



Congress Summary

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Leader, Climate Change Planning Unit
UN-HABITAT

Congress themes


RC2016 saw dedicated forums and tracks of sessions on:

- Financing resilience
- Inclusive and resilient urban development
- Resilient urban food systems
- Local implementation of global frameworks
- Receiving urban refugees

Emergent themes

In and around these dedicated tracks, other themes emerged

- Global frameworks
- Collaboration and capacity building
- Data, data, data
- Poverty reduction
- How we are communicating resilience
- Infrastructure, soft and hard
- City-region perspectives
- Small island developing states

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*“That is what this conference is about –
how **local governments, scientists, civil
society, knowledge managers and the
private sector** can advance local
sustainable strategies in the context of
these global agreements.”*

Gino Van Begin
ICLEI

A large green speech bubble containing the text "We need to manage risk, not disasters".

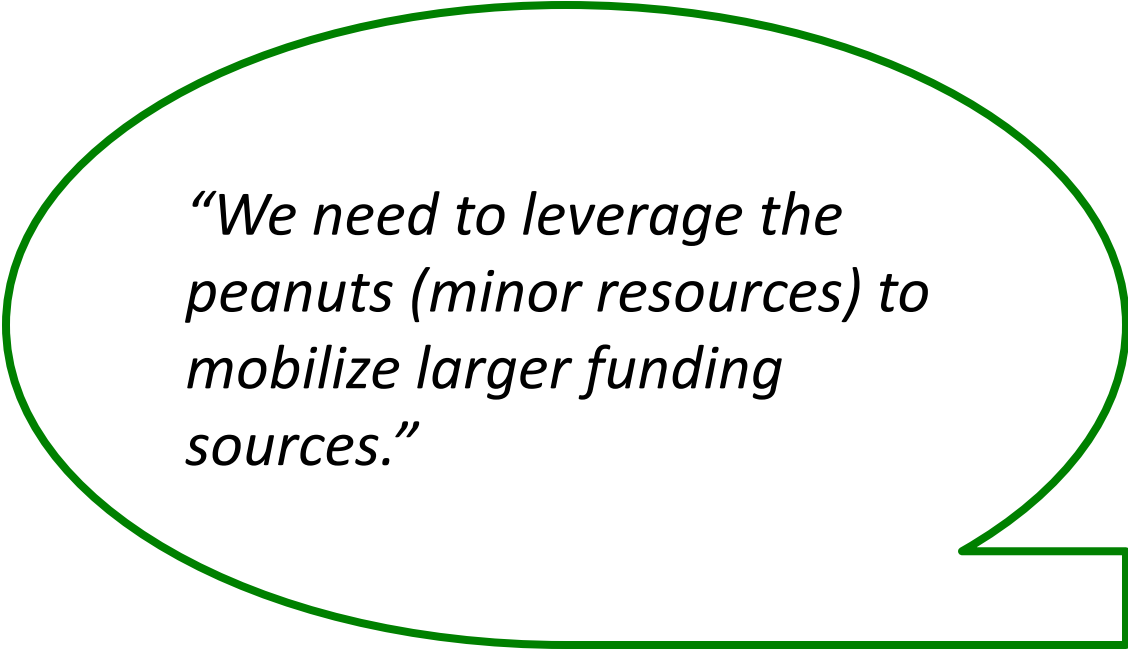
*“We need to manage **risk**,
not **disasters**”*

