



**SB60**

# From Pledge to Progress: Responding to the climate emergency through multilevel climate action and NDCs





## **From Pledge to Progress:** Responding to the climate emergency through multilevel climate action and NDCs

**Keynote**

**Nicola Tollin**

UNESCO Chair on Urban Resilience,  
University of Southern Denmark





SDU  
University of  
Southern Denmark  
UNESCO Chair on Urban Resilience



# Urban Content of NDCs

LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION EXPLORED THROUGH IN-DEPTH COUNTRY ANALYSES

2024 REPORT



## 2024 Report

# Urban Content of NDCs Local Climate Action Explored through In-depth Country Analyses

**Nicola Tollin**, Patrizia Gragnani, Yu Li, Maria Pizzorni  
UNESCO Chair on Urban Resilience at SDU  
[not@iti.sdu.dk](mailto:not@iti.sdu.dk)



SDU

University of  
Southern Denmark

UNESCO Chair on Urban Resilience



unesco

Chair





## Purpose |

- provide analysis and guidance to policymakers and practitioners working on climate change and NDC development and implementation at national and local levels
- facilitate better understanding of NDC urban content, and gaps related to urban climate action
- highlight challenges and opportunities in urban areas emerging the NDC urban content analysis
- support countries to place cities at the heart of their climate ambition and NDCs
- provide a unique set of climate data and an important climate policy analysis tool





# Structure

- **Global Analysis.** Up-to-date overview and analysis of the urban content of the 194 NDCs most recently submitted to the UNFCCC registry. Focuses on mitigation and adaptation challenges as well as the Party NDC responses by sector, means of implementation and climate hazards
- **Country Profiles.** Qualitative assessments of 16 countries' climate-related national policies, plans and strategies, descriptions of climate mitigation and adaptation challenges & responses and a short list of policy recommendations. Presented as case studies for knowledge sharing.
- **Country Briefs.** 194 visual country snapshots summarizing each NDC's Global Analysis

Builds upon 2016/2017 NDC urban content, 2021 white paper and 2022 analysis



# Methodology

01. Geographic indicators
02. National context indicators
03. Urban context indicators
04. Emissions indicators
05. Key hazards
  
06. NDC **national** indicators – General
07. NDC **national** indicators – Challenges
08. NDC **national** indicators – Responses
  
09. NDC **urban** indicators – General
10. NDC **urban** indicators – Challenges
11. NDC **urban** indicators – Responses
  
12. Other national climate-related policies, strategies and plans
13. **Cross-cutting** national-level indicators
14. **Cross-cutting** urban-level indicators

**200+ indicators** – external data and data within NDCs.

## **Urban content**

**Strong urban content (Cluster A)** NDCs with specific urban sections and/or NDCs in which urban areas are identified as priority sectors, excluding NDCs that are not backing the prioritization with a clear identification of specific urban challenges and/or responses.

**Moderate urban content (Cluster B)** NDCs with urban mentions within the body of text.

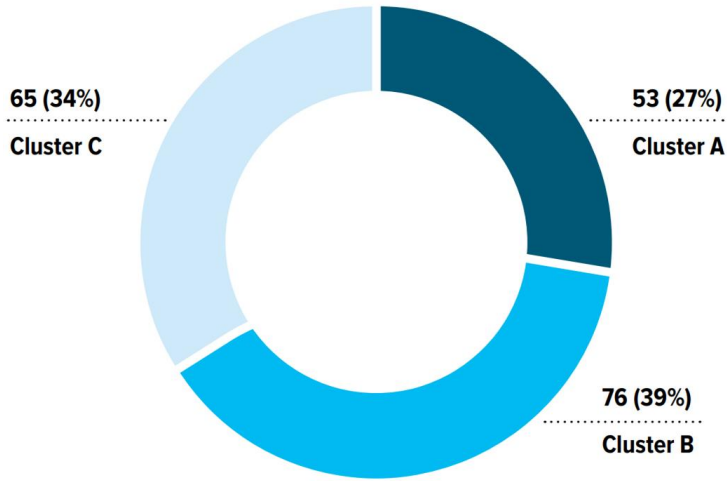
**Low or no urban content (Cluster C)** NDCs with low or no explicit urban mention within the text.

