The Global Alliance for Urban Crises (GAUC) is a global, multi-disciplinary and collaborative community of practice. It is an inclusive platform bringing together local governments, built environment professionals, academics and humanitarian and development actors, working to arrive at systemic change in the way we enable cities and urban communities to prepare for, respond to and rapidly recover from the effects of humanitarian crises and urban displacement.

VISION
The humanitarian landscape is changing. Urbanization is defining our global reality and will shape our future. Displacement, conflict and natural disasters are increasingly urban phenomena. The Global Alliance for Urban Crises was established to bring together the different actors who can help to improve crisis preparedness and response in our increasingly urban world. The Global Alliance for Urban Crises promotes a vision of inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities and towns in which urban communities, their leaders and members have the power, capacities and resources to address the risks and reality of humanitarian crises, to mitigate crisis impacts on the most vulnerable, including the displaced, and to enable affected people to determine, with dignity, the course of their lives and their futures.

JOIN US
Over 80 organizations have joined the Alliance, in working towards this vision, promoting the principles outlined in the Urban Crises Charter. Organizations are working together to pilot innovative initiatives, share lessons learned and best practices, promote joint advocacy, assessments and profiling and roster systems on the local, national, and international scale, among other ‘game-changing’ collaborative initiatives. Urban areas may be increasingly at risk, but they also offer opportunities to work differently and ensure crisis response provides immediate humanitarian relief while strengthening urban resilience. We encourage broad membership across the different constituencies: 1) local governments, 2) the United Nations System/International Non-Governmental Organizations/Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies, 3) academia and knowledge brokers, 4) networks of urban professionals, 5) grassroot organizations and 6) member states

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Link to the
URBAN CRISSES CHARTER
and visit http://www.urbancrises.org
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

STEERING GROUP
The Steering Group is the main decision-making body of the Alliance, featuring a balanced group of representatives from all our constituencies – local governments, the United Nations System/International Non-Governmental Organizations/Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies, academia and knowledge brokers, networks of urban professionals, grassroot organizations and member states.

SECRETARIAT
The Alliance Secretariat supports the Steering Group and the Working Groups, with the role of carrying out advocacy, outreach, communications and coordination.

WORKING GROUPS
Through consultations with members of all Alliance constituencies in different regions, the four Working Groups are spearheading key initiatives to that can be catalytic in driving systemic change, while empowering the different constituencies:

WG1 - Objective: Tailoring humanitarian response to the urban context by developing shared assessment and profiling tools, promoting joint analysis, and adapting coordination mechanisms. Co-leads: IMPACT, JIPS, UN Habitat

WG2 - Objective: Developing or working with existing global, regional and national rosters to facilitate the deployment of urban leaders, managers and technical experts. Co-leads: NRC/NORCAP, CANADEM
Knowledge Product – based on: Urban Competency Framework (UCF) for humanitarian action ‘Developing the skills to meet the needs of urban populations in crises through the alliance of urban responders’

WG3 - Objective: Building the evidence base on the specific characteristics of protracted displacement in urban areas and contributing to the design of appropriate and cost-effective responses, with particular regard to protection of vulnerable people, shelter, basic services and infrastructure. Co-leads: IDS, IRC
Knowledge Product: ‘Understanding the Different Approaches to Urban Protracted Displacement’ - a report focused on mapping the different types of responses to protracted displacement in urban settings from the perspectives of key Global Alliance constituencies involved

WG4 - Objective: Ensuring that initiatives focused on building urban resilience incorporate components on resilient response and recovery from crises, and that they leverage greatest impact in cities most at risk of humanitarian emergencies. Co-leads: IRC, UN Habitat, UCLG
Knowledge Product: ‘Building Resilience in the Aftermath of Urban Crises: Bringing Urban Resilience to Fragile Cities’