# 2024 FULL REPORT

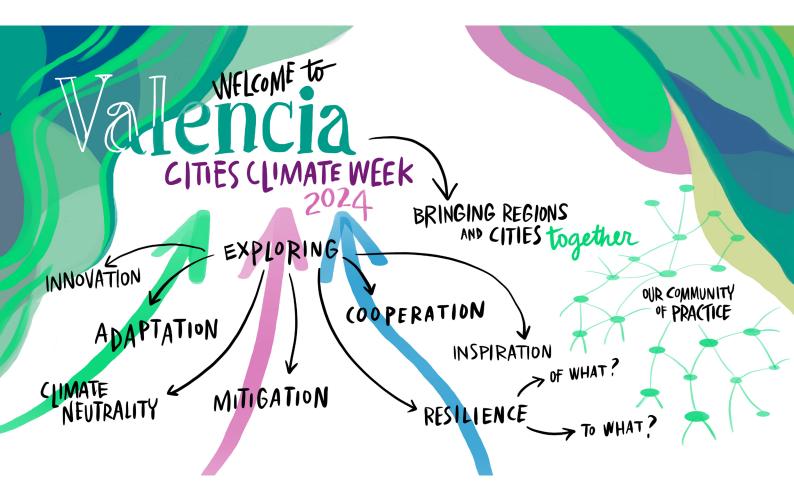
### INTRODUCTION

The 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the European Urban Resilience Forum (EURESFO) was held on June 26–28, 2024, in Valencia, Spain, gathering over 100 speakers and 450 attendees from 35 countries.

The 2024 edition of EURESFO took place in the framework of the <u>Valencia Cities Climate Week</u>, together with the **Cities Mission Conference** and the **Energy Cities' Annual Forum**, hosted by the city as part of the Valencia EU Green Capital 2024 celebrations. This collaboration was a unique opportunity to bring together representatives of cities and regions from across Europe to discuss challenges and opportunities for strengthening resilience in the wider context of sustainable urban development.

Building on the outcomes of its 2023 edition, EURESFO 2024 focused on four thematic streams:





EURESFO 2024 IN NUMBERS 23 sessions and 12 workshops
450 participants
100 speakers and moderators
30 organising and supporting partners
55 stands in the EURESFO marketplace
2 site visits

## 2024 TOPICAL REPORT 1

THEMATIC STREAM: MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE, COOPERATION AND JUST TRANSITION: RESILIENCE LEAVES NO ONE BEHIND



### TOPICS OVERVIEW

This stream investigated challenges and solutions related to 3 important - and connected - components of resilience:

- Multi-level governance: the need to include different levels of government from local to regional, national and European into resilience-building.
- (Inter-departmental) collaboration: the cross-cutting and transversal nature of resilience makes it key to overcome silos for implementation, by mainstreaming resilience across various sectors.
- Just transition: the need to put people at the centre, in particular most vulnerable groups, to ensure a fair and just climate resilience.

### Multi-level governance is about communication

The human dimension needs to be considered: understanding the cognitive, emotional, and practical aspects of individuals driving climate action is crucial. When collaboration is difficult between governance levels due to political differences, concepts and ideas need to be "translated" across such differences.

## Integration of mitigation and adaptation in multi-level governance

Formal and informal spaces for multi-level collaboration should integrate adaptation and mitigation concerns, identifying synergies and specific solutions. Need shared narratives but also shared governance spaces and integrated strategic action plans. Integrated planning tools can also help bridging multi-level governance challenges: for example, the Climate Action Strategiser in course of development within the LOCALISED project.

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE GROUND

#### Spanish National Platform citiES 2030

citiES 2030 is a multi-stakeholder space for collaboration and innovation aimed at supporting the transition of Spanish cities towards climate neutrality, within the framework of the European Missions. It is actively working on the integration between mitigation and adaptation in the Spanish context.



### Frontrunner cities driving multi-level collaboration

Successful local practices need to be made visible, so that they can inspire and be scaled up to regional and national levels. This can also help to secure funding from national level, which is crucial to support action beyond individual projects. E.g. Cluj Napoca in Romania.

## Need collaborative frameworks involving governments, the private sector, and communities

Specific governance instruments like Local Green Deals or <u>Climate City Contracts</u> can support articulating multi-level and muti-stakeholder collaboration around both mitigation and adaptation, to align policies and actions effectively.

