

HOW TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE IN URBAN CONTEXTS?

*Seminar AIT Climate Change and Sustainable Development Programme-
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- ✓ UN-HABITAT APPROACH
- ✓ INTEGRATING THE CLIMATE CHANGE APPROACH IN URBAN PROJECTS
- ✓ REGIONAL PORTFOLIO: SAMPLE OF THE STUDY CASES
- ✓ UN-HABITAT TOOLS AND PUBLICATIONS



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A CALL FOR URBAN CLIMATE ACTION

How do urban areas contribute to Climate Change challenges?



+12,500 cities have committed to reducing GHG emissions and adapting to climate change



Around **65%** of the **169** targets of the **17 SDGs** cannot be achieved without the engagement of local and regional governments



Two-thirds of NDCs have urban content



Just **21%** of climate finance goes towards adaptation and resilience (equivalent to USD **16.7 billion** annually)



GHG emissions in cities could be reduced by almost **90%** by **2050** with technically feasible and available measures



Only around **10%** of climate investments reach the local level

Inter-connected risk drivers create an urban landscape of multiple shocks, pressures, and increased vulnerabilities.

Over-saturated urban systems level. Many cities face vulnerabilities in terms of water, food, health, energy, and ecosystems as well as climate and conflict-driven urban migration.

Rapid urbanization has increased this exposure and vulnerability to climate risk.

Limited and a lack of coordination of knowledge sharing on climate hazard and actions between sectors and institutions

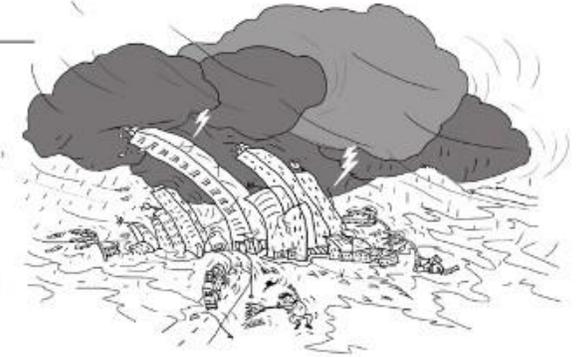
Significant gaps persist in terms of local capacities, inclusive and integrated risk reduction strategies as well as access to data and finance



The ability of any urban system, with its inhabitants,...



The ability of any urban system, with its inhabitants, to maintain continuity through all shocks and stresses, while positively adapting and transforming toward sustainability" (UN-Habitat)



...to maintain continuity through all shocks...

