

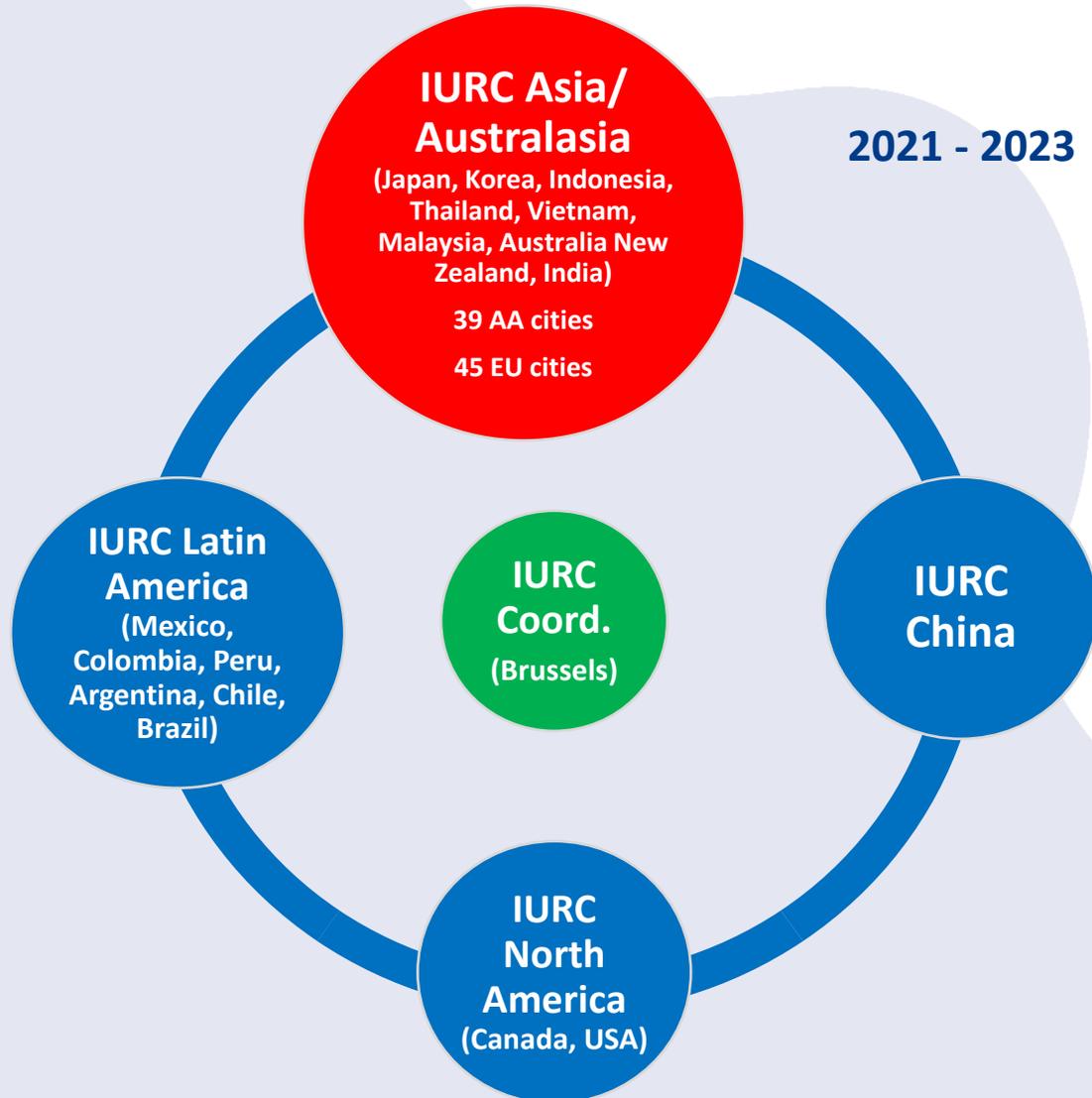


# Nature Based Solutions

## Thematic Introduction

Pablo Gándara, Team Leader  
05.10.2021

# Key Figures



## What?

- A programme of the EU managed by the [FPI](#)
- Support by the EU Delegations, [DG REGIO](#).
- Cities from the EU and non-EU will be involved in pairing / cluster activities.
  - Thematic cluster events / trainings
  - City-to-city / multi-city study visits
  - Networking events in Europe and the region
  - Thematic & best-practices reports

## Why?

- Support EU **city diplomacy** (establish relationships).
- Realise **concrete** pilot projects & UCAPs.

