UN-HABITAT

COP31 TÜRKİYE ANTALYA

Cities are at the heart of climate action

Full programme of UN-Habitat's engagements at COP31

9 – 20 November 2026



Cities are at the heart of how we solve the climate crisis.

Decisions about housing, transport, land and basic services shape both urban emissions and people's ability to withstand climate impacts. Safe and adequate housing, connected neighbourhoods and resilient infrastructure are central to improving lives while responding to the climate crisis.

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Cities are at the heart of how we solve the climate crisis

Decisions about housing, transport, land and basic services shape both urban emissions and people's ability to withstand climate impacts. Safe and adequate housing, connected neighbourhoods and resilient infrastructure are central to improving lives while responding to the climate crisis.

Cities already have practical solutions. Improving homes and informal settlements, expanding sustainable transport, managing water and restoring green spaces can reduce climate risks and emissions together. Delivering these benefits at scale requires national and local governments to connect their plans, responsibilities and resources.

At COP31, UN-Habitat's focus is on turning climate commitments into implementation in cities and communities. Its engagement brings together urban knowledge, practical solutions, partnerships and finance, with particular attention to people living in inadequate housing and informal settlements.

Priorities for urban climate action

- **Safe and adequate housing as a foundation for climate resilience.** Up to 3.4 billion people lack adequate housing, including more than 1.1 billion people living in informal settlements and slums (WCR2026). Improving existing homes, upgrading informal settlements and developing well-located housing can reduce climate risks while connecting people with essential services and opportunities.
- **Inclusive climate action in informal settlements and slums.** Limited access to adequate housing, water, sanitation, drainage and other services increases communities' exposure to climate hazards. Involving residents in upgrading their homes and neighbourhoods can help ensure that climate planning, financing and implementation respond to local needs and priorities.
- **Integrated planning for buildings and neighbourhoods.** Nearly half of the buildings that will exist in 2050 are still to be built or renovated, while buildings and construction already produce around 37 per cent of global carbon dioxide emissions (UNEP). Connecting buildings with transport, public space, essential services and renewable electricity can support lower-emission and more resilient neighbourhoods.
- **Scaling proven urban climate solutions.** Measures including lower-emission transport, energy-efficient buildings, flood management and green infrastructure could reduce urban emissions by up to 90 per cent by 2050 when applied together and at scale (IPCC). Digital tools and artificial intelligence can support this work when backed by reliable local data, public capacity and appropriate safeguards.
- **A stronger role for cities in national climate action.** While 80 per cent of national climate plans include well-developed urban measures, only one in three addresses coordination across levels of government and fewer than one in five refers to urban climate finance (UN-Habitat NDC 3.0). Stronger cooperation between national, regional and local governments can help translate climate commitments into practical urban action.
- **Greater investment in local climate action.** Every USD 1 invested in resilient infrastructure can generate more than USD 10 in benefits through avoided losses and more reliable services. Directing climate finance towards cities, informal settlements and underserved communities can reduce risks, strengthen livelihoods and restore ecosystems.
- **Connections between cities and their surrounding environment.** Coordinating housing, transport, energy and land use can reduce emissions, improve air quality, manage heat and flooding and support biodiversity. Connecting urban development with the management of surrounding land and water can also protect essential services and livelihoods in urban and rural communities.

Featured engagements

Antalya Leaders' Summit – High-Level Dialogue: Urban resilience, adaptation and climate action

The meeting brings together Heads of State and Government, ministers, governors, mayors, United Nations entities, international organizations, financial institutions and city networks to advance urban climate action. It builds on Habitat II, held in Istanbul in 1996, and four **Ministerial Meetings on Urbanization and Climate Change** since COP27, drawing on Türkiye's large-scale reconstruction following the February 2023 earthquakes, the thirteenth World Urban Forum in Baku and key milestones along the urban roadmap to UNFCCC COP31.

Date and time: Thursday 12 November, 13:30 – 17:00
Venue and access: Plenary Hall 2, Akdeniz, World Leaders Summit
Conveners: COP31 Presidency and UN-Habitat
Programme and livestream: TBC

Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion

The pavilion will bring together practical solutions, knowledge, finance and partnerships across housing, buildings, municipal infrastructure and urban resilience. It will provide space for collaboration between national and local governments, development partners and communities.

Co-hosts: UN-Habitat, İLBANK and the UNEP-hosted secretariats of the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC) and the Cool Coalition
Location and opening dates: Monday 9 November – Thursday 19 November
Pavilion programme and livestream: TBC