## Better data needed for meaningful involvement of citizens

We need data and creative ways for collecting information, to identify the areas on the territory that are most at risk, and the vulnerable households whose needs must be considered. A creative solution is to reach people where they are and when they have time, instead of expecting them to join events organised by the municipality (e.g. questionnaires administered on local buses).

## Trust-building and early involvement of citizens for a just resilience

Building trust with communities, especially vulnerable groups, through early and honest engagement is crucial. For doing so, engaging local groups, NGOs, associations that are already active on the territory is key, from social services to schools, to civil protection volunteers to street workers.

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE GROUND

#### Cluj Napoca, Romania

In 2017, Cluj-Napoca established the <u>Civic</u> <u>Imagination and Innovation Centre (CIIC)</u>, to encourage debate and collaboration among community representatives and city stakeholders about urban projects. The CIC exemplifies how cities can actively involve citizens in climate action, leveraging local knowledge and fostering a collaborative environment for innovation.

#### From "vulnerable" to "valuable" communities

As Malmö found out through the engagement of citizens for planning heat-related measures, migrant communities can already have a lot of knowledge and strategies to adapt to climate change from their own country and culture of origin. We can learn a lot from marginalised communities: knowledge sharing needs to be fostered, with the help of cultural mediators.

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE GROUND

To learn more about what Malmö, Dresden, Utrecht and Messinia are working on, check out the full report from the workshop "<u>Co-creating</u> inclusive climate adaptation solutions"

#### Digitalization for just resilience

Digitalization holds significant potential for accelerating climate action. Achieving this through inclusive processes and cooperative partnerships is essential for harnessing the full potential of technology in building sustainable and resilient communities. Digitalisation can prioritise vulnerable populations and contribute to just resilience by sharing transparent data and tailoring responses on communities.

#### **Towards resilient cultural landscapes**

Cultural landscapes are crucial for tourism and local economies, but also vulnerable to climate change, often due to bag management: maladaptation is one of the biggest threats to cultural heritage. A holistic framework is needed to address conflicts and increase the resilience of cultural landscapes as complex adaptive systems, including co-production of knowledge with local communities.

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE GROUND

#### <u>Historical Irrigation System at l'Horta de</u> <u>València</u> (Spain) – <u>RescueME</u> project

L'Horta de València encompasses many intertwined systems, from physical heritage to agricultural and socioeconomic systems, which face shocks from hazards like heat waves, droughts, agricultural abandonment and urban and infrastructure expansion. To address these hazards, Impact Chains were developed within RescueME, working with local stakeholders to analyse the intersection of hazards, exposure, and vulnerability. This exercise allowed partners to better identify a set of appropriate solutions for the area, but challenges remain for Valencia as they gather data from various sources, and adapt to political changes at the local scale.

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE GROUND

#### Dublin, Ireland: Digitalization

**Smart Dublin** is an initiative to engage with smart technology providers, researchers and citizens in solving challenges and improving urban life. It offers a model of collaboration and flexible tendering process to design co-creation with enterprises, while keeping citizens as key partners.

### SESSIONS

- <u>Multi-level governance:</u> coordinating for climate adaptation
- Just Resilience across Europe Building our collective capacities on the "what, why and how"
- Workshop: <u>Co-creating inclusive climate</u> adaptation solutions: an interactive workshop <u>exploring tools and practices for</u> <u>citizen engagement</u>
- Workshop: <u>What kind of tools and practices do city</u> and regional administrations need to make urban resilience a reality?
- <u>Digitalization for Climate Action: Co-Creation,</u> <u>Collaboration, and Just Transitions</u>
- Does Culture Count for Resilience?
   Opportunities and Challenges for More
   Resilient Cultural Landscapes'

### RESOURCES

- <u>Community Hub</u> of the <u>Adaptation AGORA project</u>
- **Policy recommendations** from the **accting project**, which focuses on producing knowledge and innovations to advance behavioural change for an inclusive and equal European Green Deal.
- Utrecht's experience with citizen science: the <u>Heat Stress Campaign "Green Neighbourhood,</u> <u>Cool Neighbourhood"</u> and the <u>UrbanReLeaf</u> project
- Multi-scale assessment developed by <u>RescueME</u> project: the <u>Atlas of EU Coastal Heritage</u> <u>Landscape Typologies and Climate</u> <u>Change Impacts</u>



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## 2024 TOPICAL REPORT 2

THEMATIC STREAM: WATER RESILIENCE AND THE BLUE ECONOMY IN AND BEYOND THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

### TOPICS OVERVIEW

The potential of our oceans is vast, but years of exploitation have led them to be devastated. Rising sea levels are causing severe flooding in many European cities, underscoring the urgent need for adaptation. This stream explores water as a core element of urban and regional resilience through four sessions.

