



Syllabus

Specialized Module on Cities and Climate Change

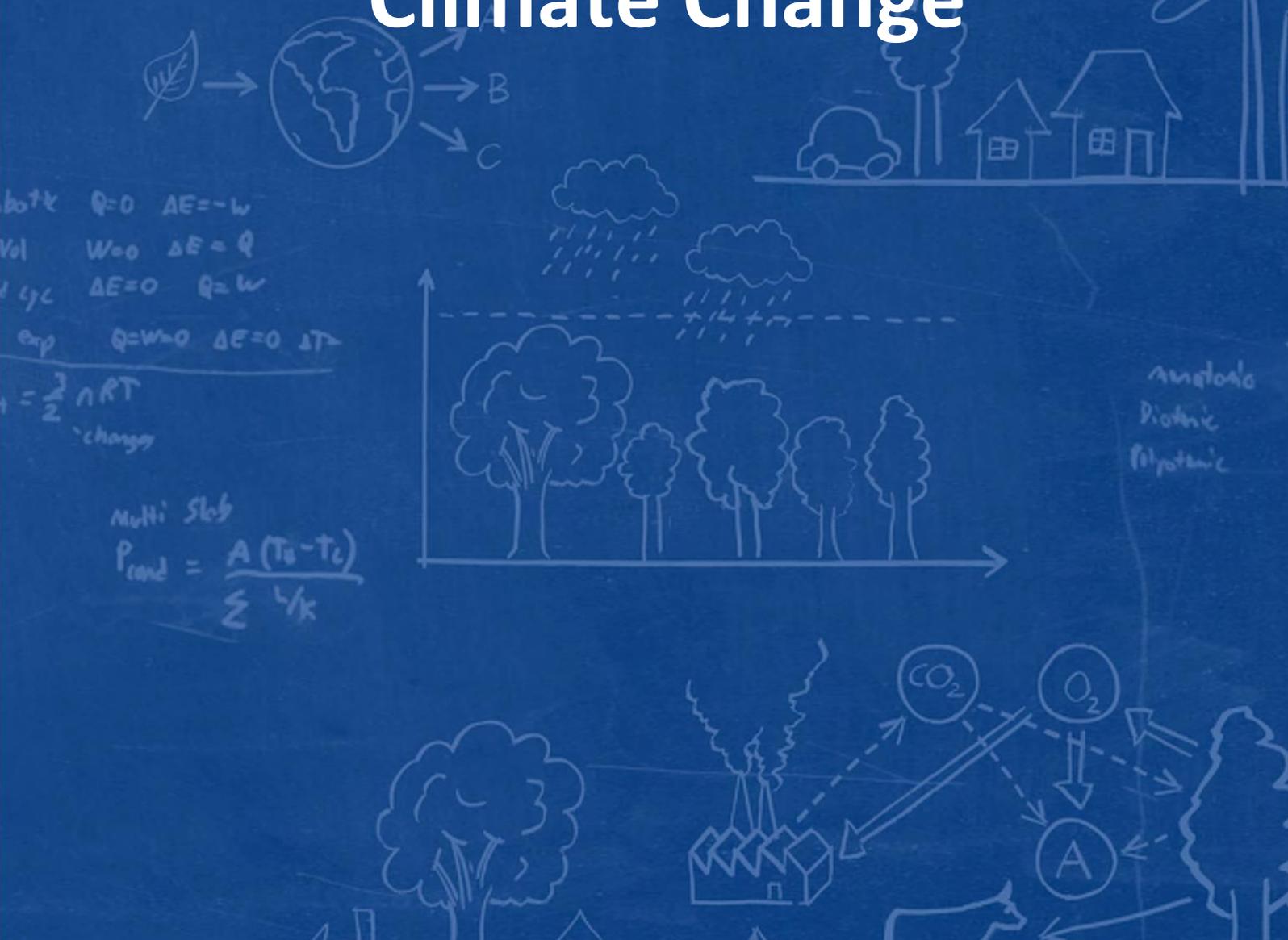


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Background

This specialized module introduces the theme of climate change in urban areas. The world is becoming more and more urban, and therefore cities are important actors in addressing climate change. The module covers both how cities are affected by climate change and how cities are contributing to climate change. In addition, it looks at how climate change adaptation and mitigation can be considered in urban planning and identify concrete measures. Several examples of how cities can play a transformational role in addressing climate change are presented.

The module has been developed and peer-reviewed through UN CC:Learn (www.uncclearn.org), with technical leadership provided by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

Target Groups

The module provides clear, concise and up-to-date information for anybody interested in obtaining a general understanding of climate change in an urban context. It should be of particular interest to the following audiences:

- Civil servants in national ministries, provincial departments and local authorities responsible for developing and implementing urban development policies, programmes or projects and/or working on climate change mainstreaming;
- Managers in private sector and civil society organizations working on climate change and/or urban development;
- Faculty, researchers and students; and
- Interested citizens.

