

# DE-US Webinar

## UCCRN's *Third Assessment Report on Climate Change and Cities* ARC3.3

**UCCRN**  
Urban Climate Change Research Network  
The Climate School | Columbia University



**Maria Dombrov**  
UCCRN Global Coordinator  
May 31, 2024

# Cities and Climate Change Knowledge for All

**UCCRN's mission is to provide knowledge that enables cities and their metropolitan regions to lead on climate change mitigation and adaptation, with a focus on action, equity, and sustainable development**

Over **2,000 scientists, scholars, and expert practitioners** spanning a broad range of expertise

**100s of low, middle, and high-income cities** around the world

Formed in **2007** at the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> C40 Summit, held in New York



*UCCRN Climate Change and Cities Expert Meeting  
Pontifical Catholic University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2024*

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# UCCRN REGIONAL HUBS

Our fifteen Regional Hubs, led by Hub Directors, facilitate the transfer of climate change knowledge into “on-the-ground” city action. The Hubs operate at the continental scale, working with relevant local, regional, and international partners.



More information at [uccrn.ei.columbia.edu/](http://uccrn.ei.columbia.edu/)

## NEW YORK SECRETARIAT

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William Solecki  
Maria Dombrov  
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Jaad Benhallam

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Martin Lehmann  
Sarah Lund

## AHMEDABAD

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## BOGOTÁ

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## CAIRO

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## DURBAN

Sean O’Donoghue

## KANO

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## MELBOURNE/CANBERRA/ LISMORE/WELLINGTON

Kate Auty  
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Dave Kendal  
Barbara Norman  
Maibritt Pedersen Zari

## MEXICO CITY

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## NASSAU

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## PARIS/NAPLES

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Mattia Leone  
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## PHILADELPHIA

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## RIO DE JANEIRO

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Andrea Santos  
Clélia Mello Silva

## SÃO PAULO

Oswaldo Lucon

## SHANGHAI

Ruishan Chen  
Min Liu

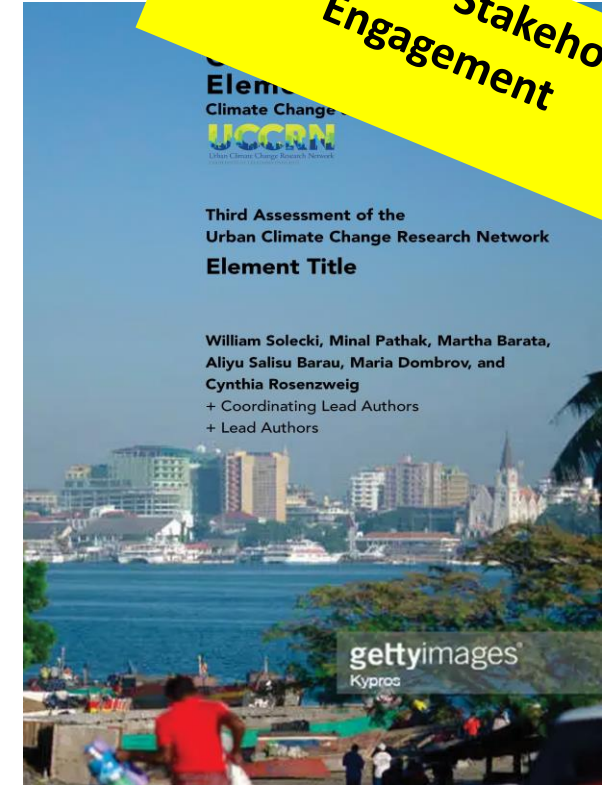
## TEL AVIV

Orli Ronen

# Third Assessment Report on Climate Change and Cities

	ARC3.3 Element Title	Estimated Digital Publication
1.	Learning from COVID-19 for Climate-Ready Urban Transformation	August 2024
2.	Justice for Climate-Resilient Development in Climate-Stressed Cities	September 2024
3.	Architecture, Urban Design, and Planning for Climate Action	November 2024
4.	Urban Climate Science: Knowledge Base for City Risk Assessments and Resilience	December 2024
5.	Governance, Enabling Policy Environments, and Just Transitions	February 2025
6.	Financing Climate Action	March 2025
7.	Infrastructure for a Net Zero and Resilient Future for Cities	April 2025
8.	Nature-Based Solutions: Enhancing Capacity to Respond to Shocks and Stresses	May 2025
9.	Circular Economies for Cities	June 2025
10.	Data and the Role of Technology	January 2026
11.	Perception, Communication, and Behavior	January 2026
12.	Health and Well-Being	January 2026