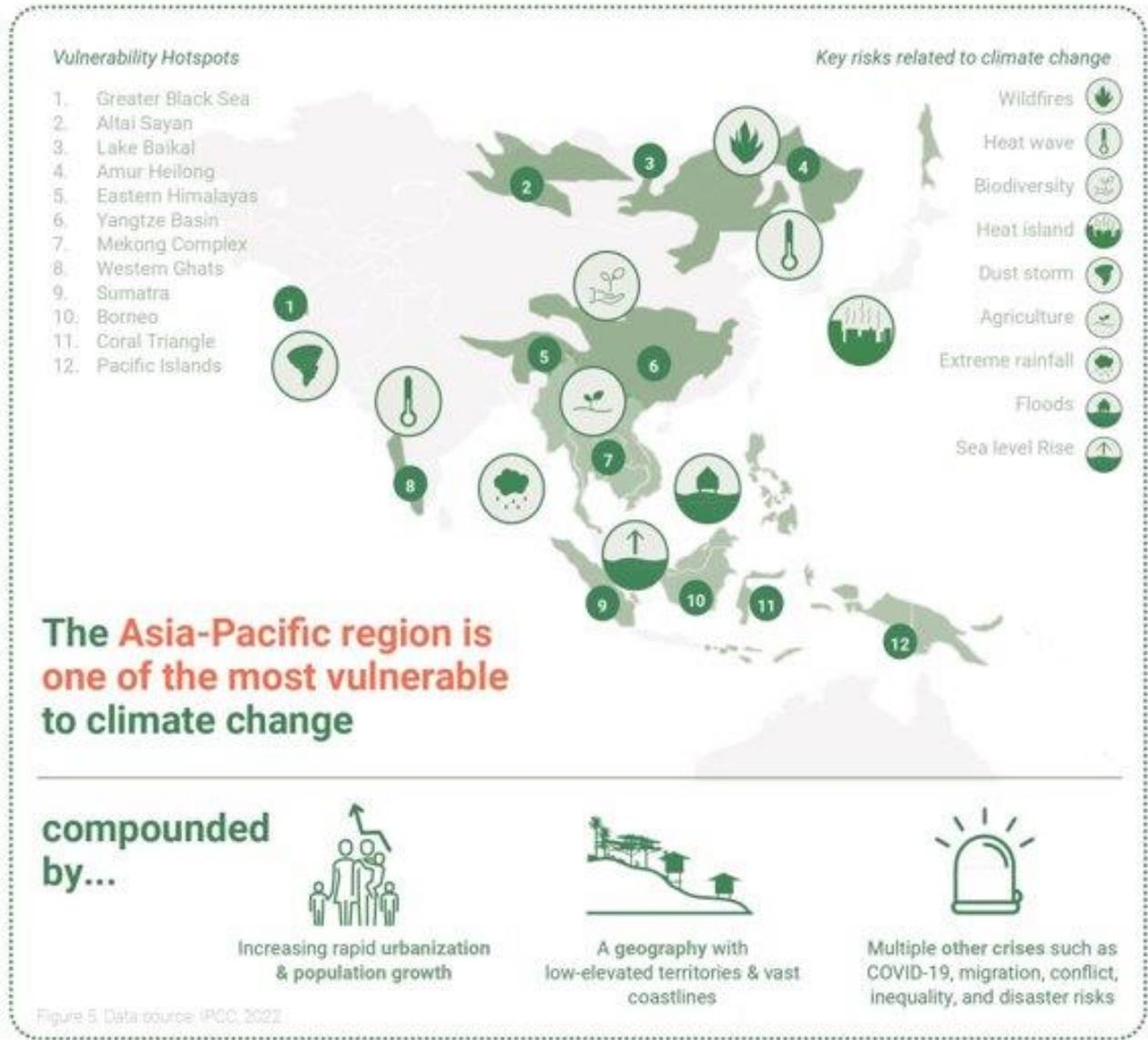
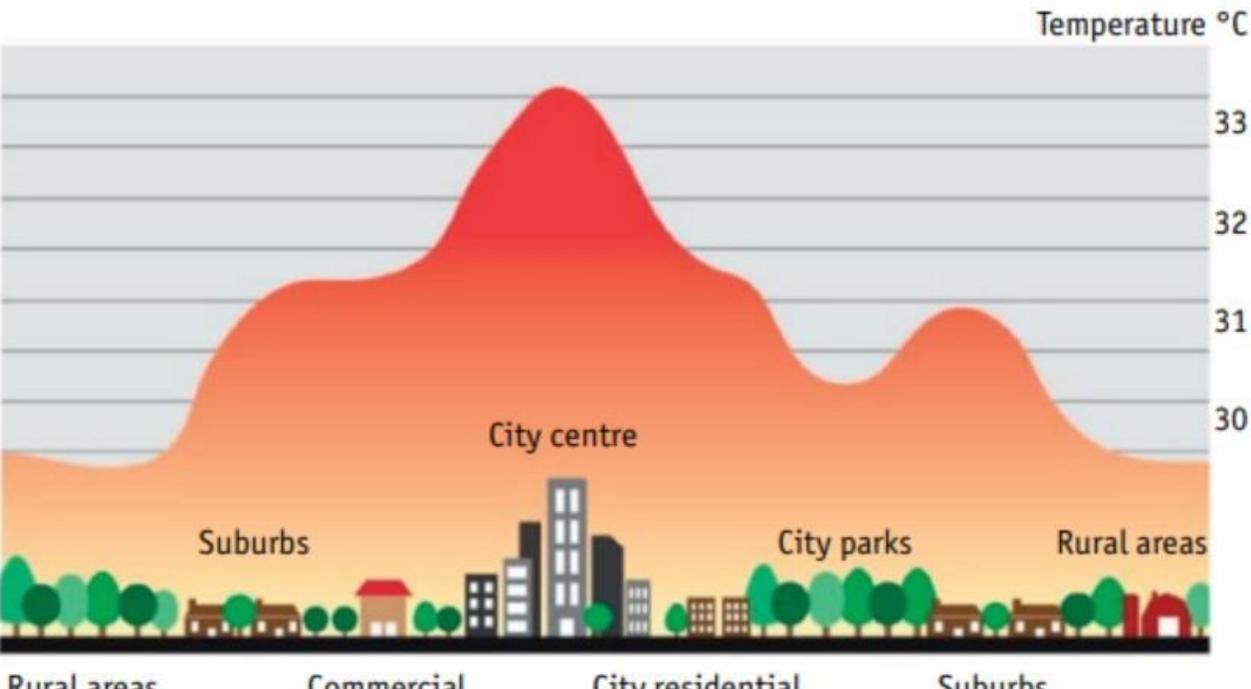


...and stresses,...



A Call to Urban Climate Action in the Asia-Pacific Region

- Cities catalyse the main climatic challenges
 - Heatwaves, rainfalls, floods
 - Heat stress due to heat islands, air pollution
- => Increase the vulnerabilities e.g in informal settlements, secondary cities



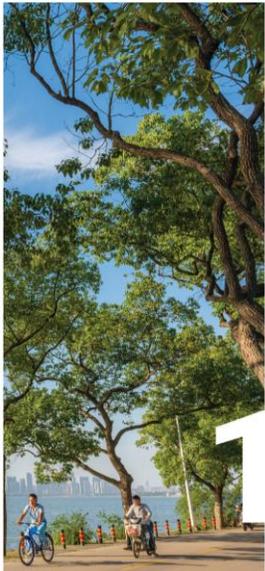
UN HABITAT'S APPROACH



Strategy

Goal: Foster urban and climate sustainability principles

Facilitating
Greenhouse Gas
Emissions Reduction
and Avoidance



1

Improving Resource
Efficiency and
Protection of
Ecological Assets



2

Advancing Adaptation
Actions in Cities and Human
Settlements and Building
Community Resilience



3

Enhancing
Knowledge and
Actions to Address
Loss and Damage



4

Expertise

- ❖ Advisory support on urban climate action and biodiversity-related policy advisory services at national and local levels –linking into global (CoP) processes.
- ❖ Technical assistance on climate action plans and implementation work at all scales (national to city, district level)
- ❖ Work with a Community approach (200 communities and informal settlements in the region)
- ❖ Strengthen capacities and raising awareness
- ❖ Build partnerships (network of cities, with academia)
- ❖ Support countries, cities, and local governments in accessing finance for climate action.