Key topics included:

- a. Concrete regional and local nature and water-based adaptation solutions to address increasing **droughts** and **floods** in Europe
- b. The need for improved EU, National and regional **policies and regulations on water resilience**
- c. Accelerating the **transition to a blue economy** for the sustainable use of natural assets in the Mediterranean and beyond

Water resilience responsibilities are often unclear across government levels, underscoring the need for clear accountability. Creating specific roles and building skills within each level of governance is crucial to effectively tackle water resilience issues, foster targeted solutions, and secure suitable funding.

It is important for cities to monitor and collectively leverage the water-focused initiatives promoted across various EU directorates, aligning them toward a unified goal to accelerate water resilience action. Climate services are essential tools for supporting data-driven decision-making and multi-level policy development.

A significant barrier to achieving effective water resilience is the lack of capacity to understand and implement alternative approaches, such as nature-based solutions (NbS). These solutions not only tackle environmental issues but also enhance human well-being through the One Health concept, linking environmental and public health. Projects like <u>GoGreen Routes</u>, <u>EcoDaLLi</u> and <u>NBRACER</u> demonstrate how multi-level decision-making and the integration of NbS can improve watershed restoration and bolster climate resilience.

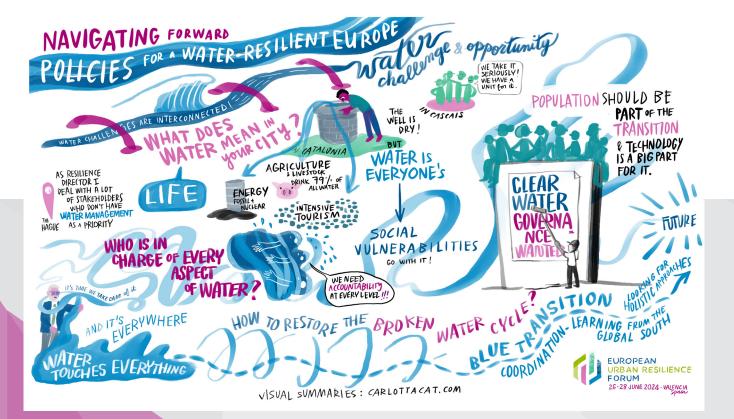
The Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) nexus approach strengthens Nature-based Solutions

(NbS) by highlighting their interconnected benefits across sectors. By integrating science and fostering collaboration, it shows how NbS, like green roofs or wetland restoration, enhance water resilience, biodiversity, and climate adaptation. Projects like **CARDIMED**, and **MULTISOURCE**, apply the WEFE nexus to address sustainability challenges holistically.

Policy is more than a brief of scientific recommendations; it should be driven by everyone. However, without building capacities to understand the challenges and recognize the potential of alternative approaches, such as nature-based solutions, this shift is difficult to achieve.

Water resilience is a societal responsibility that demands long-term vision and inclusive, evidencebased communication. It requires both top-down and bottom-up approaches, engaging cities as communities, not just authorities. Capacitybuilding efforts should span across stakeholders, bridging gaps and breaking down silos to foster effective adaptation.

In light of increasing water-related disasters, there is a pressing need for improved EU, national, and regional policies on water resilience. Stakeholders have urged the European Commission to advance the Water Resilience Law, addressing the challenges of transitioning to a sustainable, water-conscious future amidst conflicting demands.



### EXAMPLES FROM CITIES

#### BARCELONA

#### **Coastal Adaptation Strategy**

Barcelona has implemented a comprehensive coastal adaptation strategy including artificial reefs and a monitoring system for beach conditions. The city utilises real-time data from shoreline cameras to manage beach overcrowding and water quality, ensuring resilience against climate change impacts.

