

**UNFCCC COP 24
Katowice, Poland**

**Concept Note
Action Event: Human Settlements**

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Friday, 7 December 2018
10:00 – 13:00

Organised by the Human Settlements Thematic Group
6 November 2018

MPGCA Human Settlements Action Event: Integrated and Multilevel Action to Raise Ambition

Description

The event will consist of three panel discussions:

- Integrated action: integrated climate action for low-carbon and resilient societies;
- Raising ambition: sectoral progress and achievements, with a special focus on the buildings and construction sector;
- Looking forward: financing multilevel action

Overall Narrative/Background

The MPGCA Human Settlements thematic group is making tremendous efforts to align policies across all levels of governance to enhance ambition through integrated climate action, action in key sectors and multilevel action supported by means of implementation such as climate finance.

Jointly, local, regional and national governments can realise the transformation needed for achieving the mid-century goal of transitioning into low-carbon resilient economies with their ambitious targets and innovative policy solutions. Sectors with the highest carbon footprint in cities comprise energy, buildings and transport. Cities and regions around the world would further benefit from increased capacity building support for accessing and using new finance instruments.

Objective of the event: Impacts and progress made in 2018

Urban infrastructure accounts for over 70% of global energy use and cities account for between 37% and 49% of total global greenhouse gas emissions. Buildings and construction alone are responsible for some 40% of energy consumption and related GHG emissions globally. The majority of the world's cities are in low lying flood-prone or coastal areas, which are vulnerable to climate hazards. Against this backdrop, strengthening institutional capacity to enable enforcement of standards and policies – for human settlements across all levels of government is crucial for achieving the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement.

Focusing on three pillars of integrated climate action, sectoral progress and financing multilevel action, this year's MPGCA Human Settlements thematic event aims to strengthen the five high-impact levers of the Human Settlements thematic group, which are as follows: 1) multilevel governance; 2) finance; 3) net-zero emission, efficient, and resilient buildings and construction; 4) low emission transport; and 5) zero-waste. These five high-impact levers will receive a thematic deep-dive through three 45-

minute sessions that would comprise the 3-hour slot dedicated to the Human Settlements thematic group.

First, the integrated climate action session will feature speakers whose experience will provide key insights for enhancing NDC ambition and achieving sustainable territorial development with co-benefits to climate action and SDGs. Cities and regions are on the front line of a globally changing world and need to rapidly adapt to shifts in nearly every dimension of life. Policymakers at all levels of governments will share their views on latest developments for creating sustainable cities and regions as important hubs of economy, innovation, production, consumption, social and cultural interaction.

The second session will focus on raising ambition by highlighting sectoral progress made. Based on a reporting back on commitments made at the recent Global Climate Action Summit in California (net zero carbon buildings, 1.5 mid-century climate neutrality, zero emission urban mobility, 100% renewable energy, zero waste, and equity), the session will focus on experiences in the buildings and construction sector. Key policy briefs and outcome documents that would serve as background information for the session include the progress report on the Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction 2018, the Global Roadmap, and the [Call to Global Climate Action](#) from the Global Climate Action Summit (GCAS).

Third, the final session on “looking forward: financing multilevel action” will discuss next steps for financing multilevel action with a view to feeding into the third biennial high-level ministerial dialogue on climate finance, a COP mandated event to be convened in accordance with decision 3/CP.19. The session will focus on the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices regarding the use of project preparation facilities to make finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development, in line with the [Bonn-Fiji Commitment](#) and the [Marrakech Roadmap for Action on Localizing Climate Finance](#).

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