Course Structure and Learning Objectives

This specialized module has six sections:

1. Cities in the 21st century
2. Effects of climate change on cities
3. Cities as contributors to climate change
4. Integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation in urban planning
5. Urban climate change adaptation and mitigation in practice
6. Overview of major initiatives related to climate change and cities

Learning Objectives

After completing this specialized module, participants will be able to:

- Describe urban trends for the 21st century.
- Describe the transformative role that cities can play in achieving green and climate resilient development.

- Explain how urban areas are affected by, and contribute to, climate change.
- Explain how climate change adaptation and mitigation can be considered in urban planning.
- Identify specific adaptation and mitigation measures suitable for urban areas.

Methodology, Certification and Feedback

The module is self-paced and not moderated. It includes an interactive lesson and a quiz. To receive a certificate of completion, the associated quiz needs to be successfully passed.

The *interactive lesson* presents content supported by case studies, videos, external links and exercises. The lesson take around 2-3 hours to complete. The module is also available as a downloadable power point presentation that can be used for offline study or for training purposes. The module also contains a wealth of links to other resources on climate change and are thus a gateway to more in depth and specific information.

The *quiz* can be completed at any time. It assesses the achievement of the learning objectives for the module. The quiz can be attempted a maximum of three times. Once quiz is passed with at least 70% of correct answers, the learner can download a certificate of completion from the course home page.

After the completion, participants will be requested to submit a feedback form, which can be accessed in the 'Certificate and Course Evaluation' section on the course home page.

Technical Requirements

Browser:

- The course works best with Firefox 3.6 or higher (download for free at <http://www.mozilla-europe.org/en/firefox>).
- The course is also compatible with Google Chrome (download for free at <https://www.google.com/intl/en/chrome/browser/>).
- For technical reasons, it is not recommended to use Internet Explorer.
- Note JavaScript & Cookies must be enabled.

Software:

- Adobe Acrobat Reader (download for free at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>).
- Adobe Flash Player (download for free at <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer>).
- Microsoft Office (Windows or Apple version) or Open Office (download for free at <http://www.openoffice.org>).

Platform: Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, ME, XP or superior; MacOS 9 or MacOS X

Hardware: 64 MB of RAM, 1 GB of free disk space

Modem: 56 K

Key References

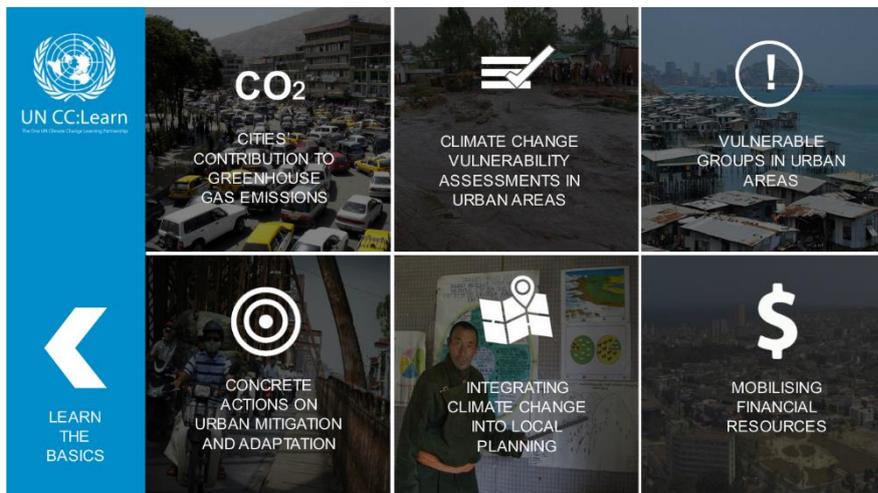
UN-Habitat (2014). [Planning for Climate Change](#)

UN-Habitat (2012). [Going Green: A Handbook of Sustainable Housing Practices in Developing Countries](#)

UN-Habitat (2011). [Cities and Climate Change: Global Report on Human Settlements 2011](#)

To Learn More:

UN CC:Learn (2016). [Resource Guide for Advanced Learning on Climate Change and Cities](#)



About UN CC:Learn

UN CC:Learn is a partnership of more than 30 multilateral organizations supporting countries to design and implement systematic, recurrent and results-oriented climate change learning. At the global level, the partnership supports knowledge-sharing, promotes the development of common climate change learning materials, and coordinates learning interventions through a collaboration of UN agencies and other partners. At the national level, UN CC:Learn supports countries in developing and implementing national climate change learning strategies. Through its engagement at the national and global levels, UN CC:Learn contributes to the implementation of Article 6 of the UNFCCC on training, education and public awareness-raising, and the 2012-2020 Doha Work Programme. Funding for UN CC:Learn is provided by the [Swiss Government](#) and UN partners. The Secretariat for UN CC:Learn is hosted by the UN Institute for Training and Research ([UNITAR](#)).

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