

The Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient Checklist

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1. **Organize for disaster resilience.** Put in place an organizational structure with strong leadership and clarity of coordination and responsibilities. Establish Disaster Risk Reduction as a key consideration throughout the City Vision or Strategic Plan.
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2. **Identify, understand, and use current and future risk scenarios.** Maintain up-to-date data on hazards and vulnerabilities. Prepare risk assessments based on participatory processes and use these as the basis for urban development of the city and its long-term goals
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3. **Strengthen financial capacity for resilience.** Prepare a financial plan by understanding and assessing the significant economic impacts of disasters. Identify and develop financial mechanisms to support resilience activities.
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4. **Pursue resilient urban development and design.** Carry out risk-informed urban planning and development based on up-to-date risk assessments with particular focus on vulnerable populations. Apply and enforce realistic, risk compliant building regulations
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5. **Safeguard natural buffers to enhance the protective functions offered by natural ecosystems.** Identify, protect and monitor natural ecosystems within and outside the city geography and enhance their use for risk reduction
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6. **Strengthen institutional capacity for resilience.** Understand institutional capacity for risk reduction including those of governmental organizations; private sector; academia, professional and civil society organizations, to help detect and strengthen gaps in resilience capacity.
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7. **Understand and strengthen societal capacity for resilience.** Identify and strengthen social connectedness and culture of mutual help through community and government initiatives and multimedia channels of communication.
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8. **Increase infrastructure resilience.** Develop a strategy for the protection, and update the maintenance of critical infrastructure. Develop risk mitigating infrastructure where needed.
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9. **Ensure effective preparedness and disaster response.** Create and regularly update preparedness plans, connect with early warning systems and increase emergency and management capacities.
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10. **Expedite recovery and build back better.** Establish post-disaster recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction strategies that are aligned with long-term planning and providing an improved city environment.