Aligned with Specific Priorities



Low-carbon



Resilient



Nature-positive



**Fair, equitable, and
inclusive**



**Multi-level governance
and climate planning**



Integrated



**Locally-led and
culture-positive**



Circular



Financing-enabling



Health-promoting

The Participatory Approach As Key For Inclusive and Sustainable Plans

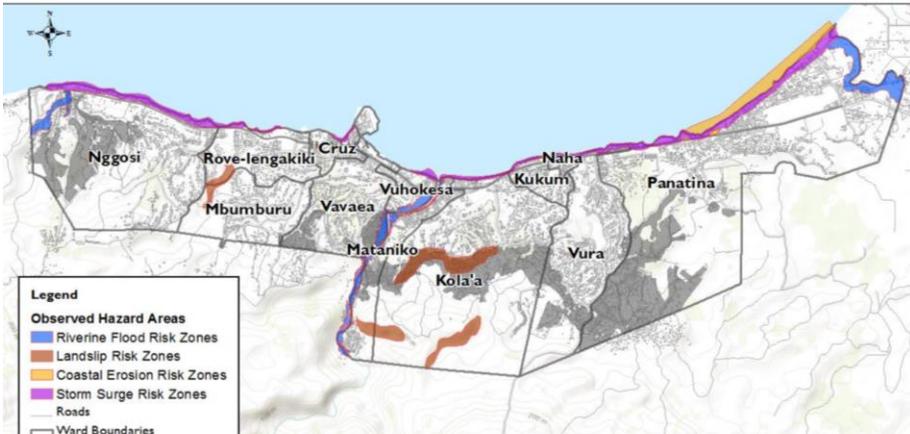


Figure 37: Issue Identification by Stakeholders by break-out group frequency & category

Options	SDG co-benefits	Technical feasibility	Community acceptance	Urgency	Cost	Total Score
Construction of evacuation centre (combined with early childhood development centre)	13 Climate Action, 4 Quality Education	1	3	3	2	9
Low-cost, off-grid sanitation facilities	6 Clean Water and Sanitation, 3 Good Health and Well-being	2	3	3	2	10
Rainwater harvesting tanks	6 Clean Water and Sanitation, 3 Good Health and Well-being	2	3	3	2	10
Storage of livelihood materials	13 Climate Action, 2 Affordable and Clean Energy	2	3	3	2	10
Training on waste management	11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, 14 Life Below Water	2	3	3	3	11
	2 Affordable and Clean Energy, 13 Climate Action	2	3	3	3	11
	11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, 13 Climate Action	2	3	3	3	11
	6 Clean Water and Sanitation, 3 Good Health and Well-being	2	3	3	3	11
	11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, 13 Climate Action	2	3	3	3	11
	1 People with Disabilities, 5 Gender Equality	3	3	3	3	12





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INTEGRATING THE CLIMATE CHANGE APPROACH IN URBAN CONTEXTS

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Guiding Principles for City Climate Action Planning

City climate action planning should be:



Ambitious

Setting goals and implementing actions that evolve iteratively towards an ambitious vision



Inclusive

Involving multiple city government departments, stakeholders and communities (with particular attention to marginalized groups), in all phases of planning and implementation



Fair

Seeking solutions that equitably address the risks of climate change and share the costs and benefits of action across the city



Comprehensive and integrated

Coherently undertaking adaptation and mitigation actions across a range of sectors within the city, as well as supporting broader regional initiatives and the realization of priorities of higher levels of government when possible and appropriate



Relevant

Delivering local benefits and supporting local development priorities



Actionable

Proposing cost-effective actions that can realistically be implemented by the actors involved, given local mandates, finances, and capacities



Evidence-based

Reflecting scientific knowledge and local understanding, and using assessments of vulnerability and emissions and other empirical inputs to inform decision-making