## **Alignments and misalignments**

Mitigation challenges/responses  
Adaptation challenges/responses  
National/urban content



# Urban Content



**27%**

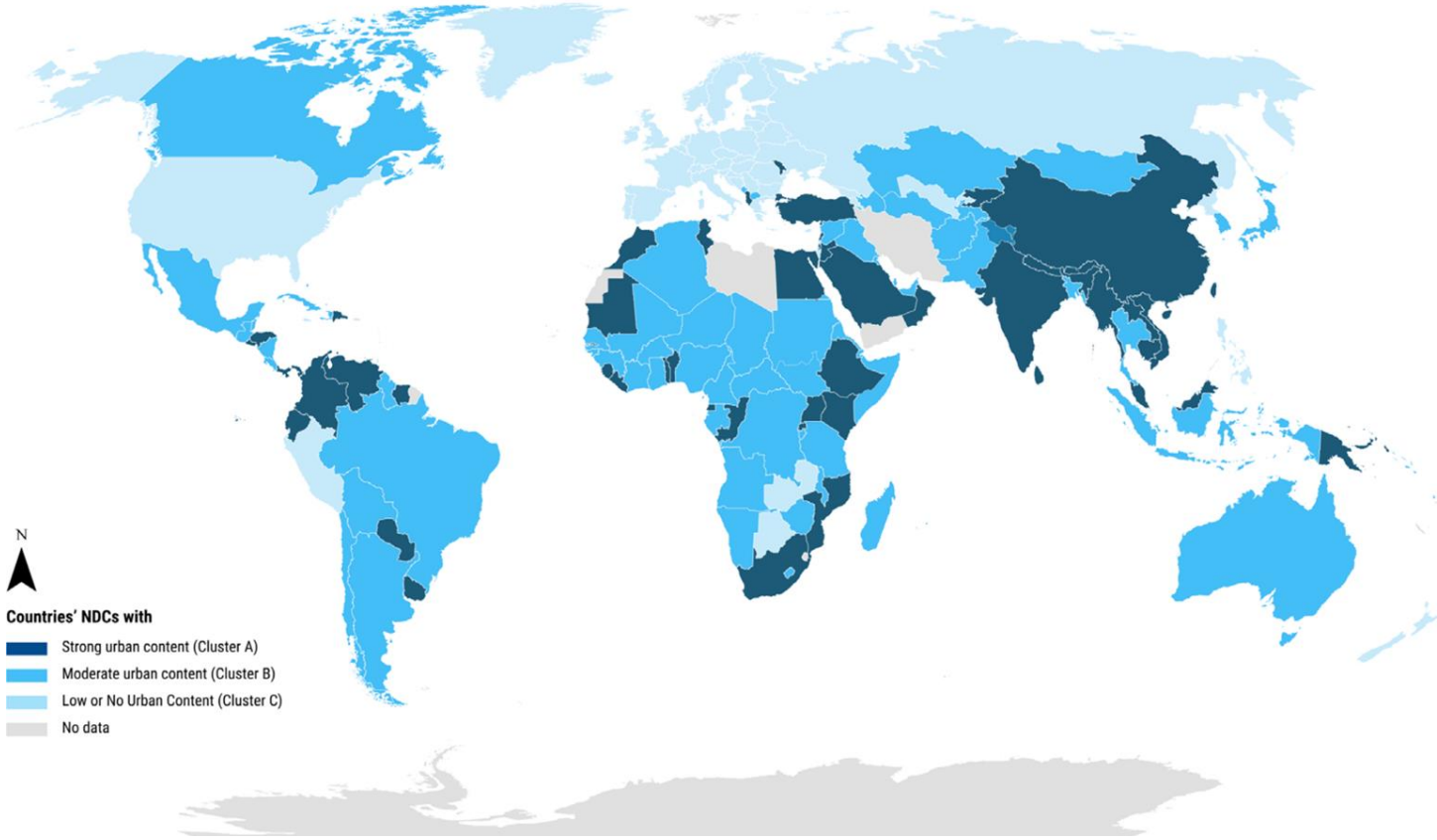
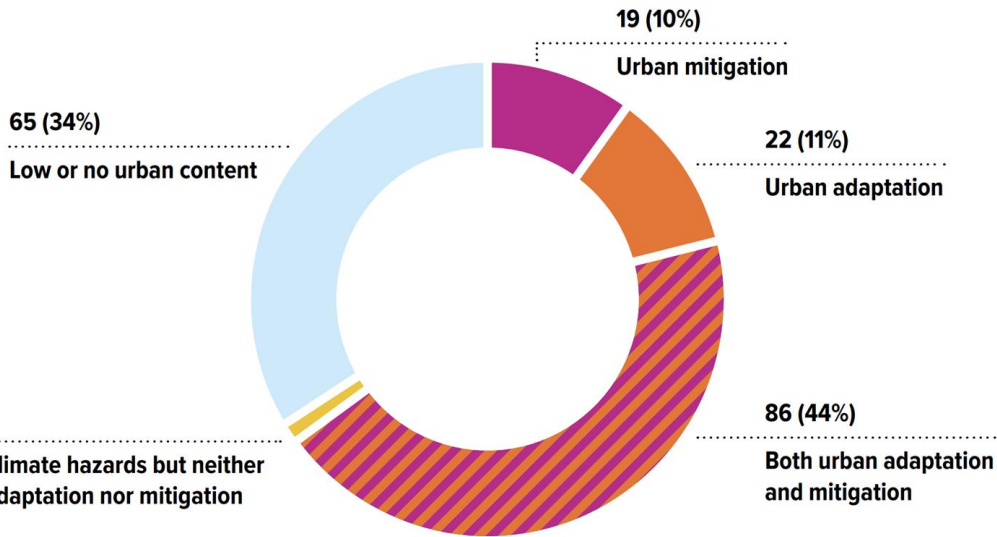
of NDCs have a **strong focus on urban content**

