

Cities and Environmental Change

Environmental issues have always burdened cities and their residents. This volume analyzes how cities have solved past environmental challenges to provide a framework on which to build solutions to the problems caused by the climate crisis. It sets urban environmental crises within the socio-technical history of urban development. With six application chapters that provide rich and detailed examples of urban environmental transitions – including water resources, air quality, and public health – this book promotes better understanding of how urban environmental change takes place across a wide array of social–ecological–technological systems. It illustrates the process of urban environmental transition and the role crises play in shifts in urban environmental policy. Readers of the book will gain a deeper understanding of urban climate action and activities for future action. It is invaluable reading for students, researchers, and policymakers in environmental sustainability, climate change, urban studies and planning, and public policy.

WILLIAM SOLECKI is a professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Science at Hunter College, City University of New York. He has studied the interaction of urbanization and climate change for almost 30 years. He has served as an author on several Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessments and is a cofounder of the Urban Climate Change Research Network (UCCRN). He is a Fellow of the American Association of Geographers.

Cities and Environmental Change

From Crisis to Transformation

WILLIAM SOLECKI
City University of New York



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108473972

DOI: [10.1017/9781108564144](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108564144)

© William Solecki 2025

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI [10.1017/9781108564144](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108564144)

First published 2025

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Solecki, William, author.

Title: Cities and environmental change : from crisis to transformation /
William Solecki, City University of New York.

Description: 1. | New York : Cambridge University Press, 2025. |

Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2024059588 | ISBN 9781108473972 (hardback) |

ISBN 9781108463027 (paperback) | ISBN 9781108564144 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Climatic changes – Law and legislation. | Environmental law,
International. | Liability for climatic change damages.

Classification: LCC K3585.5 .S65 2025 | DDC 363.7/0561091732–dc23/eng/20241224

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2024059588>

ISBN 978-1-108-47397-2 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-108-46302-7 Paperback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will
remain, accurate or appropriate.