**How?** Regional team in Thailand (coordination), India and Japan. Helpdesks for cities in all countries. Cross-country *thematic clusters* experts.

## What else?

Support *business* cooperation.

Design, produce and disseminate *audio-visual* content.

# Global Thematic Concentration for Cooperation

## TH-NW. 1 – ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION- GREEN DEAL A Greener Future for Cities in Europe and Asia / Australasia

CIRCULAR ECONOMY  
Waste Management

**GREEN  
INFRASTRUCTURE**  
Nature Based Solutions  
Heat & Flood Mitigation

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE  
Food systems, Urban Gardens

## TH.NW. 2 – URBAN RENEWAL & SOCIAL COHESION A Sustainable Future for Cities in Europe and Asia / Australasia

URBAN  
AGENDA/PLANNING  
SUD Strategies,  
Public Space,  
Urban Model: 15 min. Vision

MOBILITY & TRANSPORT  
Street 4 people -  
Superblocks – Metropolitan  
Connections

## TH.NW.3 – INNOVATIVE, SUSTAINABLE & CARBON NEUTRAL ECOSYSTEMS & STRATEGIC SECTORS A Smarter Future for Cities in Europe and Asia / Australasia

TOURISM &  
CULTURE

HEALTH, LIFE  
SCIENCE,  
ELDERY  
BIOECONOMY

EDUCATION, JOBS &  
SKILLS,  
Clusters, Innovation  
Centres

## CROSS CUTTING OVERALL CHALLENGES



POST COVID RECOVERY IN CITIES



CLIMATE CHANGE & ENERGY TRANSITION



SMART CITY & DIGITAL TRANSITION

# Objectives of Thematic Webinars



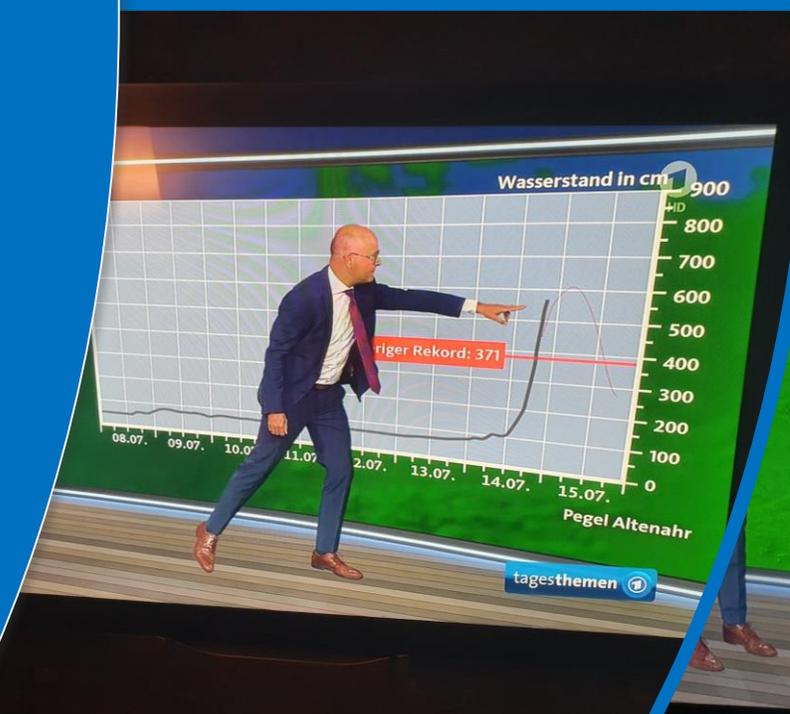
Through interactive deep discussion on an international level, this thematic webinar aims to showcase challenges faced and solutions implemented in IURC pilot cities. It will:

