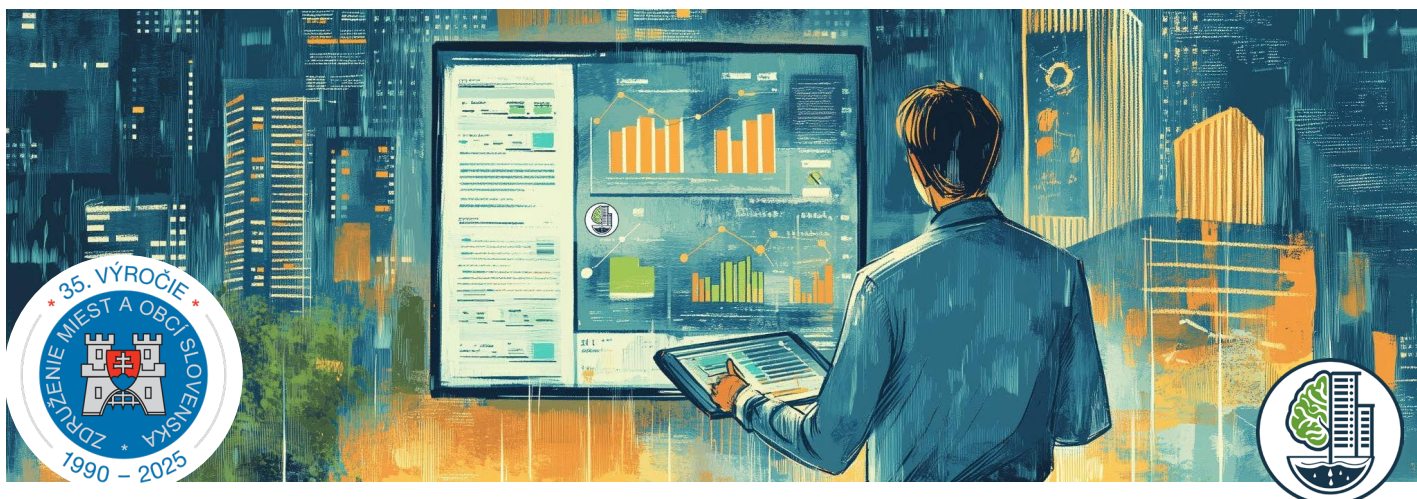




Conference Programme: More Climate Resilient Cities 2025

Organizer: International Climate Adaptation Research Institute (iCARI) in cooperation with the Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia (ZMOS)

Venue: Hotel SAFRON ****, Bratislava, Slovakia

Date: October 28–29, 2025



"In the name of ZMOS, I sincerely invite you to the international climate conference jointly organized by ZMOS and iCARI. It is intended for senior representatives of municipalities responsible for operations, strategy, planning, buildings, environment, energy, and construction. It also welcomes all those who live and create value in these communities. Climate change affects us all – it will accompany us throughout our lives. We seek solutions together, without an ideology. Today, we shape the future for those who come after us."
doc. PaedDr. Jozef Božík PhD., Chairman of ZMOS, Mayor of Partizánske city

Now in its fourth year, the prestigious conference Climate-Resilient Cities 2025 is dedicated specifically to municipalities and the challenges of climate change in built-up areas.

The event also welcomes representatives of the public sector, private companies, small and medium-sized enterprises, multinational corporations, urban planners, environmental scientists, public policy experts,

sustainability professionals, researchers, climate specialists, data analysts, funding institutions, ESG managers, consultants, construction companies, developers, the academic sector, building managers, diplomats, and anyone wishing to deepen their knowledge in the field of climate adaptation.

This year's conference program is structured into thematic blocks that offer a comprehensive view of climate adaptation with a strong focus on Central and Eastern Europe.

