



Cities and Regions Summit 2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)

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Nairobi, Kenya



Please read the [full agenda](#) and [concept note](#) for more information.

Thematic Session 1: Multi-level Governance, A Key Element of the Effective Environmental Governance

Panel 1: "All Hands on the Deck" to Achieve the Goals of the Paris Agreement

Collaborative board

Examples

Share examples of successful subnational action on climate and of multi-level collaboration (with relevant links if possible)

<https://www.asean-mayors.eu/best-practices/>

<https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/press/green-technology-and-climate-finance-workshop-for-malaysian-cities/>

<https://www.asean-mayors.eu/2023/04/gcom-southeast-asia-regional-workshop-launch-of-city-level-climate-action-plans/#:~:text=Bangkok%2C%2030%2D31%20March%202023,March%2030%20and%2031%20in>

Government of Brazil Adaptation Strategy working together with regional and local authorities: https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/assuntos/mudanca-do-clima/clima/arquivos/pna_volume-1_en.pdf

Quebec has given 500 million USD to cities to develop climate plans

Government of California has established an office "Strategic Engagement Specialist for Climate, Equity, and Resilience" to engage with local communities on climate justice and action

Government of Wales has reduced its waste methane emissions by 70 percent in the last 20 years together with its cities

Challenges

What are the main challenges for effective subnational action on climate ?

Funding gap

Climate plans remain as static pdf documents with goals but not necessarily real actions and progress

Climate actions not always specified/required in local planning regulations/code

Funding process of some existing funds for cities is slow.

Creditworthiness of cities. Limited spatial planning frameworks, institutions frameworks not responsive to address climate challenges. Financing instruments limited

Too focussed on cities - doesn't leverage states, regions and provinces as a critical driver of infrastructure, agriculture, land use and energy emissions

state, regions and provinces aggregate 100s of cities - so the scale is critical to include when thinking about global implementation - but often missed

Need to have more examples of how cities are collaborating to conserve vegetation cover of their water sources. Are there cities that have rolled out PES to conserve these ecosystem as a means of tackling climate change and contributing to SDGs.

Financing gap

Broadly capacity constraints

Limited partnerships

Recommendations

How to improve effective subnational engagement for the implementation of global climate goals?

Identifying local indicators, such as environmental, energy, climate change, sustainability, deforestation, economic, social, etc.

Institutionalise subnational engagement by incorporating them in the NDCs

Including cities and regions in NDC / Climate plans development process.

Enhancing the integrated planning approaches that are participatory, inclusive and environment not to be treated as something to be mainstreamed but to be fully integrated in the plans designs with funding allocation. Central governments to be woked together with local level govts and lower level actions in a transparent and collaborative manner

If it is not happening at the city level, environmental action is not happening at all

Creating strategic planning for identifying, implementing, and tracking of the Goals of the Paris Agreement, but all must participate in them

Is there a library where best practices are being captured so that the global community can access it and comment on the practices? It may help people react faster and with the ability to 'up-vote' practices recognize which practices are more effective...

Use CDP-ICLEI Track as climate and environment reporting platform

Ensure that cities are familiar with Common Reporting Framework before reporting on CDP-ICLEI track platform

There is need to enhance collaboration for enhancing climate finance among institutions working in the urban space. During the COP29, the GCoM, CCFLA, C40 Cities and CIF we signed a joint statement aimed at increased advocacy for city climate action in areas of program design, joint efforts on communications among others

Use a data platform that aligns actions at different levels of government - city, province/county and national

National NDCs but locally determined implementation (LDIs) OR subnationally determined actions (SDAs)

Think about subnational NDC content - not just urban content

Other comments/ideas/questions

Anything else?

Thematic Session 1: Multi-level Governance, A Key Element of the Effective Environmental Governance

Panel 2: "Beyond Borders": Coordinated Action to Achieve the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Collaborative board

Examples

Share examples of successful subnational action on biodiversity and of multi-level collaboration (with relevant links if possible)

Cape town Biodiversity plan: https://resource.capetown.gov.za/documentcentre/Documents/City%20strategies,%20plans%20and%20frameworks/Biodiversity_Strategy_and_Action_Plan.pdf

<https://laderasur.com/articulo/comunidades-forestales-defienden-una-de-las-murallas-verdes-que-aun-sobreviven-en-el-valle-de-mexico/>
(in Spanish)

Challenges

What are the main challenges for effective subnational action on biodiversity ?

Promoting the participation of local communities (indigenous people), and respecting their rights

Creating a new finance mechanisms to achieve the MGB goals

Recommendations

How to improve effective subnational engagement for the implementation of global biodiversity goals?

Reducing the finance, social, political, and technical risks

Adapting a local monitoring system of the environmental, financial, political, social and technological achieves

Support transboundary collaboration across ecosystems through exchange mechanisms

Other comments/ideas/questions

Anything else?

Thematic Session 2: Unlocking Finance for Sustainable Urban Transformation

Panel 1 and Panel 2

Collaborative board

Examples

Share example of innovative finance mechanisms for subnational sustainability action (if possible with links)

<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/project/nature-based-climate-adaptation-programme-for-the-urban-areas-of-penang-island-2/>

<https://www.cdp.net/en/cities/financing-for-sustainable-infrastructure-a-guide-for-asia-pacific-cities>

Challenges

What are the main challenges faced by subnational governments in accessing climate and development finance?

The process of approving EOLs is often quite slow, with a requirement for intermediaries.

Limited finance for investments

Failure to unlock private sector financing

Current financial mechanism of the MDBs does not easily allow direct financing to sub national governments but to central governments only

Recommendations

How to unlock financing for subnational governments?

To create more funds that provide grants like Climate Adaptation Fund and Mitigation Action Facility where funding is provided for both TA and actual implementation on the ground

Use a data platform that could visualize cost-benefit analysis of climate actions such that the ROI is more easily understandable

Partnerships among organizations working at city level to cooperate and work as an ecosystem for efficient use of results. Having tools such as diagnostics, project formulation requirements as an example that can be used by either and results accepted by all so that it is easier to build on others work and or take other cities or regions hence scale and speed of action

Streamlining financing from MDBs (probably the MDB reform may take this into account)

Bring "Matchmaker", the CDP reporting program that informs financial institutions and investors about municipal / sub-national infrastructure needs at scale

Streamline financing from MDBs (probably the MDB reform may take that into account)

Partnerships among organizations working at city level action

Other comments/ideas/questions

Anything else?

We can smartly use states/regions to support cities on urban transformation