#### MUNICIPALITY OF DRAZ

#### EcoDaLLi Project

It focuses on restoring floodplains and wetlands to manage water levels. This green infrastructure project aims to prevent flooding and drought while engaging local communities and businesses for collaborative water management.

#### MILAN

#### Master Plan 2030 and Air & Climate Adaptation Plan

These initiatives focus on enhancing resilience against pluvial flooding, extreme winds, and heatwaves by increasing green spaces and improving air quality. Key objectives include creating a healthy, inclusive, and accessible city while ensuring sustainability and participatory governance. The ACP is linked to various strategies and aims to transition from planning to implementation, with projects targeting adaptation and mitigation.

### LAHTI

#### **Gogreenroutes**

The municipality of Lahti has implemented a 'health forest.' The City is part of the GoGreenRoutes Horizon funded project, which seeks to connect NbS to health. As part of the project, Lahti developed an original NbS, "the health forest", close to the healthcare centre in the Kintterö area. It was co-designed with the medical staff of the healthcare centre, and it supports patients' recovery and aims to strengthen intergenerational connections as well. As such, this NbS is addressing different societal challenges and has various impacts, primarily in terms of health but also in terms of social cohesion and inclusion as well as in terms of citizens engagement via the co-designing process. The success of this project has also inspired the municipality of Lahti to design two "mini health forests" directly in the city centre, to simultaneously improve citizens' health and wellbeing, reduce air pollution, and tackle the urban heat island effect

#### PROVENCE-ALPES-CôTE D'AZUR

#### **CARDIMED**

This climate adaptation initiative in the PACA region focuses on renaturing urban areas, reducing flood risks, and enhancing biodiversity while improving quality of life. Coordinated by SEMI, the project will implement micro-forests and unseal 10,000m<sup>2</sup> of soil to mitigate heat island effects, improve air quality, and provide edible fruits. Green roofs and vegetated pergolas will manage rainwater, while tree planting in parking areas boosts vegetation cover and biodiversity. At the St. Jerome site, green corridors will reduce runoff and connect to a river renaturation project. In St. Charles, green infrastructure will integrate into the renewal of the Marseille railway district. The project will plant 300 fruit trees and reuse 1,500m<sup>3</sup> of water annually. By aligning with PACA's climate plan, this initiative demonstrates scalable solutions for urban resilience and sustainability across the region.

### SESSIONS

- Workshop: <u>Climate services towards better</u> <u>informed policies and decisions for climate-</u> <u>resilient development</u>
- Workshop: <u>Rising to the Challenge: Nature-Based</u> Solutions for Water Resilience in Europe
- <u>SB4. Navigating Forward: Policies for a Water-</u> <u>Resilient Europe</u>
- <u>PS6. Advancing coastal and water resilience in the</u> <u>EU: encouraging the implementation of multi-level</u> <u>Decision-making frameworks</u>

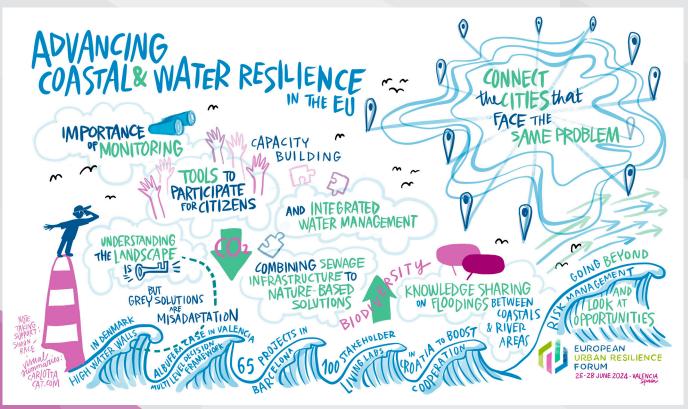


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### RESOURCES

- Triple A Toolkit: <u>https://reachout-cities.eu/triple-a-toolkit</u>
- City hub Climate Stories:
   https://reachout-cities.eu/climate-stories
- Urban Resilience Approach: https://reachout-cities.eu/urban-resilience
- Nature-based Solutions for Health: <u>https://gogreenroutes.eu</u>
- <u>CARDIMED</u> will use <u>innovative digital tools</u> for stakeholder engagement, including digital storytelling and an augmented reality mobile app for citizen science. To ensure alignment with community needs, we are conducting citizen focus groups at all demonstration sites.
- <u>MULTISOURCE</u>: Co-design Framework: Engaging with the stakeholders on NBS for Water Treatment.
   <u>Document available here</u>.

