

INACCT

Resilience

Designing Inclusive African Coastal City Resilience

PARTNERS & FUNDERS



PROJECT CONTEXT AND AIM

The INACCT Resilience project focuses on flooding impacts in informal settlements to support coastal urban resilience with a gender-responsive lens. Enhance proactive, inclusive and evidence-informed urban resilience in African coastal cities, by exploring what measures can and should be in place to mitigate disaster, with a specific emphasis on flooding. Focus is on informal settlements and gender responsiveness.

METHODS

The research uses a mixed qualitative and quantitative approach for data collection and analysis, drawing from natural- and social-science methodologies, with intersectionality as a cross-cutting focus. A transdisciplinary approach is adopted, focused on the co-creation of solutions and interventions, and diverse, innovative and inclusive methodologies (photovoice and learning labs).

KEY FOCUS AREAS

- Collaboration across scales – multi-stakeholder partnerships, shared governance and developing state-citizen relationships.
- Knowledge brokering and knowledge to action.
- Participatory, collaborative and creative methodologies e.g. learning labs, playdough modelling, photo exhibitions and PhotoVoice.

RESEARCH CONTEXT



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



- Multi-stakeholder engagement processes ensure a range of perspectives are meaningfully included and represented, with a particular focus on being gender responsive and broadly inclusive throughout the research process.
- 'Bridge builders' are essential for supporting coordination and trust building between communities, municipalities and other stakeholders.
- Learning Labs with stakeholders from across diverse African coastal cities facilitates cross-city engagement.

COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF LEARNINGS



- INACCT leverages innovative communication methods like podcasts, videos, infographics/posters, and PhotoVoice exhibitions to highlight key research outputs and learnings for communities
- Project findings will be elevated and further diffused into policy spaces, with ICLEI Africa and university partners performing important knowledge brokering roles. This will support improved local understanding of during- and post- event community and municipal responses and measures, and inform policy and action.
- Findings and resources will be disseminated through diverse avenues, including the ICLEI Africa platform to promote regional upscaling.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION



- INACCT's approach is inherently iterative, with monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) processes enabling a reflective approach to stakeholder engagement. For example, GESI considerations are linked to the MEL Framework, with key metrics ensuring diverse representation and inclusion. Feedback from diverse gender groups is used to continually refine and improve resilience strategies.

HOW ARE GENDER AND INCLUSION INTEGRATED?

The Gender, Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) approach focuses on adopting and mainstreaming gender responsiveness across the entire project cycle, from planning to implementation. The overall approach is to recognise that all voices, particularly marginalised ones, should be empowered, underpinning the projects proactive and inclusive nature.

EMERGING IMPACT

- Refining and upscaling of community based flood early warning system (CBFEWS).
- Building climate resilience networks across diverse informal settlements in the study cities.
- Inclusive co-production and coalition building with diverse actors (informal communities, local government, NGOs and other stakeholders).
- Building partnerships with linked research projects.
- Strengthening science capacity with community members – bridging traditional and scientific knowledge for strengthening flood resilience.
- Policy impact – ongoing across scales e.g. informing national policy for disaster risk planning of human settlements, and city policy review (informing climate change mainstreaming).

Collaboration and communication: Essential for sharing knowledge and resources for climate resilience.



Inclusivity in policy development: Crucial to involve diverse community members in policymaking.



Resilience in Informal settlements: Highlighting adaptability while cautioning against romanticising inequalities.



Role of knowledge brokering: Facilitates translating community knowledge into actionable change.



Need for practical solutions: Urgent need for funding and support for existing low-cost disaster solutions.



Consideration of cultural beliefs: Cultural beliefs need more focus in resilience planning.



Addressing long-term impacts of disasters: Long-term impacts like trauma require holistic research and collaboration.