- Foster cooperation between EU and non-EU cities to address **two specific challenges**: urban heat islands and heavy rainfall/flooding
- **Identify** potential pilot areas and stakeholders to address these challenges on a city level

The exchange may **inspire** other pilot cities to **capitalize** from these experiences and **transfer knowledge** to their own circumstances

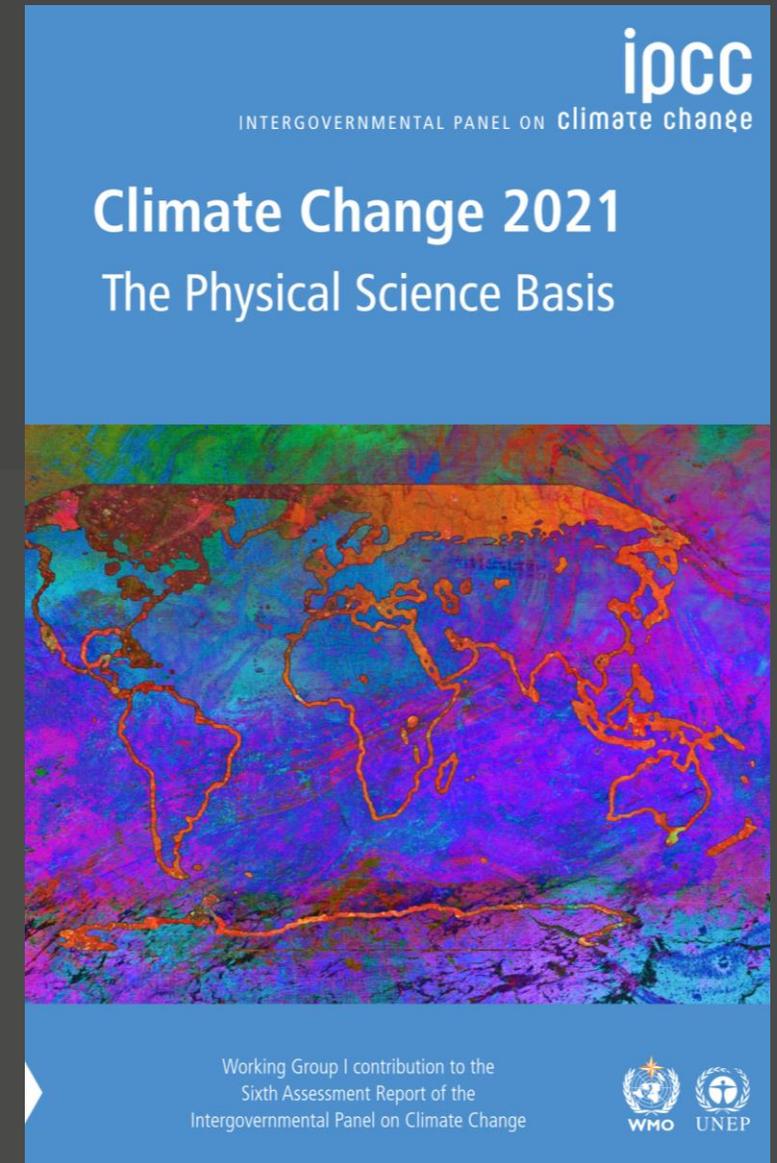
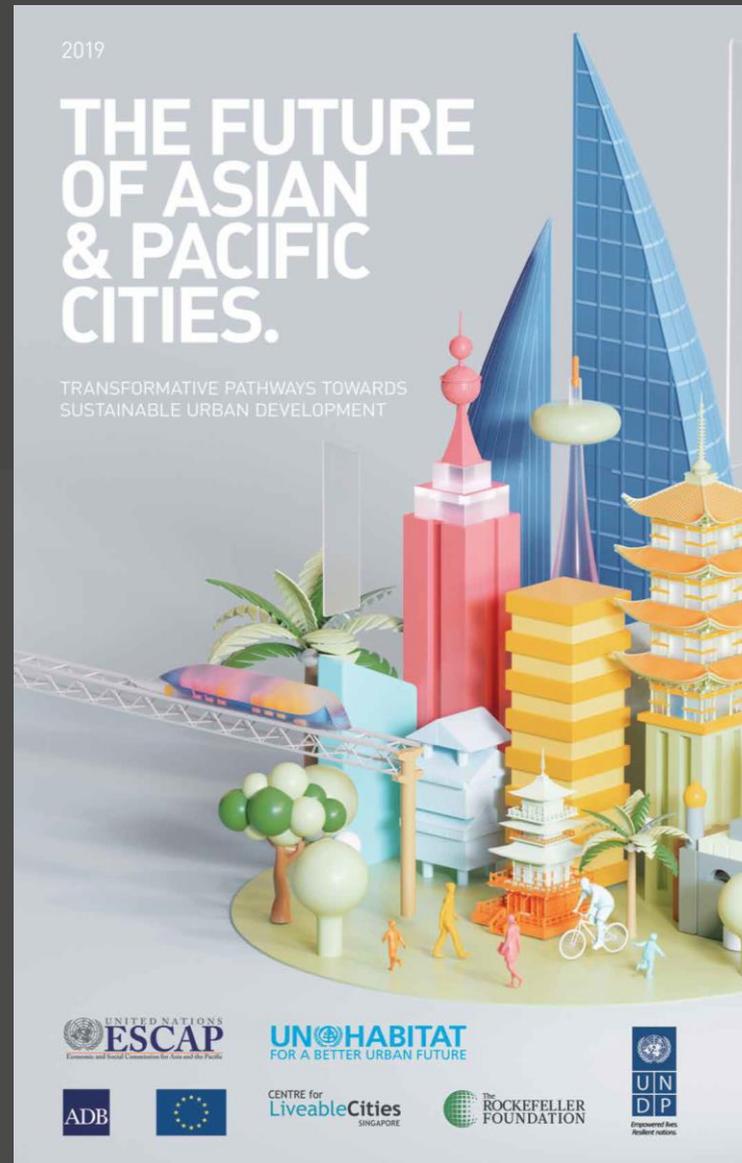
# Climate Change in Cities

