



ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT 2021

**Global Infrastructure Basel
Foundation**

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Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation (GIB) is a Swiss non-profit foundation working to promote sustainable and resilient infrastructure globally.

GIB engages with a wide range of stakeholders to build links between infrastructure projects and sources of finance.

GIB is the Standard Owner of SuRe® – The Standard for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure, a private, voluntary, third-party verified certification standard.

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This publication can be downloaded as a PDF at: <https://gib-foundation.org/resources/>

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Our annual report is a great opportunity to communicate on important milestones and accomplishments of our organization; it is also a time to reflect on new approaches that will enable us to fulfill our mission of fostering more inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies and ecosystems. The past year has shown us once again the imminent need for both future-proof infrastructure and meaningful multi-stakeholder engagement to efficiently respond to the climate crisis which, as UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres described, is a ‘code red for humanity’. By establishing multi-stakeholder partnerships, GIB is the independent voice that bridges the gap between actors, allowing them to come together and build back better. We understand and value the power of young people and this year have taken concrete steps as intermediary partners to empower local actors through our S2Cities program. We see the future of infrastructure as being dynamic and adaptable (and not relying solely on built assets), and thus have this year co-develop nature-based solutions with initiatives such as the Nature for Catchments Launchramp. We understand the need for tools and guidance that will empower actors to build resilient infrastructure and thus have updated the SuRe® Standard to reflect a new reality, and led the initiative on the Aligned Indicators for Sustainability in Infrastructure (AISI), bringing together world leading sustainability standard setters for the first time. Armed with these initiatives, tools and approaches framed by our core values, GIB is responding to the current and coming global challenges in a post-pandemic world and evolving to effectively respond to infrastructure needs.

Sincerely,

Louis Downing, CEO
Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation

1. INTRODUCTION



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Values, Mission and Vision

Core Values

Throughout all our work, we deeply value integrity and independence, innovation & adaptability, and we are committed to bridging local and global in an inclusive and collaborative way with our partners.

The GIB Mission

The GIB mission is to inspire and accelerate a mainstream transition to sustainable and resilient infrastructure.

The GIB Vision

The GIB vision is a world in which investments in social, economic and physical infrastructure lead to inclusive, sustainable and resilient communities and ecosystems.

1.2. Our approach

We pioneer new approaches to accelerate the mainstream transition to sustainable and resilient infrastructure, such as the SuRe® certification system. We seek to bridge the gap between on-the-ground infrastructure development and international discourse to shift the global agenda. Together with stakeholders, we demonstrate how built infrastructure, along with social infrastructure, planning, decision-making processes, design, financing and implementation across sectors, systems and geographies can be transformed to be resilient and sustainable. Such transformation leads to improved quality of life, particularly for the most vulnerable populations and the ecosystems upon which they depend. To multiply our impact, we focus on corridors of large infrastructure growth, where strategic influence can be cascaded through large pipelines of infrastructure projects.

1.3. Theory of change

GIB'S THEORY OF CHANGE IS BASED ON THE LOGIC AND BELIEF THAT:

IF

GIB demonstrates that tools such as the SuRe® certification system can lead to **improved design, implementation and financing of infrastructure projects** and policies and outcomes which benefit people and ecosystems...



AND

IF we can demonstrate the **superior business case** of sustainable infrastructure, including better risk adjusted returns, improved revenue stability, and decreased insurance premiums...



THEN

we will **shift the global and regional discussion on the actions incentives and policies** which are needed to bring about sustainable and resilient infrastructure development...



SO

decision makers and opinion leaders globally and regionally will **accelerate the transition to resilient, sustainable infrastructure as the norm**, rather than the exception.



ULTIMATELY LEADING TO: SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT SOCIETIES AND ECOSYSTEMS

Where the lives of people, especially the vulnerable and the ecosystems upon which they depend are safer, healthier, resilient and sustainable.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES AT A GLANCE



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2. ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES AT A GLANCE

GIB has worked to place sustainable infrastructure front and center of the global agenda. We do this through our service offering based on our three strategic pillars:

- 1 Designing and implementing programs for impact;
- 2 Offering demand-driven services; and
- 3 Scaling and developing the SuRe® Standard.

