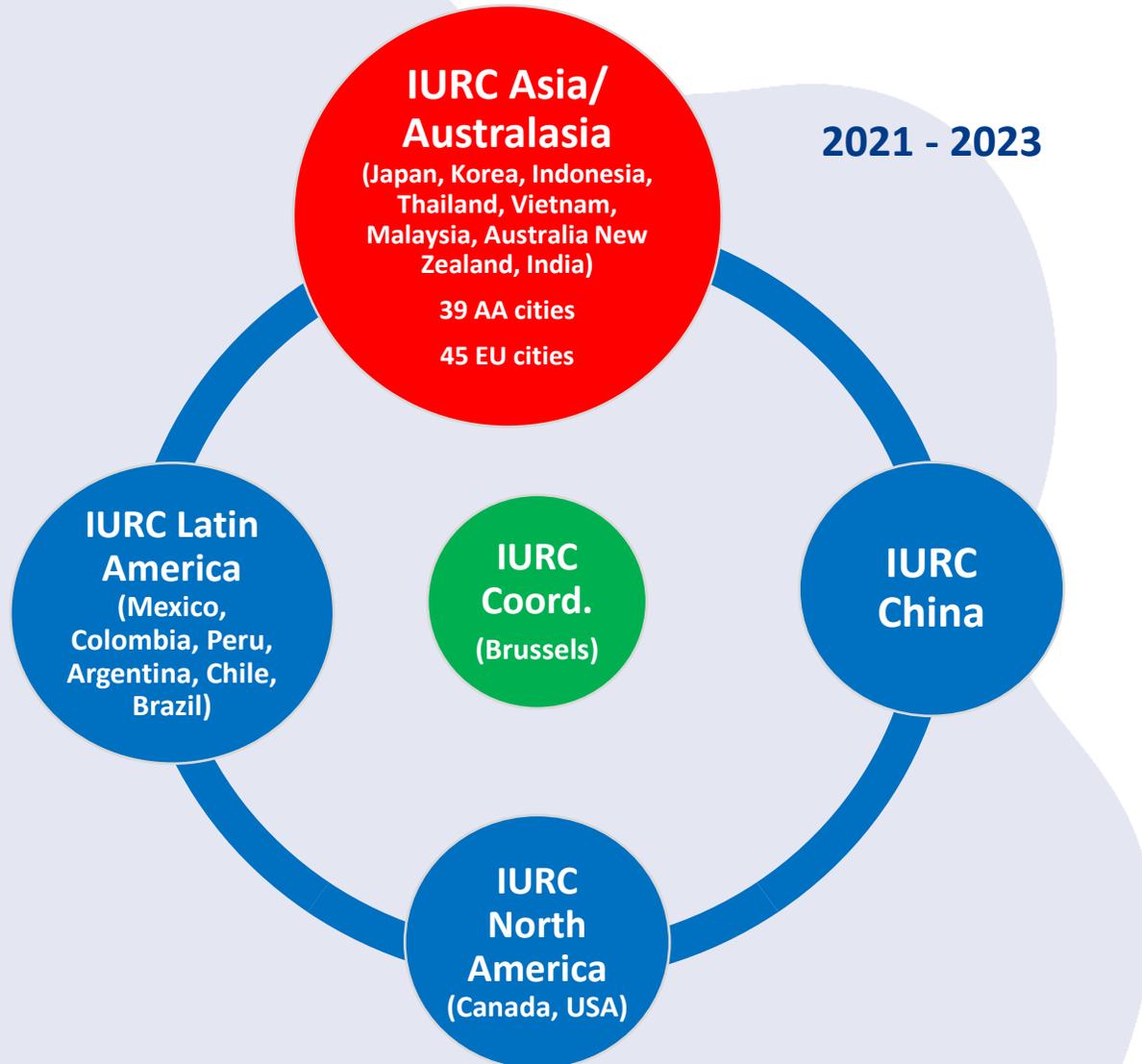


Nature Based Solutions
Thematic Introduction

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



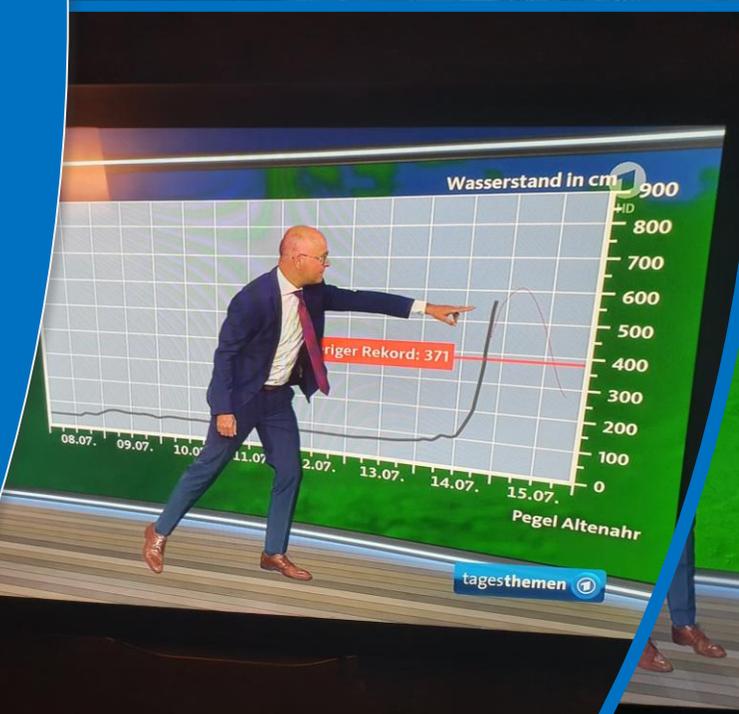
Through interactive deep discussion on an international level, this thematic webinar aims to showcase challenges faced and solutions implemented in IURC pilot cities. It will:

