



# ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities

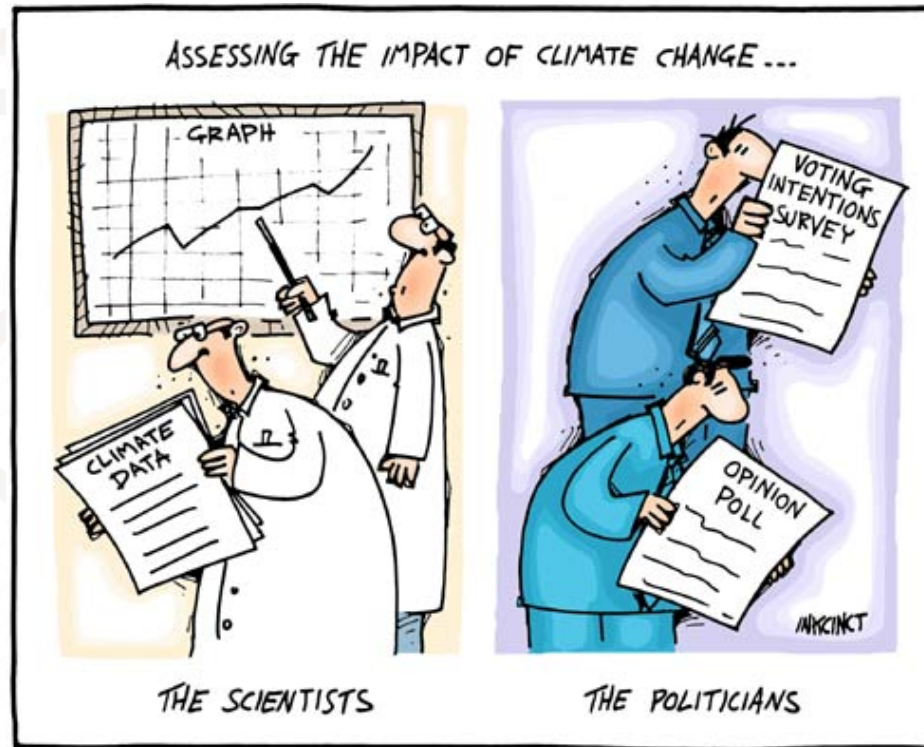
## *Building Smart, Sustainable & Climate Resilient Cities*

Smart Sustainable Cities Training  
Program Module 2

SSC-2



# Climate Change Adaptation in Cities



**"Adaptation is the only means to reduce the now-unavoidable costs of climate change over the next few decades"**  
**Nicholas Stern, October 2006.**





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# 1. Aims of this Module

1

- Present an overview of climate change impacts in cities and how cities respond to this challenge

2

- Enable you to understand how ICT can support cities in climate change adaptation policies & programs

3

- Provide you practical examples of ICTs use for climate change adaptation in cities

4

- Enable you to understand the importance of ICTs for climate change adaptation in cities



## 2. Introduction to Subject

# Climate Change Challenges in Cities



**1) Mitigating Climate Change:** cities generate CO2 emissions in sectors such as transport, waste management, electricity.

→ Smart Services reduce CO2 emissions (Smart buildings, smart transport, smart grids, etc)

**2) Adapting to climate change:** cities will be vulnerable

- Cities are called to become much more resource-efficient & resilient
- Infrastructure needs to be introduced to cope with rising sea level, floods, heat waves, and storms.
- **ICTs have roles to play in sensing, mitigation and adaptation.**



# 2. Introduction to Subject

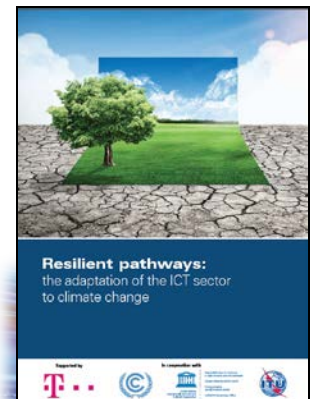
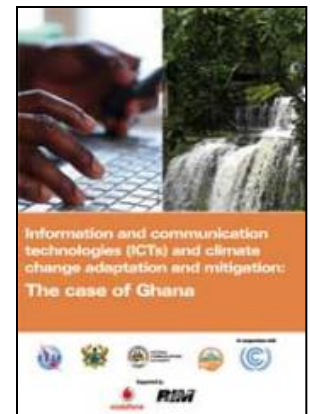
## ITU-T activities on ICTs & C. Change Adaptation

### 1) Question 15/SG5 – ICTs & adaptation to the effects of climate change

- ITU-T L.1500 - Framework for ICTs & adaptation to the effects of climate change
- ITU-T L.1501 - How countries can utilize ICTs to adapt to the effects of climate change
- ITU-T L. Infrastructure\_Adaptation - on adapting the ICT infrastructure to the effects of climate change
- ITU-T L. Cities\_Adaptation - on how ICTs can help cities to adapt to the effects of climate change

### 2) Development of Reports

- ICTs and Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation. *Case of Ghana*
- Resilient Pathways: The Adaptation of the ICT Sector to C. Change





## 2. Introduction to Technical Report

### “Information & Communications Technology for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities” (March, 2015)

→ Contribution to the work on ICTs & climate change adaptation of Question 15/5 of ITU-T Study Group 5.

