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Panel 1.3: Educating Global Changemakers

How to Incorporate Social Equity in Resilience Strategies

This study will draw from the resilience strategies written by various cities (Wellington, Christchurch, Honolulu, and San Francisco) so that other cities in the Asia-Pacific region can learn from them. As many cities around the Asia-Pacific are experiencing similar climate change effects, such as sea level rise, social inequity, and aging infrastructure, it is important that cities share best practices to ensure that the needs of the most at-risk populations are addressed. It is the population living at or below the poverty line that suffer disproportionately from these impacts. According to a 2017 World Bank report, extreme weather events are more devastating to impoverished communities, pushing 26 million people worldwide into poverty each year. The World Bank report concludes that resilience-building interventions, including mitigation efforts, are key to protect the poor from increasing costs and extreme weather events. Building the resilience of a community is one of the essential elements to poverty reduction and decreasing inequity.