


Front-Line Island Cities with Nature

ICLEI World Congress
20 June 2018

Small island nations are
extremely vulnerable



A photograph of a tropical beach scene. In the foreground, several large, dark trees with thick trunks and dense foliage frame the view. The ocean waves are crashing against the shore, creating white foam and splashing water. In the background, a line of palm trees is visible against a bright, overcast sky. The overall atmosphere is one of a powerful natural force, likely a storm or high tide, impacting a coastal environment.

**Islands are at
The Front-Line
of climate change**



Water shortage





Remoteness

Transport





And....

Small islands have towns and cities with many of the same sustainable development challenges as other cities around the world!

Waste



Traffic



Slum housing





**Infrastructure
backlog**



But island communities have strong traditions



And connected
communities



The City – Ocean Interface

Cities need

- **Healthy ecosystems**
- **Secure Food**
- **Clean water**
- **Reliable transport**
- **Economic security**
- **Sustainable tourism**

The ocean needs cities to manage

- **Solid and liquid waste**
- **Rivers, run-off, sedimentation**
- **Coastal development**
- **Natural buffers**
- **Tourism impact**

Front-Line Launch at COP 23



Photo: Centre President Tommy E. Remengesau Jr. of Palau with Mayor Perla Cecilia Tun Pech of Cozumel. Centre Left to Right: Assistant Minister Lorna Eden of Fiji, UN Special Envoy on Oceans Peter Thompson, Steve Gawler and Yunus Arikan of ICLEI. Centre right to Right: Councillor Penny Hulse of Auckland Council, BMZ Franz Marré and the Mayor of Honiara Andrew Mua united in climate and resilience action and solutions.

Front-Line includes

- ✓ resilience and systems planning
- ✓ climate change and clean energy
- ✓ healthy oceans and fisheries
- ✓ resilient infrastructure and innovative finance
- ✓ nature-based disaster resilience and recovery
- ✓ sustainable tourism





UNISDR

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

DISASTER RESILIENCE SCORECARD FOR CITIES

MAY 2017



New Ten Essentials

Enabling Essentials

1

Organize for disaster resilience

2

Identify, understand and use current and future risk scenarios

3

Strengthen financial capacity for resilience

Build back better Essentials

9

Ensure effective preparedness and disaster response

10

Expedite recovery and build back better

Operational Essentials

4

Pursue resilient urban development and design

5

Safeguard natural buffers to enhance the protective functions offered by natural ecosystems

6

Strengthen institutional capacity for resilience

7

Understand and strengthen societal capacity for resilience

8

Increase infrastructure resilience

Essential 5: Safeguard Natural Buffers to Enhance Ecosystems' Protective Functions



5.1 Existing natural environment and ecosystem health

Are ecosystem services specifically identified and managed as critical assets?

Has there been a change in the health, extent or benefit of each ecosystem in the past 5 years?

5.2 Integration of blue and green infrastructure into city policy and projects

Are land-use policies supportive of critical ecosystem services and effectively enforced?

Is blue and green infrastructure routinely embedded into projects across the city – into new urban development, regeneration and infrastructure projects?

5.3 Trans-boundary environmental issues

How many critical ecosystem services have been identified outside the city boundaries which are essential for enhancing city resilience?

Are there trans-boundary agreements and collaborations in place to enable policy and planning for ecosystem based approaches?