- 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

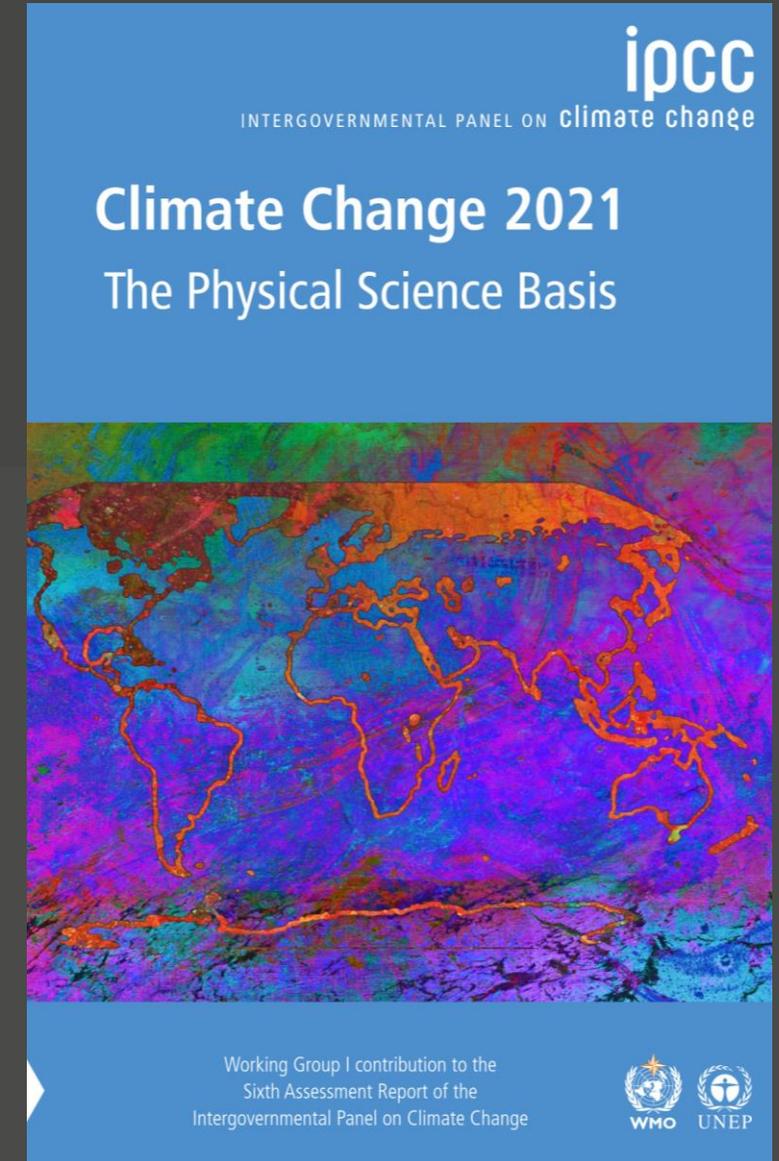
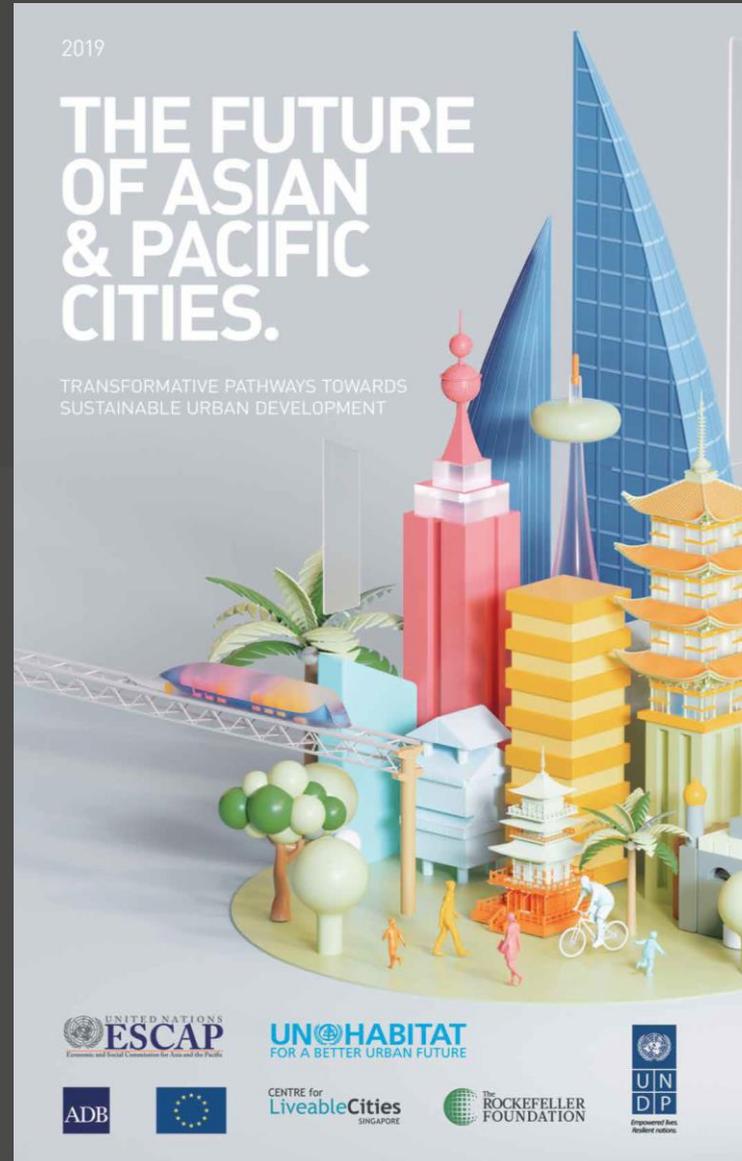
Climate Change in Cities

- 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.