**39%**

of NDCs have **moderate urban content**

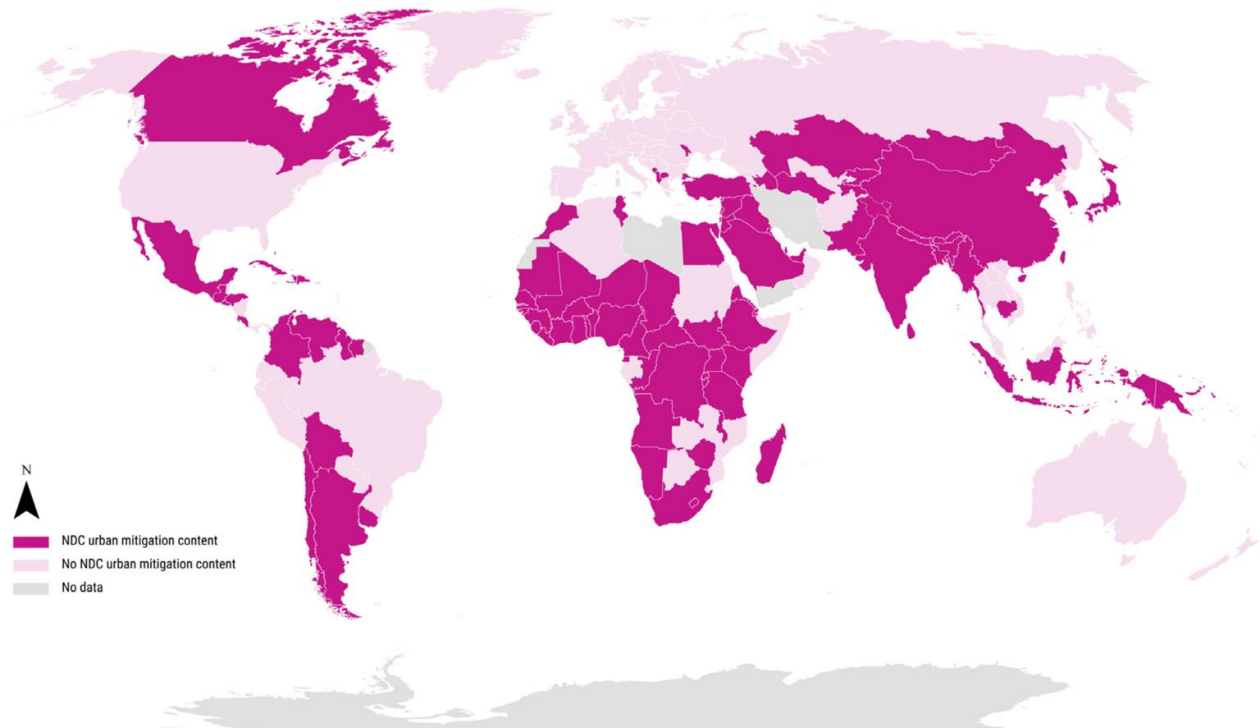
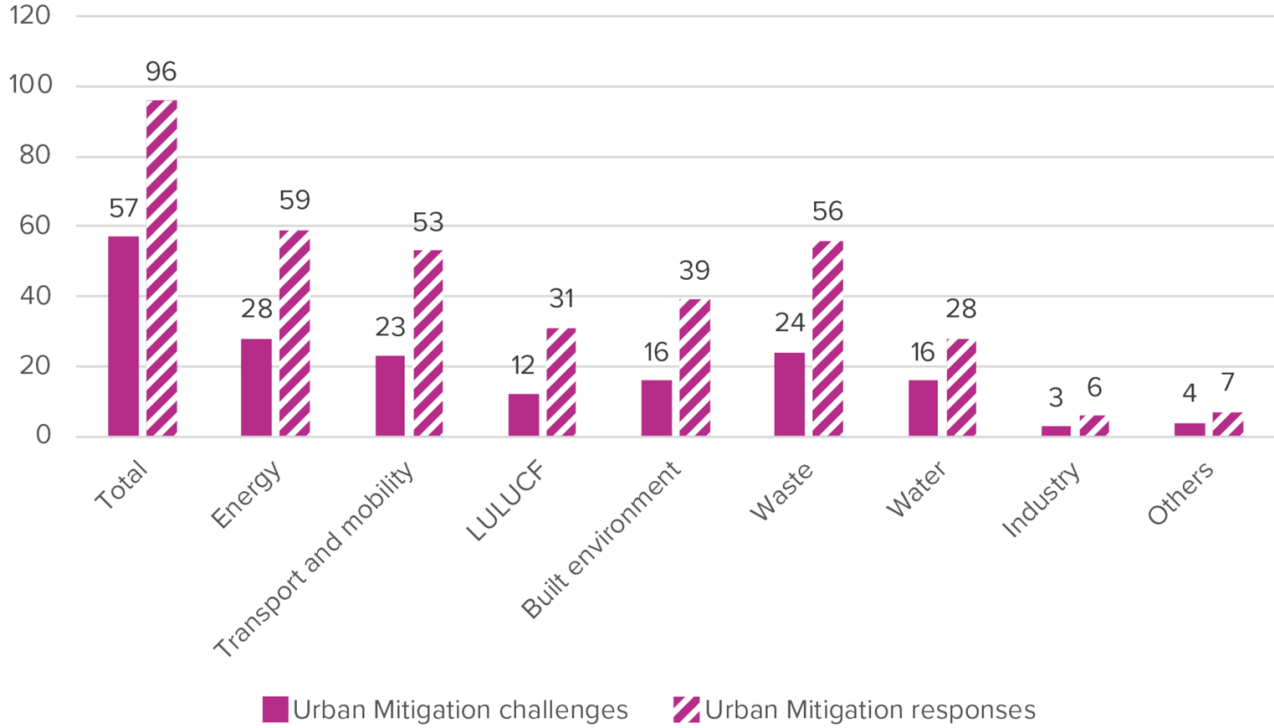
**35%**