Full programme

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
9 Nov 10:00 - 11:00	**Accelerating Climate Action Through Innovative and Integrated Urban Transport Solutions** With only a few years remaining to achieve the SDGs, access to safe, affordable and sustainable public transport remains still out of reach for nearly 40% of the world's urban population. The session will explore how digital tools, data and innovation can support better mobility planning, improve public transport services, strengthen multimodal integration and enable more efficient and inclusive urban mobility systems, drawing on practical experiences from initiatives such as the IKI-funded ACCESS project, implemented in Latin America. The session will also highlight opportunities offered by the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport (2026-2035) as a framework for accelerating progress toward sustainable urban mobility and climate goals. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, SLOCAT, UITP, ICLEI**	**SLOCAT Transport Pavilion** Blue Zone
9 Nov 14:00 - 15:00	**COP31 Roundtable on SDG Localization: From climate commitments to territorial delivery** This high-level roundtable will examine SDG localization as a practical framework for translating climate and sustainable development commitments into territorial action. The session will discuss multilevel governance, financing, monitoring and reporting, National SDG Localization Frameworks, implementation of NDCs and NAPs, and the VNR–VSR–VLR continuum. Discussions will highlight territorial delivery, climate action, accountability mechanisms, and pathways toward the 2027 SDG Summit. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, Local2030, COP31 Presidency, UCLG**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone
9 Nov 15:30 - 16:30	**Housing at the Heart of Climate Action: Turning commitments into action** The housing and climate crises are deeply interconnected. As climate risks intensify, vulnerable communities face growing threats to their homes and livelihoods. Yet housing also presents a major opportunity to advance climate resilience, reduce emissions and deliver sustainable development. Findings from UN-Habitat's latest analysis of urban content in NDCs 3.0 reveal growing recognition of housing and informal settlements in national climate commitments. But how can these ambitions translate into action on the ground? Opening COP31, this dialogue brings together housing ministers, community leaders and international experts to explore how housing and climate agendas can be better aligned. Drawing on national policy perspectives and local experiences, speakers will explore how multilevel coordination, financing and partnerships can bridge the gap between climate commitments and housing action on the ground. The discussion will help set the stage for the Housing and Informal Settlements Roundtable on Cities Day, identifying key priorities for advancing climate-responsive housing for all. **Organizers: UN-Habitat**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
9 Nov 16:45 - 18:15	**Building for Forests: Advancing forest-positive construction** This event looks at how housing and the broader buildings and construction sector can contribute to both climate and forest goals. It builds on "Building for Forests", an initiative launched at COP30 to promote responsible timber and other biobased construction materials to deliver better housing and buildings, lower whole-life impacts, and resilient forest value chains. One year in, the event takes stock of this agenda, recognizing credible implementation by governments and other actors since the initiative's launch. The main evidence base is a proposed Success Package that gathers examples of delivery, identifies shared barriers, and outlines next steps. Countries will explain what has moved from commitment to delivery and what made it possible. International organizations, cities, technical partners, industry, finance, and philanthropy will discuss the policy, procurement, standards, investment, skills, and supply conditions needed to scale. The event will stress that higher timber demand is not a success in itself unless legality, traceability, biodiversity, rights, and whole-life carbon are safeguarded. The overall goal is to mobilize country leadership and partnerships for the next phase of implementation through to 2030. **Organizers: Building for Forests (coalition that includes FAO, Forest & Climate Leaders' Partnership, Built by Nature, PEFC International)**	**Side Event Room 1, Gordiyon** Blue Zone
9 Nov 16:45 - 18:45	**Unlocking the Potential of Walking and Cycling for Effective Climate Mitigation and Justice** Enabling safe walking and cycling can halve transport emissions by 2030. PATH calls on governments to embed active travel in climate commitments. Research shows progress, with over a third of UNFCCC countries have walking and cycling in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). But many still lack proper mechanisms to steer investment and ensure maximum impact for everyone to have a safe, easy and enjoyable walking and cycling experience. Success indicators are key to making a strong business case for active travel. It is also crucial for accountability, effective resource allocation, and targeted investment. Enabling people to walk and cycle, creating walkable and bikeable places and embedding active travel into existing processes requires clear, coherent planning. By achieving this, we can mitigate climate change, support public transport, reduce pollution, save lives, benefit public health and create vibrant, inclusive and equitable societies. **Organizers: PATH, European Cycling Federation, FIA Foundation, MobiliseYourCity**	**Side Event Room 9, Safranbolu** Blue Zone
10 Nov 11:00 - 13:00	**Proof Before Scale: From landscape restoration to climate-resilient cities** This event will discuss translating field evidence on dust-source stabilization, landscape restoration, water management and livelihoods into investment-ready territorial and urban resilience solutions. **Organizers: Ministry of Environment of Iraq, UN-Habitat, International Water Management Institute (Iraq/Jordan), ESCWA**	**Iraq Pavilion** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
10 Nov 11:45 - 12:45	**Accelerating NDC 3.0 Implementation in SIDS** This event will examine how Small Island Developing States (SIDS) can move from ambitious NDC targets to tangible implementation. Discussions will focus on governance and coordination, climate finance mobilization, data, monitoring and reporting, and capacity building. The event will bring together SIDS governments, development partners, UN entities and financing institutions to exchange lessons learned, address implementation barriers, explore practical solutions, and identify how partnerships and support mechanisms can help translate climate commitments into action. **Organizers: UN-OHRLLS, Climate Analytics, AOSIS**	**SDG Pavilion** Blue Zone
10 Nov 12:00 - 13:00	**Sanitation Day, Session 3 – Financing Climate-Resilient Sanitation: Does sanitation in NDCs 3.0 and NAPs translate into finance?** This event will include a country dialogue on sanitation in climate plans, presenting joint analysis and discussing investment readiness, finance needs and support mechanisms. Why it matters: Several organizations are analysing how sanitation appears in the latest climate plans—UN-Habitat, WaterAid, UNEP/CCAC and the French Water Partnership. Instead of four separate launches, this session presents one aligned 'data snapshot' and then hands the floor to countries: what they committed to, what is costed and investment-ready, and what support they need. Finance actors respond on how to turn plan priorities into pipelines (including BRIDGE). **Organizers: UN-Habitat, ADB, SWA, WaterAid, UNEP/CCAC, UNICEF**	**Water for Climate Pavilion** Blue Zone
10 Nov 15:30 - 16:30	**Delivering SDG 11.2: Connecting housing, public transport and climate action for sustainable cities** This session will launch the latest insights on SDG 11.2 and explore how integrated transport, housing and urban planning policies can accelerate climate action while creating more inclusive, resilient and livable cities. Building on evidence from global SDG monitoring and practical city experiences, the organisations behind this paper, ICLEI, UITP and UN-Habitat, will discuss how transit-oriented development, integrated mobility planning, digitalisation and data-driven solutions and innovative financing mechanisms can improve accessibility and reduce emissions. **Organizers: UN-Habitat (UITP & ICLEI)**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone

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10 Nov 18:00 - 19:30	**Scale Built Circular: Policy and markets in the Global South** Globally, the buildings and construction sector accounts for around one-fifth of greenhouse gas emissions, generates up to 40 percent of waste, and consumes nearly one-third of all raw materials extracted worldwide. The current linear construction paradigm cannot keep expanding within planetary boundaries while meeting the growing demand for housing, commercial buildings and infrastructure. A circular economy keeps building materials in a closed loop, offering a fundamentally different paradigm that is urgently needed to address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. This event is organized by the GlobalABC Circular Built Environment group, led by the Ministry of the Environment of Finland and RMIT University, and discusses the power of policies and markets to mainstream a circular built environment in the fast-growing Global South. **Organizers: CBE group of the GlobalABC, led by Ministry of the Environment of Finland & RMIT University**	**Finnish Pavilion** Blue Zone
11 Nov 09:30 - 10:30	**Learn, Participate, Take Action: Young people for climate action and sustainable development** This side event will explore how learning opportunities, participatory processes and youth engagement can translate knowledge into climate action and sustainable development outcomes. The roundtable aims to highlight practical experiences that enable young people to contribute to policymaking and implementation, bringing together local, national and international perspectives. **Organizers: Italian Ministry of the Environment and of Energy Security (MASE), Metropolitan City of Milan**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone
11 Nov 10:00 - 12:00	**Launching Yemen's NDC 3.0: From national ambition to local resilience** This event launches Yemen's third Nationally Determined Contribution, jointly hosted by the UN-Habitat Executive Director and the Yemeni Minister of the Ministry of Water and Environment. The event will present Yemen's resilience-centred climate agenda; its mitigation and adaptation commitments; and the role of climate-resilient urban planning, infrastructure and basic services in recovery and sustainable development. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, Yemen MoWE, Cool Coalition, Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction**	**Water for Climate Pavilion** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
11 Nov 10:30 - 11:30	**Climate-Resilient Cities: Energy, waste and city design** Cities of all sizes worldwide depend on both waste and energy utilities to serve growing urban populations... how do we build these into the Climate-Resilient Cities of the future? In many cities, utilities are treated as independent systems, yet integration can unlock new synergies and efficiencies. Hosted by KVI and the REA, in partnership with the Resilient Cities Network, this roundtable will bring together senior leaders from city governments, utilities, development banks and investors for an exclusive, expert-led conversation concerning the future of urban design. A look at KVI's newly confirmed Casablanca Solid Waste Treatment and Valorisation Project and associated electricity offtake agreements will kickstart this exploration into how waste and energy infrastructure can be designed to more effectively support cities facing competing land-use demands, increasing energy demands, and waste management needs. **Organizers: KVI, REA. Supported by the Resilient Cities Network**	**Pavilion C510 (Association for Renewable Energy and Clean Technology)** Blue Zone
11 Nov 12:00 - 13:00	**CHAMP High-Level Political Dialogue** This closed-door, ministerial-level dialogue will convene members of the Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships (CHAMP) for Climate Action and supporting partners. The event focuses on strengthening ambition and international climate cooperation across national and subnational levels, showcasing best practices in NDC and NAP delivery, financing mechanisms, and sectoral solutions. The dialogue will conclude with the launch of the CHAMP COP31 Statement. **Organizers: CHAMP Co-chairs, CHAMP Secretariat**	**Special Events Room** Blue Zone
11 Nov 12:30 - 13:30	**Where NDCs Meet Reality: Cities at the centre of climate action** This session will explore pathways for delivering national climate commitments in and with cities. Drawing on lessons from the operationalization of the SURGe initiative, ICLEI's GreenClimateCities™ Program and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, the discussion will bring together national and subnational governments, city networks and multilateral development banks. The session will examine the role of multilevel governance and multistakeholder and multisectoral partnerships in advancing climate-resilient urban futures. It will highlight sectoral priorities, challenges and opportunities in implementing NDCs in urban settings, including strengthening the role of subnational governments, building effective partnerships and unlocking urban climate finance. The discussion will also share progress, lessons and good practices from SURGe and partner initiatives, and conclude by highlighting ambitions and commitments to strengthen multilevel climate action in cities. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, ICLEI**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone

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11 Nov 12:30 - 13:45	**From Waste Data to Climate Delivery** This event will contribute to the Zero Waste Day programme by highlighting the role of reliable and accessible data in supporting more effective waste and circular economy policies. It will: • Demonstrate how different forms of waste data can inform policy development, implementation and review at national and local levels; • Present practical experience from WMPSS, Albaro and Waste Wise Cities, alongside perspectives from participating countries and cities; • Identify common institutional, technical and capacity-related challenges affecting the collection, management and use of waste data; and • Examine how governments, local authorities and technical partners can strengthen cooperation to ensure that waste data respond more effectively to policy needs. **Organizers: UN Office for Sustainable Development of UN DESA**	**SDG Pavilion** Blue Zone
11 Nov 15:00 - 16:30	**Axis 4 Synthesis Roundtable: From Plans to Delivery: Building Resilience for Cities, Infrastructure and Water** Co-convened by the COP31 Presidency, the UNFCCC secretariat through the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, the Climate High-Level Champions and the Axis IV members, this Synthesis Roundtable brings together the five Activation Groups, their Plans to Accelerate Solutions (PAS) and implementing partners to reflect collectively on the Axis as a whole: what has been achieved, which implementation challenges persist across sectors, and where cross-sectoral collaboration can accelerate delivery. It brings together the results of the Axis IV showcase events and feeds into the Resilient Cities and Built Environment Day on 12 November, including thematic roundtables, the World Leaders Summit Segment on Urban Resilience and Climate Change, and the Intergovernmental Council for Buildings and Climate (ICBC) Ministerial Meeting. **Organizers: Marrakech Partnership, UNFCCC, Climate High-Level Champions, UN-Habitat, Axis 4 partners**	**Special Event Room 1 (Roundtable)** Blue Zone
11 Nov 17:00 - 18:00	**From Global Climate Science to Urban Action: Preparing cities for the IPCC Special Report – The findings** Strategic partnerships have played an essential role in broadening participation, strengthening capacity, and directly connecting global scientific evidence with on-the-ground urban realities. This session uses the journey of the IPCC SR Cities, UNEP's Limiting Overshoot Report, and the ongoing commitment of GCoM and UN-Habitat in co-convening the Innovate4Cities initiative as case studies to explore what it takes to build global climate knowledge through partnerships and connect international science with local implementation. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, GCoM, IPCC**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone