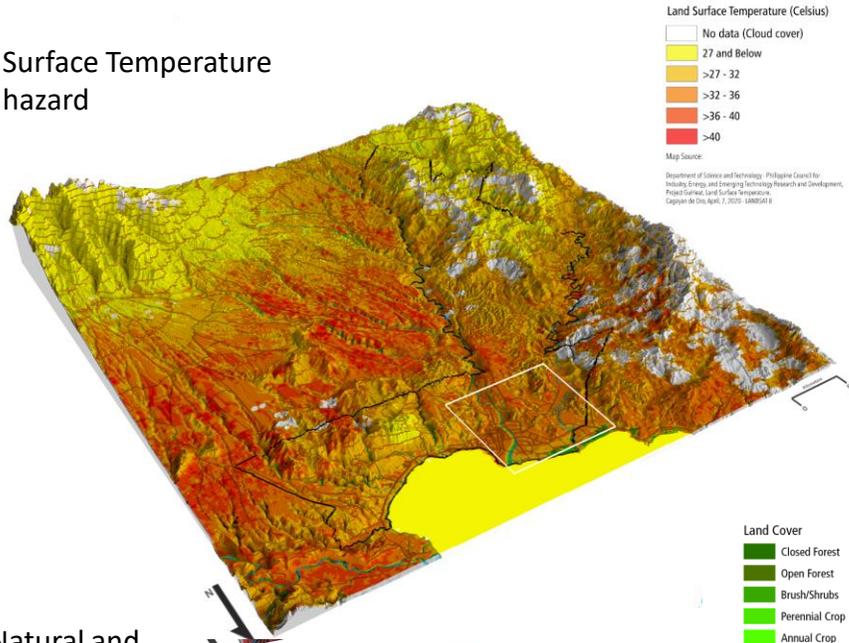


Transparent and verifiable

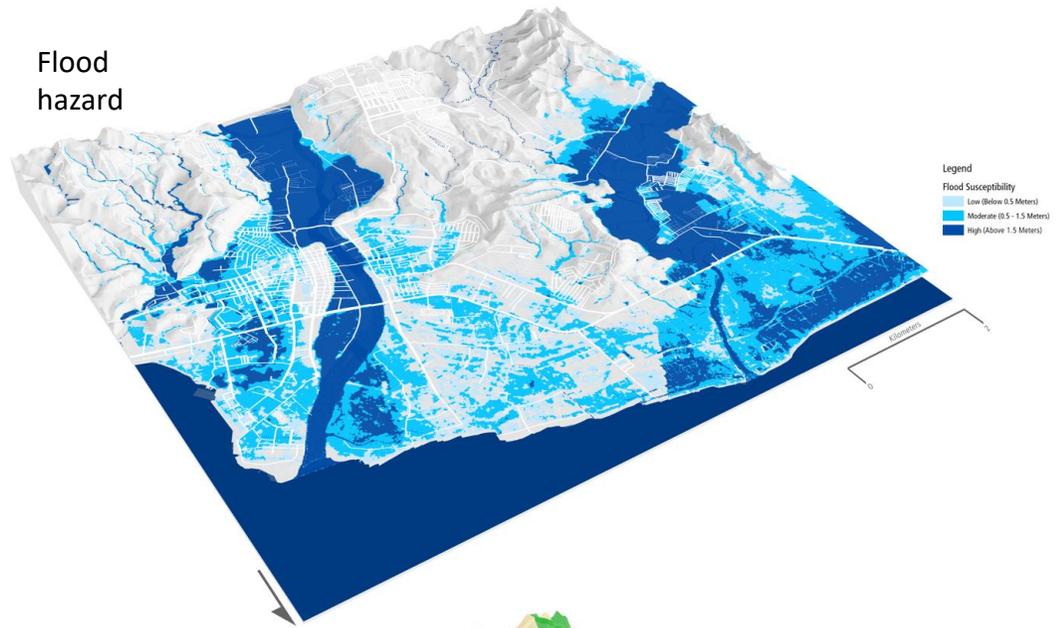
Following an open decision-making process, and setting goals that can be measured, reported, independently verified, and evaluated