- Urban inhabitants are likely to experience climate change impacts most directly because currently around 57% of the world's population and over 70% of all Europeans reside in cities (source: [EU](#) & [UN](#)).
- Visible effects include high number of summer heat days, **floods** and heavy rainfall.
- Recent floods during this summer in the EU, mostly in the triangle between Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands, have caused more than 200 victims and damages to infrastructures worth dozens billions of Euro.



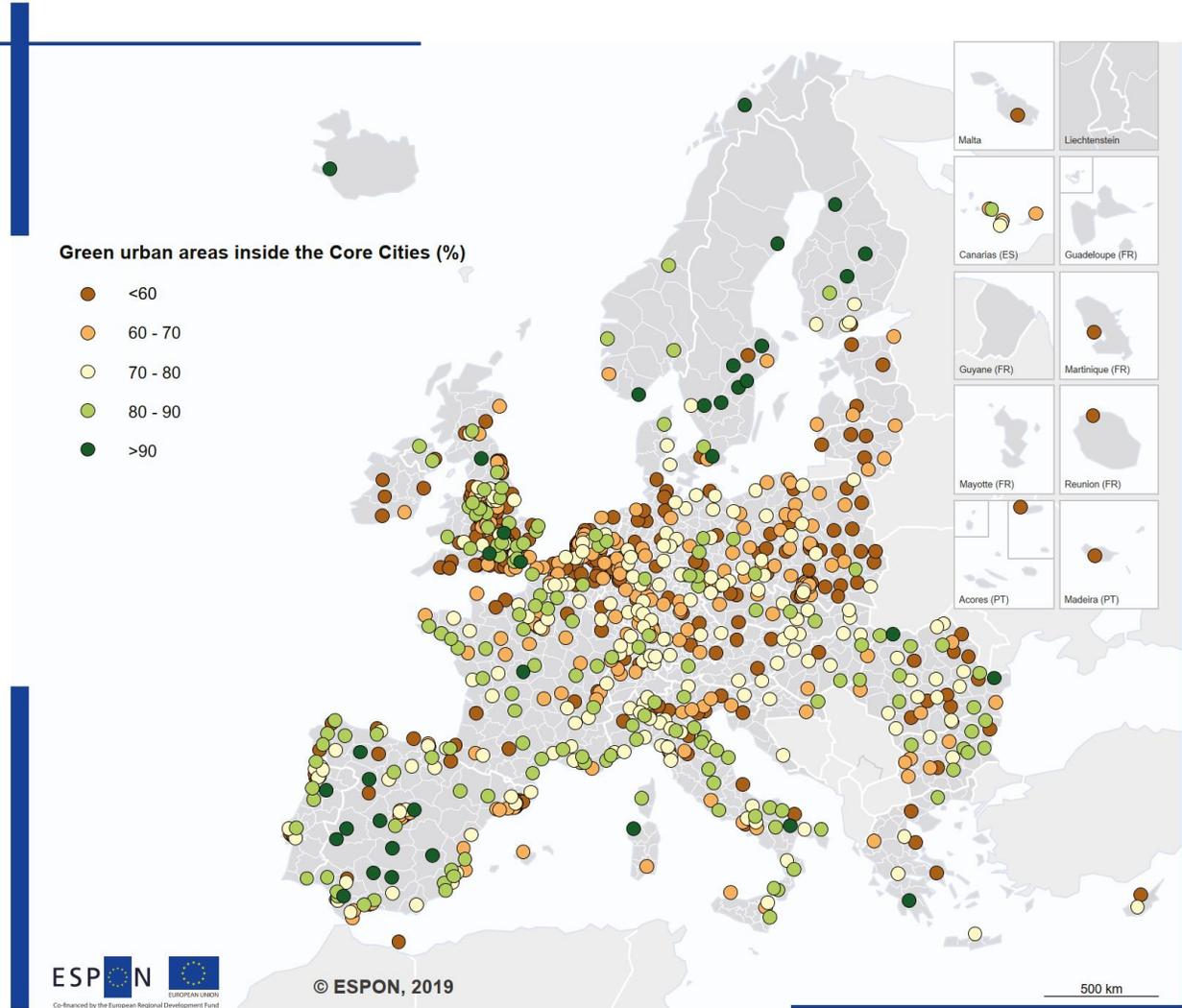
# UN Report 2019

- Key messages: Future policy pathways for urban resilience
- Embrace integrated planning taking into account climate change, find and **upscale nature-based solutions**, and devise resilient infrastructure → must embrace resilience as an underlying development philosophy.

