

CITY INNOVATION PLATFORM

FOR AFRICAN INFRASTRUCTURE RISK AND RESILIENCE (CIP AIRR)



CIP AIRR is a dedicated platform, created for one major African city at a time, bringing together experts, the private sector and the city's leadership to prototype solutions to major infrastructure and resilience challenges. It starts with an intensive two day innovation event. Dar es Salaam has agreed to be the first CIP AIRR city.

PROOF OF CONCEPT

The initial innovation event in Dar es Salaam is scheduled for the third quarter of 2016. The intention is to set up CIP AIRRs in other major African cities, ideally at the rate of one or two per year.

Goals and benefits in a nutshell:

1. Optimise the system. Bring the essential players within the city's infrastructure system together to discuss systemic blockages and co-create effective, locally relevant solutions.
2. Enable new, forward-looking relationships between leaders from the private sector, public sector and academia to drive smart, resilient infrastructure for the city's future.
3. Generate bankable and insurable infrastructure projects and extend the range of city infrastructure that can be and is insured.
4. Collaborate to develop decision-making that lowers risk and increases shared value.
5. Share global and regional best practice for optimising procurement and other critical processes.
6. Lay the foundations for a city-friendly African finance and insurance hub, capable of reducing risk systematically across Africa's urban infrastructure landscape.

WHO INITIATED THIS?

The initiating institutions are:

ICLEI Africa (the African Secretariat of the world's leading network of over 1 000 cities, towns and metropolises, committed to building a sustainable future) and **Santam** (South Africa's leading short-term insurer). They are working closely with **UNEP FI PSI** (United Nations Environmental Programme Finance Initiative: Principles for Sustainable Insurance) and **ClimateWise** (the global insurance industry's leadership group driving action on climate change risk, facilitated by the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership).

They have been joined by global insurance brokers **Marsh** and other partners are in the process of joining.

Some of these institutions were involved in running the successful pilot workshop in Cape Town in October 2014, out of which this initiative has evolved.

THE PURPOSE OF CIP

A CIP finds, prototypes and implements innovative, systemic solutions to a city's biggest infrastructure challenges.

It is a sustained, focused initiative by a group of public and private sector organisations committed to pioneering the next generation of resilient, liveable African cities. The key to a CIP's success will be the degree to which, over time, the strategies and infrastructure projects it has helped to generate systematically reduce risks and enhance opportunities on the ground for the city's stakeholders. A CIP will take account of fast-changing climate and volatile socio-economic conditions and the emergence of new opportunities arising from these. A CIP will also be a place where networks and relationships can form over time in order to drive shared value for the city and its current and future stakeholders.

CITY INNOVATION PLATFORM?

The intended commitment of a CIP AIRR is for five years to allow significant, visible results to manifest within the city. The process begins with a by-invitation-only, two-day event held in the city.

Prior to this, a project team formed by the initiating group will work closely over several months with the city's leadership, to understand the city's main developmental needs and infrastructure opportunities. During this time regional and global experts, local and global business leaders and stakeholders will be consulted and invited to the two day innovation event, at which roughly 50 delegates will participate.

The purpose of the innovation event is to identify and prioritise a small number of transformative, resilience-building initiatives, form the groups that agree to drive each initiative and set up the basis for their onward collaboration, as well as systems for their support.

The core of the CIP is to gather in one active, collaborative network, the key people who are part of the system that shapes, facilitates and manages the city's major infrastructure: i.e. financiers, insurers, city management, developers, designers, engineers, scientists and community representatives, so they can engage creatively and pragmatically on a focused agenda of innovation and implementation.

By the end of the CIP AIRR's initial period of five years it is expected that decision-making around the city's infrastructure and resilience will have been placed on a decisively new trajectory, with several projects visible "on the ground" and a number of other smart projects in the pipeline. Underpinning this will be a vibrant CIP AIRR network of top professionals who meet periodically across sectoral boundaries in pursuit of truly effective, affordable solutions to African cities' emergent socio-economic challenges.

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