**Outreach + Stakeholder Engagement**



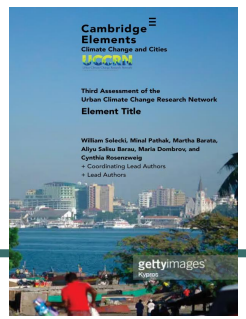
**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS



## ARC3.3 Element Statistics and Author Demographics

- 300+ international authors
- 54% of authors identify as female
- 54% of authors are from Africa, Asia, Latin America, or Oceania
- 2,600+ references

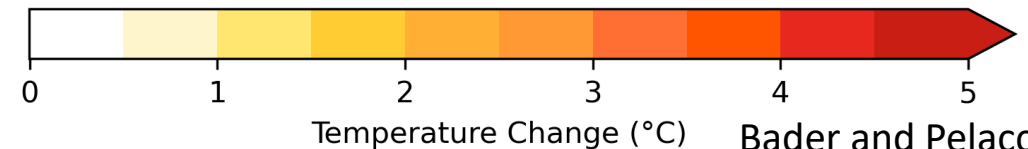
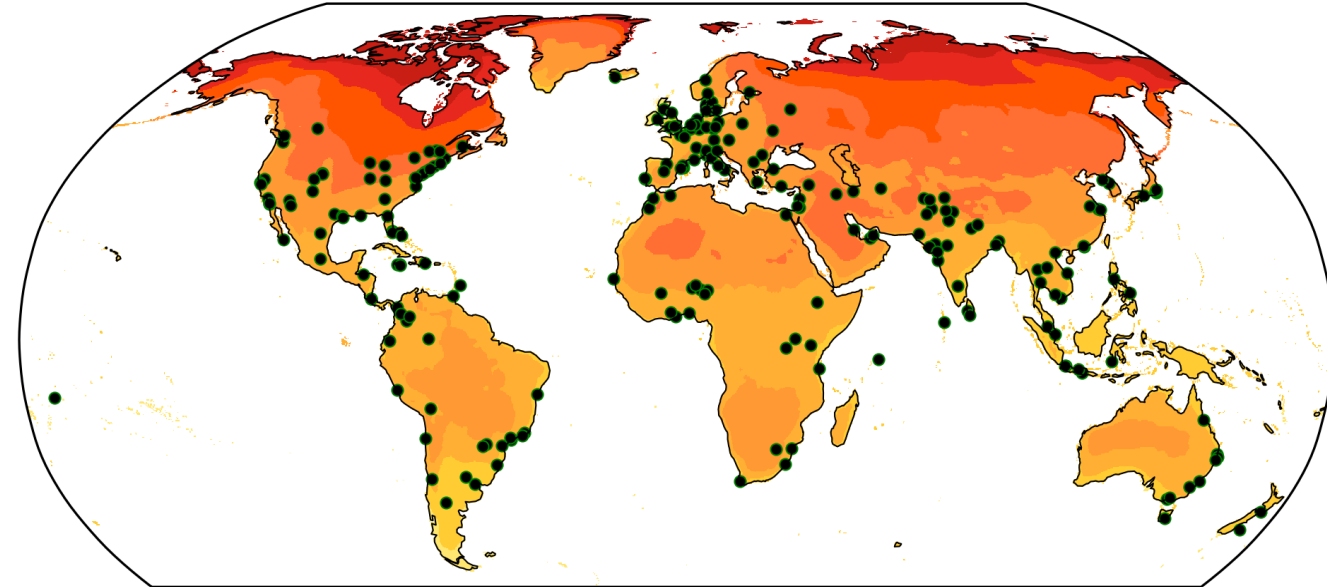
# Urban Climate Science: Knowledge Base for City Risk Assessments and Resilience



## Major Findings

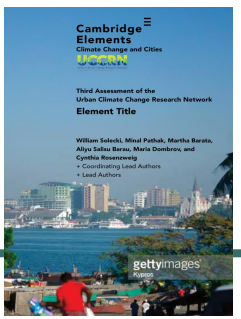
- Cities are projected to experience between **1.5 and 4.0 rise in temperature by the 2080s**, in addition to urban heat island effects, with greatest warming in cities in the high latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere.
- Projections for nearly **110 ARC3.3 coastal cities** show rising sea levels through the end of the century ranging from **27 to 75 cm by the 2080s**.