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12 Nov 08:00 - 10:00	**Connecting Levels, Delivering Climate Action** This special COP31 event will connect international climate negotiations with the priorities of local and regional authorities. The programme includes a review of the opening week of COP31 negotiations, discussion of how local and regional governments can help implement climate commitments, presentation of the UMT COP31 Position Paper on Local Governments, and a high-level interactive roundtable on multilateralism and local climate action. **Organizers: Union of Municipalities of Türkiye (UMT), ICLEI, LGMA Constituency, European Committee of the Regions (CoR)**	**Special Event Room 1, Uzungöl** Blue Zone
12 Nov 09:00 - 10:00	**Keeping 1.5°C Alive: A safer future for Small Island Developing States** This event is a call to action to strengthen support for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the face of likely 1.5°C overshoot. It will discuss urgent adaptation and loss and damage needs, ambitious mitigation efforts, a just transition away from fossil fuels, and the role of accessible climate finance in building resilience and supporting sustainable development. The event aims to advance climate action and implementation that safeguards the future of SIDS and their communities. **Organizers: AOSIS, Climate Analytics, UNIDO, UN-OHRLLS**	**SDG Pavilion** Blue Zone
12 Nov 11:00 - 13:00	**Second ICBC Ministerial Meeting on Buildings and Climate** This ministerial meeting brings together ministers, heads of delegation and partner organizations to discuss implementation of the Antalya Compact for Energy Efficient Buildings and advance climate action in the buildings and construction sector towards COP32. Partner organizations are invited to respond to country needs and opportunities and strengthen collaboration, investment and implementation efforts. **Organizers: Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of Türkiye; COP31 Presidency; ICBC Co-chairs Troika (France, Brazil, Kenya)**	**Special Event Room 2** Blue Zone
12 Nov 11:30 - 13:00	**Rising above the Heat: Scaling solutions to extreme heat** This COP31 Presidency Programme event on extreme heat resilience brings together governments, UN partners, donors and practitioners to discuss translating commitments into action through heat early warning systems, heat action plans, resilient infrastructure, sustainable cooling, protection of vulnerable populations and stronger governance, while promoting synergies between adaptation and mitigation. **Organizers: World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**	**Special Event Room 3** Blue Zone
12 Nov 13:30 - 17:00	**Antalya Leaders' Summit – High-Level Dialogue: Urban resilience, adaptation and climate action** Heads of State and Government, subnational leaders and partners will meet at the COP31 World Leaders' Summit to turn national climate plans into action on adaptation and urban resilience. Co-organised by the COP31 Presidency of Türkiye and UN-Habitat, the dialogue will focus on resilient infrastructure, adequate and affordable housing, post-disaster reconstruction and finance, including through SURFF. **Organizers: COP31 Presidency, UN-Habitat**	**Plenary Hall 2, Akdeniz** World Leaders Summit

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12 Nov 14:45 - 15:30	**More than a Roof: Adequate housing as climate action in Türkiye** This panel brings together UN-Habitat, Türkiye's public housing provider, the Urban Transformation Presidency and SP Architects to discuss adequate housing as climate action. The session will examine Türkiye's experience in public housing, urban transformation and post-earthquake reconstruction through the seven criteria of adequate housing, highlighting housing quality, resilience, affordability and climate-responsive neighbourhood development. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, TOKİ, Urban Transformation Presidency, SP Architects**	**Türkiye Pavilion, Room 3** Blue Zone
12 Nov 15:00 - 16:00	**Resilient Cities Day Technical Roundtable – Housing and Informal Settlements: Housing at the forefront of climate action** Responding to the housing crisis is central to resilient cities, especially in informal settlements, home to 1.12 billion people. Housing faces growing climate hazards, but it also offers opportunities to cut emissions and strengthen resilience. Meeting the COP31 Presidency's target of reducing building energy intensity by at least 25 per cent by 2035 will require action across formal markets, existing stock and informal settlements. In NDC 3.0, 64 of 142 countries address urban housing and informal settlements, up from 49. The challenge is implementation on two connected fronts. The first is adaptation in informal settlements, where secure tenure and protection from forced eviction are preconditions. The second is a low-carbon, resilient built environment across new and existing housing. Building on WUF13's Baku Call to Action, the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All and the ICBC Belém Call for Action, this Roundtable focuses on moving from recognition to implementation. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, COP31 Presidency, UNFCCC (Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action), Climate High-Level Champions. Supporting partners: IHS, African Center for Cities**	**Special Event Room 1, Uzungöl (Roundtable)** Blue Zone
12 Nov 15:00 - 16:30	**Resilient Cities Day Technical Roundtable – Science and Research for Urban Climate Action: Closing the evidence gap for informal settlements** The Global Stocktake calls for stronger use of science, climate information and local knowledge in urban climate action. The New Urban Agenda highlights persistent implementation gaps, and the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities (SRCities) will offer major new evidence in 2027. Yet data and capacity gaps persist, especially in the Global South's informal settlements and urban peripheries. There, housing and informality are linked to climate risk, and communities already lead local solutions. Around half of NDCs 3.0 address housing and informal settlements, led by LDCs and African countries. Delivering on these commitments requires evidence that reflects these realities and residents' knowledge. It also requires multilevel science-policy partnerships that link global science to local implementation. Building on the COP30 "Science to Action" Roundtable, the Innovate4Cities Conference in Nairobi and the WUF Academy launch, this Roundtable will identify pathways for governments, researchers, city networks and funders to channel SRCities findings into implementation. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, COP31 Presidency, UNFCCC (Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action), Climate High-Level Champions. Supporting partners: IPCC, GCoM, IIED**	**Special Event Room 3, Zerzevan (Roundtable)** Blue Zone

