



## USAID PROGRAMS SUPPORTING CLIMATE-SMART CITIES

In cities worldwide, USAID partners with local governments to support energy efficiency, improve urban planning, enable access to climate information and unlock financing.

### THE CHALLENGE

Cities house more than half the world's population and account for four-fifths of global economic activity.<sup>1</sup> They also support critical infrastructure and services – yet they are constantly facing challenges, including rapid population growth and environmental impacts such as flooding, storm surges and heat waves. City leaders and utilities are looking for ways to finance and build adequate public infrastructure and services to address these issues – while simultaneously looking for efficiency and cost savings.

USAID has several programs to help cities increase their capacity to finance and build public infrastructure and services to address these challenges. These programs help cities engage a diverse cross-section of stakeholders – local, national, public and private – and address incentives for and challenges to mobilizing finance. Ultimately they help put cities on a sustainable path to meet their development goals, ensuring they expand and thrive economically while also curbing emissions and protecting residents from risks. USAID is committed to supporting improved urban services to help cities and countries achieve climate-resilient, low-emission, sustainable economic development, as outlined in its urban policy, [Sustainable Service Delivery in an Increasingly Urbanized World](#).

<sup>1</sup> <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2201CCFLA-State-of-City-Climate-Finance-2015.pdf>

## **CURRENT INITIATIVES**

USAID has both global and country-level programs focused on supporting climate-smart urban development.

### **GLOBAL**

#### **C40 CITIES FINANCE FACILITY (CFF) – GLOBAL (2016–2018)**

Through the C40 Climate Finance Facility, USAID helps cities in developing countries finance infrastructure projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and withstand climate impacts. Supported by the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, Germany’s Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), German implementer GIZ, and the InterAmerican Development Bank (IADB), the CFF partnership aims to unlock up to \$1 billion for low-carbon, climate-resilient infrastructure investments in clean water, efficient transportation and secure housing. Pilot cities include Bogota, Colombia and Mexico City, Mexico.

#### **WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE FINANCE (WASH-FIN) – GLOBAL (2016–2021)**

The global WASH-FIN project is closing the gap in the financing needed to achieve universal access to climate-resilient water and sanitation services. Technical assistance mobilizes public and private finance to enhance water and sanitation service delivery, with an emphasis on urban and peri-urban areas. The project is working in four initial countries.

#### **DISTRIBUTED PHOTOVOLTAICS (DPV) – GLOBAL (2015–2019)**

With support from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, USAID helps accelerate the development of distributed photovoltaic (DPV) markets in countries where it would otherwise be a challenge to expand. The program directly engages with in-country stakeholders by sharing international best practices, providing review and input on country-developed documents (such as tariff design), analytic support, training on key tools and approaches, and other mechanisms.

### **AFRICA**

#### **SOUTH AFRICA LOW EMISSIONS DEVELOPMENT (LED) (2013–2018)**

The South Africa Low Emissions Development (LED) team is supporting 14 municipal LED initiatives across four flagship sectors – Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Demand Management, Waste Management and Transport – to unblock LED projects that face challenges and to provide technical assistance to increase the size and quality of the LED project pipeline.

#### **MOZAMBIQUE COASTAL CITY ADAPTATION PROJECT (CCAP) (2013–2018)**

Mozambique’s coastal cities are economic hubs, but lack of resilient infrastructure, poor city planning and geographic location make them vulnerable to sea level rise, flooding and extreme weather. USAID works with national/local governments and communities to improve city planning in Quelimane, Pemba and Nacala, and to take measures to protect communities from severe environmental impacts. USAID’s support helps municipal officials map flood-risk zones and restore mangroves.

## ASIA

### RESILIENT CITIES ASIA (2017–2022)

Throughout Southeast Asia, USAID helps cities secure sustainable sources of public, private, national and international finance to support their urban resilience and development goals. This regional initiative supports secondary cities to conduct urban resilience assessments, analyses, studies and surveys; prepare investment-grade projects and initiatives; facilitate knowledge sharing and cross learning; and develop climate resilience policies, strategies and plans.

### CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECT PREPARATION FACILITY FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ADAPT ASIA-PACIFIC) (2011–2016)

ADAPT assists 27 developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region to finance adaptation projects. It identifies project preparation gaps and mobilizes sector specialists to assist governments in developing project proposals and securing international climate finance. Often these projects are in urban contexts, such as in the City Government of Valenzuela, Philippines where ADAPT helped address drainage problems resulting from population growth, urbanization and increased incidence of flooding.

### URBAN CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE TRUST FUND (UCCRTF) (2012–2017)

The Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund – a partnership among USAID, the U.K.’s DFID, the Asian Development Bank and the Rockefeller Foundation – helps the urban poor in medium-sized Asian cities build resilience to the impacts of extreme weather events and weather-related changes. The Fund helps prepare projects and receives private sector input so that proposals are investment-ready. Its total \$150 million in grants leverages more than \$1 billion in investments from public, private and municipal sources.

### PHILIPPINES WATER SECURITY FOR RESILIENT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND STABILITY (BE SECURE) PROJECT (2013–2017)

Be Secure works with local governments and water service providers to improve capacities for considering climate risks in local planning and providing water supply and wastewater treatment services. The project is helping six cities in the Philippines use downscaled climate projections, hazard maps and water resource vulnerability assessments to guide land use decisions and ensure that water security is more adaptive to future climate impacts.



2014, Philippines, Photo by Anne Usher

**ADAPTASI PERUBAHAN IKLIM DAN KETANGGUHAN (APIK) (CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE) (2015–2020)**

APIK supports the Government of Indonesia to integrate adaptation and disaster risk reduction into national/subnational governance frameworks; build local community and private sector capacity to address climate and weather-related hazards; and support information for climate and disaster risk management. The project targets those most susceptible, such as urban inhabitants living in slums situated at the rising water's edge.

**VIETNAM CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM (VCEP) (2012–2017)**

Through VCEP, USAID is helping the Government of Vietnam update Vietnam's Green Building Code and promote high-performance, energy-efficient buildings in major cities. VCEP created an inventory of building stock that measures large buildings' energy performance in five major cities; model buildings then showcased proven energy savings and efficiency. About 29,000 people now have increased access to energy-efficient and green building tools, technologies and training materials.

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

**COLOMBIA LOW CARBON RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (LCRD) (2014–2017)**

LCRD helps medium-sized Colombian cities (Pasto, Riohacha and Valledupar) enhance local planning and accelerate or unlock local investments in low-carbon, resilient interventions. The project carries out initial participatory assessments to identify climate stressors, vulnerabilities, key intervention zones and adaptation options in both rural and urban settings.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CIUDADES LÍDERES EN INICIATIVAS Y METAS DE ADAPTACIÓN (CLIMA) (2015–2019)**

Under CLIMA, USAID is working with the Dominican Republic's meteorological office to deliver pertinent climate information to municipal planners and help them translate that information into new zoning and other spatial plans. USAID is also supporting actions to reduce flooding and improve water supply to urban areas.