Resilient Cities and Human Settlements
Introduction

Urban Resilience Coordinator: Martyn Clark

urban resilience: the capacity of a city’s systems, businesses, institutions, communities, and individuals to survive, adapt, and grow, no matter what chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience
Resilient Cities & Human Settlements

SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

EO offers the opportunity to monitor and address multidimensional challenge of urban sustainability, including at the local-level

Leave no-one behind;
Ensure sustainable and inclusive urban economies;
Ensure environmental sustainability

4th Engagement Priority
**RCHS: to date**

- **2019 - 2020**
  - Letter from UN-Habitat requesting GEO assistance
  - Proposed to ExCom to make urban resilience a fourth engagement priority

- **2021**
  - Engagement plan* on urban resilience presented to ExCom
  - GEO-17 Plenary – Approval of Resilient Cities and Human Settlements as a fourth engagement priority

- **2022**
  - Recruitment of a GEO Secretariat RCHS Coordinator
  - Call for nominations to the RCHS-WG

- **2023**
  - First meeting of the RCHS-WG
  - Draft RCHS-WG action plan presented to Programme Board

---

**RCHS Engagement Plan**

- *formulate how EO can assist implementation and monitoring of the NUA*
- *engage cities and other stakeholders to understand their needs*
- *Exploit existing and develop new EO-based tools and services to support sustainable urbanization;*
- *Provide greater visibility to ongoing GEO WP activities relevant to urban resilience and encourage new activities to address identified gaps;*
- *Collaborate with those working on other GEO engagement priorities*
- *Pursue opportunities with Regional GEOs to develop projects addressing urban resilience in line with their existing agendas;*
- *Develop the appropriate messages, language, and tools to communicate what the GEO community has to offer to cities and other stakeholders.*
Looking forward: proposed RCHS actions

• Further activation of RCHS working group
  • Building on URSG and then survey of usefulness and impact of WGs across GEO...
  • Convene working group, revisit terms of reference
  • Build out membership – cities, city networks
  • Developing, activating RCHS workplan

• Integration, alignment, streamlining of work programme activities
  • Visibility, alignment of urban-themed activities
  • Coordinating, integrating across GEO engagement priorities
  • Matching supply of EO to demand from users (demonstrate success stories, capture use-cases)

• Attracting additional resources
  • New partnerships, memberships that put cities at the centre
  • Incubator model - Heat & Health
Heat & Health Incubator

**Objective:** To build a global service to map heat across time scales and provide tools for users to understand and act to mitigate evolving health risks.

**Suggested design elements:**
- Outcome 1: Develop seasonal heat outlooks for decision making
- Outcome 2: (Community) Heat and Social Vulnerability Mapping
- Outcome 3: ‘Platform’ development – data, products, services, support?

**Key questions:**
- Gap analysis, clarify need and demand for this at city-level – who are the users, what needs are we looking to respond to?
- How to make accessible to a broad user-base: stepped approach that responds to different levels of technical capacity, data availability, resources etc.
- Identify linkages across existing GEO work programme activities – urban, health, but also DRR, climate change, SDGS, cap. development etc.
- Attracting additional resources

**Next steps:**
- Review concept note (Feb 2023)
- Feedback, engagement GWP community