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12 Nov 17:00 - 18:30	**Livable Baku Project** This side event will present the "Livable Baku" project as a practical and replicable model for restoring polluted land and water, reducing methane emissions, advancing circular waste systems, and creating resilient urban spaces. The initiative will cover waste management, lake restoration, remediation of oil-contaminated land, and policy reform across the Absheron Peninsula. **Organizers: Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan**	**Azerbaijan Pavilion** Blue Zone
13 Nov 9:00 - 10:00	**Urban Water Resilience and Locally Led Climate Action Day, Session 1 – Building Urban Water Resilience: From policy to grey and green infrastructure** This session will establish the overall resilience framework for the day. It will examine how cities can understand and manage water-related climate risks through integrated planning and investment: connecting urban and catchment planning, water and sanitation services, conventional grey infrastructure, and nature-based and ecosystem-based solutions. Discussion should move beyond a binary choice between grey and green infrastructure and instead consider how combinations of policy, governance, engineered systems and natural infrastructure can deliver reliable services while reducing climate risk and producing wider environmental and social benefits. Key question: What does an integrated and implementable urban water resilience strategy look like, and how can cities move from plans to investment and delivery? **Organizers: UN-Habitat, ICLEI, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Bentley Systems**	**Water for Climate Pavilion** Blue Zone
13 Nov 11:00 - 12:30	**Resilience in the Balance: Navigating tensions and trade-offs across the built environment** This discussion will centre on adaptation and resilience in the built environment. The event will bring together global and local leaders to examine how collaboration and alignment across the value chain can accelerate implementation of adaptation and resilience measures while balancing costs, carbon, wellbeing and other priorities in different local contexts. **Organizers: Saint-Gobain's Sustainable Construction Observatory**	**Ela Excellence Resort**

