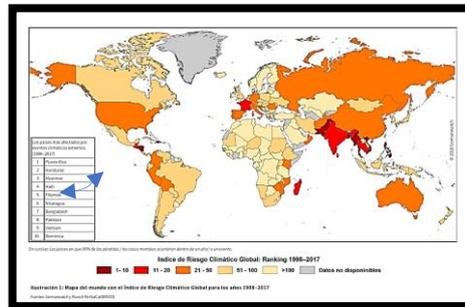


## TEGUCIGALPA

### INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE CAPITAL CITY



#### **Local context**

Tegucigalpa, with a population that exceeds 1.3 million inhabitants, is composed by an Urban System extremely vulnerable to disasters. According to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), at least 11% of its population is at high risk of hillside movements and floods. Due to its rapid informal growth, more than 40% of the population does not have access to a drinkable water system and the city only treats 17% of the wastewater it produces.

These conditions have caused the lowest income settlements in the urban area becoming particularly exposed to the risk of landslides (slope movements; rock fall; sludge and debris flows, etc.) or floods (surface erosion; surface runoff; undermining of structures and slopes, blockage of the main channels, streams and river flows; storm drainage overflow in the low areas of the city, etc.) The Global Climate Risk Index 2019 by Germanwatch identified Honduras as the second country most affected by extreme weather events during the period 1998-2017.

The challenge for the city is to control and reduce its current risks, avoid future risks, manage risk trends (including the effects of climate change and the incidence of anthropogenic activity), and address threats of natural origin with high vulnerability and exposure.

#### **What has been done?**

Since 2014, Tegucigalpa (the Municipal Mayor's Office of the Central District, AMDC), with the political will of the municipal authorities, started the process of institutional rearrangement in order to facilitate effective inclusion and integration of risk reduction criteria and principles in the decision making process for investment on Sustainable Urban Development in Tegucigalpa.

A series of efforts undertaken encompasses the previous municipal management (2014-2017) and the current one (2018-2021). The main efforts are:

- Approval and implementation of the **Strategic Municipal Development Plan**, with a Land Management Approach (PDM-OT), prepared in 2014 for a period of 20 years, on the basis of registered, regularized and official lands, gender aspects, risk management and Climate Change;
- The creation of the **Municipal Integral Risk Management Unit (UMGIR)**, as the technical-scientific institutional body responsible for the prevention, mitigation, reduction and permanent control of disaster risk. It addresses climate change in a territorial context and is oriented towards the search for a human, environmental and economic development that is sustainable and inclusive. This unit is responsible for ensuring the municipality's compliance with the regulations formalized by the Consultative Council of SINAGER (National Risk Management System).
- The creation of the **Risk Management Assessment (GER in Spanish)** in 2014, with the purpose of carrying out assessment and issuing risk reports and technical reports on risk management related issues.
- The **Multi-Sector Assessment and Action Plan** was developed applying the methodology of ICES (Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative). Its main drive is to contribute to a comprehensive and inclusive vision of the Honduran Capital.
- As part of the project on Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient: Implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 at the local level", led by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and supported by the European Commission, the city developed a **Local Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience building**.

It is crucial to highlight that, during the development of the Local Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience building, the first **Municipal Policy for the Integral Management of Disaster Risks of the Central District Municipality** was developed and approved in the context of **Climate Change Adaptation and Land Use Management (PMGIRD-DC-OT-CC)**. It took into account the 10 Essentials for Making Cities Resilient of the "Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready! Campaign, which are coherent with the 5 objectives of the Policy. This permitted Tegucigalpa (AMDC) to align different initiatives and articulate planning modalities for Integrated Disaster Risks Management, which must be consistent with the Policy.

The approval of the PMGIRD permits the efforts to continue over the three future municipal governments (for 12 years), in order to guarantee the sustainability and continuity of the actions addressed to reduce risks and to safeguard lives and public and private assets, to avoid the construction of new risks, to adapt to climate change and to be resilient to the impacts of natural phenomena .

With the formulation of the specialized "**Regulation for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Central District**", mandatory applicable to all citizens, the mainstreaming of disaster risk management in urban planning of cities is pursued.

During the development of the Local Action Plan and the Policy, an important trigger was **the political will of the highest empowered authorities related to DRR**. This, as a starting point, brings together partnerships and all other capacities that can be complementary: : special regulations, existing technical instruments (studies, diagnostics, maps, etc.), mapping of internal and external actors, inter-institutional coordination, harmonious relationship with professional associations, engagement of the private sector.

