



SESSION DESCRIPTION

F4 Capacity building and multi-stakeholder collaboration in African cities

Presentations

Date: Friday, May 30, 2014

Time: 16:45-18:15

Rooms: S29-31

Language: English

ICLEI contact: Franziska Schreiber/ Laura Kavanaugh

Organized by: ICLEI

OBJECTIVE

Many local governments, particularly in developing countries, have insufficient capacity, knowledge or external support to adapt to climate change. Therefore, appropriate measures for improving local capacity and multi-stakeholder collaborations have to be developed to ensure informed decision-making and effective planning and implementation.

This session will provide a number of practical examples of how local governments in Africa are being empowered to adapt to and cope with the impacts of climate change. The first presentation will introduce an Innovation project that investigates how to start building capacity for urban ecosystem-based adaptation, particularly for decision-making in the African context. Following this, the initial outcomes of the ongoing "Adaptation to Climate Change in Coastal Cities" project will be presented. The project assesses the roles, management and governance capacities of public authorities in Nouakchott, Mauritania, and facilitates the development of adaptation measures. The final presentation will share initial experiences and lessons learned from the ongoing "IDRC-IRIACC Coastal Cities at Risk (CCaR)" project that facilitates the coordination of city officials and other relevant stakeholders to enable the management of flood risks in the city of Lagos.

OUTCOMES

- The participants will learn how to improve the ability of cities to adapt to climate change;
- Through the practical examples, participants will gain a deeper understanding of how governance processes and multi-stakeholder collaborations have been successfully improved; and
- They will be able to take this knowledge with them to apply in their own cities.

METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator will provide an overall introduction to the session topic and contributors. **(5 minutes)**
- Each presentation will be allotted 10 minutes. **(3x15 minutes)**
- The facilitator will manage questions and answers. **(35 minutes)**
- Closing remarks by the facilitator. **(5 minutes)**



CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Rafael Tuts, Coordinator, Urban Planning and Design Branch, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya*

Presenter *Sarah Birch, Climate Risk and Biodiversity Program Manager, ICLEI Global Cities Biodiversity Center, ICLEI Africa Secretariat, Cape Town, South Africa*

A framework for decision-making for urban ecosystem-based adaption

Building on ICLEI's Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) program, which assists cities around the globe in planning and implementing combined biodiversity and climate change policies, an Innovation project has been developed for African cities with the support of the Climate & Development Knowledge Network (CDKN). This presentation will introduce this project, which aims to determine how to start building capacity for urban EBA, particularly for decision-making in the African context, and which will be tested with a number of Southern Africa local governments. The findings of the background research conducted by ICLEI Africa will be presented and relevant outcomes, methods and lessons-learnt shared.

Presenter *Omnia Aboukorah-Voigt, Principal Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Mauritania*

Empowering the development of adaptation measures in the city of Nouakchott, Mauritania

This presentation will share initial outcomes of the GIZ project Adaptation to Climate Change in Coastal Cities, which seeks to develop adaptation measures for the city of Nouakchott, Mauretania. An urban vulnerability assessment (UVA) has just been started to identify vulnerable areas and populations, and assess roles, capacities, and responsibilities of public authorities. The primary aim of the UVA is to facilitate the development of mechanisms between the relevant ministries and city administrations in order to mainstream climate change adaptation in planning processes. First findings and outcomes of the assessment will be presented and results regarding processes, institutions and governance capacities related to climate change adaptation will be discussed.

Presenter *Ibidun Adelekan, Senior Lecturer, University of Ibadan, Nigeria*

Enabling the management of flood risks in the coastal city of Lagos

This presentation will examine horizontal governance as showcased by the flood risk management in the city of Lagos and share the experiences and lessons of the ongoing IDRC-IRIACC Coastal Cities at Risk (CCaR) project. The project facilitates the coordination of city officials and other relevant stakeholders at the local level to build adaptive capacity to manage flood risks in the city. The experiences with learning dialogues involving private stakeholders, associations and line ministries at the city level will be shared, and the successes and challenges will be discussed.



Further recommended reading

Helping Mauritanian coastal cities adapt to climate change:

<http://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/22195.html>

Durban Adaptation Charter:

<http://durbanadaptationcharter.org/links>