Click here to have a look at all the EURESF024 graphic recordings



## 2024 TOPICAL REPORT 3

THEMATIC STREAM: ENABLING THE TRANSFORMATION TO RESILIENT, ADAPTIVE, AND CLIMATE-NEUTRAL CITIES AND REGIONS



### TOPICS OVERVIEW

This stream focuses on the following key areas to foster climate resilience and urban sustainability:

- **Financial mechanisms**: exploring strategies for bridging financing gaps in adaptation projects, including via public-private partnerships.
- **Mobilizing stakeholders**: emphasizing the importance of collaboration across different levels of governance and sectors. Topics include tools for cross-sectoral coordination and involving communities in co-creating resilient solutions.
- Al tools and innovation: highlighting the role of Al and innovative technologies in accelerating urban transformation and climate action.

#### Financing

Bridging the gap between financiers and cities remains a significant challenge, particularly in developing accessible financing tools for territorial adaptation projects. Although various strategies and well-developed tools are available to support urban resilience initiatives, many remain underutilized due to limited awareness and capacity in cities. To attract private investment, projects must be bankable, and cities need to demonstrate tangible benefits to justify private sector involvement.

#### EXAMPLE 1

#### Oslo, Norway

Oslo has introduced a Climate Budget, which sets specific targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions across various sectors. The budget allocates funds for climate-friendly initiatives such as expanding public transport, promoting cycling, and enhancing energy efficiency in buildings, thereby facilitating the city's transition to climate neutrality.

#### **EXAMPLE 2**

#### **EU Smart Cities Marketplace**

The Smart Cities Marketplace offers a range of services for cities, investors, SMEs, and other stakeholders seeking to finance projects for smart cities.

#### Partnerships and collaboration

Maturing collaboration processes is crucial. Despite shared goals, businesses and organizations often struggle to agree due to different backgrounds. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) are highlighted as crucial for leveraging local resources and expertise. Nevertheless, there's debate about the extent of private sector involvement in adaptation efforts. Some argue that climate adaptation should primarily be a government responsibility.

#### EXAMPLE 3

#### Copenhagen, Denmark

Copenhagen collaborates with private businesses to enhance climate adaptation through innovative infrastructure projects. Partnerships focus on creating sustainable urban spaces, such as green corridors and floodresilient parks. These initiatives not only mitigate climate risks but also promote biodiversity and improve quality of life for residents

#### EXAMPLE 4

#### Rotterdam, The Hague

Rotterdam has established public-private partnerships to fund and implement projects that increase the city's resilience to flooding and extreme weather events. Initiatives include the development of floating buildings, smart water management systems, and green infrastructure. These partnerships leverage private sector expertise and investments to complement public efforts in building a climate-resilient city.



#### **Community Engagement for Resilience**

Examples from various cities emphasize the importance of engaging communities as active partners in resilience planning. Strategies for successful engagement include listening to community conversations, creating spaces for meaningful dialogue, and building trust through collaboration and empowerment of community leaders to lead adaptation initiatives. Emphasizing local strengths rather than vulnerabilities further empowers communities, fostering a sense of ownership and resilience in planning and implementation efforts.

#### EXAMPLE 5

#### Zurich - Data-Driven Resilience Planning

Zurich Resilience Solutions provides localized climate hazard data to assess risks and vulnerabilities. Data helps communities and cities enhance preparedness for physical, social, and economic vulnerabilities. The UCRP tool supports advanced knowledge sharing for identifying and addressing risks effectively.

#### EXAMPLE 6

#### Red Cross Climate Emergency Neighborhoods Program in Spain (<u>Equipos de Respuesta</u> Básica en Emergencia – ERBE)

Teams of county volunteers who provide a basic response to an emergency and/or catastrophe, guaranteeing a faster, more effective and flexible intervention, oriented to the person; involving the population in prevention and preparedness.



