

Session 3: Urban Resilience: Normative Frames and Narratives

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Building Resilient Cities: Harnessing the Power of Urban Analytics

Abstract:

The city lies at the heart of modern life. By 2030, 5 billion people, or about 60% of the world's population, are projected to live in cities, up from the current 3.6 billion people. With population concentrations and growth at that level, the policies and programs established in the management of urban and peri-urban areas will have enormous impact on the physical, mental, social, and financial well being of humanity and the quality and diversity of the environment on the planet. Every policy implemented in the city and every activity undertaken, with rare exception, tend to be directed toward achieving at least one of the following four paramount goals: survival and fostering healthy growth, addressing and prevailing in competition for resources, preventing and overcoming catastrophes and disruptions, and creating and exploiting innovations and opportunities for the benefit of the city and all inhabitants. In the context of the city as a system, resources are critical to outcomes. Data has become a new and important resource. The paper focuses on the capture of data streams and the development of analytics to provide guidance (quantitative evidence) for urban decision-making, policies and programs.



