

# Resilient Cities Action Package (ReCAP21), Rwanda

## Resilient Cities Action Package

### Background & Relevance

Around the world, cities are fighting the pandemic against a backdrop of multiple existing shocks and stresses, and emerging vulnerabilities, while striving to put equity, economy, and climate action at the centre of their recovery approaches. As cities plan for recovery and investment in key services and infrastructure, they must also address the underlying stresses exposed by the pandemic.

Smart, green investments and interventions with resilience principles in mind can create a triple dividend: helping cities boost their economies; promote sustainability; and strengthen communities. The Resilient Cities Action Package (ReCAP21) therefore supports selected cities in Bangladesh, Rwanda and Mauritania on their way to a green and resilient recovery.

Rwanda is located in central Africa and has a tropical climate with hilly topography stretching from east to west, which makes it particularly vulnerable to flooding and landslides. Rwanda is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. In addition, the high levels of poverty and informality and inadequate infrastructure in the country increase its vulnerability to such impacts.

Addressing the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as increased unemployment and increased food insecurity offers Rwanda a unique opportunity to put measures in place that can simultaneously overcome the impacts of COVID-19 and climate change. In June 2020, Rwanda committed to a green, sustainable recovery as the country manages the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic ([Ministry of Environment, 2020](#)).

### ReCAP21 Objectives

Selected cities are better able to implement plans and measures for a resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Increase the capacity for combatting future public health threats (including primary health care, health management, public life)
- Identify priority recovery action packages (short- and medium-term planning) cross-sectorally with high resilience value
- Support the implementation of small-scale measures (with positive reciprocal effects between pandemic resilience and ecological, social, economic goals)
- Global knowledge exchange on resilient recovery in cities

### Duration

April - December 2021

### Funding

ReCAP21 is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with 1 million Euro from its special fund to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic in partner countries.

### Implementing Partners

The Sector Project Cities is working with these partners to implement ReCAP21 on the ground:

- Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI)
- Resilient Cities Network (R-Cities)
- Cities Alliance
- GIZ Mauritania

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### Activities on the country level

- 1) Resilience training and agenda setting
  - Country training workshops on resilience & green recovery
  - Resilience Fundamentals Training for 15-20 participants over the course of two weeks (proposed focus: resilience infrastructure, planning, prioritization, financing)
- 2) Talanoa-Dialogue
  - High level virtual multilevel governance dialogue / minister-mayoral on current status and next steps in urban climate action (organised by ICLEI)

### Activities on the city level

- Support already existing resilience plans (R-Cities) and climate action plans (ICLEI) and integrate resilient and green recovery considerations
- Support one city in seeking external investment and implementing 2 Transformative Action Plans (TAPs) previously developed with ICLEI considering smaller projects designed under Urban-LEDS II for larger scaled projects (e.g. installing large-scale solar PV system)
- Facilitation of connection to PPFs and/or potential investors, including the Gap Fund

- Screening and improving of TAP projects, development of shortlist with resilience/ Green Recovery considerations
- Implementation of a visioning workshop with city leaders and development of a resilient recovery action plan for the City of Kigali (R-Cities)

### Kigali

ReCAP21 measures will build on pre-existing efforts to improve urban resilience (e.g. the Kigali Resilience Roadmap). As part of ReCAP21, the City successfully submitted 2 applications to the TAP. The first project will develop more inclusive public spaces throughout a vulnerable informal settlement. The second project will pilot urban agriculture methods in several pilot locations throughout the city to enhance food security. In addition, the city will procure solar streetlights to be installed at health care centers. This will on the one hand support the facilities and build up their resistance to shocks. On the other, the city will save energy costs.

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The city will be supported at an earlier stage in developing resilient urban recovery plans. This will be based on ICLEI's and R-Cities' methods, as well as the City WORKS toolkit.

### Imprint

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