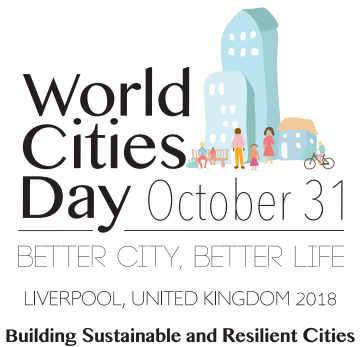


Building sustainable and resilient cities



As an outcome of the Shanghai International Expo 2010, the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 68/239 of 27 December 2013, designated every 31st October as World Cities Day. World Cities Day seeks to promote global interest in urbanisation and engender international cooperation to address the challenges of urbanisation, thereby contributing to sustainable urban development.

Over half the world's population live in cities and with this figure expected to increase by three billion by 2050, urbanisation is one of the most significant challenges faced by the world today. Cities are, and will remain, centres for economic growth and development but this brings with it the multifaceted challenges of demographic, environmental, economic, social and spatial flux.

As the world's population becomes ever more concentrated within urban areas, they are the most vulnerable to the severe shocks and stresses of rapid global change. Whether, natural or man-made, it is ever more urgent that cities begin to develop their responses to these challenges and ensure their future resilience. Building resilience towards these challenges is a pre-requisite for improving the city's development trajectory and the well-being of its people.

GLOBAL COMMITMENTS FOR ACTION

The United Nation's Agenda for Sustainable Development, and its dedicated goal on cities "*to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*" puts sustainable urbanisation as one of the key priorities of the global agendas for development.

This was further recognised with the adoption of the new Urban Agenda by the United Nations in 2016. This has seen national and local governments around the world embark on a transformative path towards more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities.

By engaging all stakeholders, cities have the ability to harness transformational change and improve the life of their inhabitants. However, in many contexts cities lack the capacity to enact this change. Ensuring cities have the capacity, capability and tools to address the challenges posed by urbanisation has become a pressing global issue.





WORLD CITIES DAY 2018

While the general theme of World Cities Day is *Better City, Better Life*, each year, a different sub-theme is selected to promote urbanisation successes or address specific challenges. For 2018, the sub-theme is *Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities*. World Cities Day 2018 will be the culmination of Urban October, a month that starts with the World Habitat Day and allows all stakeholders to reflect on the urban future and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

The main goals of the World Cities Day are:

- Increase awareness on sustainable urban development and urban transformations;
- Promote knowledge sharing on urban solutions implemented at the local level; and
- Contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

World Cities Day 2018 will be hosted by the city of Liverpool and the event is being jointly organised by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Shanghai People's Government and Liverpool Vision on behalf of Liverpool City Council.

With stakeholders from around the world attending, it offers the opportunity to foster international relations and provides a platform for knowledge exchange. An exciting and insightful agenda has been developed to help cities understand, debate and address the various challenges posed by urbanisation and creating resilient cities.

With a truly global audience sharing best practice, this prestigious event will be at the forefront of the resilience debate. A mixture of panel sessions and seminars will share urbanisation successes and provide opportunities for cities to equip themselves with the tools required to ensure they can move towards becoming resilient.

The agenda has been developed to provide the opportunity to examine all the major challenges to resilience; including economic, environmental, cultural, civic and disaster mitigation and recovery. Case studies will reflect these resilience themes, providing lessons of best practice from the full resilience 'eco-system' and providing learning points for all global cities.



Mayor of
Liverpool

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

世界
城市日 10月31日
城市，让生活更美好
建设可持续和韧性城市