2.1. Our Impact – 2021 Highlights on Strategic Pillars

Pillar 1. Implementing multi-partner Programs for Impact

a. GIB began implementation of global flagship program on urban safety in Colombia and Indonesia

In 2021, GIB kick-started the Safe and Sound Cities program (S²Cities) program by selecting key global partners. GIB partnered with the Swiss Philanthropical Foundation (SPF) as an administrative partner to support with the management of grants to various program partners and grantees. GIB partnered with the ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability network to help bring the program to and engage with cities from throughout the global South. GIB also selected EAFIT University, based in Medellin, Colombia, as a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning global partner for the development and application of the program's integrated MEL framework. Towards the end of 2021, GIB chose its implementation partners in the selected cities of Envigado, Colombia and Bandung, Indonesia, and kick-started program implementation in early 2022. Through this program, GIB is quickly extending its reputation as a global forward-thinking and flexible convenor, helping young people promote sustainable environments within their cities.

b. GIB led the Nature for Catchments Launchramp program

In 2021, GIB, supported by the Mava Foundation and the European Investment Bank (EIB), in partnership with the WWF, iCatalyst, The Nature Conservancy, the Cyprus Energy Agency, and several local municipalities, led the Nature for Catchments Launchramp program. This program has developed and deployed a new methodology for using nature to counter flood risk, starting in two highly flood-

prone areas in Cyprus and Greece.

Pillar 2. Offering demand-driven services

a. Assessment of the feasibility of Nature-based Solutions, and their ability to deliver critical services

In 2021 the Nature for Catchments Launchramp project developed its methodology, a project origination process to catalyse NbS projects to deliver flood risk reduction services. The project team worked towards the delivery of two pre-feasibility studies, on the Pedieos river catchment, in Cyprus, and on the Pineios river catchment, in Greece. The project also focused on a variety of activities in order to collect local data and information to assess the feasibility of NbS, namely in-person interviews with municipalities, regional representatives and high-level politicians, and stakeholders from the financial and insurance sectors. A capacity-building workshop and a co-design mapping exercise were carried out locally to identify the most suitable nature-based interventions together with the local communities. In addition to these activities, the project reviewed local policy documents (e.g. the regional flood risk management plan) and collected technical data (e.g. hydrological studies, historical maps) that further strengthened the team's ability to provide accurate recommendations.

b. GIB delivered an ESG assessment using the AISI in Georgia

As part of follow-on funding based on the AISI, GIB conducted an assessment on a wind power plant located in Georgia. Its findings were presented to the PPP unit of the country.

Pillar 3. Scaling and developing the SuRe® Standard

a. SuRe® Standard version 2.0

GIB and the SuRe® Standard Committee released Version 2.0 of the SuRe® Standard. Version 2.0 is an upgrade that keeps the Standard in line with evolving environmental and social sciences and makes it more efficient to implement. GIB received valuable comments and feedback during a two-month public consultation period conducted between December 2020 and May 2021. Together with the effort and commitment of stakeholders from around the world, we have enabled the continued success of the SuRe® Standard for resilient

infrastructure assessment.

b. New certification bodies

GIB can rely on two new certification bodies from SGS for India and China. The certification bodies were trained by our accreditation body Assurance Services International (ASI) and are completely independent. They provide conformity assessment activities and conduct SuRe®v2.0 Certification Audits, making SuRe® a third-party verified standard.

c. SuRe® Associated Professionals

GIB developed an accreditation process for SuRe® Associated Professionals, enabling them to advise projects on the requirements of the SuRe® Standard. SuRe® Associated Professionals are expected to:

- Raise awareness and promote the SuRe® Standard among project developers and other stakeholders,
- Provide infrastructure projects with ready access to professionals with recognized competence and expertise in applying the Standard,
- Provide support, advice and consultancy to infrastructure projects that wish to incorporate the Standard into their project plans, development activities and/or ongoing operations,
- Assist projects in preparing for formal certification against the SuRe® Standard,
- Give insight to the Secretariat on services provided by professionals who are assisting infrastructure projects by planning and complying with the Standard, and
- Provide the Secretariat with ready access to a network of professionals that can provide input on practical issues in implementing the Standard, input on areas that might require further guidance from the scheme, as well as input on future revisions of the Standard.

The SuRe® Associated Professionals curriculum will be launched in 2022.

2.2. Governance – Our Core Team 2021



Louis Downing is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of GIB. Louis has been with GIB since 2015, first as Director of Capacity Building and the SuRe® Standard and subsequently as Chief Operating Officer. Louis is an Environmental Engineer with a rich and varied professional practice across developed, emerging and least developed economies.



Lorena Zemp is Chief Operating Officer (COO) of GIB and is currently Global Program Manager of the Safe and Sound Cities Program. Lorena has been with GIB since 2016, beginning as Project Manager and then Director of the SuRe® Standard Program. Lorena is a specialist in standardization, sustainable development and labor standards.