#### Al and innovation

Al and innovation play a pivotal role in advancing urban sustainability. This is a significant opportunity for climate action, as Al has the potential to drastically reduce carbon emissions and transform cities into more resilient, sustainable spaces. However, no opportunity comes without challenges. Al technologies are resource-heavy and require substantial infrastructure, which can pose barriers for some cities and communities. We must ensure that the benefits of Al are accessible to all, leaving no one behind in the journey towards a climate-neutral future. By embracing both the potential and the responsibility that comes with innovation, we can create cities that are not only smarter but more equitable and sustainable for everyone.

#### EXAMPLE 7

#### Dortmund, Germany

Dortmund uses AI to manage urban tree coverage, helping mitigate the effects of heatwaves by protecting green infrastructure. Their approach demonstrates how AI can reduce climate risks in a practical and scalable way.

#### EXAMPLE 8

#### Tampere, Finland

Tampere focuses on the principle that more information does not always lead to better understanding. Their AI initiatives prioritize actionable insights for sustainable urban planning and decision-making.

#### EXAMPLE 9

#### Google's Global Climate AI Tools

Google's AI-powered tools, like wildfire prediction and flood forecasting, provide early warnings that save lives and mitigate risks.

#### **Smart Resilient Cities**

By integrating smart technologies and sustainable infrastructure, cities can enhance their resilience, ensuring better preparedness and adaptability to evolving risks. Tools like smart grids optimize resource management, while predictive analytics improve climate modelling and disaster response. Importantly, becoming a smart, resilient city is not about competition but collaboration, fostering partnerships and shared solutions to build sustainable, adaptive urban environments.

#### EXAMPLE 10

#### Cloudburst Management Plan in Copenhagen

Copenhagen has implemented a comprehensive Cloudburst Management Plan to address the growing frequency of intense rainfall caused by climate change. The plan incorporates measures such as underground reservoirs, green roofs, and permeable pavements to effectively manage stormwater and mitigate flood risks.

### SESSIONS

- Panel discussion <u>Our common Mission</u>: <u>collaboration for a resilient and</u> <u>climate-neutral future</u>
- Panel discussion <u>Adaptation Finance:</u> <u>Bridging the Gap Between Financiers and Cities</u>
- Workshop <u>Bridging the Gap: Mobilizing Local</u> <u>Resources for Climate Resilience Through</u> <u>Public-Private Partnerships</u>
- Workshop Unlocking Finance for Smart Resilient Cities
- Panel discussion <u>Communities as Active</u> Partners to Enable Urban Climate Resilience
- Panel discussion <u>AI and</u> <u>Innovation for Resilience</u>

#### **EXAMPLE 11**

#### Superblocks in Barcelona

Barcelona's Superblocks initiative seeks to transform urban spaces by reconfiguring traffic flow, reducing vehicle emissions, and creating pedestrian-friendly zones. This strategy enhances urban resilience by addressing air pollution and mitigating heat island effects while also promoting sustainable mobility and fostering community engagement.



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## 2024 TOPICAL REPORT 4

SPECIAL THEMATIC STREAM: THE ROADMAP FROM HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO POST-CONFLICT RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY

## TOPICS OVERVIEW

EURESF024 dedicated a special half-day session to addressing the challenges of local governance and the lack of a coordinated vision for planning, implementing and priortisation of investment for post-conflict reconstruction and sustainable development initiatives across regional and international partners in conflict fragile settings. The sessions shared the key findings three workshops organised with 19 Ukrainian cities as part of the ICLEI Roadmap in the run-up to EURESF024 and provide a platform to share their voice, define urgent needs and demands as the roadmap to develop their Local Green Deals under three key thematic areas: sustainable reconstruction, energy efficiency and socio-economic recovery.



#### Meet the donor's requirements

It is essential to develop municipal finance proposals that meet the requirements set by donors and have the potential to be funded. Despite their willingness to support the country, donors will prioritise projects that meet specific criteria to help increase creditworthiness and reduce investment risk taking into account the current fragile context of Ukraine. It is therefore essential to provide the technical capacity required for local authorities to prepare and develop strategies and projects in advance, so that when donors come, cities will be able to show them what they have to offer and what they can work on together. It is crucial to establish stronger connections with foreign investment entities, including banks and other financial institutions, to ensure better financial support for projects. Without the right enabling conditions in place, investors will not be attracted to these projects.