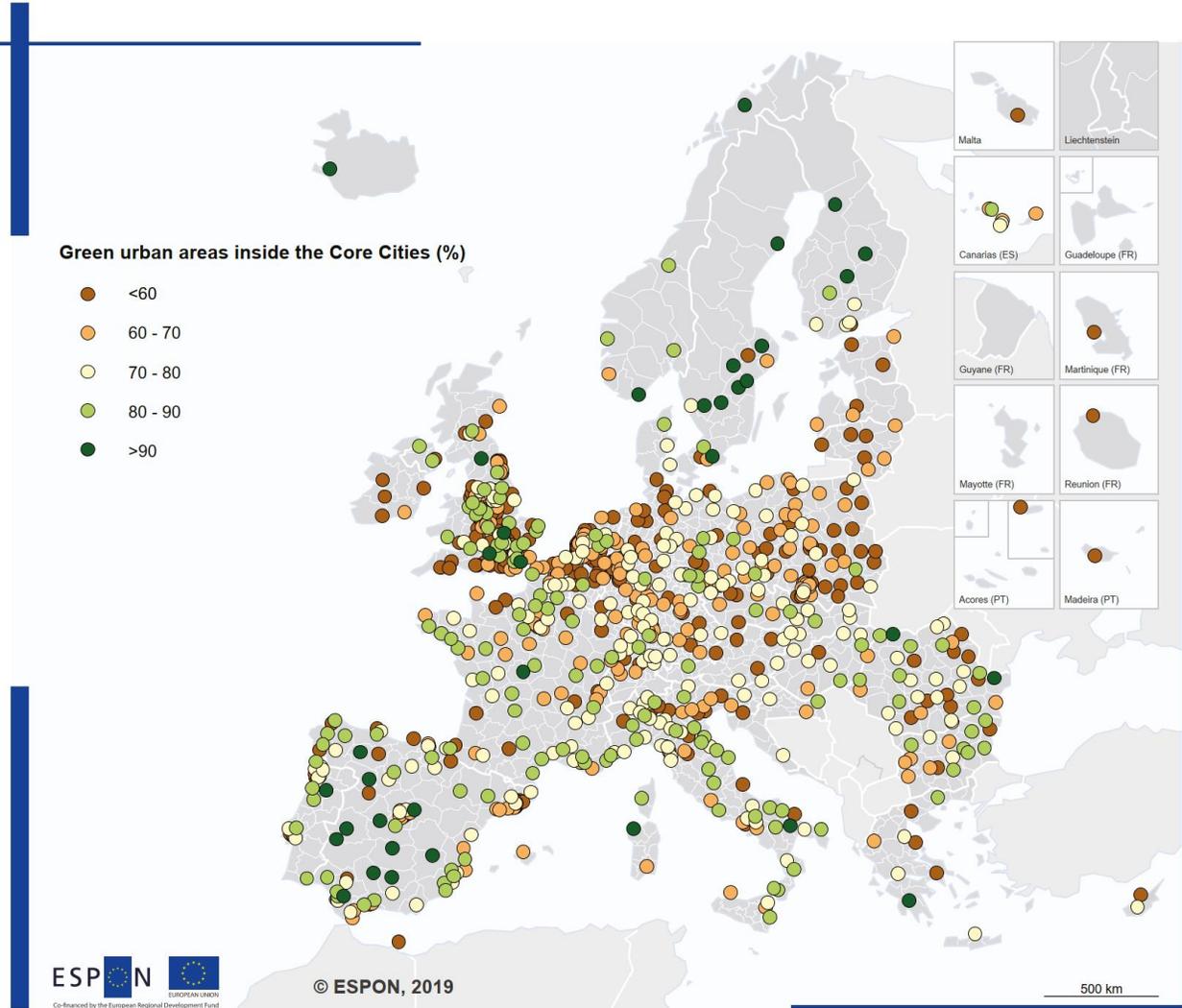
UN Report 2019

- 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.

