



Resilient Cities Asia Pacific 2015





1st Resilient Cities Congress for AP

- Sessions

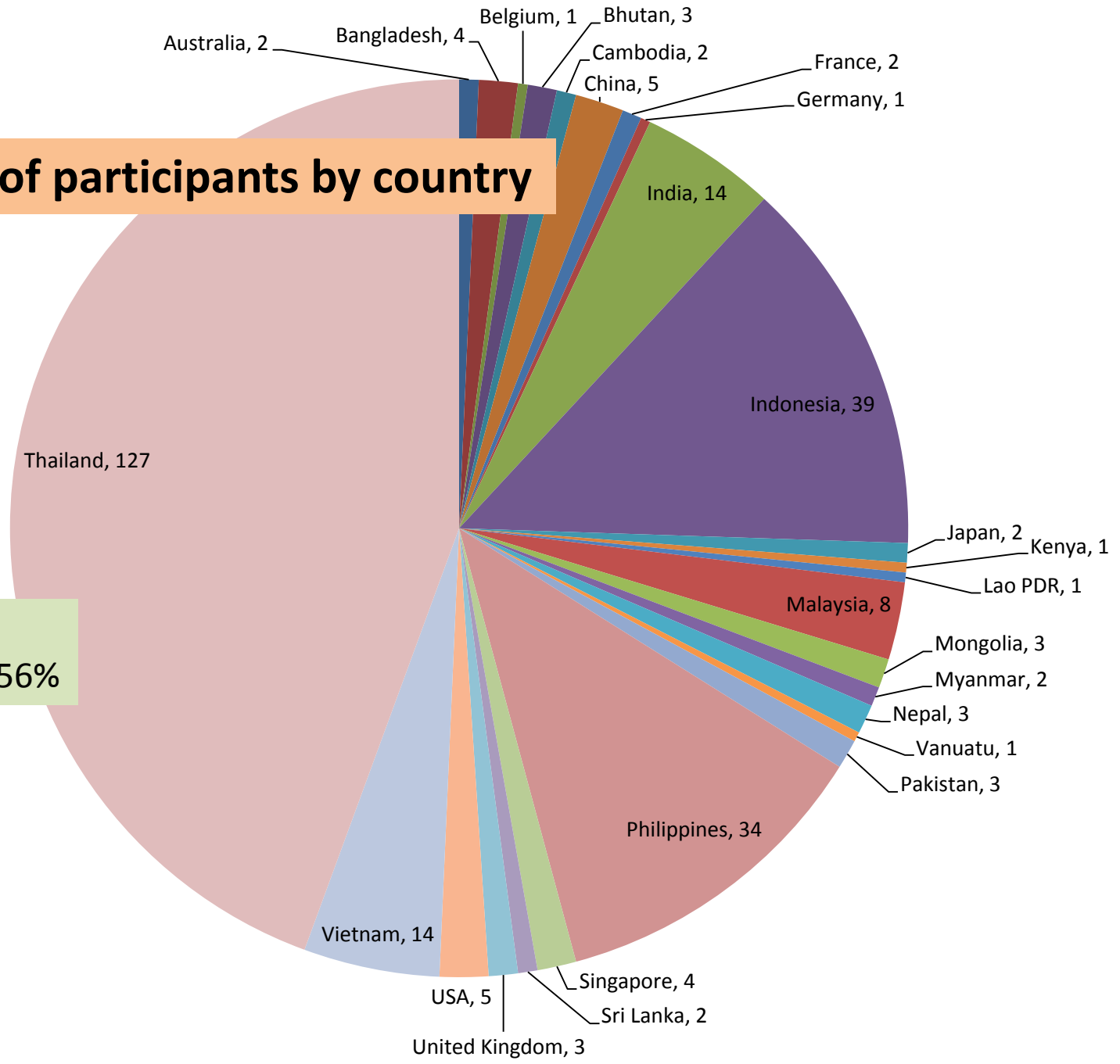
- 5 plenary sessions
- 9 parallel sessions
- 4 side events
- More than 75 speakers and panelists

- Participants

- About 300 participants
- About 30 countries
- 65 local governments
- 13 national government offices
- 15 academic institutions
- 16 international organizations
- More than 30 universities and NGOs



Distribution of participants by country



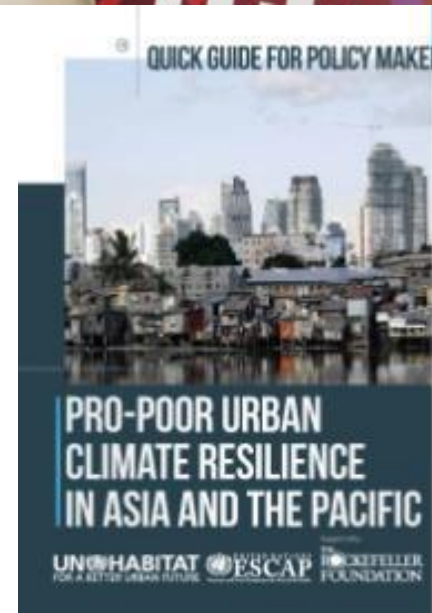
Thai – 44%
International – 56%

Male – 60%
Female – 40%



Report Launches

- OECD BMA report: Green Growth in Bangkok, Thailand
- UNESCAP-UNHABITAT –RF publication: Pro Poor Urban Climate Resilience in Asia and the Pacific – A Quick Guide For Policy Makers