→ Part of WG2 “Infrastructure” documents. City infrastructure will be heavily affected by climate change

→ Report written by the ICT Sector and United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

→ First document of its kind : Cover Cities & includes practical examples of ICTs for climate change adaptation



# 2. Introduction to the Technical Report

## Key Definitions

- It refers to changes in processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change



Adaptation

- Is the degree to which geophysical, biological and socio-economic systems are susceptible to, and unable to cope with, adverse impacts of climate change



Vulnerability

- The ability of a system to adjust to climate change, to moderate potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities, or to cope with the consequences



Adaptive  
Capacity

Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Box 1, page 3-4 (IPCC, 2007)



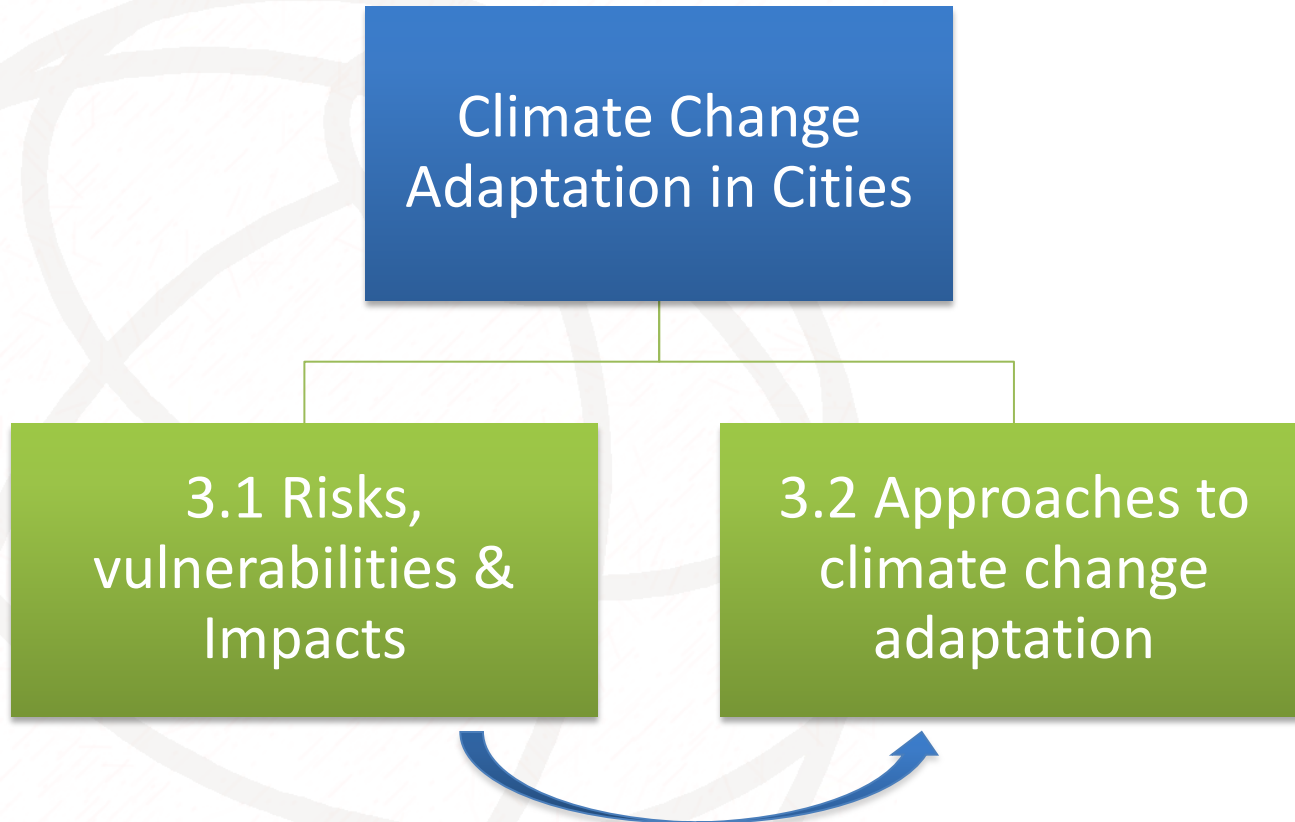




# 3. Climate Change Adaptation in Cities



# 3. Climate Change Adaptation in Cities

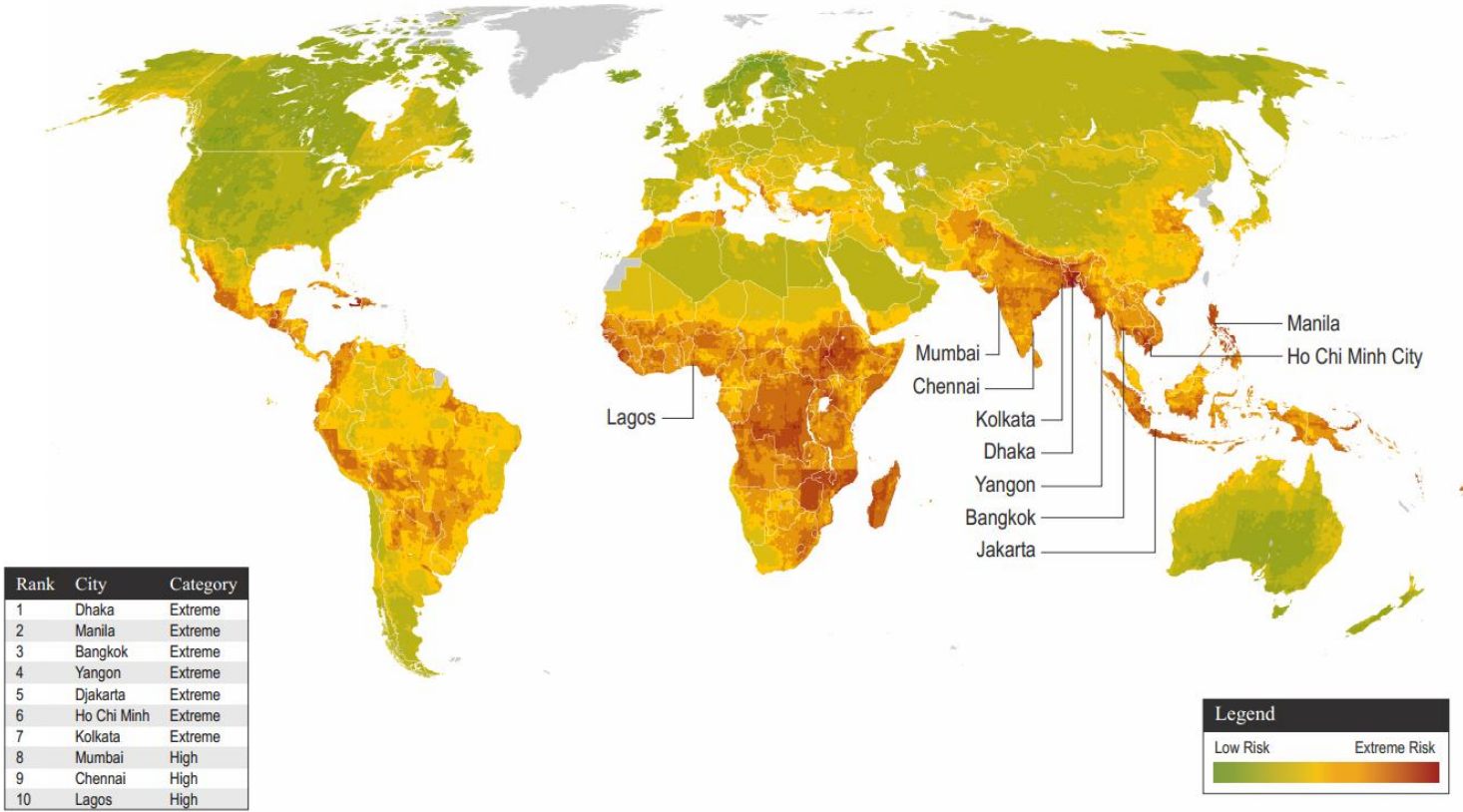


Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Box 1, page 2-12

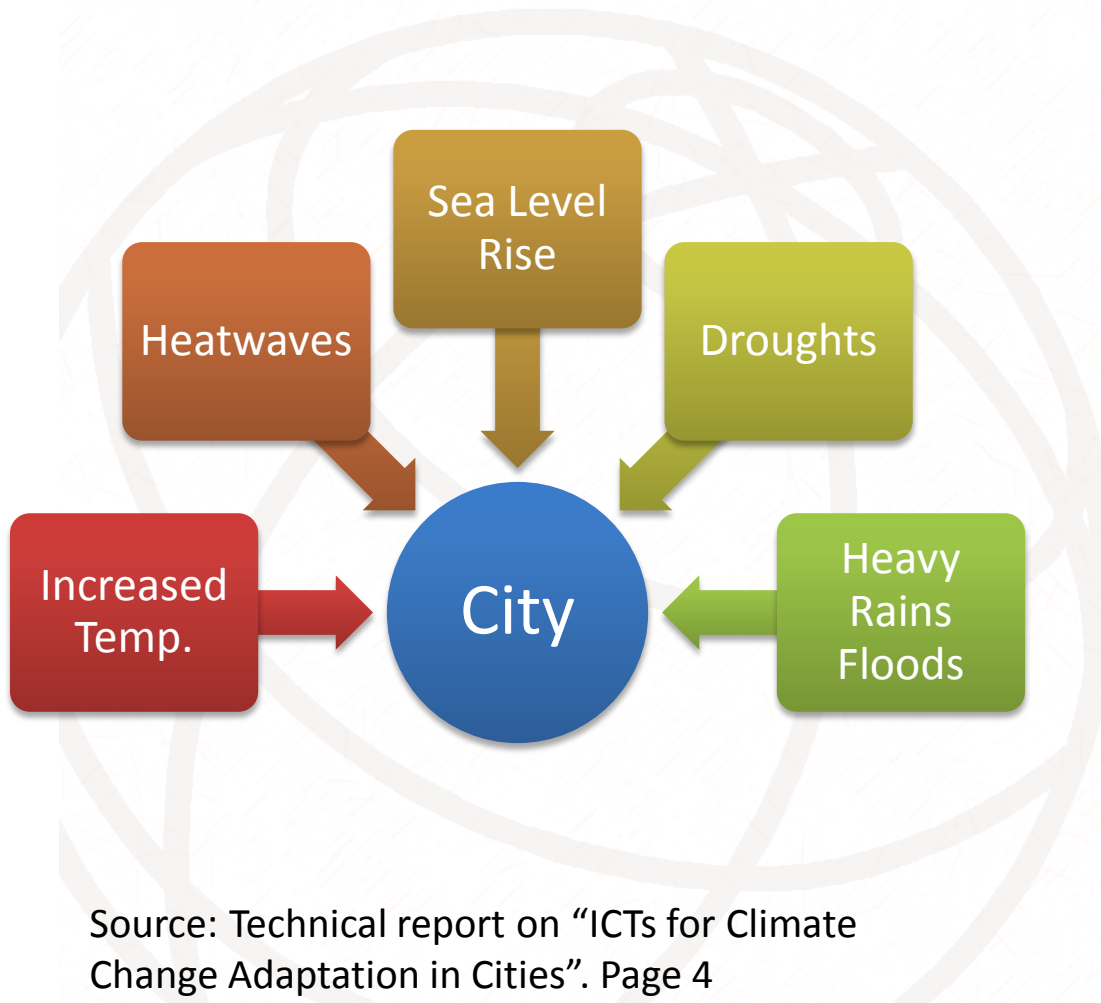


# 3.1 Risks, Vulnerabilities & Impacts

Climate Change Vulnerability Index 2013 – Most at risk cities 



# 3.1 Direct Climate Change Impacts



**Coastal Cities:** are exposed to extreme coastal water level events. 65% of cities in the world with population greater than 5 million are in these areas.

**Inland cities:** They are found in the interior part of the mainland. These cities like their coastal counterparts are also at risk .