Jerry Velasquez
UNISDR

Financing Resilience

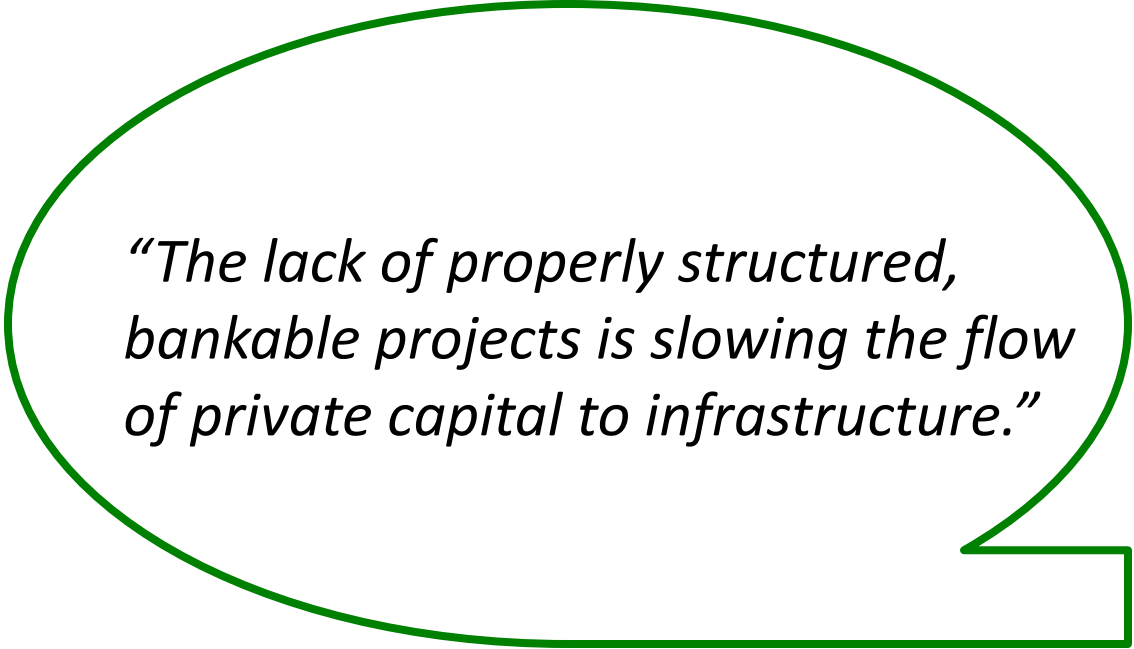
“Infinite resilience is infinitely expensive, and major disaster is majorly expensive.”

Stefan Köhler
UNOPS



“We need to leverage the peanuts (minor resources) to mobilize larger funding sources.”

Maryke van Staden
ICLEI

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“The lack of properly structured, bankable projects is slowing the flow of private capital to infrastructure.”

Hans-Peter Egler
Global Infrastructure Basel

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“There is no resilient city without resilient business.”


Jerry Velasquez
UNISDR

“We see the necessity for cities to aggregate projects to avoid having projects too small to get financed.”

Roger Savage
Atkins Acuity Business

*“Can public private
partnerships be pro-poor if
they are clearly linked to
return on investment?”*

Almuth Schauber
MISEREOR

A large green speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the bottom left, containing the text "We can't do it all by ourselves!".