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
13 Nov 15:00 - 16:00	**Urban Water Resilience and Locally Led Climate Action Day, Session 4 – Innovation for the Urban Water Challenge: Too little, too much and too dirty** This session will look towards scalable solutions and the "COP of the Future" agenda by examining technological and institutional innovation across three interconnected urban water challenges: • Too little: water efficiency, reuse, demand management, leakage reduction, alternative supplies, groundwater and drought management. • Too much: forecasting and early warning, smart drainage, flood modelling, sensors, digital twins, real-time management and green-blue infrastructure. • Too dirty: decentralised and advanced treatment, water-quality monitoring, pollution prevention, reuse, circular approaches and resource recovery. Technology will be considered as an enabler rather than an end in itself, with attention to affordability, governance, local capacity, data access and suitability for different city contexts. **Organizers: Bentley Systems, ASTM International, ARUP, ICLEI**	**Water for Climate Pavilion** Blue Zone
13 Nov 15:00 - 19:00	**19th Focal Point Forum of the Nairobi Work Programme – From Knowledge to Action: Accelerating adaptation at the subregional level** Adaptation and resilience, particularly in the most vulnerable countries, depend on timely, actionable knowledge alongside finance, technology and capacity. Many climate risks cross borders, so subregional cooperation is increasingly essential. The Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) is the UNFCCC's knowledge-to-action hub for adaptation and resilience. At each COP, its Focal Point Forum brings together experts, including from developing countries, and fosters collaboration among Parties and partners. The 19th Forum on accelerating adaptation at the subregional level will share practical lessons on how knowledge can speed up adaptation at the subregional level. It will also identify current and emerging knowledge needs across thematic areas, and explore how the NWP's subregional work can respond to needs arising from the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience. The discussions, including breakout groups, will set out priority knowledge needs and opportunities for collaboration. Registration is open to all COP 31 participants with access to the Blue Zone. **Organizers: Nairobi Work Programme**	**Meeting Room 2** Blue Zone
13 Nov 16:45 - 17:45	**Financing Resilient, Circular African Cities: Green infrastructure and circular urban development** This event will focus on the acceleration of the transformation of African cities into climate-resilient, inclusive, resource-efficient and low-carbon urban centers through innovative financing, green infrastructure investment and circular urban development. **Organizers: GGGI, UN-Habitat**	**Francophonie Pavilion** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
13 Nov 16:45 - 18:15	**Delivering NDC 3.0 through Urban Transformation: A One UN offer for cities and regions** This One UN side event is focused on translating stronger urban ambition in NDC 3.0 into measurable urban transformation. The session will address urban climate implementation, circular economy and zero-waste approaches, financing, governance, climate justice, and coordinated UN support to Member States, cities and regions. The event also serves as a platform for launching and presenting several UN-Habitat and UNU publications and tools related to NDC 3.0 implementation. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, UNU**	**Side Event Room Green** Blue Zone
14 Nov 09:00 - 10:00	**Strengthening Urban Climate Justice: Confronting Informality and Environmental Racism** *Fortalecendo a Justiça Climática Urbana: Enfrentando a Informalidade e o Racismo Ambiental, da COP30 à COP31* This panel is co-organized under COP31 Action Agenda Axis IV / Activation Group 13 and the Plan of Acceleration of Solutions on informal settlements and urban peripheries against environmental racism. It will include the launch of the policy brief "Strengthening Urban Climate Justice: Guidelines, Strategies and Best Practices to Confront Informality and Environmental Racism". **Organizers: Brazil (Ministry of Racial Equality, Ministry of Cities), UN-Habitat**	**Brazil Pavilion, Auditório Mutirão Global** Blue Zone
14 Nov 09:30 - 10:30	**The Triple COP Year: Cities as implementation champions on climate, land and biodiversity** Cities are where the climate, biodiversity and land agendas meet. Urban areas cover less than 3% of the world's land but are home to half its people, and more than two-thirds are expected by 2050. Poorly planned growth drives emissions, habitat loss and land degradation, and cities face rising heat, flood and drought risks. Healthy urban ecosystems help in return by cooling neighbourhoods, absorbing stormwater and supporting well-being. Because these challenges meet locally, so can the solutions. Integrated territorial planning, nature-based solutions and multilevel governance and finance can advance all three Rio Conventions at once. As COP31 in Türkiye closes the triple COP year, this session asks how to turn parallel commitments into integrated local implementation. UN-Habitat's Executive Director opens it, followed by a moderated panel of national, city and private sector voices and an audience Q&A. **Organizers: UN-Habitat**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone
14 Nov 09:30 - 10:30	**Resilient Cities Day Technical Roundtable: Cities at the centre of the clean energy transition** This technical roundtable of Resilient Cities Day under Global Climate Action Agenda Axis 4 aligns with the COP31 target of raising electricity's share of final energy demand to 35 per cent by 2035. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, COP31 Presidency, Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, Climate High-Level Champions. Supporting partners: Electrify Now campaign partners**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion (Roundtable)** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
14 Nov 12:30 - 13:30	**National SDG Localization Frameworks as Accelerators of Climate Action** This event will examine how National SDG Localization Frameworks (NLFs) can support implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the Sustainable Development Goals. The discussion will focus on multilevel governance, policy coherence, territorial planning, localization of the SDGs, institutional capacity, and financing mechanisms that enable climate action and territorial transformation. Country experiences and practical approaches to aligning national strategies with local priorities will be highlighted. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, Italian MASE, Metropolitan City of Milan**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone
14 Nov 13:00 - 14:00	**From Ambition to Action: Implementing NDCs in the decisive decade** This panel discussion will focus on implementing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The session will explore practical approaches to turning NDC commitments into measurable results through coordination across sectors, policy frameworks, financing strategies, and monitoring systems. Draft agenda includes opening remarks, panel discussion, audience Q&A, and wrap-up. **Organizers: Qatar Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MECC), Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)'s Qatar Program**	**Qatar Pavilion** Blue Zone
14 Nov 16:30 - 17:30	**COP31 Priority Spotlight Event on Resilient and Near-Zero Emission Buildings** This roundtable will spotlight how building-sector solutions can advance the COP31 Resilient Cities priority and related clean energy, electrification and zero-waste objectives. The event will review progress under the Near-Zero Emission and Resilient Buildings Plan to Accelerate Solutions (NZERB PAS), showcase implementation examples on building codes, deep renovation, electrification and circular construction, and identify priority actions through 2028. Discussions will focus on policy, finance, procurement, capacity building and scaling delivery, particularly in emerging markets and developing economies. **Organizers: UNEP-hosted Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC), in collaboration with UN-Habitat's Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe)**	**Special Event Room 2 (Roundtable)** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
16 Nov 11:30 - 13:30	**High-Level Dialogue on Resilient Cities, Reimagined: AI, digital twins & IoT for a sustainable future** This high-level COP31 dialogue will explore how artificial intelligence (AI), digital twins and the Internet of Things (IoT) can accelerate urban climate action, sustainability and resilience. Bringing together ministers, mayors, industry leaders, researchers and international organizations, the event will showcase practical applications of digital technologies for reducing emissions, improving resource efficiency and strengthening climate resilience at city scale. Discussions will focus on scaling implementation, promoting interoperability through international standards, and measuring progress using the U4SSC Key Performance Indicators aligned with the UN-Habitat Urban Monitoring Framework. The dialogue will also support the COP31 Global Climate Action Agenda 2035, SDG 11, the Pact for the Future and the Global Digital Compact, culminating in the launch of a Global Call to Action for Smart, Resilient and Sustainable Cities powered by AI, Digital Twins and IoT, together with a basis for future implementation and progress tracking. **Organizers: COP31 Presidency, International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in collaboration with UN-Habitat and UNFCCC**	**Special Event Room 2** Blue Zone
16 Nov 13:15 - 14:45	**Water-Smart Solutions for Climate-Resilient Cities: Building capacity for local action** This collaborative side event will focus on the water-climate nexus, climate-resilient urban water infrastructure, capacity development, research, training, and institutional strengthening. The session explores water security, urban resilience and climate adaptation, showcases scalable approaches to integrated urban water management, and promotes partnerships for water-smart, climate-resilient cities. **Organizers: UNITAR (UNITAR Global Water Academy), UN-Habitat, UNU**	**Side Event Room Blue** Blue Zone
16 Nov 15:30 - 16:30	**Low-Carbon Construction and Sustainable Housing Value Chains** By 2050, most of the housing stock to be built will be in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Today's choices on housing, materials, planning, and construction will shape affordability, emissions, and climate resilience for decades. This event will explore how to move from global commitments to practical action across the housing value chain. It will examine how locally available low-carbon materials, circular construction, passive design, and cooling can be combined with effective planning, finance, policy incentives, skills, and regulatory frameworks to deliver sustainable and adequate housing at scale. Particular attention will be given to informal housing systems and the role of architects, communities, local authorities and builders in ensuring solutions are inclusive and grounded in local realities. Bringing together governments, finance institutions, industry, communities, and technical actors, the session will identify practical approaches to strengthen coordination, reduce costs and emissions, build resilience, support local value chains and jobs, and translate ambitious climate and housing goals into measurable action. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, UNEP, UIA**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
17 Nov 09:30 - 10:30	**Urban Water and Sanitation in National Climate Plans: From commitments to delivery** This COP31 session will soft-launch the Urban Water in the NDCs 3.0 Spin-off Report, examining how water is integrated into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and identifying opportunities to strengthen links between water, housing, urban planning, climate adaptation, and resilience. Beyond assessing water content in NDCs, the report calls for localized climate governance that empowers cities, local governments, and water utilities as active partners in climate planning and implementation. It promotes water-sensitive urbanization, where water security, housing, infrastructure, land management, and climate resilience are planned and delivered as one interconnected system. **Organizers: UN-Habitat**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone
17 Nov 13:00 - 14:30	**Building Climate-Resilient Cities through Local Action: Partnerships, finance and community-led adaptation** This session will showcase practical, implementation-oriented experiences from municipalities and international partners on building climate resilience through collaborative governance, integrated urban planning, innovative financing, and community participation. It will highlight partnerships among local governments, international organizations, civil society, and development partners, and explore how these collaborations can translate climate commitments into measurable local action. **Organizers: United Cities and Local Governments, Middle East and West Asia Section (UCLG-MEWA)**	**UCLG Pavilion** Blue Zone
18 Nov 10:30 - 11:30	**Civic Movement Muscle: Building social resilience in critical times** This dialogue covers how strengthening social capital and civic networks, through community-led action and collective participation, can enhance climate resilience, support vulnerable populations, and accelerate implementation of adaptation and just transition goals. **Organizers: Let's Do It World, UN-Habitat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia**	**Estonia Pavilion** Blue Zone
18 Nov 12:00 - 12:45	**Housing for the Future: Scaling affordable, sustainable and inclusive homes** This panel discussion centres on the growing affordable housing gap and the financing and delivery models needed to increase housing supply at scale. The session will explore collaboration among governments, developers, financial institutions and investors to address barriers related to land, construction costs, financing and investment viability while ensuring housing remains sustainable and inclusive. **Organizers: BBVA**	**BBVA Pavilion** Green Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
18 Nov 14:00 - 15:00	**Resilient Cities and NDCs Unlocked** The NDC Partnership event will bring together NDC Partnership members and other leading experts to share lessons learned, showcase country-led progress, and identify opportunities for deeper collaboration on multilevel governance and accelerated NDC implementation. The session uses a rapid-fire question-and-answer panel format focused on urban and subnational action, resilience, implementation challenges, opportunities, and practical solutions to advance Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). **Organizers: NDC Partnership**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone
19 Nov 09:30 - 10:30	**Ending Open Dumping and Burning from City Data to Climate Action** This session will examine how cities can translate waste data and emissions evidence into practical climate action by improving solid waste services, reducing open dumping and burning, and creating healthier, more resilient communities. Through a city action plan case study, participants will identify priority interventions, technical and financing needs, and opportunities for collaboration to better integrate solid waste management into urban climate strategies. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, ISWA, Engineering X**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone
19 Nov 12:30 - 13:30	**RISE UP for Urban Climate Resilience: From local action to national commitments** This RISE UP session will focus on how evidence-based urban resilience planning can strengthen links between local action and national climate commitments. Drawing on the RISE UP programme, the event will showcase the Urban Vulnerability Atlas, explores pathways from assessment to investment-ready action, examines links to NDC and NAP implementation, and discusses mobilizing public and private finance for climate resilience, including nature-based solutions. **Organizers: UN-Habitat**	**Resilient Cities, Buildings & Cooling Pavilion** Blue Zone