of NDCs have **low to no mention of urban content**



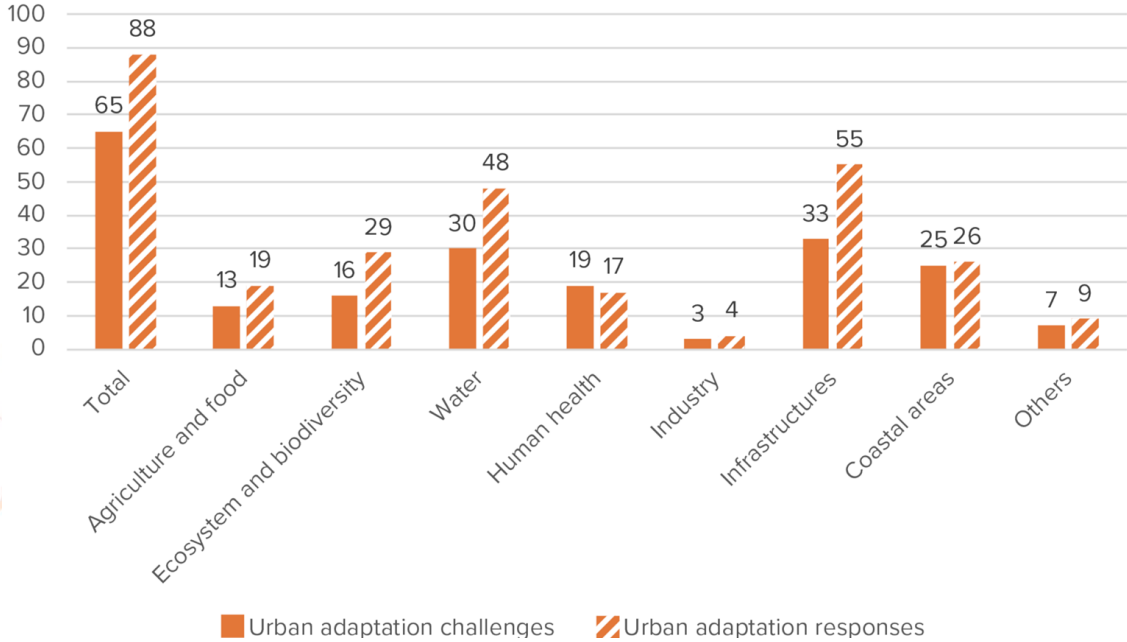
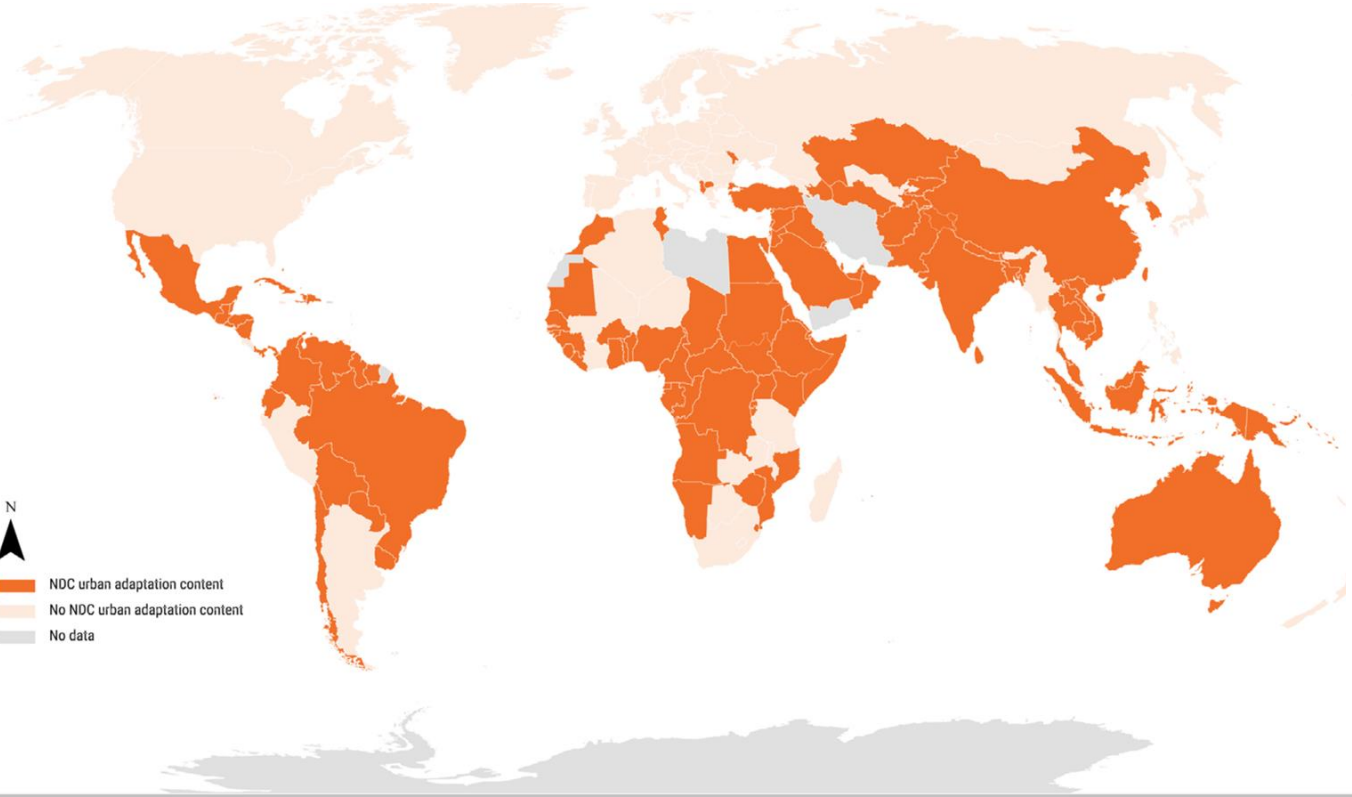
**74% of NDCs could have more urban content**