Juraj Jurik, Director, Nature-Based Solutions. Juraj has been with GIB since 2016, first as Manager of the Think Nature Project and then as Director of the Nature-based Solutions program, managing a portfolio of projects on the topic. Juraj is an expert on stakeholder engagement and Nature-based Solutions



Nathalie Gaullier, Director, SuRe® Program. Nathalie was appointed the new director of the SuRe® Program in November 2020. Nathalie has been with GIB since 2018, initially as Director of Cities and Urban Infrastructure. Nathalie is a chemical engineer and has experience in sustainable urban planning.



Pablo Nuñez, Director, Investor Relations. Pablo has been with GIB since 2018. Pablo is an industrial engineer with experience in infrastructure project management in emerging markets and is currently leading the Aligned Set of Sustainability Indicators (AISI) Initiative, among other projects at GIB.



Kelly Donovan, Project Manager, Safe and Sound Cities Program. Kelly joined GIB in 2021. Kelly is familiar working in the non-profit, humanitarian and academic sectors. She brings international work experiences advancing co-creative and inclusive approaches to social change, having managed university partnerships across North America and the Middle East, and worked with the International Committee of the Red Cross.



Isabella Biermann, Project Manager. Isabella joined in 2021 and is involved in the global the Safe and Sound Cities City program and several other projects at GIB. Isabella focuses on the relationship between health and built environments, having worked at the city planning office and civil engineering office of the city of Bern, where she focused on designing public spaces.



Andrea Betancourt, Senior Program Officer, Safe and Sound Cities Program. Andrea joined in 2021 to support with the Safe and Sound Cities Program's implementation phase. Having worked in the international development and sustainability sector, she brings expertise in urban development, urban safety and waste management.

2.3. Advocacy & Communication

2021 continued to be a year that pushed GIB to operate and collaborate virtually at a global scale. GIB continued to deliver various projects in virtual fashion, in some cases using virtual reality technology (VR), deploying its forward-thinking and adaptable approach in rapidly changing environments. GIB continued attending various events, workshops and convenings in various capacities: participant, speaker, advisor and member. Some key highlights from 2021 are outlined below.

2.3.1. Events & Engagement 2021

The following list summarizes some highlights from the year:

Seminar, Understanding Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure Standard, 19 January 2021.

GIB's CEO presented the SuRe® Standard in a live-stream seminar of more than 1000 attendees co-organized by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the China Association of Plant Engineering Consultants (CAPEC) and the Zhulong Study Group in China.

Exploring possibilities for mainstreaming Sustainable Urban Infrastructure in Indian cities, 3

March 2021. GIB presented at the roundtable organized by the CEPT Research and Development Foundation (CRDF), CEPT University, Ahmedabad and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH India, as part of the GIZ-supported project "Sustainable Urban Development – Smart Cities" (SUD-SC).

Policy Business Forum, organized by the EU Horizon 2020 project Phusicos, 19 April 2021.

GIB participated to contribute with innovative financing instruments for scaling NBS. The input was based on GIB's active engagement in Greece and Cyprus.

5th UNECE International Public-Private Partnerships Forum, 21 April 2021.

GIB's CEO Louis Downing presented in this international forum alongside a broad range of political, public, and non-profit participants about how to "Build Back Better" during and after the COVID crisis.

5th UNECE International PPP Forum, Building Back Better through People-first Public Private

Partnerships, 26 April 2021. GIB presented alongside fund managers 4IP on the levers to increase private sector financing aligned with the SDGs.

Integrated Approaches to Sustainable Infrastructure Investment, 5 May 2021. GIB joined an event co-hosted by the UN Environment Programme and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. In a panel discussion, we discussed the importance of a shared understanding of sustainable infrastructure.

CCFLA, Project Preparation Practitioners Forum, 4-6 May 2021. As a member of the CCFLA alliance assembly, GIB participated in a regional forum to foster better knowledge exchange and cooperation between existing project support initiatives in Mexico.

Belt and Road Forum on Green Finance and Low-carbon Development, 25 May 2021. GIB's Louis Downing spoke at this event, which was jointly organized by the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) and the CICC Global Institute (CGI), about market opportunities of moving towards carbon neutrality, and about effective financing tools to boost low-carbon development

2021 G20 Infrastructure Investors Dialogue – Financing Sustainable Infrastructure for the Recovery, 3 June 2021. Daniel Wiener, President of the GIB Board, spoke at the 2021 G20 Infrastructure Investors Dialogue.