DATE/TIME	EVENT INFORMATION	VENUE
19 Nov 13:00 - 13:50	**Turning the Pacific's Urban Climate Commitments into Local Action for Resilient Communities** Pacific communities, towns and cities are now at the centre of the region's climate plans. UN-Habitat's recent analysis, Urban Content in Pacific NDCs 3.0, soft-launched during Pre-COP in Fiji, highlights the growing integration of urban priorities in national climate commitments. Across the Pacific, 8 of the 10 countries with comparable previous NDCs have strengthened their urban content, with four countries reaching the highest tier in UN-Habitat's assessment. These are no longer statements of intent. Fiji has named a flood alleviation scheme for Nadi, methane capture at Naboro landfill and wastewater methane capture at Kinoya in Suva. Solomon Islands has financed a new Honiara landfill with gas capture, now in design, and an electric bus system for the capital. Delivery is the harder part: most conditional targets are unfunded, and few countries yet have a route from a national target to a local government budget. This interactive session builds on discussions during Pre-COP and the Pacific Urban Forum 7 (PUF7, March 2026, PNG), ahead of PUF8 Samoa in 2029 (TBC). Ministers, local governments, regional organizations, partners and communities will share progress, identify technical assistance and financing priorities, and shape UN-Habitat's global implementation guide on strengthening the urban content of NDCs. **Organizers: UN-Habitat, ESCAP, Pacific Urban Partnership, Government of Papua New Guinea**	**Moana Blue Pacific Pavillion** Blue Zone
19 Nov 16:45 - 18:15	**Financing Urban Regeneration for Climate Neutrality and Resilience** This session addresses financing approaches for urban regeneration to support climate neutrality and resilience. The event highlights innovative policies, financing mechanisms, and case studies across sectors including energy, buildings, transport, public services, and land use, with contributions from academia, local governments, international organizations, and development institutions. **Organizers: Università Bocconi SUR Lab, EAERE, UCLG**	**Side Event Room Blue** Blue Zone

Latest research and practical solutions from UN-Habitat

Cities are more visible than ever in national climate plans, but support for implementation has not kept pace.

