

Module 2e: Frequently asked questions

June 2019



Frequently asked questions

Introduction

There are a lot of questions around climate change and urban how to incorporate these concepts into Red Cross Red Crescent work.

Below we provide answers to some of the most frequently asked questions related to *urban and climate*; each of the other modules in the training kit have 'FAQs' relevant to the topics covered there.

If you have comments or your questions are not addressed in this document (or other FAQs), please e-mail them to: climatecentre@climatecentre.org (referencing FAQ Module 2e).

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why should the Red Cross invest resources in urban areas?

More than half the world's population lives in cities and this number is expected to rise to 66% by 2050. Unfortunately, rapid and unplanned urbanization increases disaster risks in cities and thus puts more demand on humanitarian agencies.

2. How are urban areas different from rural areas in regard to disaster risk reduction?

Cities are densely populated and thus when a disaster strikes the scale of needs of urban disasters can be a lot greater. The city is diverse in terms of culture and livelihoods thus identifying the most vulnerable and appropriate actions requires careful attention.

Cities act as 'heat islands' and locally higher temperatures during heat waves tend to cause more severe impacts on vulnerable people in big cities.

3. How can we better prepare to support resilience in cities?

National Societies should make an effort to understand the urban context and form new partnerships, especially with organisations that have experience of working in urban areas.

4. Who should I contact for advice on implementing urban resilience programmes?

The [Urban Collaboration Platform](#) is a community of practice for urban resilience within the Red Cross Red Crescent movement which aims to help National Societies be better informed, better connected and better engaged in understanding and working in an urban context. For a quick response you can also reach out to: cities@climatecentre.org

More Q & A

See the 'Recommended reading' for additional resources on urban and climate change.