## Stakeholders' involvement and community participation

While the communities face many challenges, they also have significant opportunities that has been defined through the ICLEI-Ukraine Roadmap process,

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE CITIES

#### Sustainable Reconstruction - Mykolaiv

The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO) and the city of Mykolaiv signed an agreement to rebuild a water supply system in the Korabelnyi district. This investment project will improve non-revenue water management and support the rebuilding of the city's water supply infrastructure.

www.nefco.int/news/nefco-and-denmarkrebuilding-water-supply-infrastructurein-mykolaiv where cities were able to map their priorities for short- and long-term investments and define their areas of strength to tap into existing resources. This learning process was essential to help set the ground for mapping local partners and cooperate with stakeholders in order to ensure the success of projects. Successes and developments in the cities are the result of effective teamwork between city administration and community. For example, social recovery cannot be achieved without social participation.

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE CITIES

#### Energy efficiency - Lviv

The city developed an integrated urban planning system to avoid silos, since cities should transition from fragmented, siloed projects to integrated approaches that align with EU climate goals. Lviv has the objective of becoming climateneutral and energy independent city by 2050. It is involved in different European projects:

- **SPARCS**: This project supports European cities in transforming into Sustainable energy Positive & zero cARbon CommunitieS by creating citizen-centric ecosystems that are equipped to bring about meaningful change. Through the project, the city aimed to:
  - create an online system to track the real energy consumption of every building,
  - increase the integration of central district heating and renewable energy supply,
  - increase the share of electrical mobility,
  - decrease congestion,
  - improve walking and cycling infrastructure.
- Support for District Heating and Cooling (DHC): the overall objective of the SUPPORT DHC project is to address these challenges by supporting a fast implementation of low-grade renewable energy and waste heat for DHC in Europe. Lviv is integrating innovative energy technologies into existing boiler systems, transitioning from natural gas to biogas.

#### Holistic recovery plan

It is necessary to avoid silos and adopt a holistic approach that integrates inputs from different sectors. For example, the immediate needs of a city may not coincide with the development of blue and green infrastructure, but the immediate and substantial provision of energy will help cities to get back in shape to develop a strategy for green and blue infrastructure. In defining a holistic recovery plan for Ukrainian cities, it is necessary to consider the diverse local contexts, and how each city and each neighbourhood is affected by the war differently. A holistic approach can help bring stakeholders together and join forces.

#### **City-to-city support**

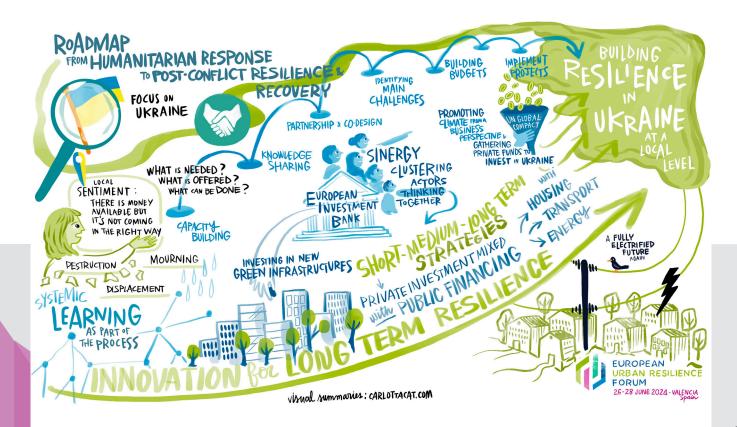
Large and small Ukrainian cities have different experiences of working with international organisations. Large cities have considerable experience of collaborating with international organisations, whereas smaller cities have less such experience, tending to collaborate only with local or regional stakeholders. A current deficit exists in the exchange of knowledge regarding experiences and potential solutions that could be implemented within the existing context between cities and regions. It is of great importance to engage in transdisciplinary cooperation. Furthermore, it would be advantageous to analyse the value of grouping projects for funding purposes.