Launch of Programmes and Networks

- ACCCRN Network by Rockefeller Foundation
 - More than 150 people have signed up already
- Climate Compatible Development Programme Phase II by CDKN
- First Pacific mayors sign the DAC





Major Pillars of Congress

- Integrated and holistic development
- Community involvement and participation in governance
- Horizontal and vertical collaboration



Plenary 1 – Opening Plenary

- Importance of urban resilience and its association with urban poverty, planning, collaborative partnerships, policy and inclusive urban development – focus on people oriented resilient development.
- *“To build Resilient Cities, we must start with the people. There can be no resilient cities without resilient people”
– Dr. Pusadee Tamthai, Deputy Governor, BMA*
- *“If we do not invest in resilience, we will need to invest even more on recovery” – Kaveh Zahedi, UNEP*



Plenary 2 – Resilience in the Asia Pacific

- City leaders in the Asia Pacific share their experiences to improve resilience in their cities
- *“Moving from landfilling to recycling of solid waste providing jobs to youth and going towards zero waste – Kinlay Dorjee, Mayor of Thimphu*



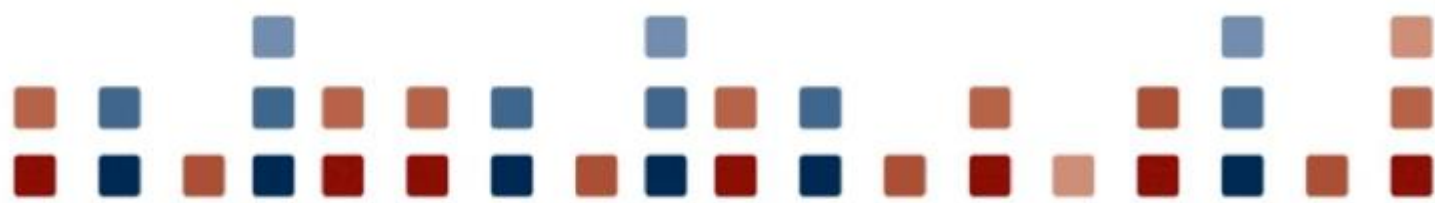
Plenary 3 – Elements of Urban Resilience in Asia-Pacific

- Urban risk reduction through involvement of the most vulnerable parts of society, mainstreaming adaptation in local planning & budgeting, and social resilience building
- *“The most important characteristic of resilience is whether it helps the most vulnerable in the city” – Saleem ul Huq, ICCAD*



Plenary 4: Financing Urban Resilience

- There is no shortage of money, just of financial engineering for better access; project development should focus on protection of assets, equitable and pro-poor outcomes, going beyond technical and financial feasibility, generating co-benefits; need of systems to translate global funds to fit small scale, locally designed interventions.
- *“Procedural and political matchmaking is a key challenge [in financing projects]” – Sasank Vemuri, CDIA*



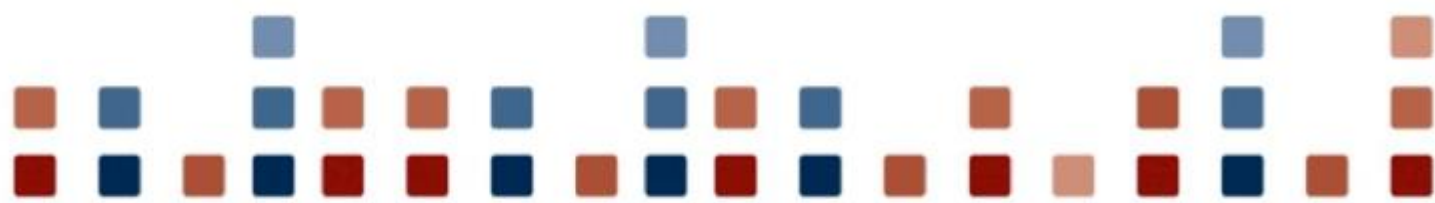
Parallel Sessions

A1: Understanding Urban Risks

- Important to understand the nature of urbanisation, economic and social systems.
- *“Urban risks and calamities etc are inevitable but after the storms that hit our city, our hearts may have dampened but our spirits were never broken” – Stephany Tan, Mayor of Catbalogan*

A2: Nexus –Resilience Link

- Integrated planning with horizontal and vertical cooperation and need to move from sectoral approaches to holistic assessment of resilience issues.
- *“While cities have an impressive facade, they can also be extremely vulnerable” – Donovan Storey, UNESCAP*



Parallel Sessions

B1: Investing to reduce risks

- Resilience in progress (accept, embrace the uncertainty and learn together!)
- *“We are seeing the boundaries starting to shift here [between mitigation, resilience, and DRR], and I think this is a good thing, and what we are finding is that it’s the process that matters, beyond the project” – Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio, RF*

B2: Adaptation through nexus

- Urban resilience through mitigation to natural disasters, communication and knowledge sharing, community participation
- *“In development, there is no perfect solution... There is no one partnership that can be replicated but there are a lot of learning opportunities.” – Sonia Sandhu, ADB*



Communication Traffic

- Blog: <http://talkofthecities.iclei.org/>
- Tweets: more than 300 tweets for #ResilientCities tweeted in 3 days
- Selected photos, tweets and information on all the days can be found on our live blog CityTalk



Thank you!