

The Urban Collaboration Platform

# RCRC Movement: Building resilience in cities

June 2017



The RCRC Movement is at the forefront of assisting communities facing the growing risk of disasters, protracted crises and day to day stresses in cities. RCRC national societies are increasingly diversifying their programs and partnerships and innovating to better understand and respond to complexities of urban risk and vulnerabilities. In addition, the ICRC has been implementing a wide range of programs in urban areas where armed conflict has become protracted.

The RCRC has also participated and influenced the outcome of major global events such as World Urban Forum and **Habitat 3**, particularly in shaping the [New Urban Agenda](#) to emphasize the impacts of disasters and crises on the most vulnerable urban communities. Recently the IFRC Secretariat and the American Red Cross have launched the **Urban Collaboration Platform (UCP)** as an informal network that aims to help Movement partners *to be better informed, better connected and better engaged in understanding and working in urban contexts*. The UCP strives to help RCRC National Societies advance and scale their resilience activities in urban contexts, learn from each other and to contribute to wider collective goals, such as the 1 Billion Coalition for Resilience (IBC), by mobilizing the potential of collective networks and resources in cities.

/ Our battle for  
sustainability will  
the lost or won in  
cities /

### *3 reasons why urban resilience matters to the RCRC:*

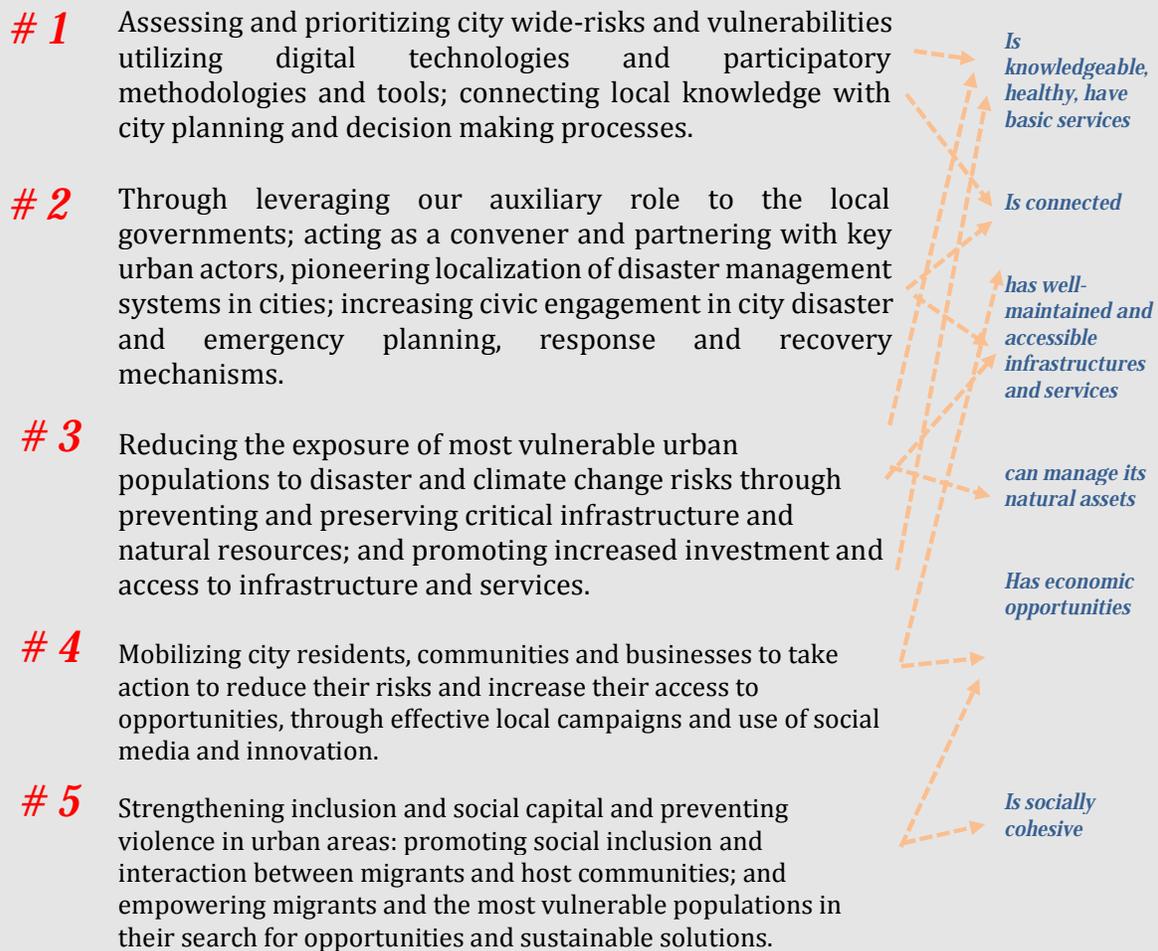
- # 1 The adverse impacts of disasters, climate change and growing conflicts are felt most acutely in cities, putting greater number of people at risk, reversing hard-won development and recovery gains and forcing tens of millions of urban residents face increased vulnerabilities.
- # 2 The amount of investment needed for urban resilience calls for significantly increased community engagement, strengthening of social capital and leveraging of local resources in addition to improving infrastructure and services by governments and development organizations.
- # 3 Cities are highly dense and diverse connection hubs. Successes in community resilience have a higher chance of being replicated thus enabling scaling up and increasing the visibility and value added of RCRC in cities and towns.

## 5 areas where RCRC Movement can make a difference in cities:

The IFRC Road Map to Community Resilience, which outlines the characteristics of resilient communities, already provides the holistic approach needed for urban resilience. The outcomes of several urban focused workshops with participation from RCRC national societies from all regions and a growing number of urban programs and case studies indicate five main areas where RCRC can have the greatest impact on improving the resilience of disadvantaged urban populations.

While the design, scope and implementation modalities of urban resilience programs will be different in each country and perhaps each city, efforts should be made to ensure that future programs draw from the range of existing learning and that program outcomes are counted and connected.

IFRC's role as Shelter Cluster lead reinforced by the auxiliary role of the national societies provides tremendous opportunities to influence inclusive and sustainable post-disaster reconstruction and recovery utilizing settlement/neighbourhood based approaches.



### *Examples of urban programmes of the Movement 2014/2017:*

#### *# 1.*

Urban Flood Preparedness and digital mapping of Dar-Es-Salaam, *Tanzania RC with support from American RC.*

Greater Jakarta Urban Disaster Risk and Climate Risk Management Project, *Indonesia (PMI) with support from American RC.*

Urban Risk and Disaster management programme, *Iranian RC, developed in 5 pilot cities worldwide.*

#### *# 2.*

Nairobi Urban Resilience Programme, *Kenya RC with support from Danish RC.*

The Strengthening Urban Resilience and Engagement (SURE) in Kathmandu Valley, *Nepal RC with support from British RC.*

Building city coalitions to address climate risks in coastal cities, *Indonesia (PMI), Vanuatu RC with support from American RC.*

#### *# 3*

Urban Services through Protracted Armed Conflict (*ICRC, ongoing engagement on programs, campaigns*).

#### *# 4*

Urban Cash Transfer Programme, *Argentina RC*

#### *# 5*

Working with landless and stateless: Land and Property Rights in Ecuador, after the 2015 Earthquake, *Ecuador Red Cross with support from IFRC;*

Supporting stateless Shan people in Thailand, *Thai Red Cross*

Housing and neighborhood upgrading through participatory approach in Amman, Jordan, *Jordanian Red Cross with French red Cross*



For More Information on the Urban Collaboration Platform

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