

ICLEI Submission to SBI46 In-Session Workshop on Stakeholder Engagement

Executive Summary

1. The Road to Paris Climate Agreement by Local and Subnational Governments
2. Selected Approaches to Stakeholder Engagement
3. Proposals on the way forward

Annexes

28 February 2017, Bonn, Germany

Executive Summary

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

1. *Welcomes* the decision to convene the workshop and the opportunity to contribute;
2. *Acknowledges* positive response of the UNFCCC Parties and Secretariat in operationalizing many of the proposals contained in ICLEI’s ADP submissions in [February 2012](#) and [December 2013](#), as well as those contained in numerous interventions of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency (LGMA) both at the [SBI Workshop in 2011](#) and those on the way [towards and at COP21](#);
3. *Presents* below proposals for the consideration as an input to the Workshop;
 1. Inside the UNFCCC:
 - a. Ensuring coherence across UNFCCC bodies and processes through Constituency based engagement
 - b. Maintaining effective interaction between Marrakech Partnership and UNFCCC bodies
 - c. Convening regularly *Consultative Dialogues* at COP High Level Segment
 - d. Delegating *Ambassadors* assisting High Level Champions
 - e. Assigning new, additional and predictable financial resources to UNFCCC Staff and Constituencies, including innovative models
 2. Outside the UNFCCC
 - a. Taking advantage of the new role of the UNFCCC Executive Secretary as a UN Under-Secretary-General position
 - b. Linking to UN Reforms for 2030 Agenda
 - c. Interaction with other major processes on stakeholder engagement
 - d. Synergy with the HABITATIII Follow-up and Review Process and Local2030 Action Hub

1. The Road to Paris Climate Agreement by Local and Regional Governments Processes



1. Constituency-led initiatives

- a. **1990-2006**: Engagement via Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (**LGMA Constituency**) and advancing local and subnational climate action outside the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol,
- b. **2007-2015**: **Local Government Climate Roadmap** mirroring Bali Roadmap resulting in; Enhanced engagement through the LGMA, proposal for a draft COP Decision on Cities, Local Government Climate Lounge and Copenhagen World Catalogue of Local Commitments, Mexico City Pact, carbonn[®] Climate Registry, Durban Adaptation Charter, Global Protocol for Community Based GHG Emissions (GPC), Earth Hour City Challenge, Nantes Declaration, Friends of Cities, Paris Declaration, Cities and Regions Pavilion, Transformative Actions Program, feeding into the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments, and actively supporting the Covenant of Mayors initiative of the European Commission in addition.

2. ADP Negotiations and UNFCCC Interventions

Under ADP: Workshop on Urbanization in 2013, Cities and Subnationals Forum in 2014, Technical Examination Meetings in 2014 and 2015, where ICLEI acted as a lead international organization and its Technical Paper in 2014 on Urban Environment .

Between May 2012 and June 2015, LGMA members were engaged in 18 events, with a total of 46 speaking opportunities, including representatives of 30 cities or regions where 50% were at the political level, from 24 countries with 52% coming from Non-Annex-I Parties.

3. 2014 UN Climate Summit

Compact of Mayors, Compact of States and Regions, Under2MoU, Lima-Paris-Action-Agenda, Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance, NAZCA Platform.

1. The Road to Paris Climate Agreement by Local and Regional Governments

Key Achievements



Recognize

1. Local and subnational governments as “governmental stakeholders” ([Para.7 of Dec.1/CP16, in Cancun in 2010](#))
2. Role of cities and subnational authorities in raising pre2020 ambition ([Para.5b of Dec.1/CP19, in Warsaw in 2013](#))
3. Engaging with all levels of governments, as well as local, subnational and community level in capacity building, adaptation and loss and damage ([Paris Agreement preamble para.15, 7.2, 11.2, 8.4.h + COP21 Decision on Non-Party Stakeholders](#))



Engage

4. Ministerial-Mayoral Dialogues ([COP16-2010-Cancun](#), [COP19-2013-Warsaw](#)) and High Level Action Days ([COP20-2014-Lima](#), [COP21-2015-Paris](#))
5. ADP Workstream-2 [Technical Examination Process on Urban Environment](#) and [Cities and Subnational Forum](#)
6. [Compact of Mayors](#), [Covenant of Mayors](#), [Compact of States and Regions](#), [Under2MoU](#) etc.
7. Increased number of organizations of the [Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency \(LGMA\)](#) and Special UNFCCC badges for their Political Leaders
8. [Lima-Paris Action Agenda](#) (LPAA) Declarations including 5-Year Vision and [NAZCA Platform](#), including [carbonn Climate Registry](#) as the first core data partner
9. [Friends of Cities at the UNFCCC](#), and increased number of local and subnational leaders in the national delegations of both Annex-I and Non-Annex-I Parties
10. Workplan of Paris Committee on Capacity Building (para. 73.d/g of Dec. 1/CP21)
11. ~ 50% of submitted INDCs in 2015 have a focus on action at local and subnational level
12. Cities and regions contributing to global funds ([City of Paris](#) and [Brussels Capital Region](#) to GCF, Quebec to [GEF-LDCF](#) and [others](#))



Empower

13. New resources , e.g. [GEF Integrated Action Programme on Sustainable Cities](#), [Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance \(CCFLA\)](#) , [Climate-KIC LoCaL](#), [UN Subnational Climate Action Hub](#)
14. [Transformative Actions Programme \(TAP\)](#)
15. [2030 SD Agenda; Sendai-Disaster, Addis Ababa-Finance, SDGs \(including Goal:11\)](#)

2. Selected Approaches on Stakeholder Engagement

Approaches to stakeholder engagement vary between processes and UN bodies. Further in this submission, we advocate for an alignment of stakeholder engagement approach within the UN system (see proposal 1. Coherence across UNFCCC bodies and processes through Constituency based engagement).

Below we are capturing some of these discrepancies:

Non-Party Stakeholders in Dec.1/CP21 para 133-136: civil society, private sector, financial institutions, cities and other subnational authorities, local communities and indigenous people.

UNFCCC Practice: accreditation of NGOs (can be grouped through 9 Constituencies based on Agenda 21) and Intergovernmental Organizations as Observers

2. Selected Approaches on Stakeholder Engagement – *cont'd*

Constituencies in the [2004 Cardoso Report to the UN SG](#):

- *Civil Society*: associations of citizens, excluding profit making activity and governing (the public sector)
- *State*: central Government + elected representatives of parliaments, local authorities and their international associations
- *Private Sector*: firms, business federations, employer associations, philanthropy

n.b. Proposals from the Cardoso report :

- Civil Society Unit
- Partnership Development Unit
- Elected Representatives Liaison Unit
- Global Compact Office
- Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

2. Selected Approaches on Stakeholder Engagement– *cont'd*

Stakeholder matrix in the [Marrakech Partnership](#) announced at COP22

Figure 1: Multi-stakeholder engagement: proposed thematic approach

Themes						
Natural systems			Sustainable infrastructure			
Land-use	Oceans and coastal zones	Water	Human settlements	Transport	Energy	Industry
Actors	Policy makers					
	<i>National Governments</i>					
	<i>Local and subnational governments</i>					
	<i>Regulators</i>					
	Finance and investment					
	<i>National and international public finance institutions</i>					
<i>Investors</i>						
<i>Asset owners</i>						
<i>Investment and fund managers</i>						
<i>Financial markets</i>						
<i>Corporations</i>						
<i>International finance organisations and initiatives</i>						
Technology and innovation and capacity-building						
<i>Technology developers</i>						
<i>National and international organisations</i>						
<i>Technology initiatives and partnerships</i>						
<i>Research institutions</i>						
Activity implementers						
<i>Public and private project and infrastructure developers</i>						
<i>Business</i>						
<i>Local and municipal service providers</i>						
<i>Farmers and natural resource management associations</i>						
Civil society						
<i>Communities, citizens and consumers</i>						
<i>Non-governmental organisations</i>						
<i>Trade unions and labour organization</i>						
<i>Faith based organisations</i>						
<i>Indigenous peoples</i>						

2. Selected Approaches on Stakeholder Engagement – ICLEI’s Illustrative Map

Global Processes

Decision Making Bodies

General Assembly
HLPF ECOSOC UNEA
Governing Councils COPs
etc.

Implementing Agencies, Secretariats and Intergovernmental Organizations

UN-EOSG
UNEP UNDP UN-Habitat UN-ISDRWHO
DESA NGLS UNFCCC CBD UNCCD
OECD SE4ALL CCAC etc.
Financial Institutions

State or Public Sector Actors

Executive

SupraNational (e.g. EU)
National Governments

Legislative

Parliaments, Councils, Senates
National and/or Federal
as well as
Local and Subnational

Judiciary

Courts
Supreme Courts

Local & Subnational Govts.
Public service utilities

Non-State Actors

Civil Society*

including all 6 Agenda21 Major Groups
and other Stakeholders

Private Sector

Indigenous people

3. Proposals on the way forward

Inside UNFCCC

1. Ensuring coherence across UNFCCC bodies and processes through Constituency based engagement

Each UNFCCC body and process have a different definition, composition and modality of stakeholder engagement. It would be more effective if these processes are consolidated and reach out to observers via the current or a revised version of Observer Constituencies.

2. Maintaining effective interaction between Marrakech Partnership and UNFCCC bodies

Marrakech Partnership is an important effort that combines the practice of participatory dialogues through the ADP process and the initiatives arising from 2014 UN Climate Summit, in which ICLEI and many members of LGMA Constituency were actively engaged. It is now time to establish a clear framework for interaction that links the discussions and proposals from the Marrakech Partnership to the UNFCCC bodies and the negotiators. Indeed, it has proven difficult for UNFCCC negotiators and delegations to engage in diverse and in-depth technical discussions with the observe constituencies due to the workload of their negotiations agenda. Instead of several sessions over the course of two weeks, it may be worthwhile to consider the option of organizing a 1-2 day programme before the COP and a 1-day session on Sunday (in the middle of the 2-week conference) which would then feed into the Champions' Dialogue in the 2nd week. This approach could enable Parties to mobilized relevant technical ministerial and government representatives to attend the 1-2 day pre-event for in-depth technical exchanges, rather than requiring high-level diplomats to be mobilized during these technical sessions. The findings would then be presented to them in the Champions' Dialogue. It is also recommended that during such interactions, data compiled by the NAZCA Platform should be actively and effectively consulted. Specific inputs from civil society-led processes like Climate Chance Conference, Low Emissions Solution Conference or Transport Day should also be considered. The Technical Examination Meetings in May/June Sessions and Marrakech Partnerships at the COPs should also be closely linked in order to ensure appropriate continuity and follow-up between their respective outcomes.

3. Proposals on the way forward

Inside UNFCCC



3. Convening regularly *Consultative Dialogues* at COP High Level Segment

The new climate regime introduced by the Paris Agreement relies heavily on the success at the national level. Therefore, it is essential to engage all State or Public Sector Actors other than national governments, in particular local and subnational governments, in the debate on implementing and advancing Nationally Determined Contributions and other relevant provisions. COP Presidency Dialogues in 2010 in Cancun and in 2013 in Warsaw gathering political leaders of local and subnational governments with Ministers and UNFCCC negotiators resulted in specific COP decisions and concrete results. Thus, it is highly recommended to have such dialogues as a regular element of High Level Segments of COPs. Parties and the UNFCCC Secretariat may also consider to convene such dialogues at the regional level during inter-sessional periods. Through the facilitative role of the LGMA Constituency and in synergy with the agenda of the regular Climate Summit of Local and Regional Leaders convened parallel to COPs, these should focus on vertical integration of NDCs, in particular via commitments under the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy and Under2 Coalition.

4. Delegating *Ambassadors* assisting High Level Champions

Official invitations to expert organizations to facilitate the technical sessions at COP22 was extremely helpful to enable ownership and full engagement of stakeholders in these efforts. It is recommended that such mandates should be communicated as early as possible in order to enable the facilitators to plan technically and financially in advance so as to ensure a diverse and effective participation. It can also be recommended to announce these facilitators as Ambassadors of the High Level Champions, so that they can interact with relevant stakeholders other than the UNFCCC community throughout the year to convey the outcomes and receive their feedbacks and regularly report back to the High Level Champions at COP sessions.

