



GLOBAL URBAN CRISIS PARTNERSHIP

Taking the WHS urban recommendations forward

DRAFT 2.0

Background

Unplanned urbanisation, combined with the impact of climate change, conflict and displacement, is fundamentally changing the nature and scale of humanitarian crises. We need new ways of working if we are to manage the complex nature of cities and ensure effective crisis prevention, preparedness and response. The Urban Track towards the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) (Istanbul, May 2016) has yielded a number of recommendations that will need a broader array of partnerships, beyond the classic humanitarian actors under the IASC umbrella, if they are to be turned into concrete initiatives.

Achieving this partnership will require a mobilization of local government associations, professional networks (eg. planners), academic and research institutes and the private sector. Together they will take the discussion on urban crises to the World Humanitarian Summit and beyond towards Habitat III.

This partnership should build on existing networks and initiatives (ex. ALNAP Urban Community of Practice, IASC Reference Group on Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas, Working Group on Urban Food Security, Global Disaster Response Task Force – UCLG, Solutions Alliance, etc.).

Key objectives/functions

Develop a Global Urban Crisis Partnership, as an issue-based coalition, that mobilizes all relevant stakeholders to take the urban crisis recommendations forward focusing on advocacy, policy, research and action:

1. High level political advocacy to further reform the humanitarian system to adapt to an urbanizing world and to ensure inclusion into the New Urban Agenda / Outcome of Habitat III and the implementation of the Sendai Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Climate Change agenda;
2. Pool resources, capacities and knowledge of global / regional / national urban crisis response for priority initiatives (surge urban and local government expertise available to cities in crisis, building the evidence base, adapting humanitarian tools, etc.)
3. Expand the Community of Practice targeting global, regional, national and local actors to leverage good practices into scalable initiatives and longer term institutional change ;



Format

The Global Urban Crisis Partnership will act as an umbrella to continue the structured dialogue amongst the variety of stakeholders in view of taking the urban recommendations forward through a series of initiatives, building as much as possible on existing platforms and networks.

The Global Urban Crisis Partnership is built around the Associations of Local Governments and Mayors, Professional Associations, Foundations, Private Sector Actors, and Humanitarian and Development Organizations.

The Urban Crisis Charter, to which partners are signatories, forms the basis for the joint commitment.

Modalities:

In order to operationalize the urban recommendations, partners will work towards:

- Strengthening and scaling up existing mechanisms (ex. ALNAP Community of Practice) and/or bringing different initiatives together;
- Constitution of a High Level Advocacy Platform, gathering respected individuals;
- Adaptation of existing humanitarian tools and mechanisms through an engagement with the IASC;
- Creation of new and/or enlargement of funding windows to help scale / develop key initiatives, including through the broadening of the donor base (Ex. USAID/RF Global Resilience Partnership, DFID/IIED Urban Humanitarian Programme, etc.)