Urban Resilience

GIDRM inputs towards urban resilience as transversal topic

german cooperation
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giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

GI:DRM Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management

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The Challenge

Natural disasters are increasing in frequency and intensity since several years. More and more people are vulnerable to disaster and climate risks. As global trend, urbanization is strongly interlinked with the other underlying risk factors. Urbanization is a permanent process changing societies and landscapes. Cities are hubs of economic growth (80% of GDP worldwide), innovation and social change. Over half of the world`s population is living in cities. At the same time cities are particularly exposed to disaster and climate risks, due to their location (e.g. coastal or earthquake zones), concentration of people, interdependent infrastructure, economic goods and climate change.
Local governments and the other government levels are challenged to think in the long term and integrate preventing of multi hazards risks in urban management. The importance of developing and supporting strong crosscutting approaches to build or boost the resilience of cities and reduce the impact of hazards is gaining increasingly acceptance. However, daily routine of urban governance and cooperation among government levels still looks different. Insufficient resources, a lack of technological expertise, inappropriate institutional settings or vague definition of roles and functions, and limited involvement of -not only local- stakeholders and all social sectors impede a resilient urban development.

Our Objective

Facilitate and accompany the development and implementation of Strategies for Urban Resilience [1]as part of a sustainable urban development policies and contributing solid mechanisms for the national risk governance in partner countries.

Strategies for Urban Resilience are promoted from different perspective, e.g. technological trends or climate change. However, DRM plays an increasingly important role. Strategies for Urban Resilience are essential to assess, prevent, prepare and respond to natural and human-made, sudden and slow-onset, expected and unexpected hazards with a systemic approach.
At city level all sectorial and transversal topics exist and demand attention, therefore an urban resilience approach can be instrumental to link international agendas such as the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement, the Agenda 2030 and the New Urban Agenda. Based on an in-depth multi-hazard risk analysis a planning and implementation process could be established according to the principals of DRM and climate change adaption, which will contribute to the respective goals of the Agenda 2030.

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[1] UN Habitat defines urban resilience as the ability of human settlements to withstand and to recover quickly from any plausible hazards.
UNISDR defines resilience as the ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions.

GIDRM inputs towards urban resilience as transversal topic

GIDRM developed different inputs contributing to the discussion on urban resilience among city representatives/decision makers and sector specialists. To strengthen urban resilience the studies conducted included several recommendations.

- ADB Scoping Study for GIZ Global Initiative for Disaster Risk Management: Review of existing platforms for collaboration on disaster risk management (DRM) in Asia and opportunities for further private sector involvement https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/api/v1/nodes/78685463/content?action=open&token=26492%2F78685463%2F159186%2F10389%2F72ec36642a5251e33007947a9e8bac030bfd6e14
- Development of inputs for a product "Resilient Urban Solutions" with Siemens *https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/api/v1/nodes/106955350/content?action=open&token=26492%2F106955350%2F159186%2F8971%2Fb4b215a967364adc3058dc4221aac6bb1fd7030f*
- Participation in internal GIZ processes like "Innovative product Urban Resilience" and "Chapeau Process City"
- Studies with OECD on resilience in Asian cities (Bangkok, Thailand; Bandung, Indonesia; Hai Phong, Viet Nam; Cebu, Philippines; Iskandar Malaysia, Malaysia) in order strengthening urban resilience and disaster risk management aspects within the OECD Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia Program to identify needs and recommend entry points to strengthen urban resilience. The studies and workshops conducted will be beneficial in targeting concrete urban resilience measures and promote risk-informed planning processes. https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/app/nodes/141014087#
- Updating and implementing of the regional training course on "Managing Urban Development and Climate Change: Strategies and Collaborative Action for Resilient Cities" https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/api/v1/nodes/99447684/content?action=open&token=26492%2F99447684%2F159186%2F11358%2F1433bfd1c2e6e66f0295c525b4146f4d48525942
- Development of an Urban Resilience Matrix (URM) jointly with the private sector network: Synopsis of products and services of enterprises, which are members of the GIKRM private sector network. The URM will be updated and adjusted by the private sector network in collaboration with the "Agentur fuer Wirtschaft und Entwicklung" https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/api/v1/nodes/126146926/content?action=open&token=26492%2F126146926%2F159186%2F10740%2F95b615c29cf33d812ec27021d83ffcac7f9aeba9 https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/app/nodes/126147031
- As joint effort of three different projects, a new component was integrated in an existing strategic alliance with Swiss Re: risk insurance as element of building urban resilience in Chinese cities. https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/app/nodes/224216717#

- Case studies in Chile, Colombia and Brazil on different topics of urban resilience (supply of drinking water, flooding, landslides) jointly conducted with CEPAL and in Brazil and Chile the implementation of the corresponding action plans initiated with local stakeholders
  https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/api/v1/nodes/230787329/content?action=open&token=26492%2F230787329%2F159186%2F9231%2F12474c83e631d01c86c6529ae665995f21c24933
  https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/app/nodes/141607189#
- Development and testing of the suitability model, based on the mapping DRM and climate risks and presenting land use options and their costs
  https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/app/nodes/224815436#
- Critical Infrastructure – a working paper comparing the understanding and definitions of critical infrastructure in Germany and selected countries
  https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/api/v1/nodes/116456780/content?action=open&token=26492%2F116456780%2F159186%2F11964%2F94b1e9a12275c7939626cd50dceabd3d20f2d741

Further should be mentioned the **InS project "Integrated Development of Early Warning Systems - Innovation through Partnership"** as a community-based product developed within in the framework of the GIDRM. Thought as an early warning system "for every pocket" starting in informal settlements in Santo Domingo using a mobile phone app.
https://dms.giz.de/dms/llisapi.dll/app/nodes/98355973

Contact us

Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management

Markus Steinich,
E markus.steinich@giz.de
Head of Management Unit
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 40
53113 Bonn

E info@gidrm.de
I www.gidrm.net