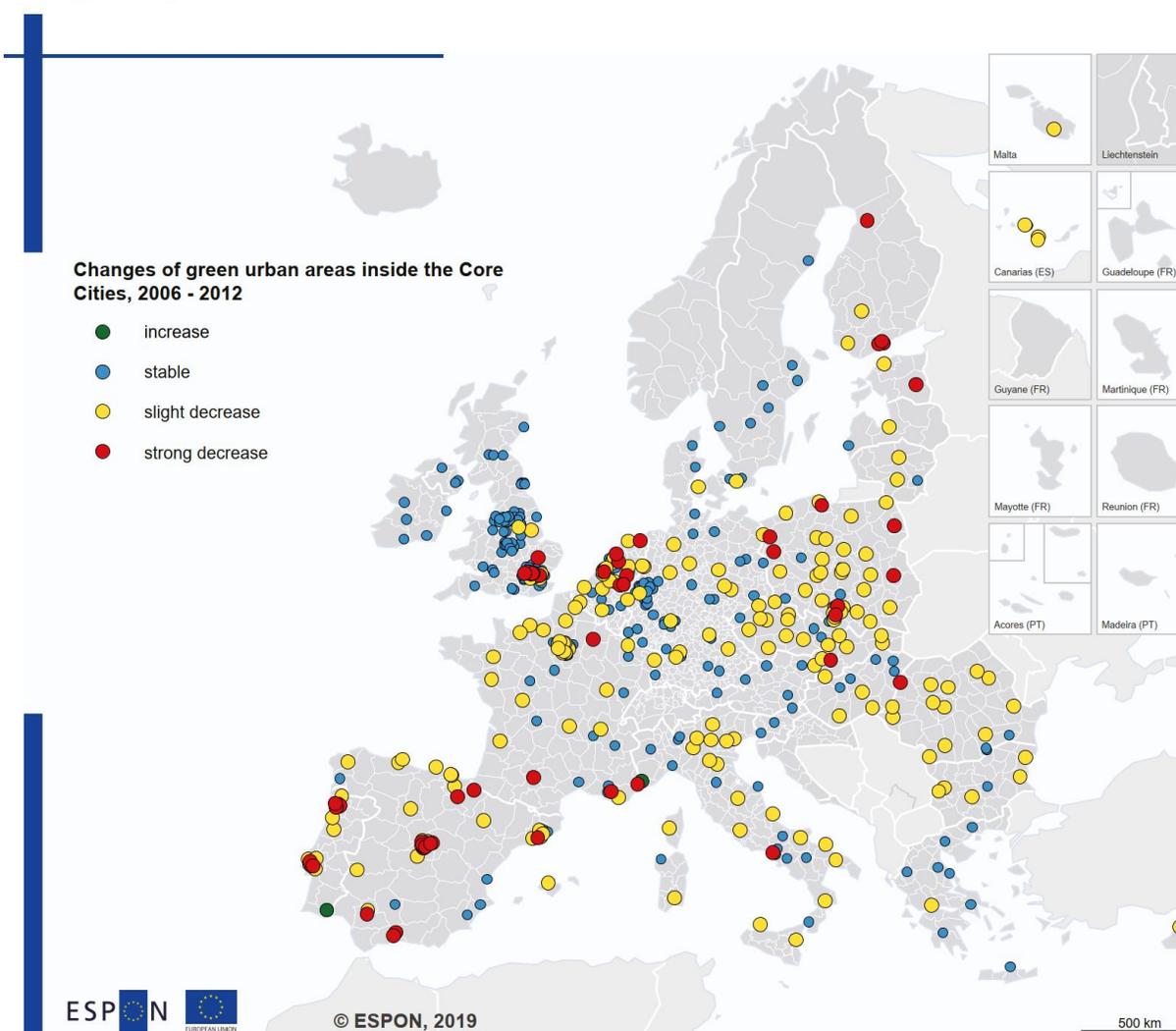


EU cities – Green but partly decreasing

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.



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