Urban Resilience Index: Case study of six global cities within the RECREATE project

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Resilience in cities

Resilience is the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and reorganize while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, and feedbacks, that is, the capacity to change in order to sustain identity; resilience is a dynamic concept focusing on how to persist with change (Folke et al., 2010; Walker et al., 2004), how to evolve with change.

Selecting variables

Integration of variables

Identity at the collective level: plural, cross-cutting, live, and divided (Calhoun, 1994).

Cultures are groups of people who share knowledge, beliefs, norms, and behaviors (Geertz, 1977).

Results

The first group is formed by Beijing (0.563), Shanghai (0.531), and Vienna (0.529) with higher resilience values, typically higher than 0.5 in the URI assessment.

The second group is formed by Malmo (0.450), Baltimore (0.448), and Sao Paulo (0.445), with lower values for resilience.

Locations

Following the best in class

A pattern emerges for the three higher resilient cities: high values in population, except for Sao Paulo which has the highest value in this dimension. These cities continue with high values in the economic, health, environment, and identity dimensions. The only dimension where these cities are not the benchmark is in the governance dimension, which might suggest that the overall higher resilience is a byproduct of the whole system, and not only from the

Conclusions

Cities formed two different groups in terms of resilience: Beijing, Shanghai, and Vienna is the highest URI when compared to Malmo, Baltimore and Sao Paulo.

Resilience in URI appears as a system property, instead of a dominant dimension

References