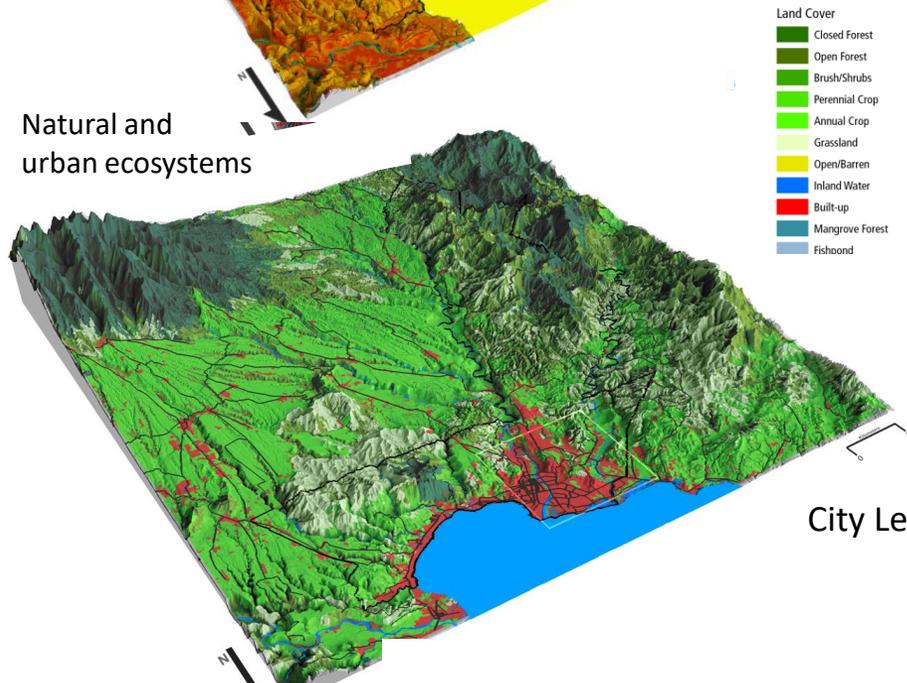
Surface Temperature hazard



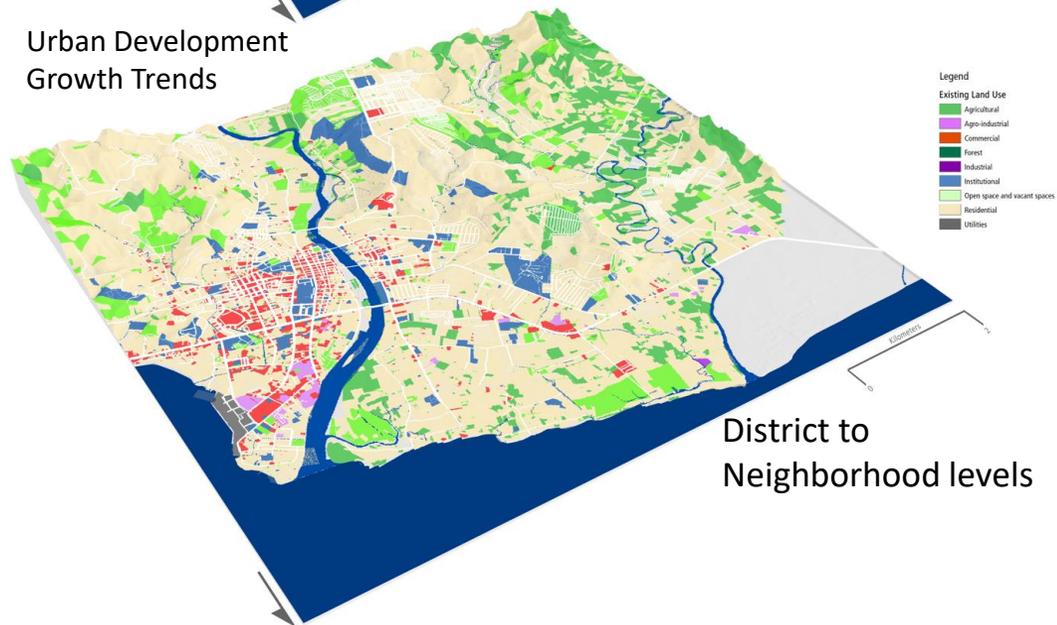
Flood hazard



Natural and urban ecosystems



Urban Development Growth Trends

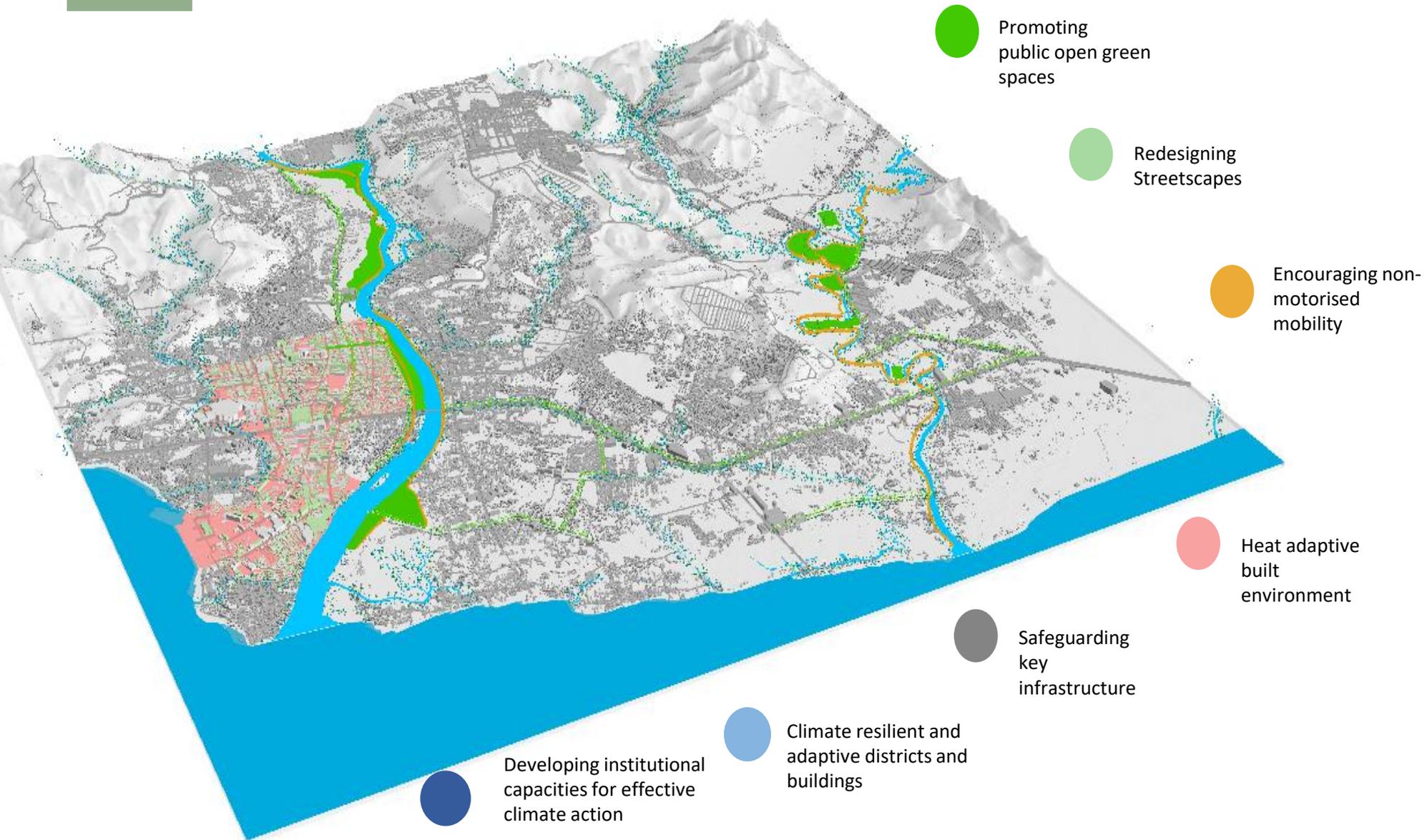


District to Neighborhood levels

Assessment of climate risks

- Slow and sudden on-set hazards
- Covering different spatial scales
- Current and future risks incorporating urban development growth trends