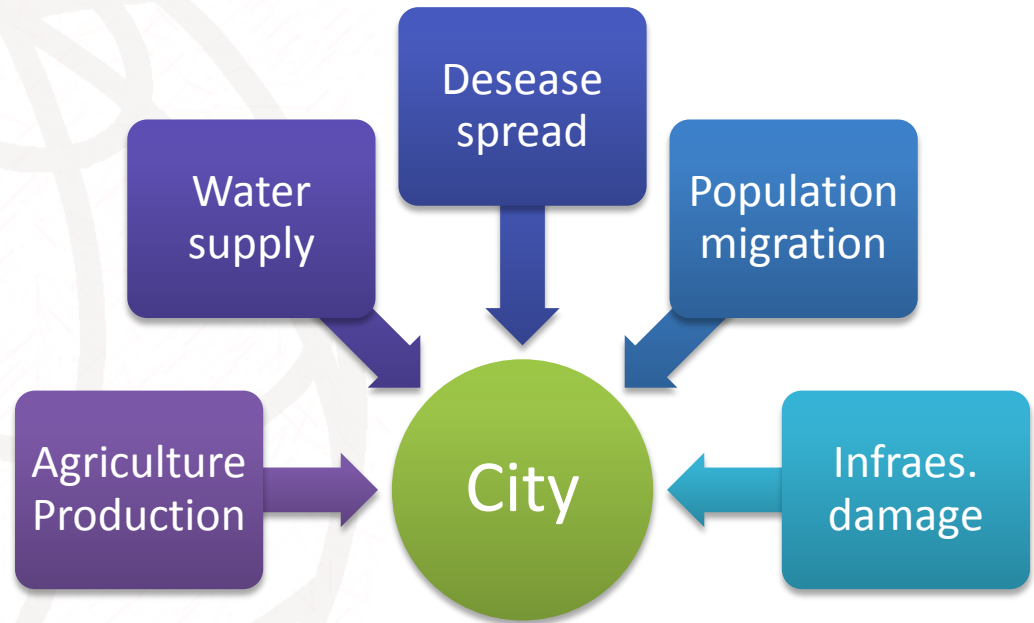
Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Page 4



# 3.1 Indirect Climate Change Impacts

The specific impacts on each city will depend on the actual changes experienced, and on **their geographical location**, among other factors.

City Infrastructure and services may be affected including **ICT Infrastructure**



## 3.2 Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation in Cities

- UNFCCC has established that countries must develop National Adaptation Plans (NAP) and Cities should apply the same planning principles.

<b>Element A. Lay the groundwork &amp; address gaps</b>	Identify available information on climate change impacts, assess development needs and climate vulnerabilities
<b>Element B. Preparatory elements</b>	Analyze current & future climate change scenarios; assess vulnerability per sector level, review adaptation options and communicate plans.
<b>Element C. Implementation strategies</b>	Prioritizing climate change adaptation in national planning and enhancing capacity for planning and implementation.
<b>Element D. Reporting, monitoring &amp; review</b>	Monitoring the NAP process. Assess & report progress and effectiveness.

Source UNFCCC:

[http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/publication\\_ldc\\_nap\\_techguidelines.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/publication_ldc_nap_techguidelines.pdf)

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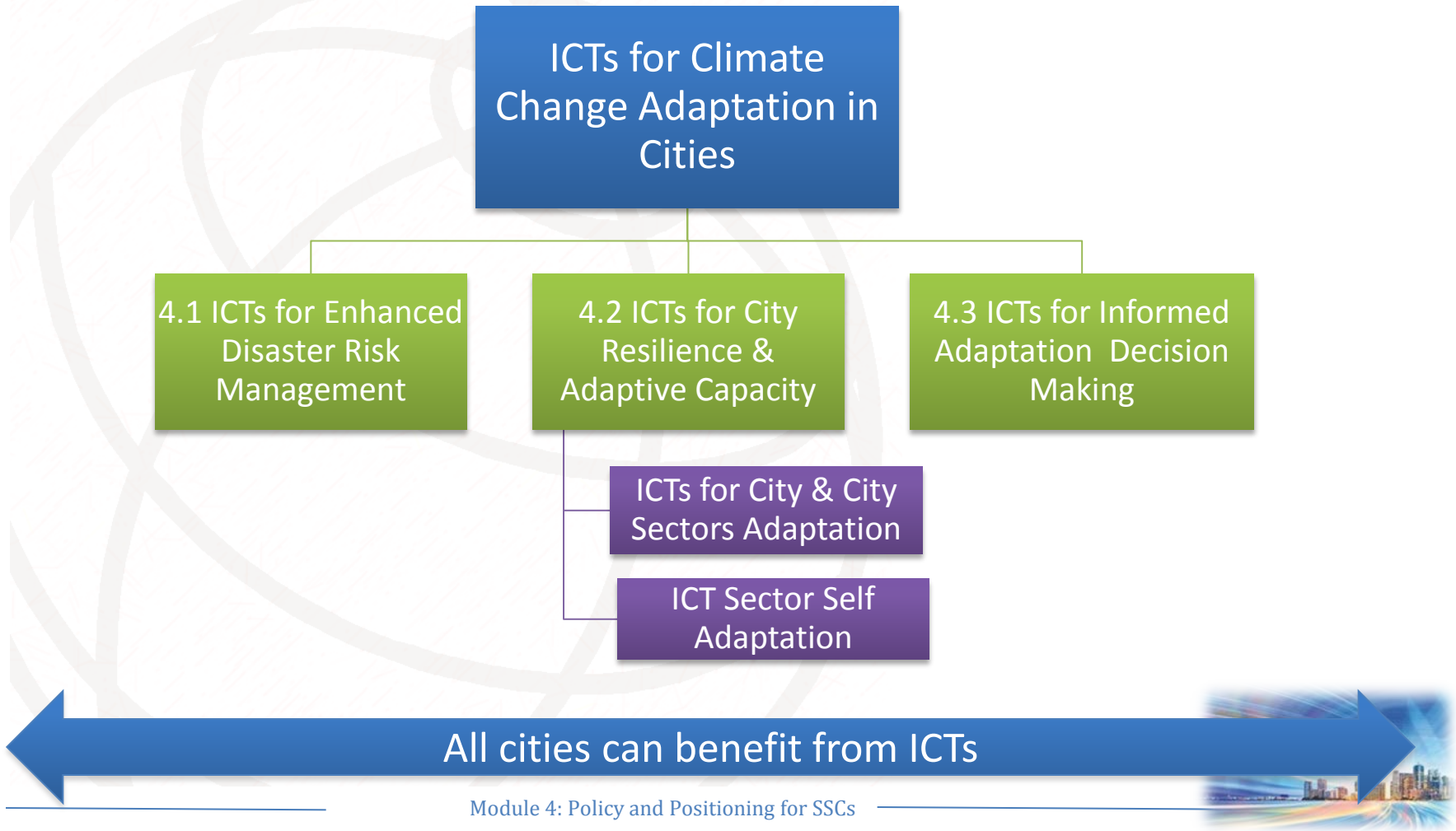