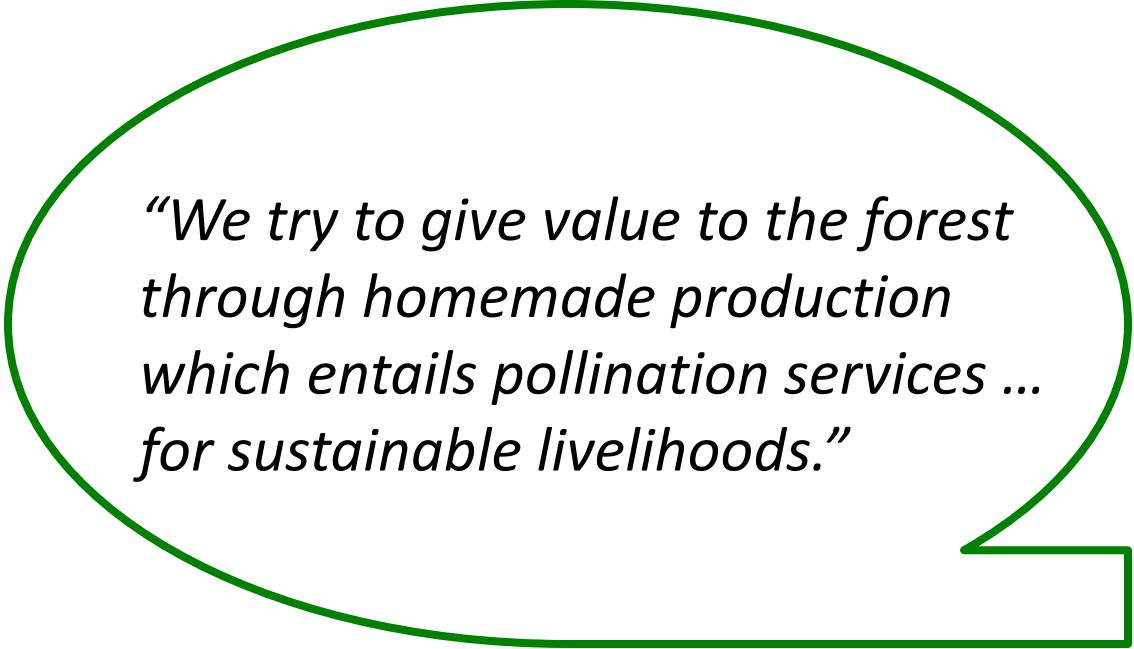
"We can't do it all by ourselves!"

Mattieu Pegon
Green Climate Fund

Eco-system based adaptation/ valuing ecosystem services

“When working with adaptation we should be inspired by nature more often than by technology, asphalt and concrete.”