Understanding that public officials are temporary while institutions are those that last and can strengthen democracy and development, institutionalization has been an important pillar in all DRR initiatives. As a result of this, other actions took place such as the establishment of Municipal Committee of Spatial Data (COMUDE) aiming to formalize all disaster risk management related data generated by the Municipality and make them "open data" for citizens. Another action under development is the Municipal System for Risks and Territorial Studies (SIMRET) accompanied by the first Early Warning System of the Municipality.

Knowing that there is a correlation between urbanization and development, the AMDC has driven the articulation of various normative instruments with the Global Agendas, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Urban Agenda 2030, the Paris Agreement, the Global Compact of Mayors for Climate and Energy, and the Sendai Framework for disaster Risk Reduction, among others. National Agendas are also included: the National Country Vision Law, the National Plan, and the National Adaptation Plan to the climate change, among others.

### **Where are we going?**

In Tegucigalpa, Disaster Risk Reduction has had a cross-sectoral impact, as a driving force for the design and implementation of actions and initiatives for development.

some of them are already in process:

- Expansion of the Urban Perimeter of the Central District: This is an opportunity to introduce concepts such as green growth, smart cities, safe and sustainable cities. Mitigation and adaptation to climate change is considered in this strategy through respect and inclusion of areas of high ecological value, water protection zones and areas highly susceptible to risk.
- Strengthening of community response systems, under the implementation of community organization methodology, and building a culture of prevention.
- Road Infrastructure Improvement Projects in the Central District / Major Works: The hydraulic concrete (lasts more than 50 years) is a material that has greater resistance to rain and the increase in temperature compared to asphalt.
- Improvement and expansion of the Municipal District Municipal Waste Facility.
- In 2019, the transfer process of the Potable Water and Sanitation System from the Central Government to the Municipality is expected to be complete. Integral Risk Management is being incorporated, with the search for new reservoirs and the execution of projects.

#### *Non-reimbursable Financing Management:*

- Urban Adaptation Program for Climate Change in Central America - Component Honduras, German Financial Cooperation (PHASE I and II) 2019-2021. Donation 23 MM Euros + Counterparty 5.75 MM Euros; Total 28.75 MM of Euros.

#### *Future Interventions:*

- Proposal for New Transport Modality: TEGUS-CABLE, is intended to be a cable car system that serves not only as mass transportation, but also to connect with other transport modes, whether conventional buses or the articulated system BRT.
- Project: Bicentennial Municipal Botanical Garden, with a surface of approximately 40 blocks.

- Strengthening of the Municipal District of the Central District for the Management of Climate Change through Technical Assistance to know, adapt and implement the methodology "Economics for Adaptation to Climate Change" (ECA).
- Know the insurance schemes, by means of parametric insurances (coverage against catastrophic risks).
- Linear Park: parallel to the Choluteca River that crosses the city; combining criteria of Disaster Risk Reduction, flood control, river sanitation.
- Update of the Inventory of Greenhouse Gases, being responsible and proactive of the contribution that cities must have to the Mitigation of Climate Change; Our priority is the Adaptation to Climate Change through the Mitigation of Disaster Risks.

### **Conclusions**

Since 2014, Tegucigalpa began to operate with disaster risk reduction as a guiding line, as no other city in the country. It focuses on strengthening the technical-scientific capacities related to Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change, integrating disaster risk management as a cross-cutting issue through the municipality' dependencies, promoting disaster risk governance at local level.

The local government authorities have a clear vision about the city's future and wishes to build



Plenary COP 24 Katowice 2018. The Mayor of Tegucigalpa, Nasry Asfura, expressed, on behalf of Local Governments for Sustainability and Local Authorities from around the world, their vision to link urban development and climate action, to involve all levels of government and to advance in the delivery of the Paris Agreement.

it with its inhabitants, the central government and international cooperation, under the slogan "That nobody has been left behind" bearing in mind both the responsibilities and the benefits that development entails.

The city needs resources to support the transfer, financial protection and the promotion of investments to reduce current, future and trending risk related to climate change. In order to implement plans, regulations and projects at the local level, international cooperation is key, as to promote alliances that the mobilize and exchanges knowledge, technologies and financial resources.

Tegucigalpa, the Municipal Mayor's Office of the Central District  
April 2019