# 4. ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities

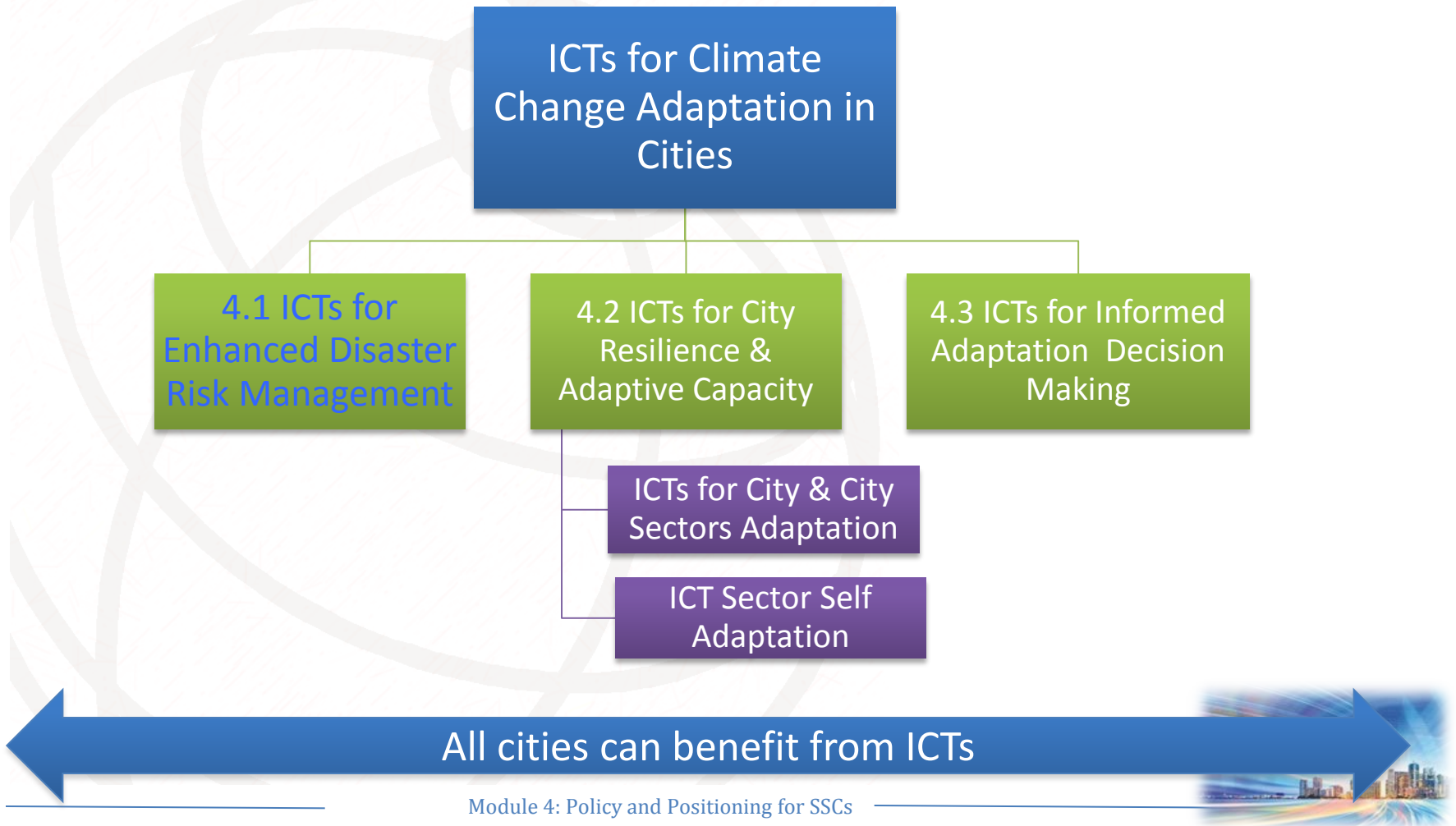


# 4. ICTs Role for CC Adaptation in Cities



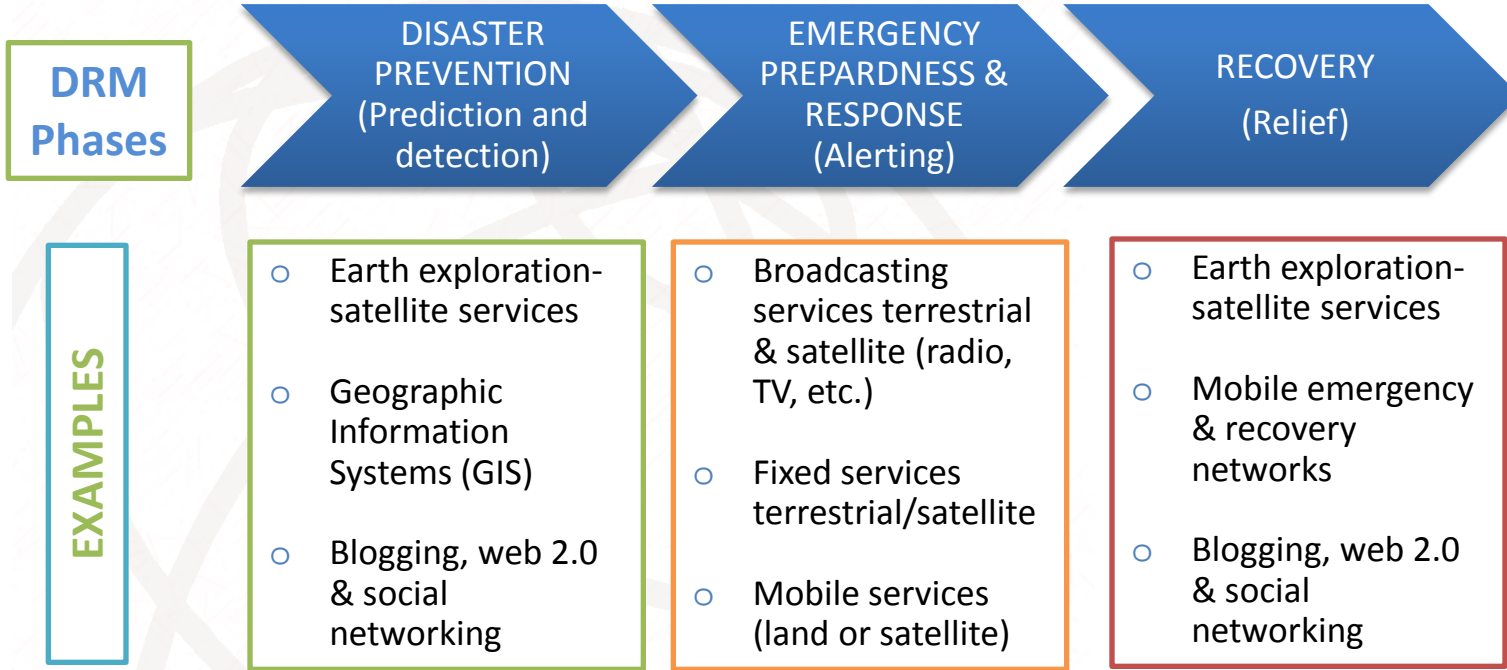


# 4. ICTs Role for CC Adaptation in Cities





# 4.1 ICTs for enhanced Disaster Risk Management (DRM)



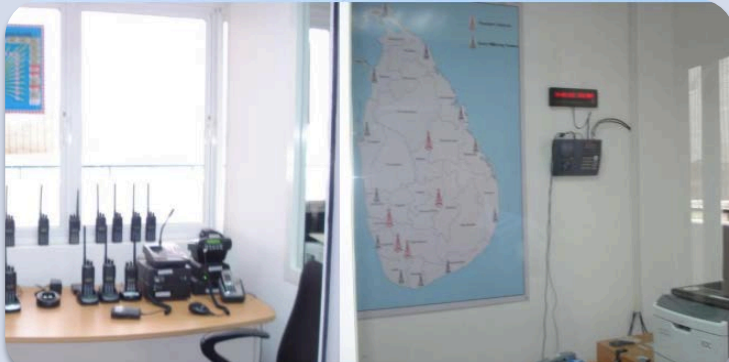
**ITU-T Standards for DRM**

*-ITU Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) – general format to exchange all-hazard emergency alerts. Increase warning’s effectiveness & simplify warning tasks.*