#### EXAMPLE FROM THE CITIES

#### Socio-economic recovery - Rivne

Rivne is involved in many different initiatives related to the socio-economic recovery:

- Rivne is working on the Support to Rapid Economic Recovery of Ukrainian municipalities project (SRER). The SRER project aims to achieve the rapid recovery of local economies in Ukrainian municipalities by ensuring swift repairs and improvements to basic and business infrastructure. In this project Rivne has created a municipal Business Coworking Space in Rivne City Territorial Community
- Rivne Work Hub Rivne launched a Regional Coordination Platform for Employers and employees to address issues of training qualified personnel in accordance with the needs of local businesses.
- Rivne is working on the Construction of a New Building for Inpatient Care with an Admissions & Diagnostic Testing Department and an Administrative Facility for Municipal Enterprise "Rivne Regional War Veterans' Hospital"



### SESSIONS

- City Workshop: <u>Sustainable Reconstruction</u>
- City Workshop: Energy Resilience
- City Workshop: <u>Socio-economic Recovery</u>
- <u>The Roadmap from Humanitarian Response to</u> <u>Post-conflict resilience and Recovery –</u> <u>Focus on Ukraine</u>





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### RESOURCES

- Ukraine Business Compact The Business Compact gives leading international businesses a platform to show their support for Ukraine's recovery and its drive to modernize, build a resilient and agile economy and emerge from war as a stronger and more prosperous state.
- <u>Ukraine Energy Initiatives</u> Wide coalition of international stakeholders united in the desire to accelerate the recovery and development of the Ukrainian energy sector.
- DREAM Platform DREAM collects, organizes and publishes open data across all stages of reconstruction projects in real time, implementing the highest standards of transparency and accountability.
- EBRD in Ukraine
- ICLEI Ukraine Roadmap The ICLEI Ukraine Roadmap for Post-conflict Resilience and Recovery operates as an overarching framework for supporting Ukrainian cities in achieving their sustainability and post-war recovery targets.
- MCR2030 Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) is a unique cross-stakeholder initiative for improving local resilience through advocacy, sharing knowledge and experiences, establishing mutually reinforcing city-to-city learning networks, injecting technical expertise, connecting multiple layers of government and building partnerships.
- ICLEI Membership
- Local Green Deals: A Blueprint for Action
- ICLEI-CDP Track
- Mayors for Economic Growth (M4EG) The Mayors for Economic Growth (M4EG) is a joint EU & UNDP initiative to support Mayors and their teams in the Eastern Partnership region. The M4EG offers resources, network and learning opportunities to explore new trajectories of growth, to make towns and cities more attractive for people and investment.
- U\_CAN Project: Ukraine towards Carbon Neutrality

   U\_CAN aims to bridge knowledge and expertise gaps in Ukrainian cities to help them achieve climate neutrality by 2050. This involves strategic cooperation between EU expert partners and Ukrainian stakeholders to develop comprehensive green strategies and enhance local capacities.
- The cities of Lviv, Ilvano-Frankivsk, Zhytomyr, Khmelnytskyi, Kyiv and Vinnytsia are developing pilot cases in this project. <u>www.ucan-ukraine.eu</u>

### CONCLUSION

## LOOKING AHEAD: A CALL TO ACTION

The urgency for faster, more decisive action has never been greater. The **11<sup>th</sup> edition of EURESFO** underscored the strong commitment of European cities and regions to resilience, showcasing progress and innovative solutions and fostering discussions around common challenges. A key outcome was the launch of the European Resilience Partnership, reinforcing collaboration on resilience in the continent. The established Partnership acts as a coordination body among the main actors working on local and regional resilience in Europe and aims to create synergies among existing initiatives, while raising awareness on needs and challenges.

Since 2013, EURESFO continues to evolve as a vital platform for exchange, growing in impact each year. Notably, over 200 million people now live in cities actively committed to climate adaptation, while synergies between EU climate missions continue to strengthen.

Despite these advancements, the escalating climate crisis remains an urgent challenge. Global temperatures continue to rise at an unprecedented pace, and dozens of cities worldwide are already facing extreme heat conditions. The extreme rainfall and flooding in Valencia in October 2024, serve as a stark reminder of the devastating impacts already unfolding.

All this highlights the importance of EURESFO as a meaningful platform of exchange. We are committed to continuing this work and collectively respond to this call for action at the next EURESFO 2025 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.



## 26 - 28 June 2024

Valencia, Spain