Evidence Based Approach Spatial & Forward Looking



Climate adaptation strategies

Adaptation strategies to address current and future climate risks



Up-scaling Guidelines And Tools

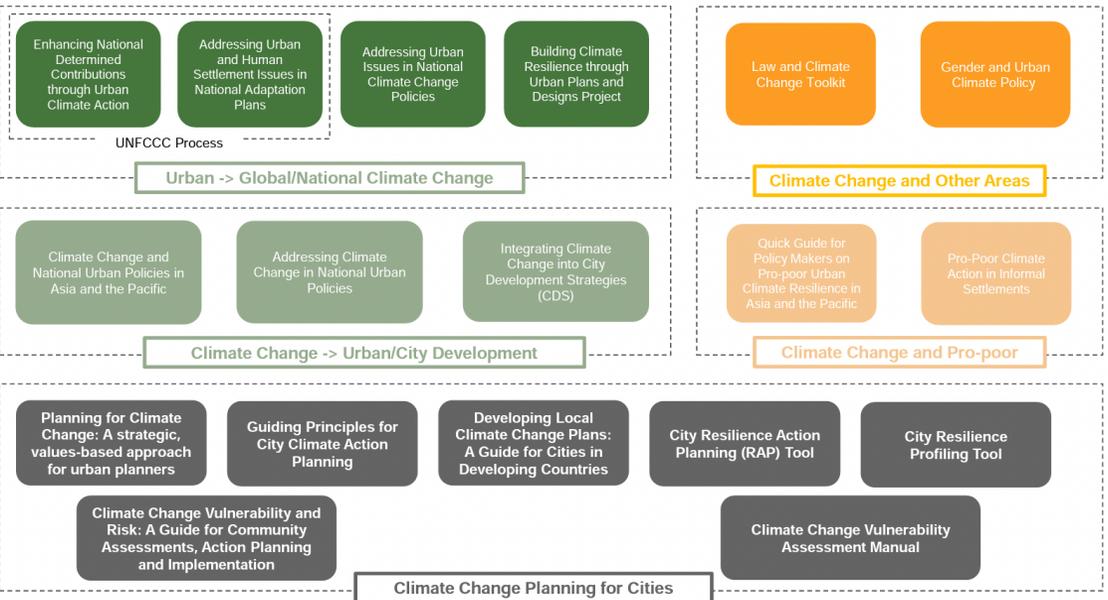
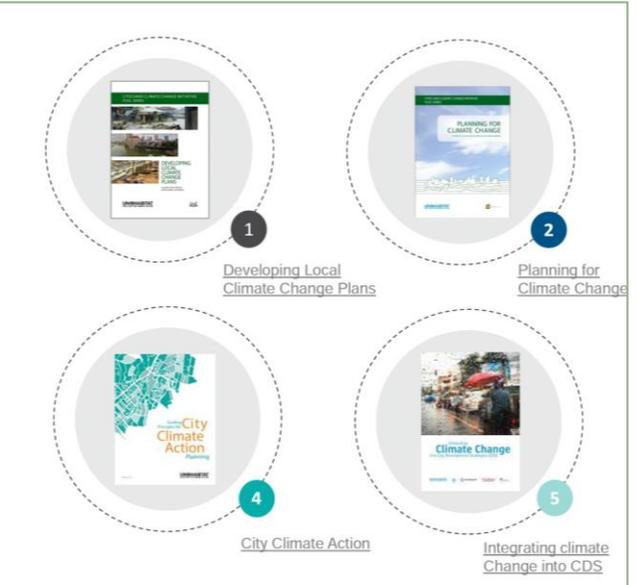
Master Tool for Urban and Local Climate Action

Flagship 3

**RISE UP:
Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor**

UN-HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Climate Change Team, UN-Habitat



