COMMUNITY ADAPTATIONS TO CITY HEAT

URBAN HEAT ACTION
AND POLICY DATABASE

Who governs the heat response in Boston, Phoenix, and New Orleans?

the CATCH HEAT PROJECT

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

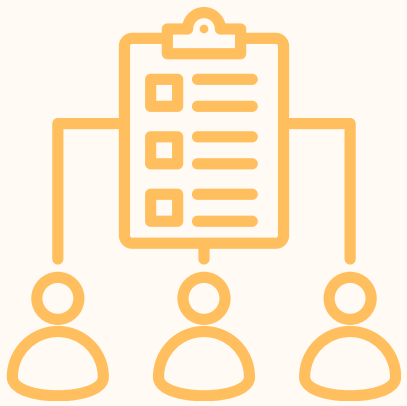
Funded by: wellcome

Extreme heat is not just an environmental issue — it is also a governance challenge.

Cities need systems to coordinate agencies, respond to emergencies, reduce long-term heat risk, and protect public health.

The following examples highlight just a few ways Boston, New Orleans, and Phoenix are organizing heat preparedness and resilience planning.

Scroll to learn more!



Boston

Boston's Heat Resilience Plan includes an Extreme Temperatures Task Force to coordinate city agencies and partners around heat preparedness, emergency response, and long-term resilience planning.

Scan to read more about Boston's Extreme Temperatures Task Force!

🏙️ Heat governance requires cross-agency coordination.

Phoenix

Phoenix has a dedicated Office of Heat Response and Mitigation focused on helping residents cope with hot weather, lowering urban temperatures, and coordinating heat-related programs, policies, data, and partnerships.

Scan to read more about Office of Heat Response and Mitigation!

☀️ Dedicated heat offices can strengthen citywide response.

New Orleans

New Orleans addresses extreme heat through its Hazard Mitigation Plan, which identifies heat alongside other hazards and outlines strategies to reduce disaster risk across agencies, partners, and communities.

Scan to read more about the Hazard Mitigation Plan!

🌊 Heat planning can be part of broader disaster resilience.

Heat protections vary widely across cities — with major gaps in coverage and enforcement.

Do you know if your city has heat protection laws? Tell us!

Check out our database to learn more about heat action and policies!

Making **extreme heat** impacts visible in **frontline communities.**

Working in Boston, Phoenix, and New Orleans.

the CATCH HEAT PROJECT

A project at Boston University School of Public Health funded by a Climate Impact Award from Wellcome Foundation.

https://www.catchcityheat.org/

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