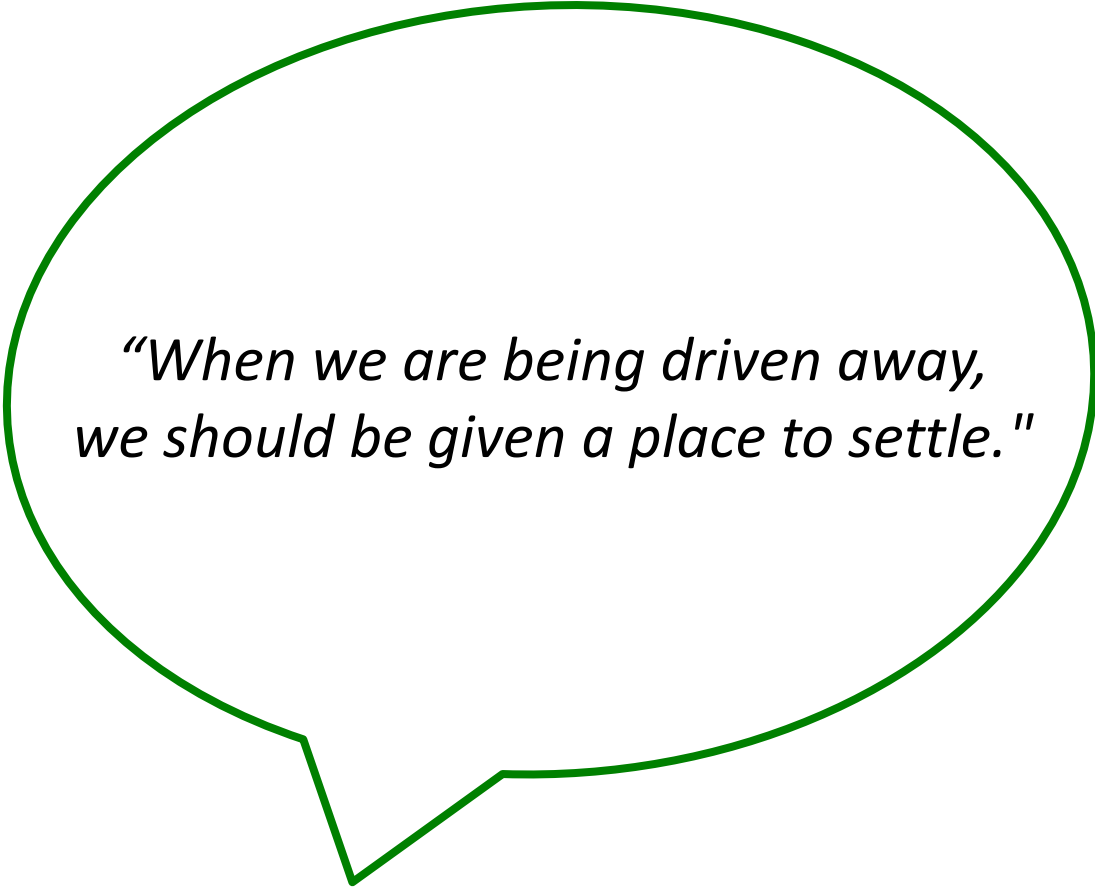
Marc Barra
Natureparif

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“We try to give value to the forest through homemade production which entails pollination services ... for sustainable livelihoods.”

