



## Melaka and its Communities Launch Action Plans to Boost Climate Resilience

- *Two Melaka neighbourhoods, Kampung Morten and Pantai Peringggit, are advancing community resilience through locally driven action plans that tackle heat, flooding and shared public spaces.*
- *Through workshops, surveys and design sessions, residents helped identify the biggest climate risks in their neighbourhoods and shaped a set of practical, locally driven solutions.*
- *The approach helps ensure that the actions reflect local needs and lead to lasting impact.*

**Melaka, 10 July 2025** – In a major step towards strengthening grassroots climate resilience, two new locally driven Community Action Plans (CAPs) have been launched in Melaka. Developed through the Resilience for Communities (R4C) programme, under Z Zurich Foundation's global Urban Climate Resilience Programme (UCRP) initiative, the plans were co-created by the Melaka Historic City Council and Resilient Cities Network, with support from Z Zurich Foundation and Zurich Malaysia.

**YBhg Datuk Hj. Shadan Hj. Othman, Mayor of Melaka**, officiated the launch and emphasised the importance of embedding resilience in everyday urban life, "Resilience is not only about infrastructure and generating capacity, but also about preserving the way we live, work and connect as a city. Melaka's heritage brings responsibility, and we are committed to carrying that forward by investing in climate solutions that work for our people and their future."

Designed in partnership with the communities of Kampung Morten and Pantai Peringggit, the CAPs reflect months of collaboration between residents, city departments, state agencies, researchers, and strategic partners. Each plan outlines a tailored set of priority actions aimed at addressing key climate challenges such as urban heat, flooding, and the need for safer shared public spaces.

By engaging residents through surveys, interviews, focus groups and design sprints, the CAPs identify real, lived challenges and transform them into practical, community-led solutions. The result is a portfolio of initiatives the community can lead, own, and sustain over time, ensuring local relevance, deepened trust and strong momentum for implementation.

"Melaka is leading by example — giving communities a real say in how they prepare for climate risks and supporting them to take action. This is exactly the kind of work the R4C program was built to support. The city is showing how strong local systems — built on trust, participation and good data — can turn climate plans into tangible and sustainable change for people," said **Gregory Renand, Head of Z Zurich Foundation**.

On Zurich Malaysia's involvement, the insurance and takaful operator is stepping up to drive meaningful change in how cities respond to climate challenges, with a strong focus on uplifting communities most at risk. "Melaka represents a significant milestone in our broader commitment to building climate-ready communities," said **Junior Cho, Country CEO of Zurich**



**Malaysia.** “Reflecting our long-standing commitment to Care For What Matters, we’re proud to contribute to this local effort and are mobilising the full strength of Zurich Malaysia. From our teams to our community partners, we are all working together to help turn these action plans into lasting, tangible impact,” he added.

Early efforts are already underway with heat-reflective paint applied to reduce indoor temperatures in Rumah Pangsa Pantai Peringgiti, complemented by a mural to raise awareness through public art. Meanwhile, in Kampung Morten, a new pocket park is being co-designed with residents to create shade and offer a welcoming communal space.

These initial projects are part of broader efforts led by the Melaka Historic City Council to embed resilience across the city. Building on insights from the R4C programme, the Council is also working to strengthen the development of a city-wide command centre for climate response. Looking ahead, the CAPs outline a range of future interventions including drainage studies, nature-based solutions, community greening and shading, early warning systems, heritage heat adaptation, and ongoing education initiatives.

The CAPs were developed with additional support from strategic partners such as NTU, Urban Scale, and other local stakeholders. These community action plans not only guide hyperlocal interventions but also provide a framework for future city-wide resilience planning rooted in community voices.

“This is where the real work begins,” said **Katrin Bruebach, Global Director of Programs and Operations at Resilient Cities Network**. “We now have a shared roadmap shaped by the people who live these risks every day.” she added.

This approach in Melaka demonstrates how inclusive, data-driven, and people-centred strategies can turn resilience goals into meaningful change on the ground. As implementation begins, the city and its partners invite further collaboration with institutions, funders, and grassroots organisations to bring these plans to life.

With its deep heritage and forward-thinking leadership, Melaka is now setting a powerful example for cities across Malaysia, where climate resilience begins with the community.

For more information on UCRP funded by Z Zurich Foundation, supported by Zurich Malaysia and the efforts in building climate-resilient communities, please visit [www.zurich.com.my/about-zurich/corporate-responsibility/urban-climate-resilience-program](http://www.zurich.com.my/about-zurich/corporate-responsibility/urban-climate-resilience-program).

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Notes to editor:

**More about community resilience**



Community resilience, or the ability of a community to bounce back and adapt to climate change, depends on its unique physical, social and economic characteristics. Resilient communities can withstand, recover from and thrive in the face of climate disasters. By understanding how communities perceive risks and their level of awareness, alongside any particular barriers that communities may face, local governments can better help local communities to become more resilient.

### **About Majlis Bandaraya Melaka Bersejarah**

Majlis Bandaraya Melaka Bersejarah (MBMB) or Melaka Historic City Council, is the governing body entrusted with the development, preservation, and administration of the historic city of Melaka, Malaysia. MBMB's mandate is to drive Melaka City towards sustainable growth, resilience, dynamism, smartness, and prosperity, while safeguarding and promoting the unique cultural, historical, and architectural heritage of Melaka. MBMB will continue to improve its quality of service towards residents of Melaka and tourists, with the vision to lead the world class cosmopolitan city. For more information, visit <https://www.mmbb.gov.my>.

### **About Z Zurich Foundation**

The Z Zurich Foundation works alongside Zurich Insurance Group employees and other stakeholders as well as with governments and NGOs in pursuit of a future where people can thrive in the face of increasing climate hazards, where those of us feeling the stresses of life are empowered to speak up, and where the marginalised in our society can reach their full potential.

The Z Zurich Foundation is a Swiss-based charitable foundation established by members of the Zurich Insurance Group. It is the main vehicle by which Zurich Insurance Group delivers on its global community investment strategy.

Visit the Z Zurich Foundation's website to learn more about its work: <https://zurich.foundation>. Follow Z Zurich Foundation on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

### **About Zurich Malaysia**

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## About Resilient Cities Network (R-Cities)

Resilient Cities Network (R-Cities) is the world's leading urban resilience network. It brings together global knowledge, practice, partnerships, and funding to empower its members to build safe and equitable cities for all. Its unique city-led approach ensures cities drive the agenda to benefit the communities they serve. At work in nearly 100 cities worldwide, the Resilient Cities Network supports on-the-ground projects and solutions to build climate resilient, circular and equitable cities while also facilitating connections and information-sharing between communities and local leaders. For more information, please visit <https://resilientcitiesnetwork.org/>.