



CITIES BEAT THE HEAT

**Tuesday, 27 May 2025
14:00-15:15 CEST
Villa Rigot & online**



The World Meteorological Organization confirmed **2024 as the warmest year on record** at about 1.55°C above pre-industrial level. This follows the trend of previous years, which have all been in the top ten of the warmest. **Our planet is becoming hotter and more dangerous for everyone, everywhere.**

“Cities are heating up at twice the global average rate due to rapid urbanization and the urban heat island effect ... [they] are bearing the brunt, as congestion, the built environment and concentrated energy use trap and amplify temperatures” acknowledged the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres in his Call to Action on extreme heat last year.

At the beginning of 2025, **extreme heat already affected many parts of the world**, with temperatures exceeding 45°C in cities in Brazil, India and South Sudan. Heatwaves are on the rise globally, getting hotter and longer due to climate change.

Cities are on the frontlines to prevent, prepare for and manage the impact of heatwaves. More and more cities work on action plans or put in place innovative measures to protect their residents from heat exhaustion.

In the framework of Heat Action Day, join us for an insightful event co-organized by the Global Cities Hub and the Red Cross Climate Centre focusing on how to beat the heat and increase climate resilience in cities.

Speakers:

- **Julie Arrighi**, Director of Programmes, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, & Lead author (Chapter 3), IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities
- **Elissavet Bargianni**, Chief Heat Officer, Athens, Greece
- **Kathy Baughman McLeod**, CEO, Climate Resilience for All

Moderated by Anh Thu **Duong**, Co-director, Global Cities Hub

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