UN-Habitat's analysis of 142 national climate plans found that 80 per cent contain well-developed urban measures, up from 49 per cent in the previous cycle. Nearly three quarters include ways to support urban implementation, but only around one third refer to coordination between national and subnational governments, and fewer than one in five address urban climate finance. The findings show that countries increasingly recognize the role of cities, but the systems and resources needed to turn that ambition into action remain uneven.

For more information, read the flagship publication: Urban Content in NDC 3.0: Cities at the Centre

National recognition of cities is growing, and focused country support can help translate that progress into local climate action.

UN-Habitat works with national and local partners to examine how urban priorities are reflected in national climate plans and to identify practical steps for implementation. In the Caribbean, senior housing and urban development officials from seven countries met in Barbados to assess how climate is integrated into housing and urban planning. Together, they identified shared barriers and agreed priorities for technical support. Adequate housing emerged as the central entry point for urban climate action in the region. This demonstrates how targeted support can help countries connect national climate commitments with local priorities, responsible institutions and practical opportunities for delivery

Read more about the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation (SURGe) programme.

National climate plans can guide practical urban action, including in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

Yemen's NDC 3.0 connects climate action with recovery and reconstruction by addressing urban development, housing, transport, water security and infrastructure. It promotes greener planning, reconstruction that reduces emissions, early-warning systems and locally led adaptation. UN-Habitat supports this work through city assessments, recovery planning and investment in climate-resilient water and infrastructure. The experience shows how national commitments can inform local action while helping communities recover and prepare for future climate risks.

Small island developing States (SIDS) offer practical lessons for building urban resilience with limited land and resources.

More than half of their populations live in urban areas, many of them along exposed coastlines. UN-Habitat works with island governments in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific to plan for climate risks and improve vulnerable settlements. In Fiji and Solomon Islands, community-led initiatives are improving drainage, sanitation, housing and early warning systems in informal settlements. Research and exchanges across the three SIDS regions are helping island countries learn from one another. With COP31 placing a special focus on the Pacific, these experiences offer useful and practical lessons for coastal and fast-growing cities everywhere.

Read more in the publication Building urban resilience and climate adaptation in African small island developing states after the COVID-19 crisis.

Community-led upgrading can strengthen climate resilience in informal settlements.

In Lilongwe, Malawi, UN-Habitat has worked with the city and local partners in flood-prone informal settlements to strengthen local resilience planning and introduce nature-based solutions. The work connects community priorities with measures such as restoring vegetation, improving the urban environment and reducing flood risks, demonstrating how climate action and settlement upgrading can reinforce one another.

Read more about UN-Habitat's work to build resilient settlements in South-East Africa.

Cities need to prepare for extreme heat before it arrives.

Heat is among the deadliest climate hazards, with particularly severe effects on people living in informal settlements and homes that offer limited protection from high temperatures. Research across 119 favelas in Brazil shows how climate risks are interconnected: unpaved streets and inadequate drainage can worsen flooding, while densely built homes and narrow streets can intensify heat and hinder emergency access. Communities face overlapping risks from heatwaves, floods, storms, droughts and landslides, while also developing locally led solutions to address these challenges. This evidence underscores the need to integrate adequate housing, basic services, urban infrastructure and community knowledge into climate adaptation. UN-Habitat is a partner in the Beat the Heat Implementation Drive, launched at COP30 to help turn the Global Cooling Pledge into local action, with more than 200 cities in its network. Together with the World Bank and UNEP, UN-Habitat has also published practical guidance to help cities understand heat risks and respond through measures such as trees and shade, better building design and more efficient cooling.

Read more in the Handbook on Urban Heat Management in the Global South

Restoring degraded land can reduce climate risks for communities across borders.

In southern Iraq, UN-Habitat is implementing a USD 13 million initiative financed by the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development to reduce the effects of sand and dust storms in Iraq and Kuwait. The project combines land restoration and increased vegetation with improved irrigation, support for agriculture and community participation. Its activities cover approximately 67 square kilometres and have supported more than 50,000 seedlings. The initiative shows how restoring land can protect livelihoods and bring institutions and communities together to address environmental risks that extend beyond national and local boundaries.

Achieving global climate goals depends on accelerating implementation in cities.

The 2026 Innovate4Cities Conference in Nairobi brought together more than 1,200 participants across government, research, business, finance and civil society. Through 128 sessions, participants examined barriers to urban climate action, shared practical approaches and contributed to the largest in-person organized expert review of the draft IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities. The priorities emerging from I4C26 are now informing engagement around SR Cities and preparations for I4C28, which will provide a major opportunity to connect science and knowledge with partnerships and implementation.

Read the ten key messages from I4C26 to inform urban climate action ahead of COP31 and learn more about being a host of the 2028 Innovate4Cities Conference.

Governments need practical support to turn climate commitments into implementation.

UN-Habitat's Catalogue of Solutions 2026–2029 brings together tested tools, methodologies and advisory services that governments and partners can use to improve housing, land and basic services. The climate-related solutions include support for energy-efficient buildings, sustainable mobility, renewable energy, resilient infrastructure and integrated urban planning.

Explore the UN-Habitat Catalogue of Solutions 2026-2029