

## Fact Sheet

### Joint Connective Cities & GIDRM Working Group: Risk informed urban development

#### Background

European cities have experienced flooding many times in history, however, the scale and numbers of losses of life from the flooding in July 2021 have been devastating. Hitting the long safely imagined temperate zone, the events reveal the importance and urgency of discussing measures to enhance disaster preparedness, strengthen resilience and enhancing preparedness in cities around the globe. The need of cities worldwide to adapt to a changing climate and an increasing number of extreme weather events is more prominent than ever to save lives, reduce economic losses and protect critical infrastructure. The complex nature of risks, ambiguity and uncertainties have to be considered in planning and financing processes of different sectors. The competences and institutional capacities of policy- and decision-makers need to be strengthened to address risks.

Connective Cities is a cooperation between Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), Engagement Global – Service Agency Communities in One World, and the German Association of Cities (Deutscher Städtetag). The Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM) of GIZ, aims at strengthening capacities and skills of selected decision-makers and regional organisations in Southern Africa, Asia and Latin America to enable the use risk-informed development. Both Connective Cities and the GIDRM are supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Through its *Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development*, the international cities platform Connective Cities supports a systematic and application-oriented exchange of information and experience about urban solution options between urban actors and practitioners from politics, administration, industry, science and civil society in five regions of the world: Sub Saharan Africa, the Middle East and Maghreb, South Eastern Europe/South Caucasus, Asia, Latin America as well as Germany. As part of this year's initiatives, the joint GIDRM and Connective Cities working group on *Risk informed urban development* will be established for cities to jointly work on their challenges and project ideas regarding flood risk management.

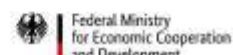
#### Objective

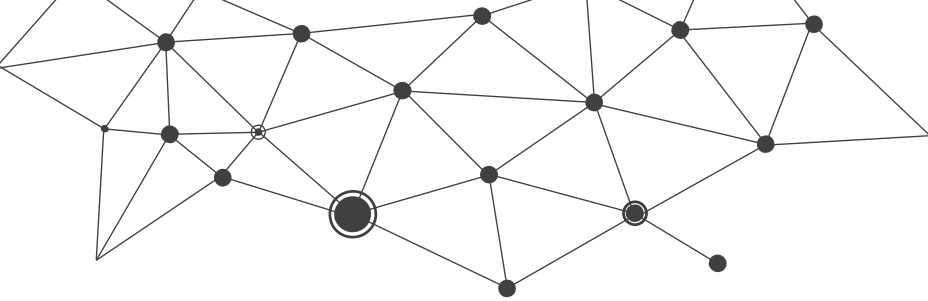
The objective of the joint GIDRM and Connective Cities working group on risk informed urban development is to support cities from low- and middle-income countries to jointly work towards handing in their expressions of interest for the *City Climate Finance Gap Fund*. During the process, they will be supported by peer-to-peer exchanges, learning from good practice examples, and profiting from individual experts' advice. Specific topics of the project ideas may include public sensitization for disaster management, risk assessment and communication, risk governance, as well as other scopes depending on the participating cities' needs.

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## Elements

The main elements of the working group's activities will be:

- Introduction to the City Climate Finance Gap Fund and what it offers
- Peer-to-peer consultations and joint work on challenges, project ideas and expressions of interest with peers
- Good practice examples of international cities working on risk management
- Individual expert's advice on project ideas and expressions of interest
- Strong cooperation with UNFCCC, UNDRR and the WorldBank
- Different capacity building measures to improve participants' skills and understanding of risk informed urban development (*tbd*)

## Participants

The main target group for the working group are urban representatives, employees of a municipality or urban practitioners from NGOs, universities, research unities, or others working directly with cities administrations in a low- and middle-income countries. A will to work towards a flood risk informed urban development and to apply for the City Climate Finance Gap Fund or support others to apply is a further requirement to participate in the working group.

## Platform

The working groups' activities will be hosted virtually on the Connective Cities Platform: [About Risk informed urban development | GI:DRM and Connective Cities Network \(connective-cities.net\)](#). The online platform, which is also used as a basis for virtual events, was created for the virtual presence of the Connective Cities Community of Practice. It opens opportunities for discussion and collegial consultation at the global level and strengthens demand-oriented identification of themes.

## Meetings

The first working group meeting is taking place on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 2p.m. CET (Berlin time). To register for the event and receive updates on the agenda please follow: [First Working Group Meeting: Risk Informed Urban Development | GI:DRM and Connective Cities Network \(connective-cities.net\)](#). Further meetings will be scheduled according to the group members' needs and availability.

## Contact

For any further requests feel free to always contact us:

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