

# SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND URBAN RESILIENCE

**C**LIMATE RESILIENT URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE, URBAN WATER SUPPLY. SANITATION & HEALTH, URBAN DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.

For the first time in history, 50% of the world's population live in cities, and by 2050, this is expected to rise to 70%. The rapid growth of cities in the developing world, coupled with increasing rural to urban migration, has led to an explosion in the numbers of megacities, defined as cities with more than 10 million inhabitants. In 1990, there were 10 mega-cities with 10 million inhabitants or more. As of 2017, there are 47 megacities in existence. Most of these are in China and other countries of Asia. Many are characterized by great wealth coexisting with extreme deprivation, environmental degradation, crime, chronic air pollution and extreme traffic congestion. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without significantly transforming the way we build and manage our urban spaces. Although there are numerous success stories among Asian megacities, many others are overwhelmed by the challenges of planning. Factor in the challenges of adapting to climate change

and the challenges of managing cities sustainably appear to be insurmountable.

But there are also grounds for great optimism. Cities are the main drivers of economic growth and hence wealth. Roughly 75% of global economic activity today is in urban areas, and as urban populations grow, so too does the urban share of global GDP and investments. These drive quality of life and hence attract more people from areas. Services such as safe drinking water, sewerage systems, and health facilities can be delivered much more efficiently to densely populated megacities than other human habitats. And increasingly, lessons of best practices in urban planning and management are being shared and replicated through networks such as International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and International Partnership for Expanding Waste Management Services of Local Authorities (IPLA), and projects such as 100 Resilient Cities.

But technical expertise is frequently missing. It is also

estimated that worldwide, investments of more than USD 4 trillion per year are required for urban infrastructure to cope with the growth of the cities and an additional USD 1 trillion will be needed to make this urban infrastructure climate resilient.

SDG11 addresses Sustainable Cities and Communities. Several other SDGs will also contribute to attaining SDG11.

**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES**



**12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION**



**13 CLIMATE ACTION**



**14 LIFE BELOW WATER**



**15 LIFE ON LAND**



**16 PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS**



**17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**



## What AIT offers



Pool of in-house and external experts working on urban environmental management, urban resilience and sustainable cities



Network of partner institutions in the region and globally



Field visits to cities and municipal governments partners in Thailand and in the region

## Projects



Sustainable Urban Development Planning and Management (2 countries program in Thailand & Malaysia). Participants have come from State Institute for Urban Development , Government of Karnataka, India.



Five Programs on Urban Environmental Management. Participants have come from India, Bangladesh and Germany.



Urban Flood Management and Disaster Risk Management. Participants in this program have come from Sri Lanka, sponsored by the Government of Sri Lanka.



International Program on Urban Credit Cooperative Organization. Participants in this program have come from Reserve Bank of India.

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