Block 1: 9:00 – 10:00 Municipal Climate Club

The opening block will bring a dynamic discussion that will not shy away from sensitive topics. Municipal representatives will take the “hot seat” to openly share their experiences, challenges, and goals related to climate adaptation. We will not stay on the surface – the aim is to deepen understanding of municipalities’ specific needs and create space for mutual exchange of know-how and best practices that can serve as a foundation for truly effective adaptation.

Featuring:

Jozef Božik, chairman Slovak association of cities and villages

Juraj Droba, chairman Self-Governing Bratislava Region

Jozef Viskupič, chairman Self-Governing Trnava Region

Martin Chren, mayor Bratislava-Ružinov

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Block 2: 10:00 – 11:00 The Current Climate Situation in the World and in the Region – w/o an Ideology

One of the core sessions of the conference will provide fresh, reliable, and scientifically grounded data on global and regional climate trends. Free of ideological bias, the focus will be on facts that will serve as a basis for further lectures and discussions on climate adaptation.

Featuring:

Leon Simons, Executive Director, Climate Change Researcher, Club of Rome, Holandsko

Ján Rapan Vicepresident, Climate change Data scientist, iCARI.eu

Coffee break: 11:00 – 11:20

Block 3: 11:20 – 13:00 We Are Drying Out, Facing Floods, and Building Sustainability Scientifically and Practically

This scientific and research block, led by top experts crossing national boundaries, will explore the myths and realities of the energy transition, as well as the expectations and limits of the EU Green Deal. The speakers will present approaches to storing energy surpluses that strengthen domestic economies and reduce dependence on imported technologies. And once we address energy, we will also show why not every tree is the same tree, and not every carbon sink is the same sink.

Featuring:

Mgr. Dědeček Jiří CSc., DSc., scientist in the field of energy decarbonization research, J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical Chemistry, CZ

Doc. Ing. Michal Masaryk, PhD., scientist in the field of energy and thermomechanics, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, STU Bratislava

Mgr. Marián Pavelka PhD., scientist in the field of carbon cycle research, substance flows between the ecosystem and the atmosphere, Institute of Global Change Research, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic – CzechGlobe

Lunch break: 13:00 – 14:30

Block 4: 14:30 – 16:15 Air Quality, Waste Management, and Energy Recovery from Waste

This session will focus on air quality as a key component of climate adaptation, measurement methods and their limitations. It will also explore the link between waste management and sustainable solutions, as well

as a realistic evaluation of the energy potential of waste based on real data – aiming to break prevailing myths and replace them with facts.

Featuring:

Ing. Alena Popovičová, PhD., LL.M., CEO and Managing director, Certified calculations of a product or company carbon footprint, ARPenviro Ltd.

Jozef Nosál a Marcel Baláž, R-DAS Ltd.

Ján Chovanec, General Director of the Slovak Waste Industry Association, Vice-Resident of the Association of Industrial Unions and Transport,

Tomáš Tramita, Kanadevia Inova, Switzerland

Coffee break: 16:15 – 16:35

Block 5: 16:35 – 17:40 Adaptation Projects and Building Operations Responsibility

We will present exact project examples showing that climate adaptation of buildings does not end with planning – it requires implementation and long-term responsible operation. This block will also include the evaluation of the “Green Roof 2025” competition and the ceremonial awards presentation, supporting quality and innovative adaptation solutions.

Featuring:

representative of the Bratislava Self-Governing Region

Lenka Hlubinová Vargová, landscape architect

Slávka Lenčešová, ZMOS

Block 6: 17:40 – 18:40 Discussion Panel with All Speakers of the Day

An open discussion providing space to further develop the day’s themes, aiming to offer multidisciplinary answers and connect perspectives from both experts and participants. The goal is for attendees to leave with answers to their questions, deeper understanding, and actionable insights for practice.

Block 7: 18:40 – Dinner and Gala Evening

The evening will be dedicated to social networking with quality wine, music, and informal conversations. A prize draw will enhance the friendly atmosphere and foster new connections among participants.

