

Cities need an integrated and holistic approach to health adaptation in climate planning

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Coding scheme

The following table outlines the 13 codes used in document analysis.

Code	Definition
Physical health	Any adaptation strategy targeting physical health
Hazard and vulnerability mapping	The document either contained a completed hazard and vulnerability mapping or had an adaptation strategy to complete one
Early warning systems	The document contained an adaptation strategy focused on developing early warning systems for hazards, heat, or disease
Heat action	The document contained an adaptation strategy on heat action targeted to human health.
Disease surveillance	The document contained an adaptation strategy specific to disease surveillance.
Mental health	The document contained adaptation strategies that targeted mental health
Social capital	The document contained adaptation strategies that targeted social cohesion, community building, or social support
Equity and justice	The document was considered to have a meaningful integration of equity or justice either in the background or adaptation section
Words justice or equity	The document included the terms equity or justice at least once
Dedicated section on justice or equity	The document contained a dedicated section on equity, justice, or vulnerable groups
Vulnerable groups	The document included text that discussed different vulnerabilities sub-populations face to climate hazards
Displacement	The document contained text on climate displacement which could include populations being displaced due to climate hazards or sea-level rise within the city or receiving people displaced from outside the city
Informal settlements	The document mentioned populations living in informal settlements including their increased vulnerability or tailored adaptation strategies
Implementation readiness	
Monitoring indicators	The document included specific measurement indicators for adaptation strategies
Responsibility assigned	The document designated a responsible party (i.e. city department or office) to lead on the adaptation strategy

List of included cities

City	C40 membership*
Addis Ababa	Megacity
Amman	Megacity
Athens	Megacity
Auckland	Innovator
Bangkok	Megacity
Barcelona	Megacity
Berlin	Megacity
Bogotá	Megacity
Buenos Aires	Megacity
Cape Town	Megacity
Chennai	Megacity
Chicago	Megacity
City of Melbourne	Megacity
City of Sydney	Megacity
Dakar	Megacity
Dar es Salaam	Megacity
Delhi	Megacity
Durban	Megacity
Guadalajara	Megacity
Ho Chi Minh	Megacity
Hong Kong	Megacity
Houston	Inactive
Istanbul	Megacity
Jakarta	Megacity
Johannesburg	Megacity
Kuala Lumpur	Megacity
Lagos	Megacity
Lima	Megacity
Lisbon	Megacity
London	Megacity
Madrid	Megacity
Medellín	Megacity
Mexico City	Megacity
Milano	Megacity
Montréal	Megacity
Mumbai	Megacity
Nairobi	Megacity
New York City	Megacity
Paris	Megacity
Philadelphia	Megacity
Phoenix	Megacity

Quezon City	Megacity
Quito	Megacity
Rio de Janeiro	Megacity
Rotterdam	Innovator
Salvador	Megacity
San Francisco	Megacity
Seoul	Megacity
Singapore	Observer
Stockholm	Innovator
Tel Aviv-Yafo	Megacity
Tokyo	Megacity
Tshwane	Megacity
Washington, DC	Megacity
Yokohama	Megacity

*as of 14 April 2025 https://www.c40.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/C40-Cities-Membership-01_11_23.pdf

Cartoon summary



The following cartoon summarises the main finding of the article that health is widely acknowledged in city climate adaptation planning but action still lags. It is meant to engage the diverse readership of the journal including researchers and city planners to more strongly consider health adaptation as the consequences of delayed action are dire.