Andrea Markos
Natura Bolivia Foundation

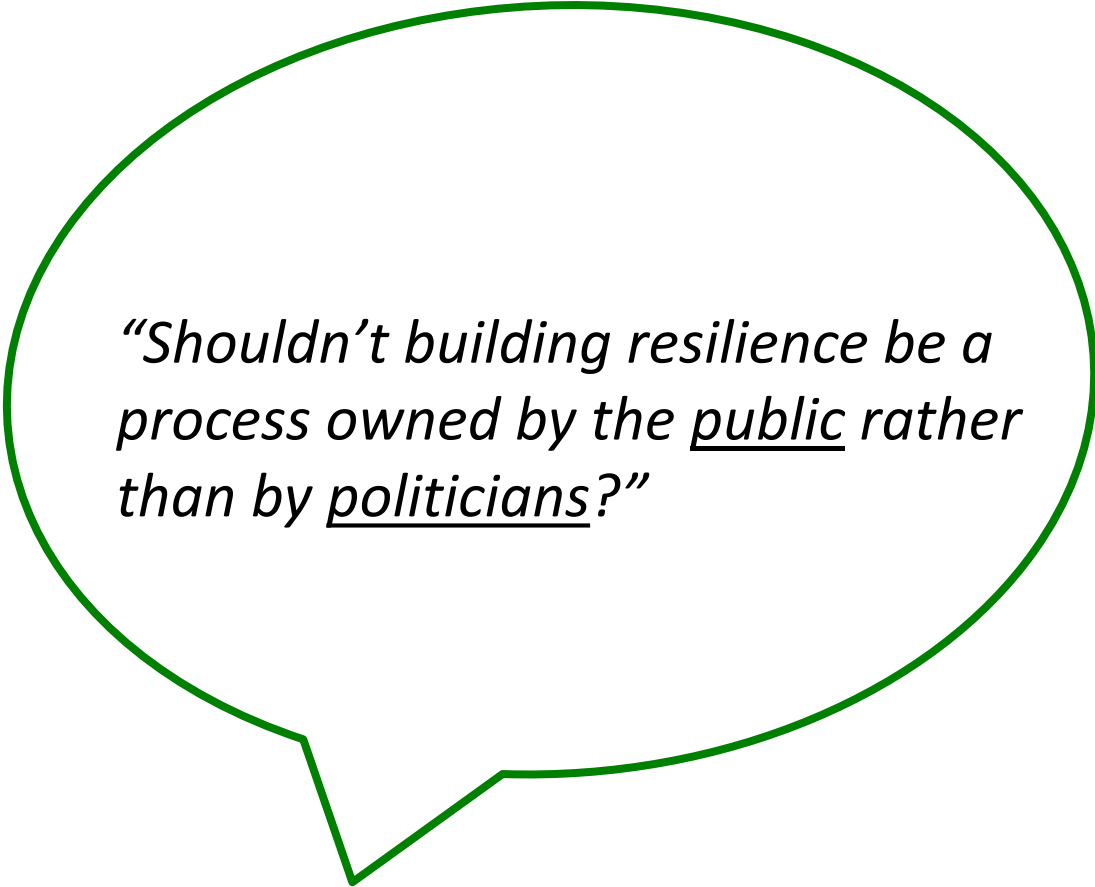
Inclusive resilience



*“When we are being driven away,
we should be given a place to settle.”*

Vida Tangwan

Informal Hawkers’ and Vendors’ Association, Ghana

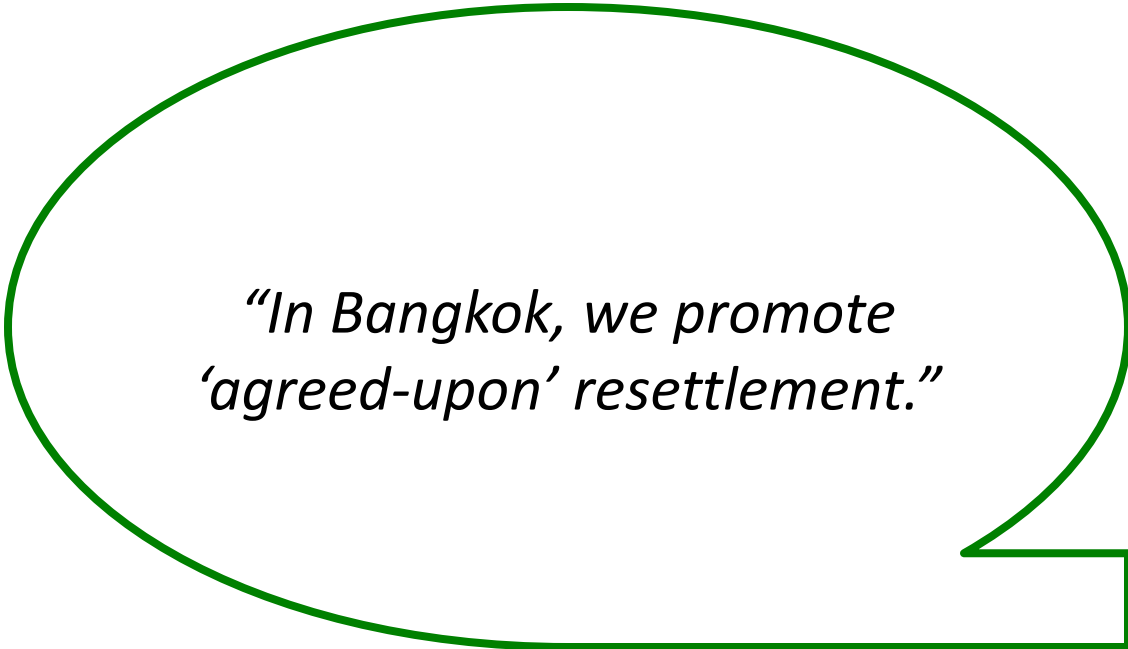
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“Shouldn’t building resilience be a process owned by the public rather than by politicians?”