Day 2: October 29, 2025 – Showcasing Practical Examples

Block 1: 9:00 – 11:00 Urban Greenery – Benefits, Myths, and Project Preparation

Green elements in cities are a key pillar of climate adaptation – but they deliver the expected benefits only when responsibly designed and implemented. This block focuses on the real advantages of vegetation-based solutions, debunks common myths, and emphasizes the importance of sound project preparation, including technical and structural assessments, as a prerequisite for long-term sustainability.

Featuring:

Miriám Húšťavová, landscape architect, atelier HUSTINA

Ing. arch. Miroslav Marko, M.Arch, architect, Adaptuj.sk

Ing. Tomáš Karas, chief project manager of the LIFE COALA project, Moravian-Silesian Region, CZ

Coffee break: 11:00 – 11:20

Block 2: 11:20 – 13:00 Discussion Club on the REURBANEX Research Project

Representatives of iCARI will present one of the largest research projects on the adaptation of built-up areas in the EU – implemented as an open living laboratory in a school campus located in the heart of Brno's urban fabric. The discussion will bring insights relevant for building owners, municipalities, and the private sector, including practical recommendations for energy-sustainable solutions such as using rainwater as a storage medium for surplus photovoltaic energy. The block will also address the importance of meaningful rainwater capture, as Central Europe is drying out faster than the rest of the EU.

Featuring:

Ing. Zdeněk Pavlík, Principal of the High School of Technology and Economics, Brno, CZ

iCARI scientific research team

Martina Paulíková, environmental consultant, WWF Slovakia

Branislav Siklienka, President iCARI

Lunch break: 13:00 – 14:30

Block 3: 14:30 – 15:40 And who will secure the resources for us?

In this block you will meet experts who will showcase the financial mechanisms and instruments available for transformation and adaptation projects. The discussion will provide perspectives from both the investment and banking sectors on where the real opportunities for financing lie.

Featuring:

Ing. Peter Dittrich, PhD., Vice president Slovak Investment Holding

Ing. Andrej Viceník, Senior Director of Corporate Banking and Member of the Board of Directors of VUB Bank

Block 4: 15:40 – 16:40 Discussion Panel with All Speakers of the Day, Closing and Press Conference

The final panel will summarize the key insights from day two and provide space for questions to be addressed in an interdisciplinary spirit. It will be followed by a press conference for media representatives with selected speakers and experts.

The Climate-Resilient Cities 2025 conference will feature 25 inspiring presentations and 4 extensive discussion clubs, enabling deep knowledge exchange between experts and participants. A vital part of the event is high-quality networking that fosters new partnerships and project opportunities. The exceptional gala evening will provide a setting for informal conversations and new connections in a pleasant atmosphere.

The organizer ensures a high standard of care and logistical service so that participants can enjoy the conference in a comfortable and inspiring environment.

Experience engaging presentations enhanced with visual effects using modern projection technologies in a cozy conference setting. For those unable to attend in person, the conference will be livestreamed on YouTube (available to registered participants). All presentations will later be published on the official channel.

The entire content – including the live stream and recordings – will be provided with simultaneous English-Slovak interpretation, ensuring accessibility and a high-quality experience for all attendees.

The conference is organized in line with the Conference Quality and Expertise Charter, which promotes critical thinking and an informed society. More details are [available on the link](#).



Registration opens on September 1, 2025.

Current information will be available on the organizer's website.

Follow:

<https://www.icari.eu/confstatic> There we will gradually introduce the speakers and the background of their topics.

Would you like to become a partner or provide media support for the conference? Contact: papp@icari.eu

Practical Information for Participants

The hotel offers accommodation, but early booking is highly recommended. Parking is available directly on the hotel premises as well as in the underground garage, but the number of spaces is limited. For organizational reasons, please allow sufficient time when arriving. Public transport stops are located in proximity to the hotel.



Come for the facts, stay for the clarity – climate without ideology, decisions with impact.