*-ITU-T E164 that assigns the country code 888 to the UN Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)*



# 4.1 ICTs for Enhanced Disaster Risk Management



## Colombo - Sri Lanka

### Disaster Early Warning Network (DEWN)

- *Provide timely, reliable & cost-effective massscale disaster early warnings.*
- *Via Cell Broadcast (CB) & short messages (SMS)*



## Mexico City - Mexico

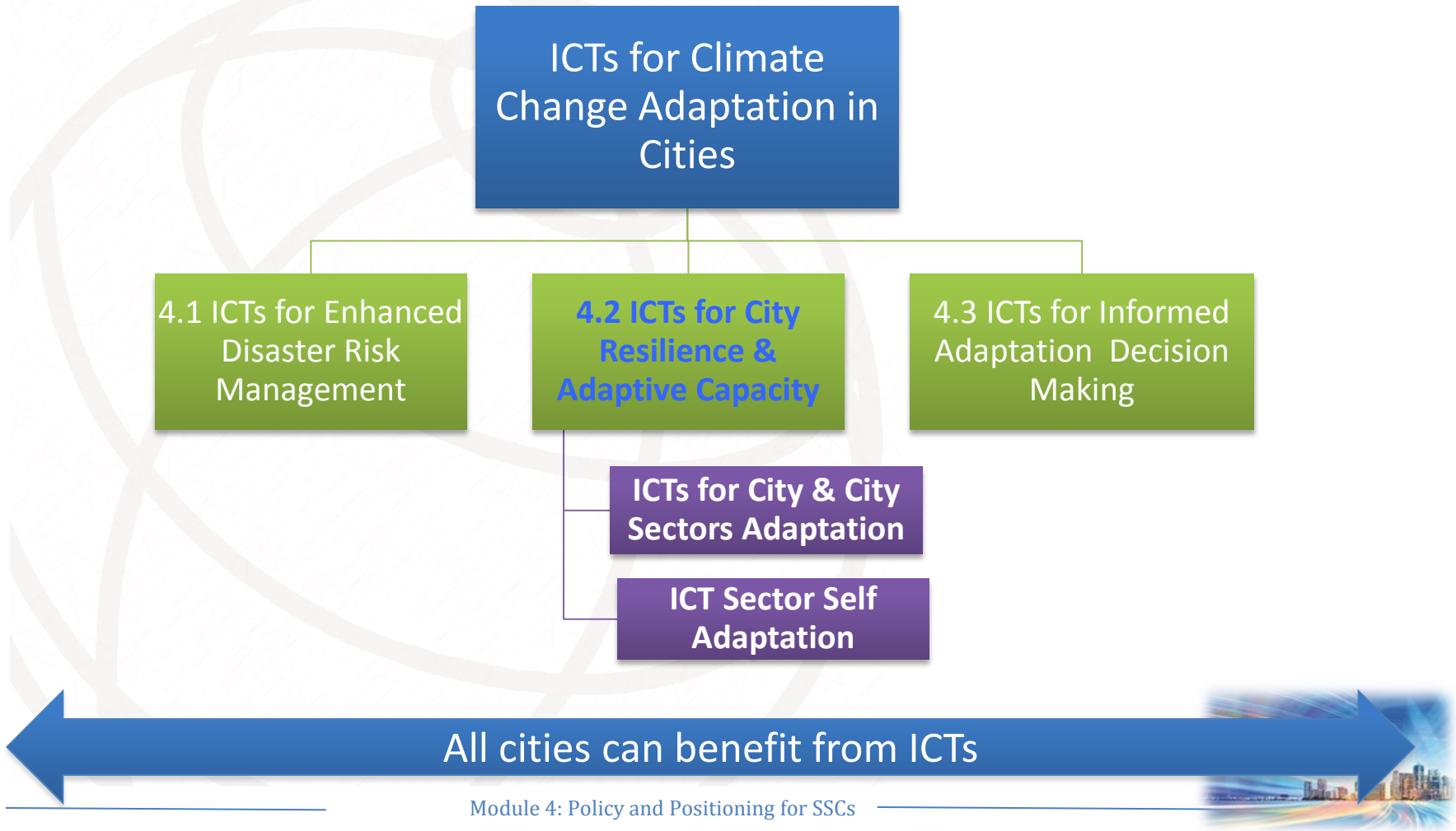
### Virtual Centre on Climate Change (CVCCCM)