Tagir Carimo
Mayor of Pemba Municipality, Mozambique

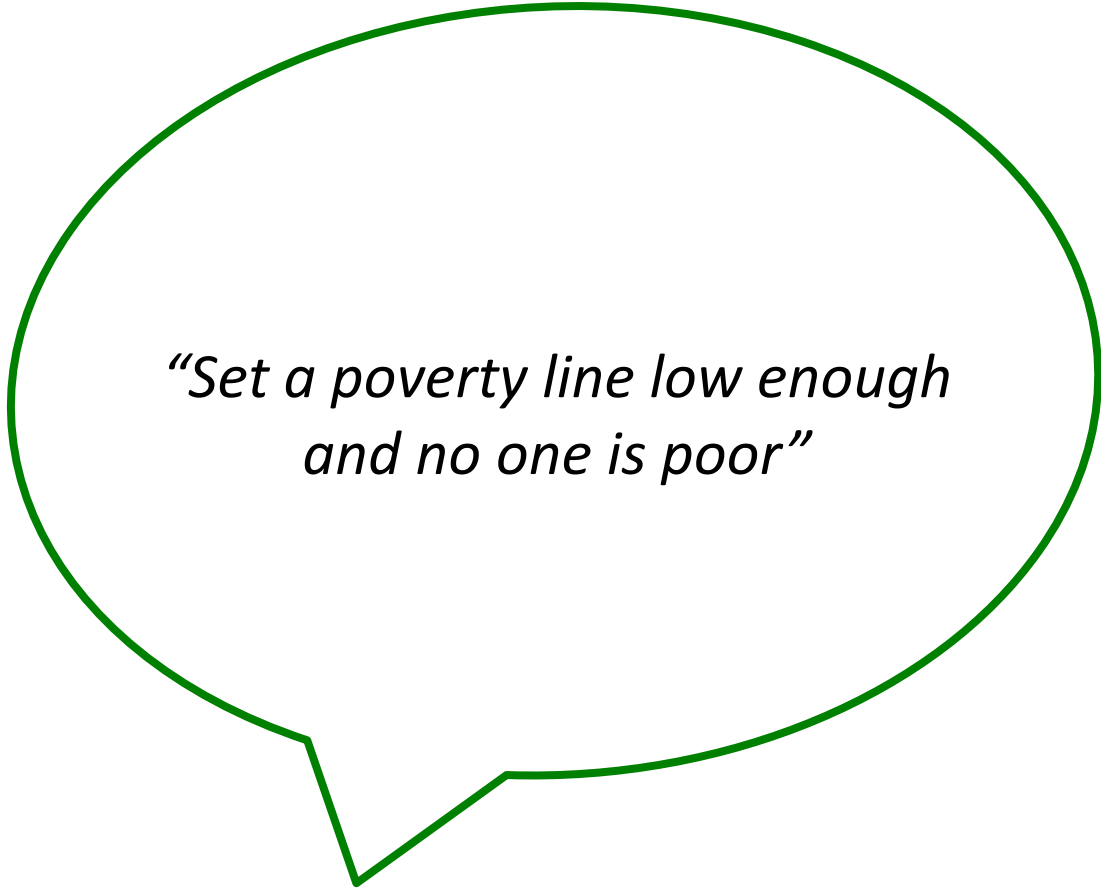
*“If we wait for the government,
maybe we will all die.”*

Ofelia Bagotio
Homeless Peoples Federation of the Philippines

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*“In Bangkok, we promote
'agreed-upon' resettlement.”*

Pusadee Tamthai
Deputy Governor of Bangkok

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*“Set a poverty line low enough
and no one is poor”*

Sarah Colenbrander
IIED

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*“Climate change policies should
focus on poverty reduction.”*

