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Ecole Nationale d'Administration de Tunis  
المدرسة الوطنية للإدارة بتونس



**IIAS**  
International Institute  
of Administrative Sciences

# 2018 Congress

of the  
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE  
OF ADMINISTRATIVE  
SCIENCES

Tunis, Tunisia, 25-29 June

## Administrative Resilience

### CALL-FOR-PAPERS



## Building Resilience for Urban Disaster Management

Chair:

**Amitava Basu**

Member, Governing Council, Center for Environmental Management &  
Participatory Development, New Delhi, India

[mitaamartya@gmail.com](mailto:mitaamartya@gmail.com)

Across the world and especially in the developing countries, there is rapid growth of urbanization. It is recognized that the urban sector is the engine of economic growth. However, rapid urbanization is leading to unplanned growth, inadequate infrastructure, poor service delivery, sprawling slums, and deteriorating quality of city life. Many of the cities are facing risks – be they natural or human made.

Cities are developed without regard to environmental safeguards. There is also huge migration from rural to urban areas. Physical and social changes are leading to evolving profile of risks of the cities. One of the main disruptions affecting countries in recent times from rapid urbanization in haphazard manner is natural disaster. To combat the resultant situation there is impending need to build capacity of the administrative system to take effective action to overcome the impact caused by uncertain and changing climate conditions.

Urban institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory frameworks need to be reviewed to address the challenges posed by rapid urbanization, population growth, climate change and disaster risks; and to build public awareness to participate in combating the adversities.

Understanding the challenges of the rising trend of urbanization covering all-encompassing governance approaches at the local, and public and private levels are necessary to efficiently manage the changing city risk paradigm. Various tools and mechanisms are developed by the local governments to better link administrative services to enhance cross-cutting approaches to financing and decision-making, and improved formal and informal communication among all stakeholders to ensure preventive and responsive measures that are essential for cities' resilience to disasters.

To address the current situation and for better future protection it requires as part of good governance:

- a) Organizational development, which includes departmental collaboration, well-defined organizational relationships and responsibilities, and clear lines of communication with all key stakeholders;
- b) Internalization of learning from the past experience that covers analysis of disruptive events and incorporation into Risk Management Plans and Contingency Plans; and
- c) Planning and implementing actions depending on the nature of the event or consequence.

It is in this backdrop, papers are invited on the following sub-themes in the broader context of the general conference theme to explain and demonstrate how in contrast to conventional administrative system of the cities, resilient administrative systems have the capacity to successfully respond to disaster situations because they possess the organizational stability to maintain the effectiveness and the organizational flexibility needed to adapt to uncertain and suddenly changing conditions:

### **1. Collaboration of Stakeholders for Urban Disaster Management**

Cities across the world face a whole range of challenges, but new risks, like the impacts from climate change, are increasingly straining the current systems and governance structures. These risks pay no attention to different entities and departmental units within the city. No single actor or institution can work alone. An urban resilience framework calls for a process that brings together diverse agencies and departments and sectors to identify appropriate measures for preparedness, response, and recovery.

Strong evidence has emerged on how collaborations among government, business, and civil society can collectively bring about results that reduce risk and vulnerability—the government through public investments, policies and regulations; businesses that help ensure the functioning of the economy; and civil society that puts the interests of marginalized groups first in decision-making processes. Together, these actors can be champions calling for stronger policies and incentives, for example to incentivize safer building codes.

### **2. Community Awareness Building & Participation for Disaster Resilience**

Natural disasters have become very common today and are increasing. One of the principal causes of such disaster is abuse and misuse of ecological system by humans in the name of development without giving regard to environmental safeguard. The consequences of these disasters are severe on the people,

especially the vulnerable sections of the society. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 15 mandates for protection, restoration and promotion of sustainable use of, inter alia, terrestrial ecosystems, and halt and reversal of land degradation and bio-diversity loss. Governments and communities have learned from the past incidents. Preparedness of the administration in combating situations created by natural disasters and building public awareness to mitigate ecological imbalance are of urgent necessity. Countries have taken steps in this direction, which have yielded positive results in preventive measures and reduction of casualties and losses.

### **3. Protection of Urban Heritage from Destruction**

Many of the cities have ancient monuments, historical sites, traditional cultural centers and the likes which provide insight into the past and lessons for the future. However, over time due to accumulated neglect, natural disasters and under the garb of development, several of the heritage infrastructure and sites are today in great disrepair and on path of obliteration. To preserve and revitalize the soul of the city and reflect the city's unique character by encouraging aesthetically appealing, accessible, informative & secured environment, in several countries, governments and local administration have initiated steps to undertake strategic and planned development of heritage cities aiming at improvement in overall quality of life with specific focus on sanitation, security, tourism, heritage revitalization and livelihoods retaining the city's cultural identity.

An **abstract** should not exceed 400 words and point out:

- What the paper is about;
- How the paper is related to previous research on the matter;
- The method used to answer the main question underlying the paper;
- What are the contents of the paper, how the paper contributes to the theme of the panel.

**Final papers** should not exceed 6000 words.

## SUBMISSION MODALITIES – MODALITÉS DE SOUMISSION

- All information on the 2018 IIAS Congress is available at <https://www.ias-congress2018.org>
- To submit an abstract, go to <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/254/submission>
- Fill-in the form
- Under “call-for-paper”, select the short title of the call, as mentioned in its footer
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- Remplissez le formulaire
- Sous « appel à communication », sélectionnez le titre court de l’appel, tel que mentionné dans son pied de page

## CALENDAR – CALENDRIER

28 February 2018	Abstract submission deadline	Date limite pour l’envoi des résumés	28 février 2018
7 March 2018	Authors’ notification	Notification aux auteurs	7 mars 2018
13 May 2018	Papers deadline	Date limite pour la soumission des contributions	13 mai 2018