

WHS – Global Alliance for Urban Crises Vision and Mission

People want to be treated with dignity and to know that their life matters..... People want to express their needs and desires, and know that their voice makes a difference. People want to be recognized and empowered as the central agent of their lives and their futures. And people want to thrive, to be self-reliant and to improve life for themselves and for their families. These needs, desires and aspirations do not stop in a crisis. (One Humanity, Shared Responsibility: Secretary-General's Report to the WHS #17)

Vision

The Global Alliance for Urban Crises aims for a world in which cities and human settlements are inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable and in which urban communities, their leaders and members have the power, capacities and resources to successfully address the risk and reality of humanitarian crises, to mitigate crisis impacts on the most vulnerable and to enable affected community members to determine, with dignity, the course of their lives and their futures.

Mission

The Mission of the Global Alliance for Urban Crises is to provide an innovative platform for a global, multidisciplinary and collaborative community of practice, including and empowering affected communities and municipal leaders – from local government, civil society organizations and the private sector – to prevent, prepare for, effectively respond to and constructively move on from urban humanitarian crises.

- The Alliance is committed to achieving a fundamental shift of power, authority and capacity to urban communities and their leaders to enable them to determine their own preparedness, response and recovery strategies to humanitarian crises. It promotes the active participation of affected people – with special attention to the leadership and participation of women – in decision-making processes that affect them.

- The Alliance provides expertise and innovation from many walks of life, including municipal government, urban planning, environmental protection, the financial and private sectors, the worlds of science, technology and communications, humanitarian and development practice and others, to support localized crisis management and empowered local authorities in at-risk urban communities.
- The Alliance will ensure that the context-appropriate coordination, strategies, capacities and tools are in place to enable urban communities to better address the humanitarian risks and vulnerabilities that they face and to strengthen their resilience.
- The Alliance will advocate for the inclusion of an urban crisis resilience focus in all other relevant communities of practice, for example those addressing the impacts of climate change, forced displacement and migration, global health risks, gender equity, youth engagement, good governance, or innovations in communication technology and organizational behavior.
- The Alliance will advocate for and mobilise appropriate financing mechanisms and funding windows, mobilise and where appropriate, direct and/or advise on the equitable allocation of financial, human and material resources to most at-risk urban areas.