Home / **Toolbox**

Toolbox

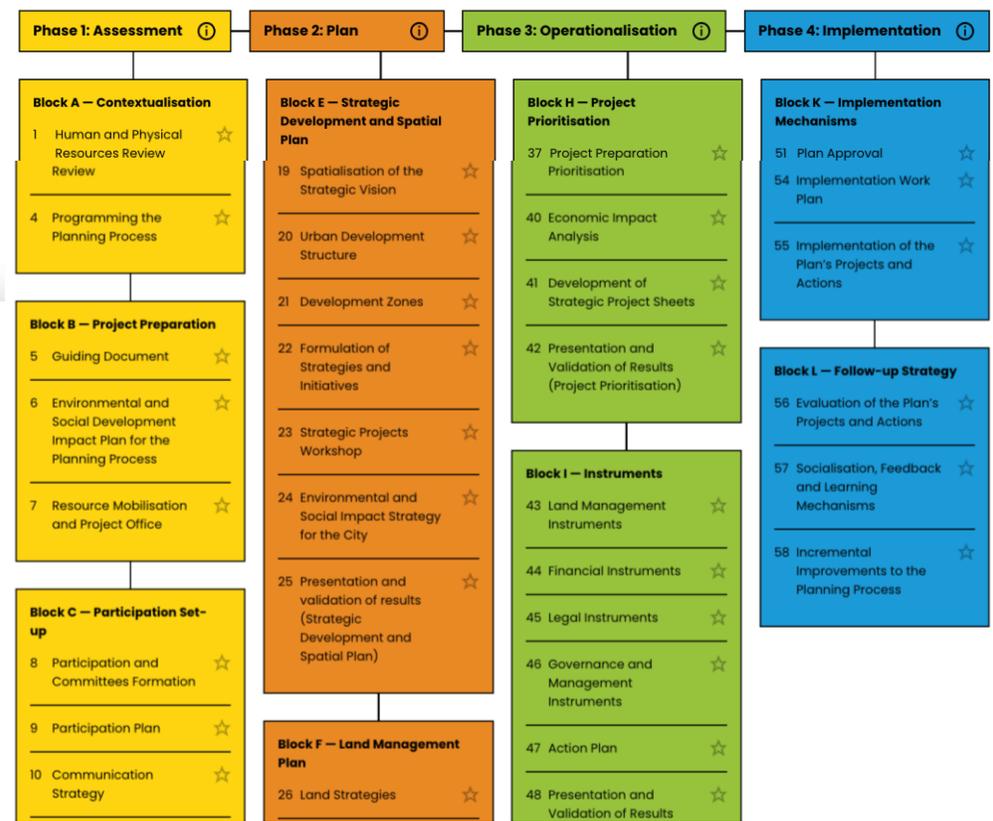
Explore Our City Plans toolbox and create a personalised planning process by bookmarking the activities below!

Acknowledging that urban planning processes are iterative and non-linear, Our City Plans guides cities to develop inclusive and integrated planning processes, based on a modular and flexible toolbox that can be adapted to each context. Each activity includes step-by-step instructions, adaptable tools and templates, and additional resources from UN-Habitat and external partners.

→ After you bookmark the activities, you can download a pdf version and use it as a personalised guide.

→ [Download the pdf publication \(2022\)](#).

Contact us →





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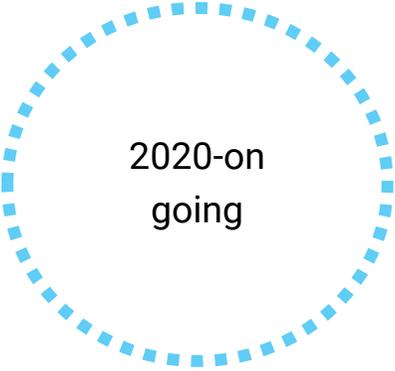
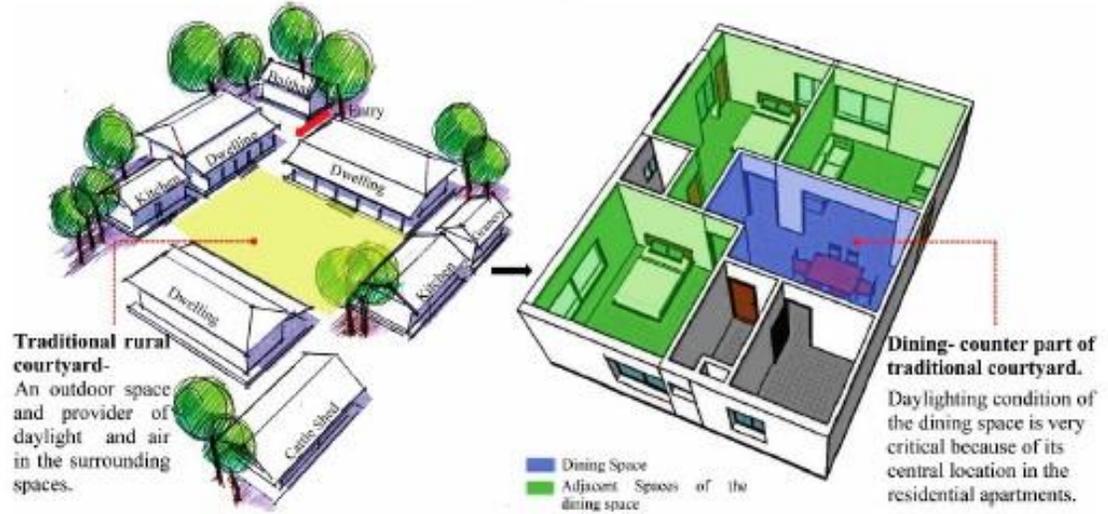
UN HABITAT – SAMPLE CLIMATE ACTION PROJECTS IN THE REGION

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Global Alliance for Building and Construction

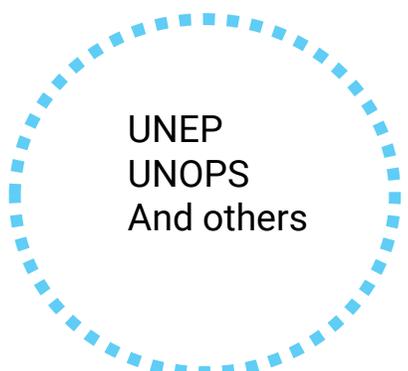
- ✓ Umbrella or meta-platform
- ✓ to reach NDC, NAP and SDG targets in decarbonizing the building and construction sector.
- ✓ Country assessment of the construction sector (Strategic priorities, Spatial and Urban Planning, New Buildings, Existing Buildings and the Construction Supply Chain)
- ✓ A **roadmap** outlining the actions and recommendations to mitigate the gaps and challenges identified in the Country assessment

