

COP25: Second Capacity Building Hub – Local Governments and Cities Day

07 December 2019, Madrid

Title:

Cities and Climate Change. How to empower individuals and organizations to transform cities into sustainable, safe and resilient places.

The transformative role cities and local authorities can play in the battle against climate change.

Description:

The event will highlight the major challenges cities and urban areas face in relation to climate change. It will shed light on the basic facts on urbanization, as well as the effects of climate change on cities and explain how cities are also the main contributors to climate change. The importance of integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation in urban planning will also be placed in the forefront of the discussion, emphasizing that “good city planning practices are, by their nature, also climate smart planning practices”¹.

“The battle against climate change will be fought in the cities. Cities can be the problem or cities can be the solution. But we need to know what’s going on in the cities. What you measure, you treasure”². Consequently, the relevance of having data that can be incorporated into urban planning decision-making processes will be reflected upon, as well as the importance of having collaborative and innovative processes that can help strengthen communication between citizens and local authorities and reinforce citizen engagement in addressing the vulnerability of urban areas.

The event will therefore bring together case studies and results obtained during the citizen consultation in Chimbote and Trujillo (Peru), Tarija and La Paz (Bolivia) while the consultation in Brazil is held nation-wide for a second consecutive year as part of the greater *Accountability Systems for Measuring, Monitoring and Reporting on Sustainable City Policies in Latin America* project. The presenters will also discuss the challenges and lessons of how data can positively feed into localising urban development policies and programmes and contribute to the implementation of SDG11 and the New Urban Agenda.

I. Background materials and methodology:

The session will feature four capacity building materials, as follows:

- ✓ UN-Habitat Cities and Climate Change Course
<https://unccelearn.org/course/view.php?id=21&page=overview>
- ✓ UN-Habitat Climate Change Module for Universities
<http://capacitybuildingunhabitat.org/cities-and-climate-change-english/>
- ✓ The *Sustainable Cities and Communities Consultation* innovative tool for citizens to hold leaders accountable using a mobile phone-based consultation platform. The consultation has been implemented in Bolivia, Peru and Brazil. During the training, a pilot of the consultation will be tested with the participants of the session.
<https://uni.unhabitat.org/sdg11-survey-english/>
- ✓ Training Needs Assessment processes, including a vulnerability assessment from Peru, to identify the main challenges and vulnerabilities of cities and urban areas in climate change issues, as well as a guide for collaborative processes to produce action plans to overcome the difficulties identified.
<https://www.ciudad.org.pe/manuales/>

¹ p.42. of Cities and CC pdf [UNH, Planning for Climate Change 2014]

² p.46. of Cities and CC pdf [Andrew Steer, President and CEO, World Resources Institute]

II. **Structure of the session:** This is a mini-course, compact, focused and interactive for active learning.

Part I

Concepts

30 minutes

- How cities are affected by climate change (use of technological and participate tools such as mentimeter);
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation measures for sustainable urban planning;
- Mitigation strategies for cities. Urban energy, urban mobility and shelter and housing.

Part II

Planning

30 minutes

- Vulnerability Assessment: Study case of Chimbote and Trujillo in Peru;
- Planning processes for climate change and prioritization actions: Study case of Chimbote and Trujillo in Peru

Part III

Implementation

30 minutes

- How can data be incorporated into planning and development decision-making? Study case of the Sustainable Cities Consultation implemented in Bolivia, Brazil and Peru.

Part IV

Closure

15 minutes

- Conclusions and lessons learned

III. Target audience:

Local authorities, NGOs and civil society

IV. Expected results/outputs/impacts:

- ✓ Introduce theoretical foundations of both climate change mitigation and adaptation and contextualize these concepts within urban planning;
- ✓ Provide lessons learned and conclusions drawn in Peru;
- ✓ Provide different mechanisms to create awareness in citizens and thus achieve more participatory planning;
- ✓ Begin to prepare cities to undertake climate action planning, including gathering the necessary data to report their progress on SDG11 with a focus on climate change;
- ✓ Exchange of experiences and practices within the participants;
- ✓ Provide access to tools created to support climate action.

Short bio of moderator and speakers

Speaker: Claudio Acioly, UN-Habitat



Claudio Acioly is the head of the Capacity Development Unit. Claudio is an architect and urban planner with more than 35 years of experience in more than 30 countries. His expertise is in the field of housing, slum upgrading and urban management. In his current position, Claudio coordinates training, capacity building of local leaders, e-learning and knowledge-based initiatives. Previously, he had led housing policy work for UN-Habitat in countries such as Cuba, Ghana, Malawi, El Salvador, Vietnam, Nepal and Ecuador.

Speaker: Beatriz Gonzalez Mendoza, UN-Habitat



Beatriz Mendoza is an urban planner whose work focuses on citizen participation and capacity development. Beatriz works at UN-Habitat in the Capacity Development Unit, where she has worked on different projects related to e-learning, such as the Global Urban Lectures; as well as in the activities and relationships that UN-Habitat leads with Higher Education Institutions. Beatriz is also the project coordinator for "Accountability Systems for measuring, monitoring and reporting on sustainable city policies in Latin America".

Speaker: Liliana Miranda Sara, Foro Ciudades para la Vida



Liliana Miranda Sara is an architect, urban environmental expert, planner, academic and researcher. She is founder and executive director of Foro Ciudades para la Vida (Cities for Life Foro). She does private consultancy for national and international organizations, she is a civil society activist, author of four books, numerous peer reviewed articles, reports and is engaged in worldwide conferences, such as COP21, Rio+20 and Habitat II. Her work focuses on topics related to consensus building, capacity building, construction for the poor and territorial sustainable planning and development.