Temperature Change 2080s under SSP2-4.5



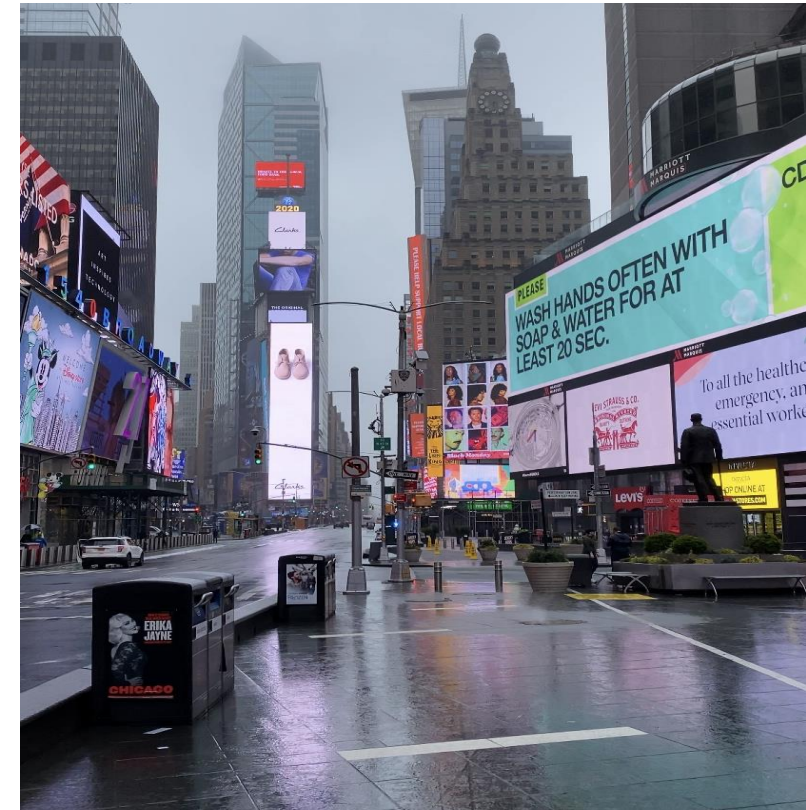
Bader and Pelaccio, 2024  
ARC3.3 Urban Climate  
Science (in preparation)

# Learning from COVID-19 for Climate-Ready Urban Transformation



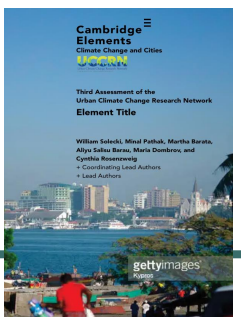
## Major Findings

- From 2020 to 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic was urban in nature, with **95% of total reported cases in cities**, given rapidly accelerating urbanization.
- Urban density is often considered as a key indicator of social vulnerability to disasters, but there is **not strong evidence to show that urban population density played role in COVID-19 propagation** in cities.
- In regard to governance during COVID-19, some countries experienced **centralization of decision-making**, making cities dependent on national governments for rules, protocols, equipment, financing, and human resources; **other countries and cities formed multi-scale partnerships**.