UNECE Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships, 2-4 June 2021. GIB spoke at the UNECE committee on experiences using SuRe® to assist the development of the People-first PPP evaluation methodology.

G20 Infrastructure Investors Dialogue, 3 June 2021. GIB's president Daniel Wiener has joined this virtual high-profile event discussing best practices and measures related to financing sustainable infrastructure for the recovery.

TeenPreneurs Innovation Bootcamp, 16 July 2021. GIB participated as a judge on the final presentation of the TeenPreneurs Innovation Bootcamp. The Bootcamp was organized by CreativeKids and Impact Hub Basel.

'Sustainable Infrastructure: Price-Quality Balance' Webinar, 8 September 2021. GIB was invited

as a panelist to this international webinar held by VEB.RF, focusing on how to involve development institutions in quality infrastructure investment. The recording is available [here](#). You can find more information in the [press release](#)¹.

FAST-Infra Global Conference, 15 September 2021. GIB CEO Louis Downing attended the event to discuss mobilizing private capital for more sustainable infrastructure on a global scale.

MARUF Discovering Cities Through Serious Games, 1 October 2021. GIB gave insights from GIB's S²Cities program on the topic of serious games and youth engagement.

8th OECD Forum on Green Finance and Investment, 11-14 October 2021. GIB joined this annual flagship event of the OECD.

Global Green Growth Week with TUV Nord, 25-27 October 2021. GIB contributed to the session on 'Greening Buildings and Infrastructure in Asia, Certification, Partnerships and Finance', and presented 'Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure Certification - the way to a sustainable future'.

The Path to Finance – How to Pitch Climate Projects, 28 October 2021. GIB moderated a session as part of the Daring Cities Event organized by ICLEI to give tips and tricks on project pitching, as well as provide a space for selected projects to test their pitch.

GIB and Nature-based Solutions for the Thessaly Region, Greece, 25-26 November 2021. As part of the 'Nature for Catchments Launchramp' project, GIB organized a workshop in Trikala, Greece, inviting mayors, regional authorities, and relevant ministries, to identify flood prevention interventions based on nature (e.g. Nature-based Solutions) that could effectively complement existing grey measures, which are no longer able to cope efficiently with flood risk in the region.

National Webinar: How can standards ensure sustainable development in India?, November 2021. IIFCL Projects Ltd (IPL), supported by GIB and GIZ's Sustainable Infrastructure Alliance, hosted a national webinar to address key questions on why and how the Indian infrastructure sector can generate enhanced sustainable development.

¹ <https://вэб.рф/en/press-center/50365/>

Building Bridges, 29 November - 2 December 2021. GIB CEO Louis Downing presented on the question of how standards can use AI for nature, and discussed an exciting new AI tool that GIB is building to remotely identify and assess the sustainability and resilience of infrastructure projects. The full presentation is available [here](#)².

International Webinar: Knowledge as currency for change, 14 December 2021. CEO Louis Downing took part in the DRI Dialogue Knowledge for Action: Joining Hands for Resilient Infrastructure, an event organized by the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

2.3.2. 2021 Publications

In 2021, GIB published and/or co-authored the following publications:

- Building a sustainable future: How the Application of Standards for Sustainable Infrastructure Improves ESG Performance: A Review of Five Infrastructure Projects Assessed using SuRe® Standard Criteria
For more details, visit this [link](#)³
- Compass for global recovery: Integrating environmental criteria into Infrastructure Investment
For more details, visit this [link](#)⁴

² <https://vimeo.com/652789181>

³ <https://gib-foundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/BUILDING-A-SUSTAINABLE-FUTURE.pdf>

⁴ https://www.g20-insights.org/policy_briefs/a-compass-for-global-recovery-integrating-environmental-criteria-into-infrastructure-investment/

2.4. Our Network

2.4.3. GIB's Membership in Initiatives

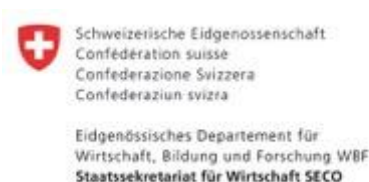
As of 2021, GIB is part of the following initiatives:

- The Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF) of the World Bank
- Making Cities Resilient by UNDRR
- The World Economic Forum Global Futures Council
- The Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA): GIB was a founding member of CCFLA and was on the Advisory Council of CCFLA. The CCFLA was founded by Kofi Annan to include the city's perspective to COP21. GIB led the project preparation working group.
- The Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF): GIB is a member of the Advisory Council of the GIF (World Bank). The Global Infrastructure Facility supports governments in bringing well-structured and bankable infrastructure projects to market. GIB cooperated with the GIF and was funded by the GIF for developing the Aligned set of Indicators on sustainable infrastructure (ASSI).
- Long-term Infrastructure Investors Association (LTIIA): GIB is a founding member of LTIIA the Long-Term Infrastructure Investor Alliance. GIB has cooperated on sustainability issues.
- Green Economy Coalition
- The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN): working to support the SDGS.
- The Partnership on Sustainable-Low Carbon Transport (SloCat)
- The ISEAL Alliance: SuRe® and GIB are a member of this global membership organization for credible sustainability standards.
- The Green Building Certification Institute (GRESB): Infrastructure asset sustainability evaluation
- ICLEI Resilient Cities Jury: GIB supported the program development of Resilience topics
- The D20 / Long-Term Investors Club (LTIC)
- The Belt and Road Initiative International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC)

- Advisors to the Technical Expert Group (TEG) that created the EU Taxonomy for sustainable investing
- Making Cities Resilient Network (UNDRR).

2.4.4. Partners and supporters

We thank all our partners and supporters, who are key in assisting us in delivering on our mission and vision. In 2021, we thank our main funders:



We also thank ecos AG, who have supported our work financially and technically over the years and continue to provide staff capacity and management services to GIB.



3. PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS



3. PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Projects Status, 2021

The following table provides a snapshot on the main projects and programs that GIB was working on in 2021.

	<i>Main source of funding</i>	<i>Commenced in 2021</i>	<i>Completed in 2021</i>	<i>Ongoing beyond 2021</i>
<i>The City Finance Lab (CFL) – Climate finance for cities</i>	EIT Climate KIC		X	
<i>Promoting sustainable infrastructure through an Aligned Set of Sustainability Indicators (AISI)</i>	PPIAF, The World Bank, EBRD		X	
<i>Fundraising Grant</i>	MAVA Foundation	X	X	
<i>SuRe® Assessment and capacity building efforts in China</i>	Guggenheim Partners			X
<i>Intermediary Organization, Safe and Sound Cities Program –Development and Implementation phases (renamed S²Cities)</i>	Fondation Botnar	X		X
<i>Future Proof Infrastructure Platform</i>	Messe Schweiz	X		X
<i>AISI application in Georgia and Ukraine</i>	World Bank Group		X	
<i>Infrastructure Sustainability Intelligence Tool</i>	Iseal and SECO	X		x

3.1. 2021 project highlights

CREST- SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS IN UKRAINE AND GEORGIA



Source: Azernews, 10 May 2022.

- Funded by: World Bank Group
- Budget: 80,597CHF
- Duration: 11 months
- Geographic focus: Ukraine and Georgia
- Partners: Swiss Re
- GIB's Role: ESG assessor

Based on the AISI, GIB performed the sustainability assessment of two assets located in Georgia and Ukraine: a wind power plant and a port. The findings in Georgia were presented to the head of the national PPP unit and were intended to inform early stages of future infrastructure development programs. Swiss Re provided further insights on the climate risk exposures of both assets.

NATURE FOR CATCHMENTS LAUNCHRAMP



Source: Enipeas river, near Vlohos village, Municipality of Palamas, Thessaly Region. © Thanos Giannakakis/WWF Greece

- Funded by: MAVA Foundation, European Investment Bank (EIB), WWF Greece
- Budget: 505,000 CHF
- Duration: January 2021 – October 2022
- Geographic focus: Pedieos river catchment, Cyprus; Western Thessaly region, Greece
- Partners: WWF Greece, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Icatelist (ICA), Cyprus Energy Agency (CEA), Swiss Re, European Investment Bank (EIB), National Technical University of Athen (NTUA).
- GIB's Role: Lead and Coordinator

This project aimed to catalyse Nature-based Solutions (NbS) projects for water protection and retention to create or restore riparian, wetland and forest habitats in the Mediterranean. The Nature for Catchments Launchramp (NCL) is a project origination process that addresses key financial, technical and political barriers to NbS. It results in regional-scale NbS interventions that align stakeholder interests (e.g. flood risk, water quality and availability) whilst restoring and creating habitats and ecosystems. Following successful proof of concept in Cyprus and Greece, it is planned to expand the approach to a project origination facility to trigger investment at scale.