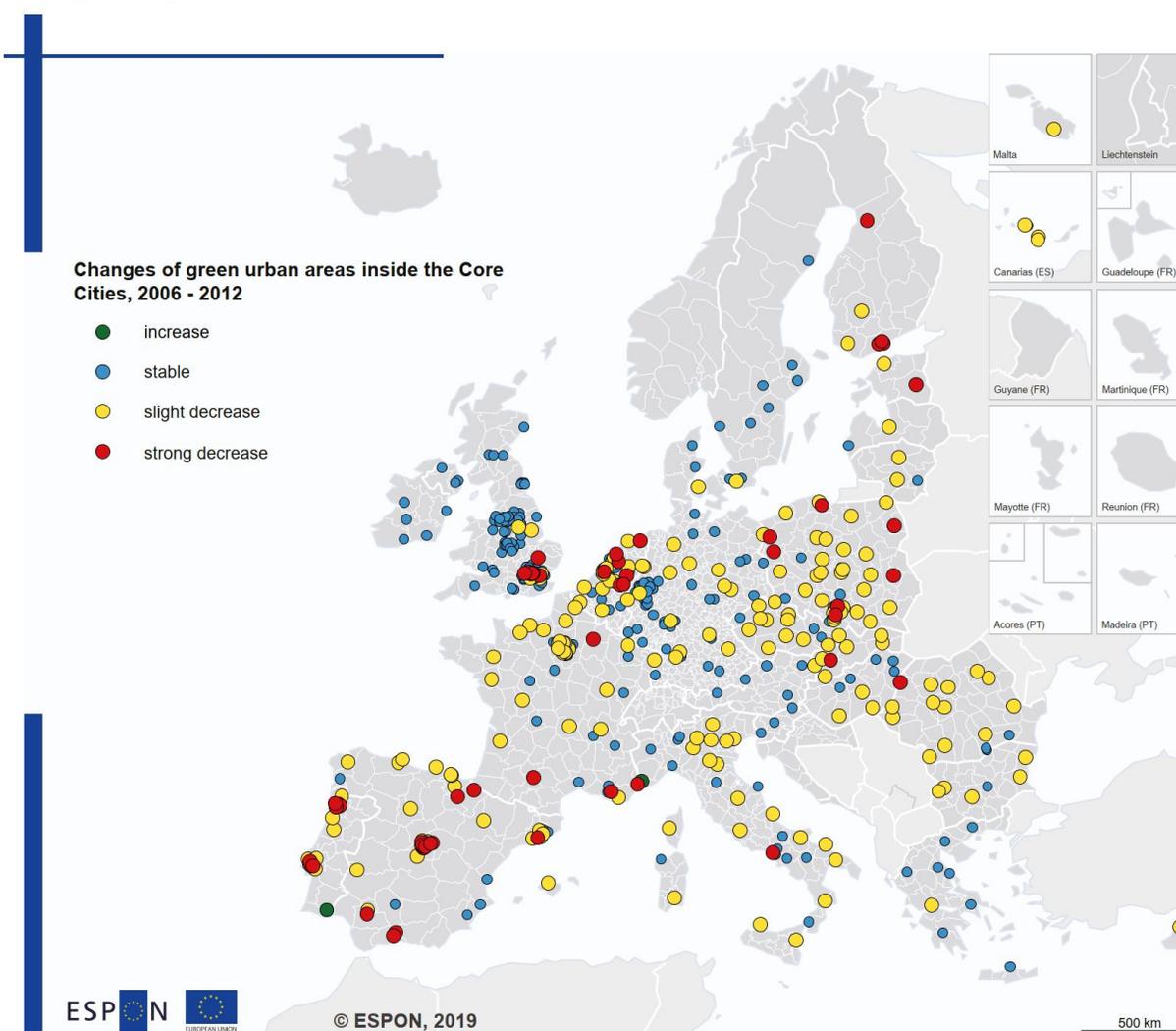


# EU cities – Green but partly decreasing

**Map 1**  
Green urban areas inside the Core Cities



**Map 3**  
Changes of green urban areas inside the Core Cities



# Green Infrastructure

- Green Infrastructure is among the most widely **applicable**, economically **viable** and **effective** tools to combat the impacts of climate change and help people adapt to or mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.
- **Investing** in Green Infrastructure can provide many **social, economic and environmental benefits**, for example **water retention** and flood alleviation, cooling urban heat islands, space and habitat for wildlife with access to nature for people, places for outdoor relaxation and improved health and well-being.
- Investing in Green Infrastructure **creates jobs** and **business opportunities**, promotes sustainable development and smart growth.
- However, using Green Infrastructure as the better solution compared to purely technical approaches is **not widely considered** yet.





## Best Practices in the EU

- High Level Chinese delegation on climate change visits Lisbon, Almada and Vienna (2017)

# Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park, Singapore

- Ecosystem-based adaptation for flood risk management
- Transforming the utilitarian concrete channel into a naturalized river, creating new spaces for the community to enjoy.



RAMBOLL



RAMBOLL

For updates on IURC Asia & Australasia, please follow our website and social media accounts.

*Website:* [www.iurc.eu/australasia](http://www.iurc.eu/australasia)

*Twitter:* [twitter.com/iurc\\_aa](https://twitter.com/iurc_aa)

*LinkedIn:* [www.linkedin.com/company/iurc-aa/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/iurc-aa/)

*E-Mail:* [info-aa@iurc.eu](mailto:info-aa@iurc.eu)



This presentation was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the IURC Asia & Australasia project team, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.