

## **Governance and the Resilience of Cities in Africa**

E. Remi Aiyede, Professor of Political Institutions, Governance and Public Policy  
Department of Political Science, University of Ibadan & Extraordinary Professor, School  
of Public Management and Administration University of Pretoria, South Africa

### **Abstract**

The essay examines resilience in the face of rapid urbanization and heightened vulnerability to climate change and other shocks such as pandemics, disasters, conflict and socio-economic uncertainties in African cities. It emphasizes the significance of resilience in mitigating shocks and stresses, facilitating recovery, and advancing economic and social development. The discussion centres on the vital link between governance and resilience, stressing the need to address social inequalities and vulnerabilities. It explores how effective city governance can stimulate urban resilience, advocating for adaptive governance structures that prioritize community well-being. Additionally, it explores the role of state governance, and strategies for reinforcing frameworks to build resilient urban systems capable of mitigating shocks while withstanding their challenges, converting them into opportunities for growth in the African context.