Learn more about this project on our website: [link⁵](https://gib-foundation.org/nature-for-catchment-launchramp/)

Key outcomes:

- Nature for Catchments Launchramp (a project origination methodology)
- Situation analysis, Cyprus

⁵ <https://gib-foundation.org/nature-for-catchment-launchramp/>

- Situation analysis, Greece
- Addressing riverine flooding with nature-based solutions in the Thessaly region, Greece (Pre-feasibility study)
- Addressing riverine flooding with nature-based solutions in the Pedieos river catchment, Cyprus (Pre-feasibility study).

THE CITY FINANCE LAB (CFL) - CLIMATE FINANCE FOR CITIES

- Funded by: EIT Climate KIC
- Budget: 8,200 CHF
- Duration: April 2019 – December 2021
- Geographic focus: Europe
- Partners: South Pole, FMDV, CDP
- GIB's Role: consulting services to the city of Paris to develop a set of sustainability indicators; supporting overall dissemination and communication activities of the project.



Source: www.pexels.com (Free stock photos)

To meet the Paris Agreement goals, urban centers are in urgent need of climate finance. The City Finance Lab is a platform supporting the development of innovative, scalable, and replicable financing solutions that increase investment in climate-resilient, low-carbon and green urban projects for sustainable cities. This platform provides technical advisory services to cities on their innovative financing solutions, as well as a conduit for knowledge-sharing and capacity-building. More information about this project is available on our website: [link⁶](https://cfl.southpole.com)

Key Outcomes:

- 5 initiatives supported by the project,
- Innovative solutions mobilised private and/or public capital towards urban climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Shared experience of each innovative idea will mobilise other urban centres to replicate and scale climate-action for all.

⁶ <https://cfl.southpole.com>

SAFE & SOUND CITIES (S²CITIES) PROGRAM

- Funded by: Botnar Foundation
- Duration: Development and Implementation II from 03.15.2021 – 06.22.2022
- Geographic focus: Colombia and Indonesia
- Partners: Swiss Philanthropy Foundation, Bureau of Urbanism (BUUR), Relational Wellbeing Collaborative (RWC), ICLEI Global Secretariat, ICLEI Regional Offices.
- GIB's Role: intermediary partner, global manager.



Photo source: GIB, 'Kick-off Meeting S2City Programme', Envigado, Colombia, April 2022

- The Safe and Sound City Program is a global program co-designed to create safer urban environments for young people through empowerment and innovation. The program is targeted to young people who are particularly vulnerable to the risks of rapid urbanization, and who may lack safe spaces as well as opportunities, capacities and structures to exercise their right to safety. S²Cities aims to promote safer cities by implementing a cycle of activities that engage young people into incubating innovative solutions for their cities. This cycle includes: 1) understanding urban systems; 2) building capacities among urban stakeholders; 3) involving young people aged 15-24 in processes of ideation and innovation; and 4) triggering system-level changes for safer urban environments in at least five cities. Website: [link⁷](https://s2cities.org)

Key outcomes:

- Five cities from different regions of the world have participated in the program.
- Establishment of five youth hubs and the completion of at least five youth incubator rounds.
- Launching of at least two innovations and at least two implementation of innovations developed by young people.

⁷ <https://s2cities.org>

4. OUTLOOK 2022



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4. OUTLOOK 2022

In 2022, we anticipate significant challenges and opportunities to drive forward our mission to inspire and accelerate the mainstream transition to sustainable and resilient infrastructure. The world has changed the way we work, communicate, and relate to each other across borders. The impacts of climate change are accelerating. The biodiversity crisis is worsening. New tensions between global powers challenge multilateralism. At the same time, global momentum is building towards a transition to a more sustainable world. Young people are succeeding in making their voices heard in new ways. New high- and low-tech solutions are enabling us to better sense, understand, communicate and improve our impacts upon people and planet.

In this context, GIB's main objectives for 2022 are:

- To advance transparency of infrastructure impacts and sustainability using technology and partnerships to drive investment towards the right infrastructure.
- To advance harmonization and partnership between infrastructure standards globally and work towards defining sustainable infrastructure as an asset class with superior investment characteristics to conventional infrastructure.
- To facilitate the engagement of young people in defining the infrastructure and urban environments in which they live, driving greater wellbeing now and in the future.
- To create a new platform that provides pipelines of sustainable, investable infrastructure projects to financial actors.
- To originate pipelines of nature-based infrastructure where it is most needed to address climate change, biodiversity loss and protect people and infrastructure from heat, flooding and water insecurity.



Sustainable and resilient infrastructure for a better world.

gib-foundation.org