Almuth Schauber
MISEREOR

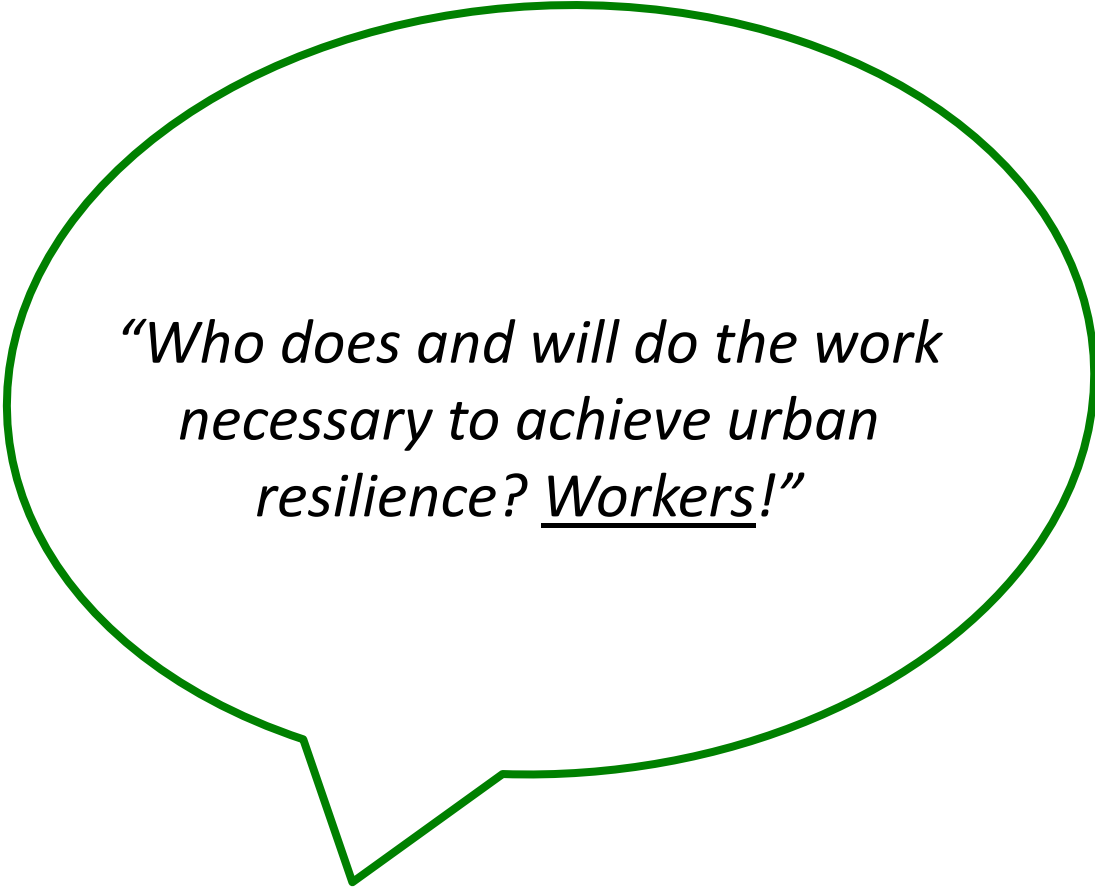


“Inclusion is not just about the poor”

David Dodman
IIED

“The main hazard faced by cities is not flooding or some natural disaster – it is unemployed urban youth.”


Julian Baskin
Cities Alliance

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*“Who does and will do the work
necessary to achieve urban
resilience? Workers!”*

Edmundo Werna
International Labour Organization

Data for building resilience




*“We don’t need more
indicators and data.”*

Hans Bruyninckx
European Environment Agency

“Before we had risk maps, a planning technicians had to personally visit a site and inspect it.”

Daviz Simango

A large green speech bubble with a thin outline, containing the text "Information needs to have a pretty face."

*“Information needs to
have a pretty face.”*

Jessica Hitt
Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange

Resilient food systems


“An urban food agenda is desperately needed. Not only will the urban population benefit, but also the peri-urban and rural population.”

Stefan Schmitz
BMZ

Resilient infrastructure

“Infrastructure is the nexus of the Sustainable Development Goals.”

Hans-Peter Egler
Global Infrastructure Basel

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“Urban resilience is not just about infrastructure. It’s about the overall health and wellbeing of the community.”

Sundaa Bridget-Jones
100 Resilient Cities


Food for thought

“There is a seductive notion that what we need is a better idea or a better tool and then we will find the solution to the problems we face...”

Mike Bird
WIE:GO

“...But even the best ideas will not lead to more resilient cities unless we invest in the soft infrastructure of well organized city communities participating directly in urban planning in their cities.”

Mike Bird
WIE:GO

A large green speech bubble with a tail pointing to the right, containing the quote.

“The urban risk discourse is increasingly framed as a technocratic problem. It lacks a critique of the deeper political economy.”

Matthias Garschagen
UNU-Bonn

“[With our focus on resilience analysis and tools, rather than strengthening urban governance and management,] Are we barking up the wrong tree?”

Josef Leitmann
GFDRR/World Bank