



## SESSION DESCRIPTION

# H1 Innovative Resilience Planning in Africa's Growing Cities

## Panel discussion

**Date:** Wednesday, 10 June 2015

**Time:** 14:00-15:30

**Rooms:** S25-26

**Language:** English

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**Organized by:** Cities Alliance

## OBJECTIVE

While 'resilient cities' have been promoted as a desirable goal within a variety of policy contexts, critical questions concerning the extent to which cities and local governments can address the challenges of environmental shocks and socio economic stresses remain unanswered. Building on a diverse multilevel governance perspective, the Cities Alliance panel session 'Innovative Resilience Planning in Africa's Growing Cities' examines the practical struggles and successes which take place in fast growing cities in Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique and Uganda to secure a more sustainable future. Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique and Uganda provide a compelling cross section of the types of countries that will witness the most dramatic increases in their population and city size of the next three decades. The decisions taken (and not taken) by their cities now will have long term national impacts. Insight into the opportunities and contradictions which emerge in the interpretation and implementation of city resilience across a range of scales and spheres of action will be presented. These lessons were unpacked to help inform innovative approaches to future resilience planning in Africa's cities supporting the implementation of the Post 2015 development agenda.

## OUTCOMES

The Cities Alliance panel session on 'Innovative Resilience Planning in Africa's Growing Cities' convened city officials from fast growing African cities who are on the front lines of multiple climate risks, acute shocks and chronic socio economic stresses. Through an integrated approach which catalyzes community, city and national government actions, participants had the first hand opportunity to engage with city officials on the latest thinking on how developing cities can become more resilient and equitable in a globalized world.

The audience had the unique opportunity to learn from developing cities in Africa on practical, measurable and verifiable approaches in developing a framework, diagnostic tools and evidence base to not only improve city resilience against environmental shocks but also assist in securing inclusive economic growth and active citizenship. This provided evidence based policy implications for designing 'fit for purpose' technical assistance and capital investment programs.

## METHODOLOGY

The Panel followed an interactive format connecting the audience with city resilience planning, policy development and action in selected African cities:



1. Facilitator introduced and welcomes representative from Cities Alliance Secretariat who provides an overview of what city resilience means to the global partnership (5 min)
2. Facilitator introduced the city panelists from Uganda, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Ghana (5 min)
3. Presentation from Ugandan panelist (10 min)
4. Presentation from Ghanaian panelist (10 min)
5. Presentation from Mozambican panelist (10 min)
6. Presentation from Ethiopian panelist (10 min)
7. Facilitated Q&A discussion with audience on key successes, innovations, challenges and lessons learned in designing and implementing integrated resilience strategies and plans (35 min)
8. Summary remarks from Facilitator and Cities Alliance Secretariat (5 min)

## CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Simon Ratcliffe, Energy Advisor, United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID)*

Panelist *Mr. Yitbarek Mengiste, Head of the Minister's Advisory Office, Ministry of Urban Development, Housing and Construction, Government of Ethiopia*

Panelist *Ms. Lydia Esther Adjeley Sackey-Addy, Director of Budget and Rating Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA), Ghana*

Panelist *Mr. Rui Chong Saw, President, Nacala Porto Municipality, Mozambique*

Panelist *Ms. Sarah Nandudu, Vice Chair Person, National Slum Dwellers Federation, Kampala, Uganda*