# Urban Content: Mitigation

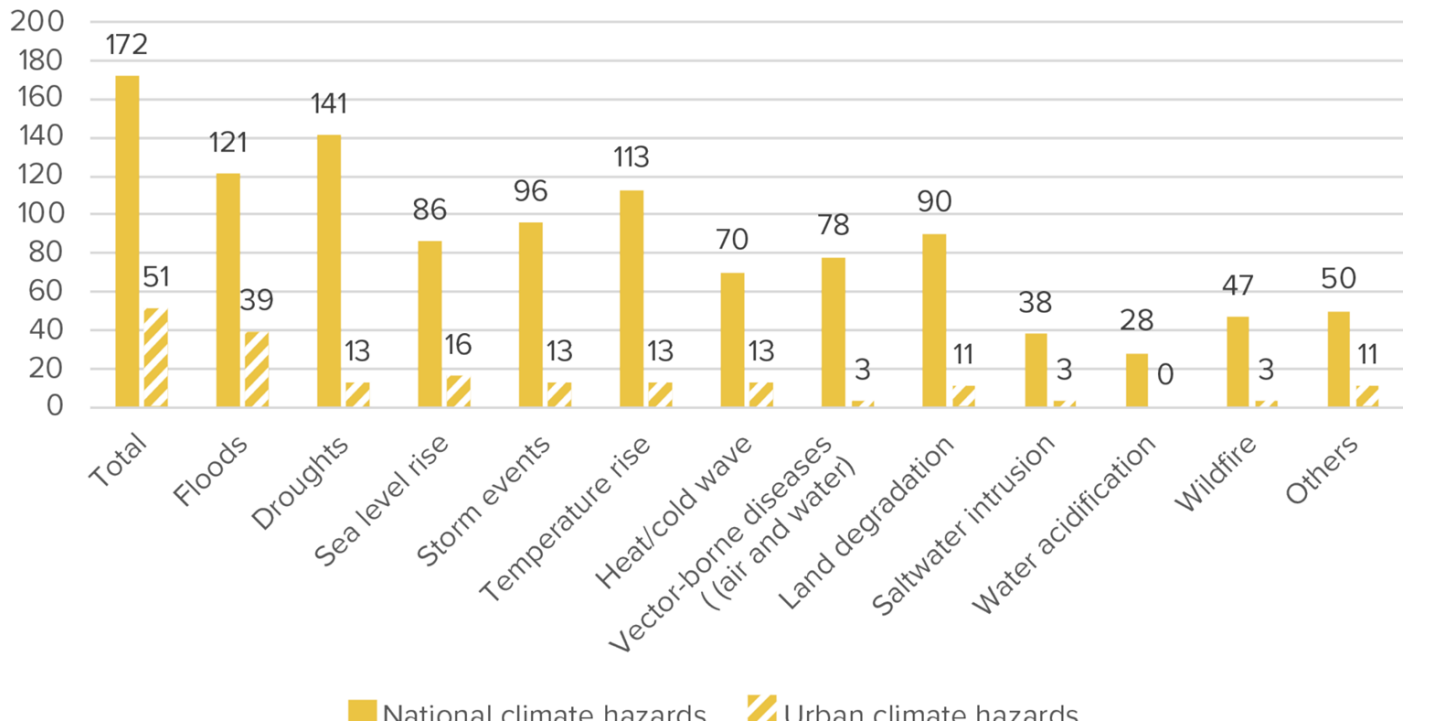
