



**UN-HABITAT**

# **World Cities Report 2024: Cities and Climate Action**

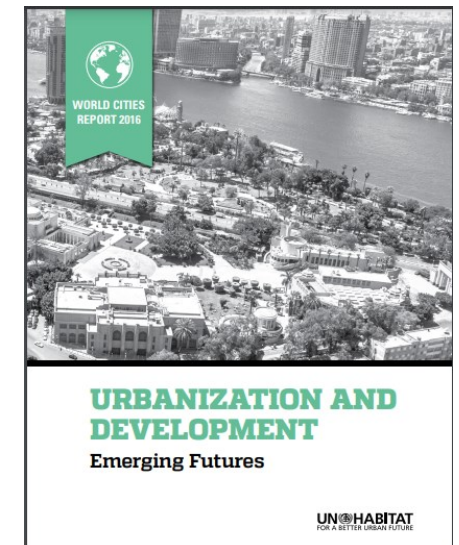
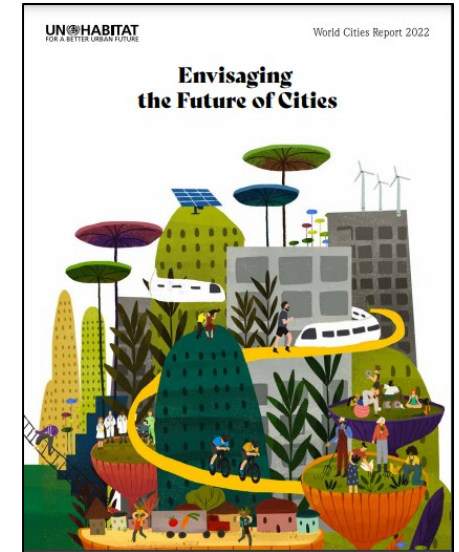
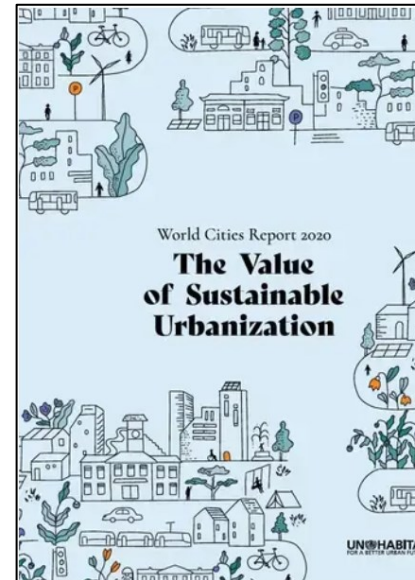
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# Overview of the World Cities Report

- UN-Habitat's **flagship publication**
- Our **most widely read** product globally
- Key reference in the field of urban development to **shape policy narrative and action.**
- Offering rich **knowledge** and **data** as well as **practical guidance**





# Structure of the WCR 2024

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- Chapters 1 and 2 : Introduction
- Chapters 3 and 4 : **Exposure** and **vulnerability** to climate change
- Chapters 5 – 10 : **Actions** that all levels of government and relevant stakeholders can take to address the effects of climate change
- Annex of **25 Case Studies**

Chapter 5: Urban planning & Design

Chapter 6: Infrastructure

Chapter 7: Multilevel governance

Chapter 8: Innovation

Chapter 9 : Finance

Chapter 10: Resilience building

# Preparation of the WCR 2024

**Collaboration** involving over **120 individuals** from various institutions across the world.

i. **Internal process** within UN-Habitat.

ii. **External process** involving:

- Consultant experts
- Collaborating institutions : Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies of the Erasmus University, UCLG, among others.
- International Advisory Board for WCR 2024
- Two expert group meetings



# Key facts from WCR 2024

- 1 By 2040, **over 2 billion people** living in cities could experience an additional temperature increase of at least 0.5°C.
- 2 **36% of the global urban population** could experience mean annual temperatures of 29°C or higher.
- 3 More than **2,000 cities** will be exposed to sea level rise and coastal flooding by 2040, putting **1.4 billion people** at risk.
- 4 Once-in-a-century river floods could affect over **500 million city dwellers** globally
- 5 Riverine flooding threatens **14% of the urban population** globally by 2030.
- 6 Exposure to flooding in cities has grown **3.5 times faster** than in rural areas since 1975.
- 7 Urban green spaces have declined by **nearly 30%** since 1990.
- 8 136 of the largest coastal cities could incur annual losses exceeding **US\$1 trillion** by 2050.
- 9 Cities need up to **US\$5.4 trillion per year** to become climate-resilient, yet they're securing **less than 20%** of this.
- 10 In 2021-22, only **1% of funding** secured for urban climate action went to adaptation.



# Key messages from WCR 2024

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1. **Cities must be at the centre** of global climate action as they are under **critical threat**.

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2. **Climate justice** must be central to urban climate action especially for **informal settlements and slums**.

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3. **Urban and land-use planning and design** are critical instruments for climate action.

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4. Promoting **low carbon and resilient housing and basic services** offers major benefits for climate action.

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5. Cities need to **reverse the decline of green spaces** for effective climate action.

## Key messages from WCR 2024 (cont'd)

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6. A **stronger urban focus** is needed for more ambitious national climate commitments.

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7. Cities need significantly **more financing** for effective urban climate action.

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8. Effective climate action requires **multi-level governance** and collaboration across scales.

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9. Cities must accelerate climate action through an integrated process of **transition innovation**.

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10. Closing the critical **urban climate data gaps** is essential for informed and effective climate action in cities.



# Leveraging the World Cities Report 2024



## 1. Guide UN-Habitat's programming

- Inform the new Strategic Plan (2026-2029)
- Uptake application in our work on climate change

## 2. Produce a Guide for Practice

- Equip practitioners globally with actionable solutions
- Resource guide with practical tools and applications

## 3. Inform IPCC reports

- Next special report of the IPCC on Climate Change and Cities under the 7th assessment cycle
- WCR2024 presented at COP29

## 4. Develop urban climate indicators

- Significant data gaps have been identified
- Potential partnership with IPCC is being explored



**Read the WCR 2024**



<https://unhabitat.org/wcr/>



# Thank you!

[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)

