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Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready

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Role Model Guideline

How to sign up as a Role Model in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign

Who is a Role Model?

Cities, municipalities or local governments participating in the Making Cities Resilient (MCR) Campaign and have demonstrated global leadership, good practices and innovative approaches in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience can be classified as a “Role Model” in the Campaign.

Role Models are cities, municipalities or local governments that have political and technical commitment to take actions to address disaster and climate risks to ensure of resilience and sustainable development. They must have an established governance system with a dedicated department, unit or focal point on DRR and/or resilience, have reviewed risk reduction and resilience building progress using available tools for cities such as the Disaster Resilience Scorecards for Cities¹ and have engaged multi- and diverse stakeholders throughout the process.

As part of the MCR Campaign, Role Model Cities must demonstrate good practices and innovative approaches in DRR in all areas of the 10 Essentials for Making Cities Resilient (Annex I) and must be very outstanding in at least 3 areas of these 10 Essentials. They must have developed and implemented DRR strategies and plan in alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and contributed to the achievement of the New Urban Agenda, Paris Climate Agreement, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The cities should also demonstrate a mechanism to ensure that DRR plan is revisited at least every 5 years and the progress is made towards the implementation of the 10 Essentials for Making Cities Resilient.

The Role Model Cities must show innovative approaches, sustained results in measuring and reducing disaster risk, their aims to continue to do so as well as being committed to showcase and share experiences. They will inspire, create learning opportunities and provide support to other cities to boost their efforts towards committed resilient cities and communities.

How to become a role model city?

- Step 1** Join the Making Cities Resilient Campaign:
<https://www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/signup/form>
- Step 2** Review city’s progress in risk reduction using the indicators for Ten Essentials; and in developing and implementing DRR strategy and action in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and contributions to the achievement of the New Urban Agenda, Paris Climate Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Step 3** Submit request including the following documents to UNDRR regional MCR Campaign focal points
 - Candidature form
 - Motivation Letter
 - Three (3) letters of recommendation (see more details below)
- Step 4** The request will go through a screening process and, if successful, the city will receive a certificate as a Role Model City mentioning a particular area of strength

¹ <https://www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/home/toolkitblkitem/?id=4>

Who is eligible to provide a letter of recommendation?

- A national government institution (such as dealing with disaster risk reduction issues, local and urban development, environment, financing, planning, etc.),
- An international partner in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign;
- A local, national, regional or global civil society organization;
- Academia; or
- A private sector company that is a member of UNDRR ARISE²

Recommending institutions or agencies must have worked closely with the City in disaster risk reduction, development, resilience building, or related issue. At least one (1) must be a local entity within the city. A letter of recommendation must highlight and confirm the efforts and achievements of the city or local government based on the Ten Essentials (Annex I).

How to submit role model request?

Cities or local governments interested to becoming a Role Model shall send, in addition to the **candidature form** (see Annex II), a **motivation letter** to UNDRR³. The motivation letter needs to provide:

- Explanation and justification why the city can stand as a good role model, what lessons it can offer to other cities wanting to improve their DRR and resilience building;
- Evidence of achievements in DRR and resilience building in the city: how particular measures, amendments, investments, partnerships, etc. have improved resilience in specific but transposable context;
- Tangible commitments in offering assistance to other cities through various means such as city-to-city learning, technical support, financial support, strategy of actions and events and to act as a lead in advocating for the Campaign.

Recognition and commitments:

UNDRR will provide a formal recognition to the city as a Role Model in its area(s) of strength. Role Models will be featured in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign reports and advocacy material.

Role Models will commit to:

- Share experiences with other cities by organizing city-to-city learning with study tours or training components and/or twin up with other cities to provide support (via tools or physical meetings/workshops);
- Provide technical assistance and support training on the development and implementation of the DRR/Resilience Strategies and the experience in the use of tools for assessing disaster resilience progress such as the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities;
- Build awareness and advocate for DRR and resilience building - by attending national, regional and/or global events in coordination with UNDRR, preparing audio-visual material presenting innovative solutions for local risk reduction and resilience, organizing policy dialogues, sharing case studies and/or providing specific research and lessons learned according to their experience.

² <https://www.unisdr.org/partners/private-sector>

³ Contact information of regional focal point is available at: <https://www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/home/about>

Annex I

Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient

Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient¹

1. Put in place an **organizational structure** and identify the necessary processes to understand and act on reducing exposure, its impact and vulnerability to disasters.
2. **Identify, understand and use current & future risk scenarios.**
3. Understand the economic impact of disasters and the need to **strengthen financial capacity for resilience.**
4. **Pursue resilient urban development and design** for new infrastructures, hazard-resistant buildings, flood drainage, green areas, etc.
5. **Safeguard natural buffers to enhance the protective functions offered by natural ecosystems** and anticipate changes from climate trends, urbanization and planning to enable ecosystem services to withstand these.
6. **Strengthen capacity of all institutions** relevant to a city's resilience to discharge their roles in five key DRR areas of understanding, prevention, mitigation, response and recovery planning.
7. **Strengthen societal capacity for resilience**
8. **Increase resilience of infrastructure to cope with disasters.**
9. **Ensure effective disaster response.**
10. **Expedite recovery and build back better** after any disaster

Annex II: Candidature Form for Role Models

Role Models will be actively promoted in the Campaign. Each Role Model will be able to create an individual Role Model profile hosted on the Campaign website with Role Model-specific elements, such as showcasing good practices in at least 3 essentials, and highlighting main achievements and potential for replication.

Please provide the following information (all fields are mandatory):

Select at least 3 essentials highlighting main achievements and good practices
Essential 1 – Organize for disaster resilience
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 2 – Identify, understand and use current and future risk scenario
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 3 – Strengthen financial capacity for resilience
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 4 – Pursue resilient urban development
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 5 – Safeguard natural buffers
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 6 – Strengthen institutional capacity
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 7 – Strengthen societal capacity
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 8 – Increase infrastructure resilience
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 9 – Ensure effective disaster response
Achievements/Good practices -
Essential 10 – Expedite recovery and build back better
Achievements/Good practices -
Partnerships
Please add major partner(s) and describe briefly the relationship and/or project with the partner.
Partner 1 –
Partner 2 –
Add more
Contribution to the Global Agenda
Please describe your city’s contribution to the achievement of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, New Urban Agenda, Paris Climate Agreement, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
Contribution to the Global Agenda:
Mayor’s Quote
Please provide a quote from the Mayor (no longer than 30 words) that describes the main achievement or the importance of disaster risk reduction.
Mayor’s Quote:
Please submit a photo of the Mayor, which will be uploaded to the campaign website.
Mayor’s photo: