



SESSION DESCRIPTION

G2 Local integrated climate action from an urban planning perspective

Workshop

Date: Saturday, May 31, 2014

Time: 11:30-13:00

Rooms: S25-26

Language: English

Contact: Ksenia Mokrushina

E-mail/web: ksenia.mokrushina@iclei.org

Organized by: ICLEI World Secretariat and Partners

OBJECTIVE

Climate change mitigation and adaptation are areas of high priority action in the urban context. These are often dealt with as separate topics in academic research, international climate talks, as well as national and local policy-making leading to a situation where these focus areas often compete for funding and for decision-makers' attention. At the local level, the urgent and manifest need for adaptation can also overshadow and depress mitigation action necessity and the need for action in all communities around the globe. Conceptual and practical relationship between adaptation and mitigation, including tensions and synergies, global and local impacts, and short and long term implications, is currently still insufficiently analysed and reflected in climate planning practice.

Critically important for both climate change mitigation and adaptation, urban spatial planning is an important means for local communities to ensure an integrated approach to climate change policy. The proposed workshop will explore the integrated approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation at community level from the point of view of urban spatial planning and its key principles when dealing with these topics. The workshop will consider urban planning from specific sectoral policy perspectives of mitigation and adaptation interaction (e.g. in building technology, urban design, energy planning, water, transportation, etc.), and explore implications for GHG reduction, energy security, urban low emission development, smart urban infrastructure, as well as dealing with heat waves, rising sea levels, flooding, and extreme weather events.

Experts will present key principles of low emission, climate sensitive urban planning providing specific examples from both North and South city cases, with a discussion round to engage with the participants.

OUTCOMES

Participants will leave this workshop with:

- A comprehensive overview of key principles when dealing with urban planning from a climate change mitigation and adaptation perspective;
- Improved knowledge of climate change mitigation and adaptation issues in urban spatial planning, including trade-offs and synergies involved; and
- Familiarity with current good practice and lessons learned from cities implementing integrated climate change mitigation and adaptation policies.



METHODOLOGY

1. Introduction and setting the stage by the facilitator. **(5 min)**
2. Keynote presentations by expert speakers covering different aspects and key issues involved in spatial planning for integrated local climate action. **(25 min)**
3. Facilitated roundtable discussion and guided discussion with participants. **(40 min)**
4. Questions and answers. **(15 min)**
6. Closure. **(5 min)**

THE ROLE OF SPATIAL PLANNING IN INTEGRATED CLIMATE ACTION

Facilitator *Robert Kehew, Leader, Climate Change Planning Unit, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya*

Setting the stage: Urban planning and the mitigation-adaptation interface in local climate action

Presenter *Astrid Westerlind-Wingstroem, Senior Resilience Expert, ICLEI European Secretariat/Consultant, Freiburg, Germany*

Using spatial planning tools to mainstream integrated climate change mitigation and adaptation in cities

Presenter *Nuno Lopes, Head of Environmental Studies and Management Division, City Council of Almada, Portugal*

LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION: MUNICIPAL PRACTICES IN SPATIAL PLANNING

Roundtable discussion/guided discussion with participants

Guiding questions for discussion:

1. What mitigation (adaptation) measures have been recently implemented in your city? What are their adaptation (mitigation) implications? Have they been considered prior to adoption? How did your city make a decision about each measure?
2. What are the main challenges when developing an integrated approach to local climate change mitigation and adaptation and how to address them?
3. How to make informed decisions about mitigation-adaptation conflicts?
4. What spatial/land-use planning measures can municipalities use to enable mitigation-adaptation synergies?
5. What changes are needed in the municipal governance and decision-making systems to enable an integrated approach to local climate action?
6. What analytical support is needed to enhance municipal policy-making in the area of integrated climate action?



- Speaker *Stelios Grafakos, Lead Climate Change Specialist, Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS), Rotterdam, the Netherlands*
- Speaker *Juan Carlos Vargas, Principal, GeoAdaptive LLC, Boston, USA*
- Speaker *Holly Vaughan, Adaptation and Resilience Planner, ICLEI Canada, Toronto, Canada*
- Speaker *Kaj Fischer, Research Analyst, adelphi consult GmbH, Berlin, Germany*