- *Decision making tool disaster early warnings*
- *Metropolitan hydro.meterological monitoring (fires, native crops recovery, etc)*

Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Box 1, page 15-16 & Sri Lanka <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/documents/CAPWKSH-2014-01-07-DMC.pdf> México <http://www.cvccm-atmosfera.unam.mx>



# 4. ICTs Role for CC Adaptation in Cities





# ICTs for City Resilience & Adaptive Capacity is possible



Picture Source: World Bank, Climate Change Cities Leadership Program

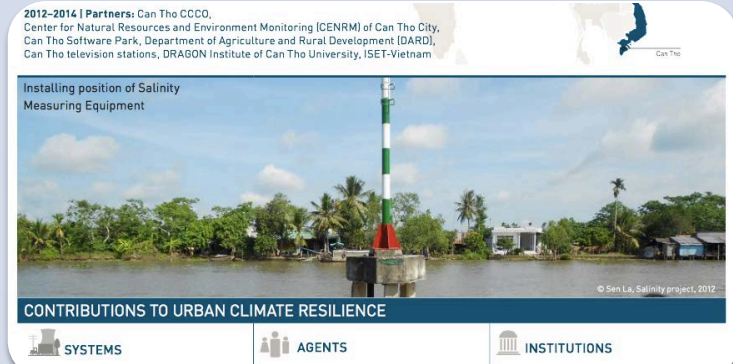


# 4.2 ICTs for City Resilience & Adaptive Capacity



## Brest - France

- ClimSAT (UNDP) – TASK (UNEP)
- *Climate Science & technology hub for local & global support*
- *Satellite-based technology to monitor & model c. change effects.*
- *UNEP Territorial Approach to Global Change Services & Knowledge → TASK*



## Can Tho - Vietnam

- Real Time Monitoring for responding saline intrusion (CVCCCM)
- *City surface water system used for food & crops . Municipal water supply affected by sea level rise.*
- *Installation of real time salinity monitoring points linked to public warning systems via salinity maps*

Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Page 17 & 20

CanTho: [http://training.i-s-e-t.org/wp-content/uploads/iset\\_vietnam\\_casestudy\\_cantho\\_salinity\\_1304181.pdf](http://training.i-s-e-t.org/wp-content/uploads/iset_vietnam_casestudy_cantho_salinity_1304181.pdf)

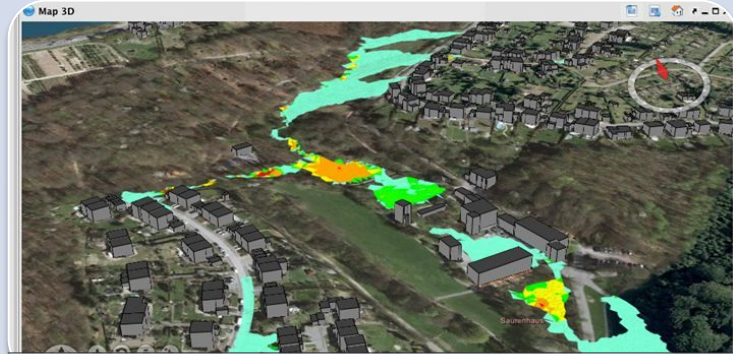


# 4.2 ICTs for City Resilience & Adaptive Capacity



ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in city agriculture sector. Miyagi (Japan)

- Fujitsu has worked with farmers to provide sensing network, cameras and cloud service system for environmental monitoring
- System to control GHG temperature, humidity, etc



ICTs for urban planning & climate change adaptation. Wuppertal (Germany)

- SUDPLAN Web-based planning, prediction & training tool to support long term urban planning.
- Facilitated 3D models to simulate the surface drainage during a heavy rain event, allowing climate planning.

Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Page 20-21 & Germany SUDPLAN:  
<http://sudplan.eu/results/workshop/sudplan-workshop/sudplan-workshop-on-climate-change-and-urban-planning-1.26065>



# 4.2 ICTs Sector Self-Resilience & CC Adaptation



## Information Technology & Telecommunications Network Resiliency New-York (USA)

- *After Sandy the city decided “A stronger more resilient NY”*
- *Program to guarantee telecommunications services resilience planning & preparation. All Telecom Operators collaborate*



## Telecommunications Networks Climate Risks Management – Lima (Peru)

- *Telefonica has worked to manage the rainy season in Peru which affects mobile networks base stations with floods.*
- *Risk management and preparation in other counties of South America*

