



Citizens and cities facing new hazards and threats

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Smart and Resilient Cities

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Promoting Resilience to Shocks and Stresses in Secondary Cities

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- World Bank (ret.)
- Rapid Assessment, Planning and Implementation for Development



Why bother about secondary cities?

- Urban areas are critical for both the global and local environment
- The world is rapidly urbanizing
- Growing concentration of economic activity in cities
- Increase in expected losses in the urban environment
- Differential impact on the poor
- Special vulnerability of secondary cities

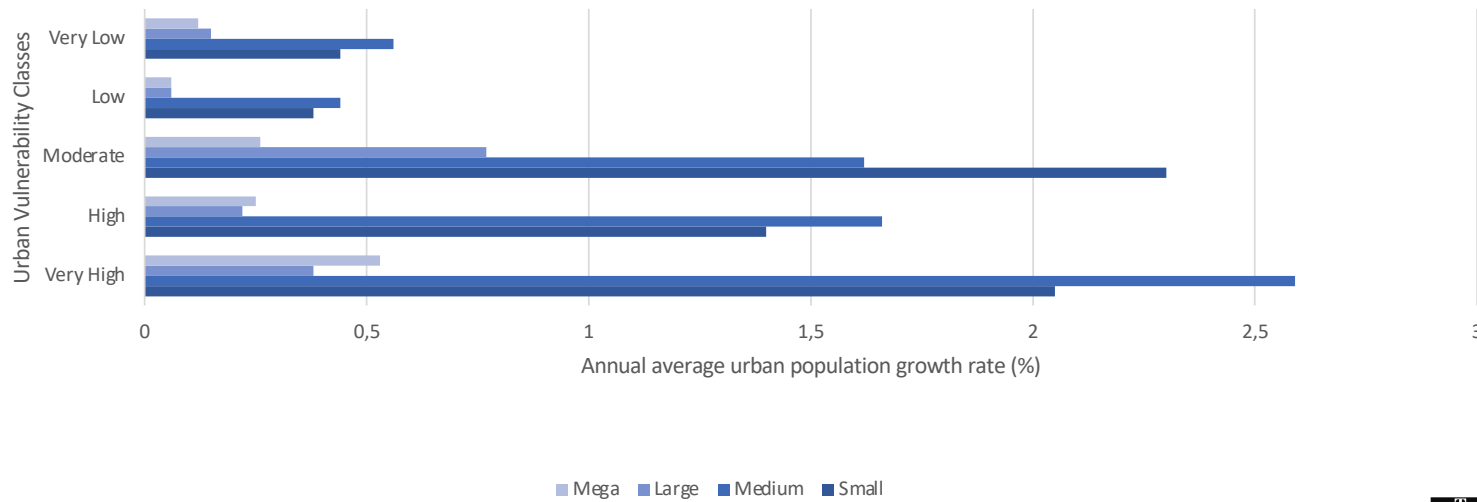
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Greater vulnerability of secondary cities

Growth Rates According to Relative Vulnerability and Proportion of Urban Population (2000-15)



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Urban resilience in the time of COVID-19

- Many definitions; similar to “sustainable development” 30 years ago
- LCD: the ability of a system to maintain or quickly return to desired functionality following a disruptive event
- Resilience goes well beyond disasters and climate change
- COVID-29 features and impacts:
 - National and international consequences (not localized)
 - Health, economic performance and supply chain effects
 - Positive effects on GHG emissions and urban air quality
 - Short vs. long-term consequences

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Wide range of shocks and stresses

Natural	Technological	Socio-economic
Drought	Building collapse	Business discontinuity
Earthquake	Chemical Spills	Corruption
Epidemic/pandemic	Cyber threats	Demographic Shifts
Extreme temperature	Explosion	Economic crisis
Flooding	Fire	High unemployment
Insect infestation	Gas leak	Labour strike/unrest
Severe storm	Industrial accident	Massacre
Tsunami	Oil Spill	Political conflict
Volcanic eruption	Pollution event	Social conflict
Wildfire	Poisoning	Supply crises (e.g. food, water, housing, energy, etc.)
	Radiation	Terrorism
	Transport accident	War
	System breakdown (e.g. ICT, wash, energy, health, etc.)	

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Options for building forward: Preparedness

- Develop and/or update emergency plans
- Identify and focus on the most vulnerable
- Prepare appropriate policy and legal instruments
- Mobilize and stock resources
- Improve coordination and communications
- Develop monitoring and evaluation system

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Options for building forward: Capacity

- Information about key threats and potential impacts
 - Tools
 - Prioritization
- Municipal capacity for:
 - Emergency response
 - Planning for resilient recovery
 - Longer-term recovery management
- Coordination
 - Institutional arrangements (governmental and non-governmental)
 - With regional, national and international actors

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Options for building forward: Infrastructure

- US\$1 trillion needed each year in developing countries
- Opportunity to incorporate risk resilience
- Need to upgrade existing infrastructure as well
- Price tag is 9-27% of initial investment costs
- Benefits, e.g. avoided losses, are 4-7 times greater
- Potential for green infrastructure
 - Coastal protection
 - Watershed management
 - Flood control

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Options for building forward: Finance

- Constraints on mobilizing capital for resilience investments:
 - Lack of government capacity
 - Lack of private sector confidence
 - Challenges in project preparation
 - Financing challenges
- Importance of mobilizing private capital to complement public funds
- Institutional investors and sovereign wealth funds are showing a growing interest in green bonds and infrastructure investment

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Options for building forward: Sustainability

- Post-COVID recovery is tremendous opportunity to pursue more sustainable development pathways by:
 - Low-carbon growth
 - Nature-based solutions
 - Circular development
 - More inclusive development
- The recovery process should
 - Consider equity and vulnerability
 - Enhance capacity to respond to future shocks and stresses
 - Take a systemic, not sectoral, approach that considers climate change

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