3. Proposals on the way forward

Inside UNFCCC

5. Assigning new, additional and predictable financial resources to UNFCCC Staff and Constituencies, including innovative models

The complexity and diversity of all topics in the UNFCCC agenda demand a more professional and dedicated engagement of stakeholders throughout the year. It is also essential to ensure appropriate support both to the relevant UNFCCC Secretariat staff as well as to the Constituencies in order to run all these processes smoothly. Additional resources may even be generated with small modifications of existing budget as well. (e.g. There are several Non-Annex-I Parties who mobilize enormous budgets for their country pavilions at the COP sessions and still claim for Daily Substance Allowances (DSA) for their representatives as well. In order to make a better use of the existing resources, the share of stakeholder engagement budget should be increased in the annual budget plan and Parties in a position to do so should be invited to provide regular and predictable contributions to this process. Appropriate synergies should also be sought to benefit with other Secretariat activities like Momentum for Change in order to generate additional resources and visibility for stakeholder engagement processes.

3. Proposals on the way forward

Outside the UNFCCC

1. **Taking advantage of the new role of the UNFCCC Executive Secretary as a UN Under-Secretary-General position**

Following the Paris Agreement, it was decided that the UNFCCC Executive Secretary position would be brought to the level of a UN Under-Secretary-General level. Such an action introduces a completely new concept for the mission and effectiveness of the UNFCCC Secretariat within the overall UN Development System by positioning the organization beyond a multilateral environmental agreement secretariat function. The new stakeholder engagement processes should also be considered with the light of the consequences and impacts of such a new positioning.

2. **Linking to UN Reforms for 2030 Agenda**

Starting from 1 January 2017, the United Nations will be led by a new Secretary General who has placed a strong emphasize on effective engagement of all actors in the work of the UN. The new Deputy Secretary General is also recognized through her strong interactions with civil society throughout the SDG negotiations. Any long term decision on stakeholder engagement under the UNFCCC should be developed in close synergy with these efforts which may be expected to be concluded in a couple of years.

3. Proposals on the way forward

Outside the UNFCCC

3. Interaction with other major processes on stakeholder engagement

A number of UN agencies and processes are also going through significant discussions and consultations on stakeholder engagement. The UN Environment Assembly, World Health Assembly, and Convention on Biological Diversity can be noted as the most relevant and important ones. The UNFCCC community has succeeded in demonstrating a breakthrough in the stakeholder engagement practice in particular since COP15 in Copenhagen in 2009 and it may be important to share these experiences at such fora as well.

4. Synergy with the HABITATIII Follow-up and Review Process and Local2030 Action Hub

The HABITATIII Conference held in Quito in October 2016 adopted the New Urban Agenda which also includes a 2-year process to conclude the follow-up and review under the leadership of the UN Secretary General and President of the General Assembly. Due to its close relevance, it is highly likely that the process may also conclude with certain provisions with regards to the engagement of the local and subnational governments in the UN system. The Executive Office of the UN Secretary General is also collaborating with a number of UN agencies including the UNFCCC Secretariat, and the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments on a new initiative called Local 2030 Action Hub as the evolution of the collaboration since the 2014 UN Climate Summit which may be expected to provide further guidance and inputs to the UNFCCC process as well.

1. Summary of [the ADP Workshop on Urbanization at COP19 in 2013](#)
2. COP Presidency Dialogue with Local and Subnational Leaders in [2010](#) and [2013](#)
3. ADP [Forum on Cities and Subnational](#) and [Technical Expert Meeting](#) in 2014
4. UNFCCC 2014 [Technical Paper](#) and [Addendum on Urban Environment](#) in 2014
5. Marrakech Partnership Outcomes of [Resilience](#) and [Buildings](#) in Cities and Human Settlements at COP22 in 2016
6. LGMA Submission to COP22 Presidency on [Post-COP22 Priorities](#)
7. [Key UN decisions on engaging local & subnational governments 1990-2016](#)
8. [A Basic Guide for Local and Regional Government for Paris Climate Package](#)