



SESSION DESCRIPTION

F5 **Mayors Adaptation Forum**

Mayors Roundtable: Anchoring urban resilience and adaptation in the global advocacy of local governments for the Post 2015 development agenda

Date: Friday, 30 May 2014
Time: 16:30-18:15
Rooms: S01-02

Language: English
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Organized by: ICLEI World Secretariat, World Mayors Council on Climate Change, Durban Adaptation Charter Secretariat

OBJECTIVE

Rio+20 Conference in June 2012 revised the setting of the global architecture of sustainability efforts by kicking off key processes such as a High Level Political Forum (HLPF) to safeguard the outcomes more effectively, a universal set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a wider scope applicable to all countries, addressing UNEP as the global environmental authority, and opening doors to convene HABITATIII in 2016. In addition, the second phase of Hyogo Framework of Action for disaster resilience will be adopted at the World Congress in Sendai in March 2015 and the new global climate regime that will be applicable by 2020 will be adopted at Paris Climate Conference in December 2015. Considering consultation and negotiation phases agendas, it becomes clear that 2014 and 2015 will be recognized as the busiest and most important period to ensure global sustainability in the next 30 years.

Local and subnational governments are actively being engaged in these process, based on their engagement as one of the nine Major Groups of all these process since 1992 and in particular pursuant to their recognition as key actors of implementation as defined in para. 42 of the Rio+20 Outcome document.

Since 2010, Mayors Adaptation Forum played an instrumental role in pioneering innovative ideas for the global advocacy of local and subnational governments including the development of the Global Cities Covenant on Climate – the Mexico City Pact, Durban Adaptation Charter and urging for a universal, stand-alone goal on sustainable cities and human settlements.

The session will provide once again an opportunity for the political representatives of local and subnational governments to take stock of current progress and develop additional strategies to ensure their appropriate recognition, engagement and empowerment in the global processes.



OUTCOMES

Participants will gain a better understanding of:

- Update on the preparatory processes for engagement of local and subnational governments in the process related to Hyogo Framework of Action Phase-2, Sustainable Development Goals, High level Political Forum, UN Environment Assembly, HABITATIII and Paris Climate Conference;
- Assessment of the current progress in negotiations in particular related to a stand-alone goal on sustainable cities and human settlements, and engagement in the climate processes; and
- Provide inputs and insights in the positions of ICLEI and coalition of local and subnational governments under Local Government Climate Roadmap and Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments in Post2015 Development Agenda Towards HABITATIII.

Guiding questions:

1. What is the uniqueness of Sendai Conference for local and subnational governments in terms of process and expected, including possible synergies with Durban Adaptation Charter, Local Government Climate Roadmap and GTF
2. What implications on sustainable urban development can be expected, in case United Nations agree on a stand-alone goal on sustainable cities by September 2015, in the way as it is discussed as of May 2014?
3. What could be the options for local and subnational governments to ensure and enhance measurable, reportable, verifiable sustainable urban development, in case urbanization is weakly addressed in SDGs?
4. What could be key elements to scale up climate action at the local and subnational level within the scope of an outcome in Paris Climate Conference in 2015?

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator	<i>Gino Van Begin, Secretary General, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability</i>
Introduction	<i>Jürgen Nimptsch, Mayor, City of Bonn, Germany; Vice-Chair, World Mayors Council on Climate Change</i>
Panelist	<i>Jerry Velasquez, Chief of Advocacy and Outreach Section, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)</i>
Panelist	<i>Michèle Sabban, Vice-President, Region Ile de France; former President, Assembly of Regions of Europe; President, Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV); President, Board of R20</i>
Panelist	<i>James Nxumalo, Mayor, eThekweni Municipality/Durban, South Africa; ICLEI Vice President, Resilient Cities portfolio holder; Co-Patron of Resilient Cities (tbc)</i>
Panelist	<i>David Cadman, President, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability</i>



Discussants *Participants of Mayors Adaptation Forum*

Further recommended reading

Local Government Climate Roadmap:

www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap

Sendai 2015:

<http://www.wcdrr.org/home>

Post Rio+20 :

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

Global Task Force:

<http://www.gtf2016.org/>