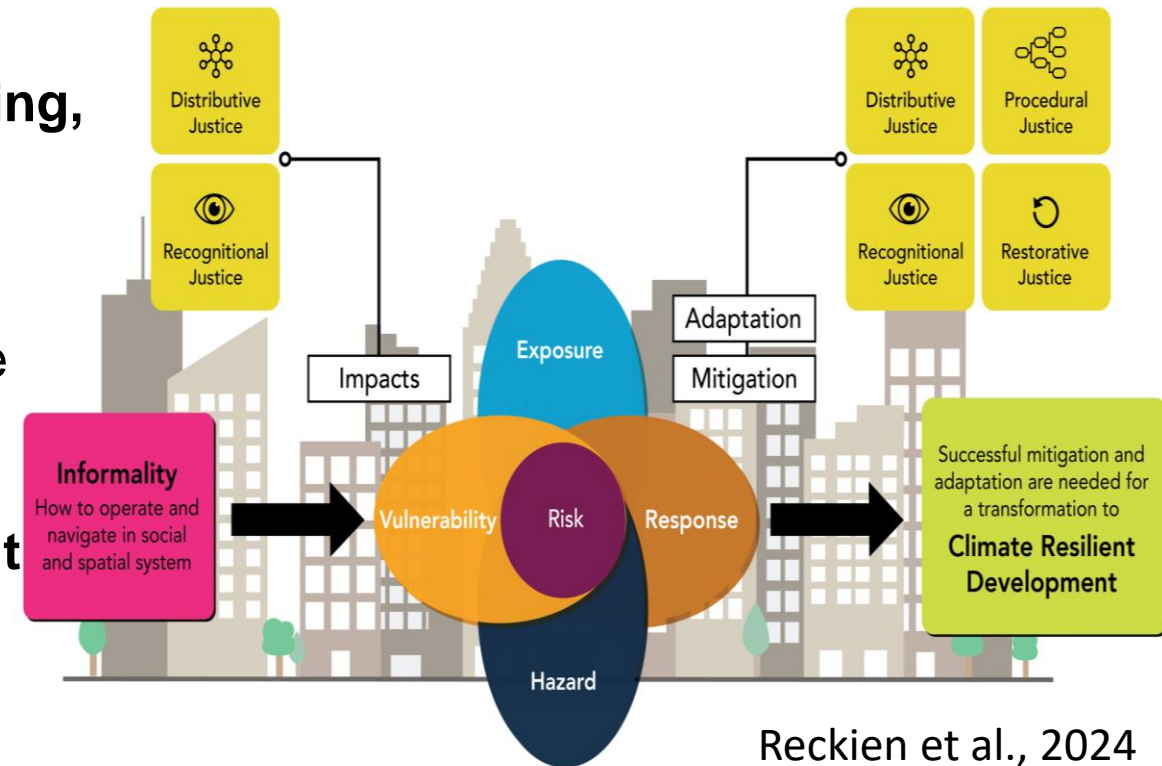
Times Square March 2020, Erik Mencos

# Equity, Informality, and Development in Climate-Stressed Cities



## Major Findings

- **Responses** to climate events conditioned by **inequitable distribution of impacts, decision-making, and outcomes.**
- **33% of all deaths due to disasters in cities are caused by climate-induced events** such as riverine floods, heatwaves, and landslides.
- **Most monetary damage is caused by flooding, but most affected people are by cold waves and drought.**



Reckien et al., 2024  
ARC3.3 Justice (in preparation).



# Breaking Roadblocks that Stymie City Climate Action

**Climate action in cities** has long been **stymied due to roadblocks** caused by **siloed governance, inefficient financing, and inequitable access to knowledge.**

To break this multi-faceted impasse the latest **urban physical, biophysical, and social knowledge** must be **integrated** with cutting-edge **technology.**

Ways forward are to empower equitable **multi-level flows of innovative governance, meaningful financing, and actionable knowledge** across and between **neighborhoods, nation-states, and global organizations.**



Urban Climate Change Research Network  
EARTH INSTITUTE | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Our mission is to provide the knowledge that enables cities and their metropolitan regions to lead on climate change mitigation and adaptation, with a focus on action, equity, and sustainable development

### **Third Assessment Report on Climate Change and Cities (ARC3.3) – Special Report Series**

Published by  CAMBRIDGE (2023-2025)

- Architecture, Urban Design, and Planning\*
- Circular Economies for Cities\*
- COVID-19, Cities, and Climate Change\*
- Equity, Development, and Informality\*
- Financing Climate Action\*
- Governance, Enabling Policy Environments, Just Transitions\*
- Interdependent Infrastructure Systems\*
- Nature-based Solutions\*
- Urban Climate Science\*
- Data and the Role of Technology\*\*
- Health and Climate Change\*\*
- Perception, Communication, and Behavior\*\*

\*in preparation  
\*\*in development

### **About UCCRN**

Over **2,000** scientists, scholars, and expert practitioners spanning a broad range of expertise

Members located in more than **150** developed and developing cities

**15** Hubs around the world that conduct climate action research at the regional level

Formed in **2007** during the C40 Summit in New York

Visit [uccrn.ei.columbia.edu](http://uccrn.ei.columbia.edu) to download the *Second Assessment Report on Climate Change and Cities*

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