Figure 23: Dining as a counterpart of open Bengali traditional rural courtyard in the contemporary urban apartments¹⁴



2020-on going

DATE



UNEP
UNOPS
And others

PARTNERS



Sri Lanka
Bangladesh,
Ghana
Senegal

LOCATION



Workshop with the government authorities, 2024

Plastic Smart and Waste Wise Cities in South East Asia and South Asia for an inclusive and circular economy

- ✓ Build capacity on evidence-based solid waste management action planning of the cities involved in Asia at **municipalities, local communities scales, specially with the informal sector**
- ✓ Promotion of sustainable circularity of low-value waste plastics through the application of frontier and emerging technologies and **Social Inclusion** through trained and recruited informal workers and elaboration of City plans



DATE



PARTNERS



LOCATION



City level support

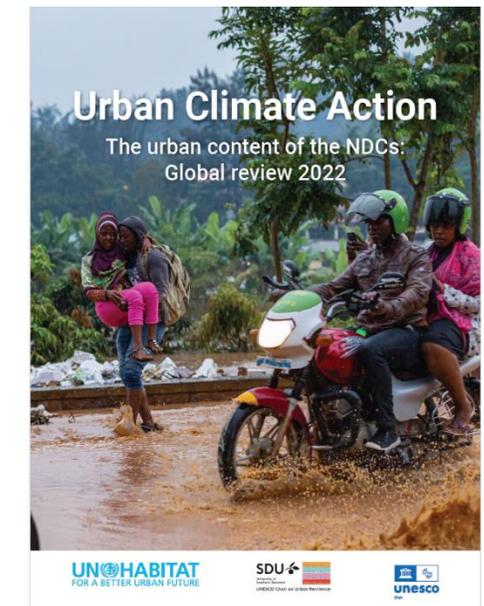
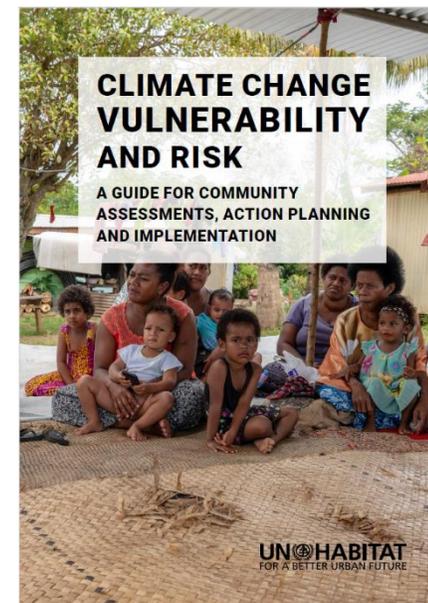
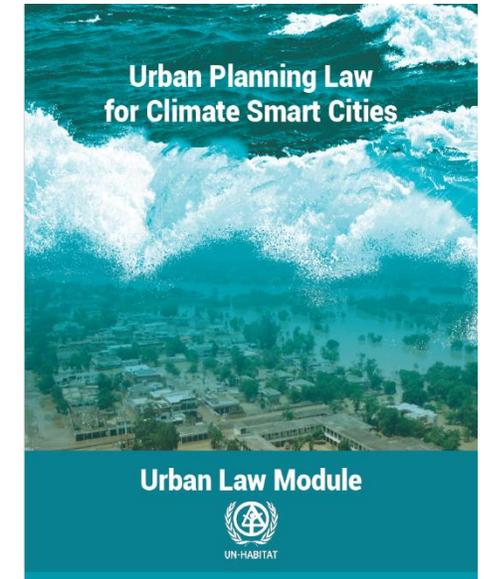
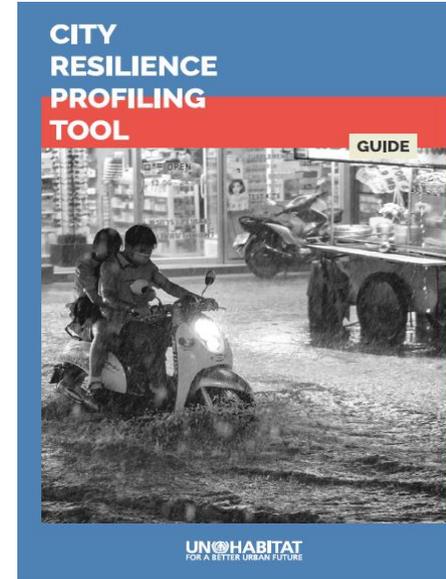
- Disaster response Strategies and plans
- Mainstreaming into existing plans
- Support priority sectors / communities
- Linking cities to finance

National Policies / Multilevel Governance

- Urban Policies/ DRM strategies
- Climate Change Policies
- National standards

Partnerships / knowledge management

- Joint programming
- Capacity Development / Advocacy
- Thematic communities of practice





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**CONCLUSION
CORE MESSAGES FOR FUTURE CLIMATE
LEADERS**

dream big and take risks



Thank You



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