

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT BUILDINGS

## Information and Commitment

Buildings are a significant contributor to the emissions that drive climate change. Buildings and construction operational and process CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are responsible for 37 percent of the global share of emissions. The impact at the city scale is often higher.

At the same time the built environment can provide resilience against the current and growing impacts of extreme weather events exacerbated by climate change.

Building codes (including energy codes) provide a highly effective approach to reducing building-related emissions and enhancing resilience. Unfortunately, their adoption and effective implementation is not commensurate with their impact.

Only 26 percent of countries have adopted mandatory energy codes at the national level for all building types. Further, 82 percent of the population growth expected through 2030 will occur in countries without mandatory energy codes.

Well-designed building regulations, particularly building codes and procurement rules, are the simplest approach to enhancing the reliability and resilience of infrastructure services. Investing in more resilient infrastructure globally, such as adopting and implementation of hazard resilient buildings codes, could also save \$4.2 trillion in climate change damages.

Just as essential as the adoption of building and energy codes that lead to achievement of sustainability and resilience is their effective implementation. Jurisdictions require a robust regulatory infrastructure accompanied by training of all participants in the design, construction, operation, and regulatory process.

### **Therefore, in support of the Buildings Breakthrough and the achievement of sustainable and resilient buildings and communities:**

#### **The non-governmental (corporate or organizational) signatories to the Building Capacity for Sustainable and Resilient Buildings program:**

- Call on and advocate for governments at the national and sub-national level to adopt and effectively implement:
  - » Mandatory energy codes that align with achievement of nationally determined contributions and the delivery of zero energy buildings for all new construction by 2030;
  - » Mandatory hazard resistance codes that result in buildings that are designed and constructed to a level of resilience commensurate with the hazards within the jurisdiction including anticipated future risks due to climate change.
- Commit that all new construction projects and/or products/materials designed or funded by the organization will be designed and constructed in accordance with codes that meet or exceed requirements for the achievement of hazard resilience and align with achievement of zero energy buildings by 2030, even in the absence of national or sub-national building code requirements.

#### **The governmental signatories to the Building Capacity for Sustainable and Resilient Buildings program:**

- Commit, on a timeline commensurate with the urgency of the climate crisis, to the adoption, implementation and maintenance of:
  - » Mandatory energy codes that align with achievement of nationally determined contributions and the delivery of zero energy buildings for all new construction by 2030;
  - » Mandatory hazard resistance codes that result in buildings that are designed and constructed to a level of resilience commensurate with the hazards within the jurisdiction including anticipated future risks due to climate change.
- Commit the resources required to initially assess and continuously implement the structural and technical resources necessary to the effective implementation, enforcement, and maintenance of a building safety regulatory ecosystem in alignment with the achievement of resilience and decarbonization goals. This includes the adoption of building codes through a strong legislative framework.

#### **All signatories to the Building Capacity for Sustainable and Resilient Buildings program:**

- Call on development banks, aid organizations and financial institutions to support the development, adoption and implementation of mandatory energy and hazard resistant codes.

The Building Capacity for Resilient Buildings Program is led by the International Code Council. For additional information and to become a program partner, please contact Joe Sollod at ICC at [jsollod@iccsafe.org](mailto:jsollod@iccsafe.org).