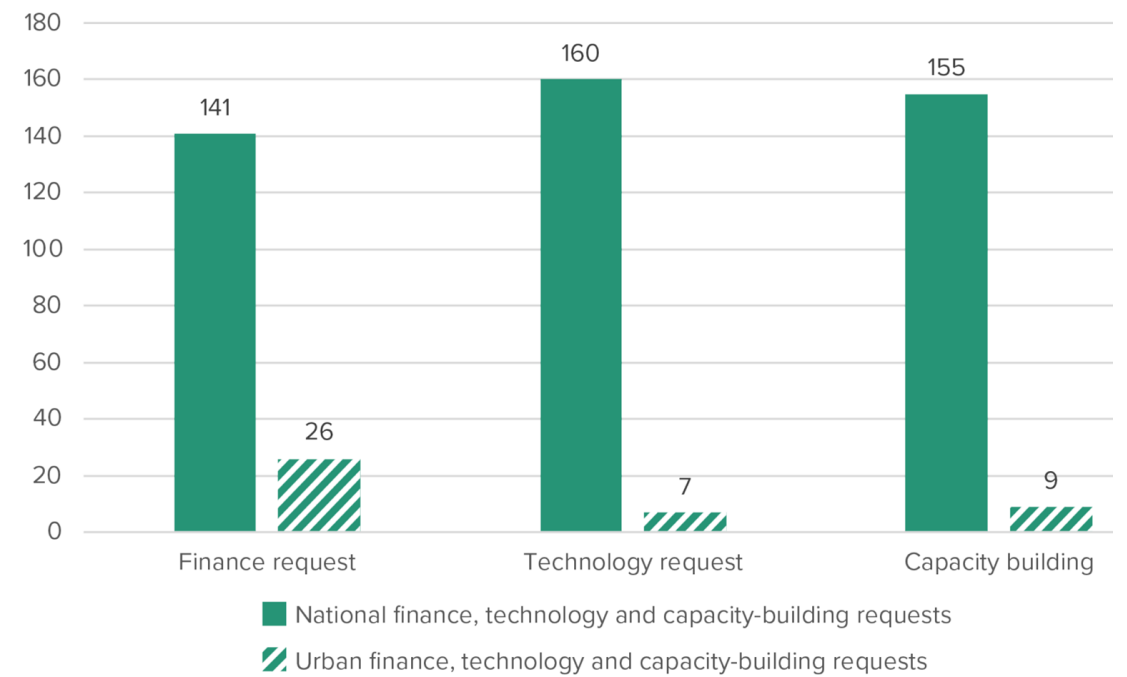
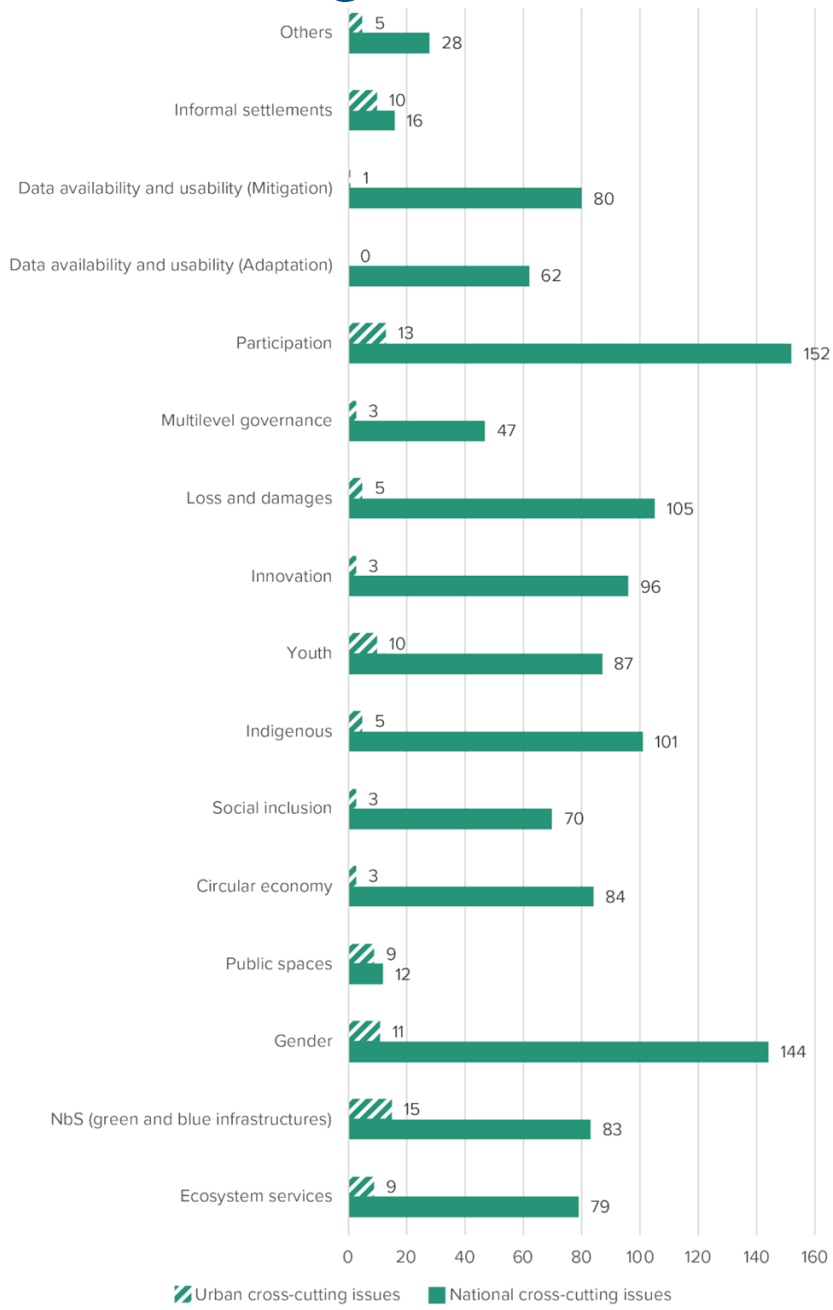




