mainstream' resilience into conventional urban development or redevelopment investments?

Who will bear what part of the risk at different stages of redevelopment? **(30 minutes)**

Each speaker will be allotted 5 minutes to articulate conclusions and priorities for their respective institution. **(9 x 4 minutes)**

Closing remarks will be delivered by the facilitator. **(4 minutes)**

## CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator	<i>Konrad Otto-Zimmermann, Chairman, Urban Agendas, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability</i>
Speaker	<i>Kgosientso Ramokgopa, Executive Mayor, City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa</i>
Speaker	<i>Katharina Schneider-Roos, Leader, Project Outreach, Global Infrastructure Basel, Switzerland</i>
Speaker	<i>Stephen Hammer, Lead Urban Specialist, World Bank, Washington D.C., USA</i>
Speaker	<i>Michael Gruber, Senior Sector Economist, KfW Development Bank, Germany</i>
Speaker	<i>Saliha Dobardzic, Climate Change Specialist, Global Environmental Facility</i>
Speaker	<i>Alfredo Arquillano Jr., Vice Mayor, San Francisco/Cebu, Philippines (tbc)</i>
Speaker	<i>Ronan Dantec, Councillor, Nantes Métropole; Senator, Loire-Atlantique; Vice-President of the Commission for Sustainable Development, Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, France</i>
Speaker	<i>Doauda Ndiaye, Adaptation Officer, Adaptation Fund Board, USA</i>
Speaker	<i>Chad Reed, Urban Sustainability Associate, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA</i>

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### **Further recommended reading**

Attached background document for finance plenary speakers

ICLEI, 2011, Financing the Resilient City: A demand driven approach to development, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation - An ICLEI White Paper, ICLEI Global Report

[http://www.iclei.org/fileadmin/PUBLICATIONS/Papers/Financing\\_the\\_Resilient\\_City\\_2011\\_Global\\_Report\\_ICLEI\\_WS.pdf](http://www.iclei.org/fileadmin/PUBLICATIONS/Papers/Financing_the_Resilient_City_2011_Global_Report_ICLEI_WS.pdf)

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