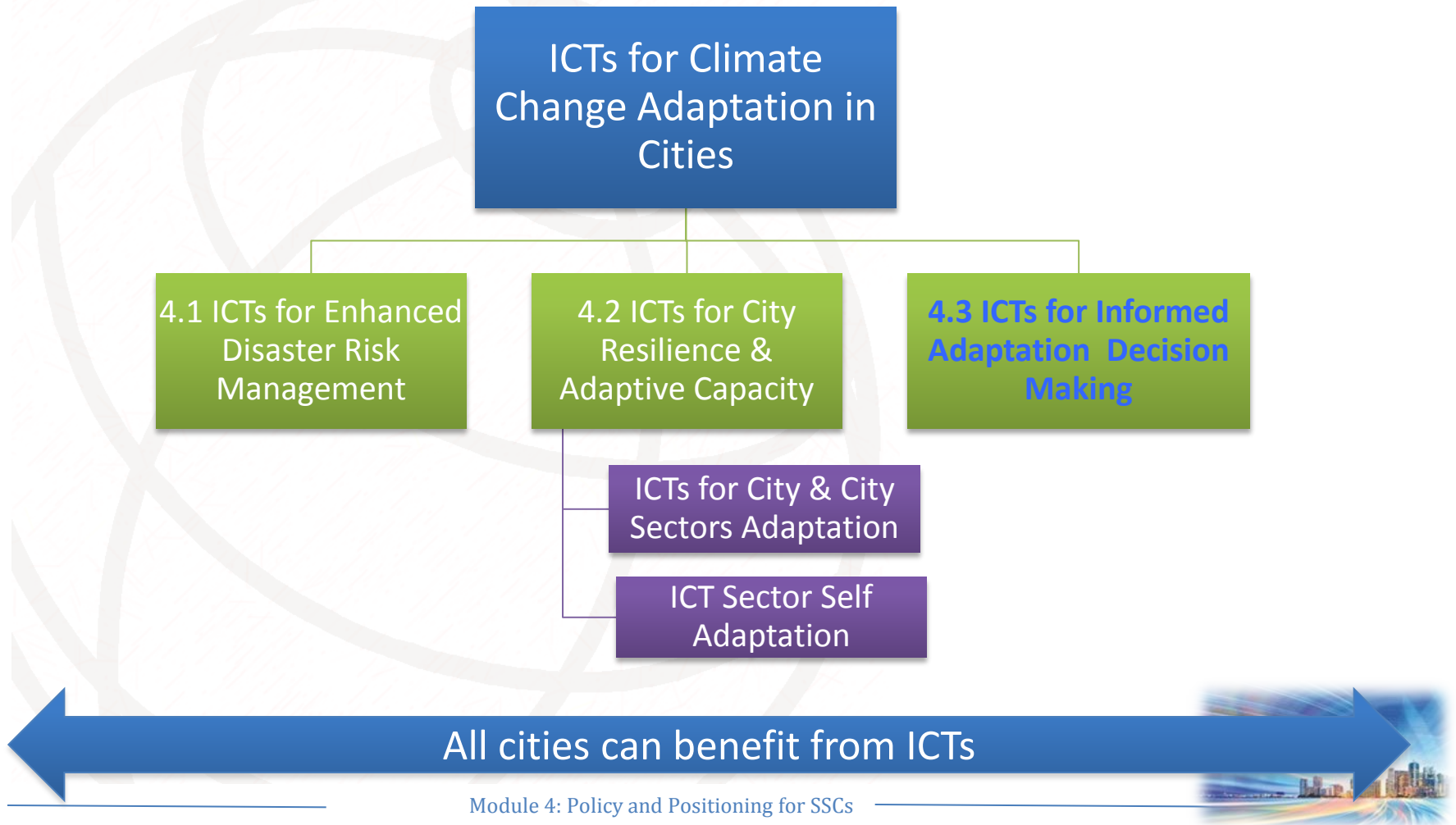
Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Page 18-19

New York: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doitt/html/citywide/citywide.shtml>

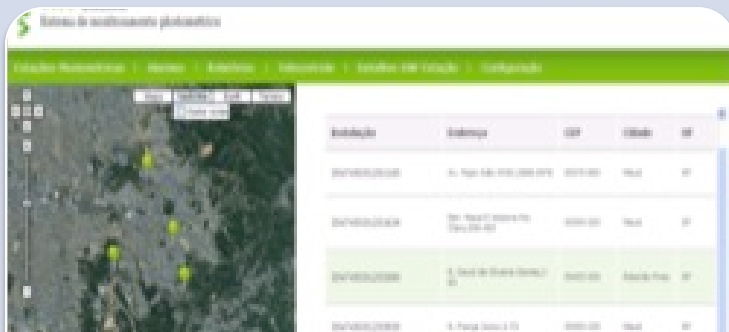




# 4. ICTs Role for CC Adaptation in Cities



# 4.3 ICTs for Informed Adaptation Decision Making



Vivo-Clima: Real time rain monitoring & pubic information delivery. Maua Town (BRAZIL)

- *Vivo Clima is a platform M2M that receive rain information in real time. Captured in web for pubic access*
- *Pluviometers installed in cell sites of Telefonica. Captured SMS are sent through mobile network (3G/GPRS)*



Social Media for Rising Temperature Adaptation Eldoret (Kenya)

- *To raise public awareness about how to adapt to climate change & raising temperatures*
- *Receive information on temperature through Facebook page and SMS in their phones*

Source: Technical report on “ICTs for Climate Change Adaptation in Cities”. Page 22-23

Eldoret: <http://www.trust.org/item/20130716085920-k63xg/?source=spotlight>





# 5. Framework to include ICTs in Climate Change Adaptation Policies in Cities



# 5. Framework to include ICTs in Climate Change Adaptation Policies

**Setting the basis. Observation and understanding**  
*(ICTs inside the initial evaluation)*

**Assessing climate change risks and vulnerabilities**  
*(Assess vulnerabilities including ICT infrastructure)*

**Planning of adaptation options**  
*(ICTs to find options and ICTs as an option)*

**Implementation of adaptation actions**  
*(Adaptation options into actions with business models)*

**Monitoring and evaluating adaptation actions**  
*(ICTs support in monitoring success)*



## 6. Summary & expected results

- ✓ Adaptation may seem challenging due to cities need to adopt long-term time horizons and cope with deep uncertainty.
- ✓ ICTs can support this process but is important to include them in early stages of climate change adaptation planning.
- ✓ Stakeholder collaboration is needed to integrate ICTs in adaptation plans: central government, cities and citizens
- ✓ There are lots of initiatives on ICTs and climate change adaptation to learn from





# Thank you

More information on ITU, ICTs, Environment & Climate Change

Visit: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/about/groups/Pages/sg05.aspx>

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