# Urban Content: Adaptation



# Cross-cutting, Mol and Hazards





# Country Profiles

- Qualitative urban aspects of NDCs w/analysis of urban content across major climate-related policies (e.g., NAP, development strategy, LT-LEDS)
- Joint UNDP/UN-Habitat co-authorship + gov't counterpart engagement
  - *What are the key country-specific issues policymakers and practitioners need to know regarding urban climate action?*
- Methodology piloted in Fiji in 2023, and built off 2021 white paper structure
  - *Climate-Related Policies, Strategies or Plans, Mitigation and Adaptation Challenges & Responses, Means of Implementation*

<b>Africa</b>	Cote d'Ivoire	Madagascar	Malawi	Tanzania	Zimbabwe
<b>Arab States</b>	Iraq	Lebanon	State of Palestine		
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>	Fiji	Lao PDR	Nepal	Philippines	
<b>Latin America and Caribbean</b>	Chile	Colombia	Cuba	El Salvador	

# As an example, Colombia is rated as A, with strong urban focus

Colombia

A

Includes a dedicated paragraph on urban content concerning adaptation (NDC, p. 13).

	NATIONAL		URBAN		MITIGATION
	Challenges	Responses	Challenges	Responses	
Energy	●	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the national level, mitigation challenges and responses were identified in the energy, transportation and mobility, LULUCF, built environment, waste and industry sectors, while a mitigation challenge was identified in the water sector.</li> <li>At the urban level, mitigation challenges were identified in the built environment and industry sectors, while mitigation responses were presented in the transport and mobility, waste and water sectors.</li> </ul>
Transport & Mobility	●	●		●	
LULUCF	●	●			
Built environment	●	●	●		
Waste	●	●		●	
Water	●			●	
Industry	●	●	●		
Others					

	NATIONAL		URBAN		ADAPTATION
	Challenges	Responses	Challenges	Responses	
Agriculture & food	●	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the national level, adaptation challenges and responses were identified in the agriculture and food, ecosystem and biodiversity, human health and infrastructure sectors.</li> <li>At the urban level, adaptation challenge and response was identified in the water sector, while an adaptation challenge was identified in the human health sector.</li> </ul>
Ecosystems & biodiversity	●	●		●	
Water	●		●	●	
Human health	●	●	●		
Industry					
Infrastructure	●	●			
Coastal areas	●				
Others					

	NATIONAL	URBAN
Floods		
Droughts		
Sea level rise		
Storm events	●	
Temperature rise	●	
Heat/cold wave		
Vector-born diseases		
Land degradation	●	
Saltwater intrusion		
Water acidification		
Wildfire	●	
Others		

### CLIMATE HAZARDS

- The climate hazards of storm events, temperature rise, land degradation and wildfires were identified at the national level.

# Denmark is rated as C with currently no or low levels of urban content

Denmark

C

No or low levels of urban content.

	NATIONAL		URBAN		MITIGATION
	Challenges	Responses	Challenges	Responses	
Energy	●	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the national level, mitigation challenges and responses were identified in the energy, LULUCF, waste, water and industry sectors, while mitigation responses were presented in the transport and mobility and built environment sectors.</li> </ul>
Transport & Mobility		●			
LULUCF	●	●			
Built environment		●			
Waste	●	●			
Water	●	●			
Industry	●	●			
Others					

	NATIONAL		URBAN		ADAPTATION
	Challenges	Responses	Challenges	Responses	
Agriculture & food		●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the national level, an adaptation challenge and a response were identified in the water sector, while adaptation challenges were identified in the ecosystem and biodiversity and human health sectors and adaptation responses were presented in the agriculture and food, industry and coastal areas sectors.</li> </ul>
Ecosystems & biodiversity	●				
Water	●	●			
Human health	●				
Industry		●			
Infrastructure					
Coastal areas		●			
Others					

	NATIONAL	URBAN
Floods		
Droughts	●	
Sea level rise		
Storm events		
Temperature rise		
Heat/cold wave		
Vector-born diseases		
Land degradation		
Saltwater intrusion		
Water acidification		
Wildfire		
Others		

### CLIMATE HAZARDS

- The climate hazard of droughts was identified at the national level.



# Recommendations

- 1 Strengthen national climate ambitions by improving the urban climate focus in NDCs.
- 2 Strengthen multi-level governance through vertical integration of national climate policies with subnational strategies and plans for better urban climate action.
- 3 Strengthen multi-level governance through horizontal integration by ensuring coherence of urban climate action across national policies.
- 4 Develop a national framework for efficient and effective urban climate action and avoid siloed approaches in favour of integrated and cross-sectoral strategies.
- 5 Facilitate the participatory development of NDCs, including involving subnational stakeholders.
- 6 Jointly identify subnational, urban and local needs for finance, technology and capacity-building. Likewise, identify the corresponding means of implementation and include these in NDCs.

# Recommendations

- 7 Monitor, report and verify urban climate action.
- 8 Strengthen the analysis of urban climate challenges, including urban climate risks and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, to more clearly articulate actions and define baselines for urban climate mitigation and adaptation.
- 9 Build the capacities of national and urban stakeholders for stronger inclusion of urban content in NDCs and to support urban climate action and its implementation.
- 10 Communicate the urban dimensions of NDCs to the global community.
- 11 Finance urban climate action.
- 12 Progressively strengthen the urban dimensions of future NDCs.



## Future work

- **Continuous monitoring** of the Urban Content of the NDCs
- Analysis of the urban content of **LT-LEDs** and **NAPs**
- Quantitative analysis of **other national climate policies**
- Analysis of **multilevel climate governance process** at national level
- Analysis of **local climate plans** in selected countries
- **Thematic analysis** (e.g. water)
- Analysis of **means of implementation** (finance, technology and institutional capacity)
- **Capacity building** for practitioners and policy makers
- **Guidelines for strengthening the urban content** of specific national climate policies
- Policy briefs on specific topic







<https://unhabitat.org/urban-content-of-ndcs-local-climate-action-explored-through-in-depth-country-analyses-2024-report>

**2024 Report**

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