

2019 Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance

“Climate Finance and Sustainable Cities”

12 – 13 September 2019

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
Beirut, Lebanon

The event is being organized in partnership with:



Union pour la Méditerranée
Union for the Mediterranean
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



With contributions from:



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NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
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Provisional programme of the 2019 SCF Forum

Day 1

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators
08:00 – 09:00	Registration	
09:00 – 09:30	<i>Opening session</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remarks, welcoming the participants and introduction of the Forum • Overview of the 2-day Forum and messages to the participants on what this Forum should deliver 	<p>SCF Co-chairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ayman Shasly (Saudi Arabia) • Mr. Ismo Ulvila (European Union) <p>Minister of Environment, Lebanon H.E. Mr. Fady Jreissati</p> <p>Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations H.E. Amina Mohammed (video message)</p> <p>Executive Secretary of UNESCWA, Ms. Rola Dashti</p>
09:30 – 10:30	<i>Session 1: Scene-setting on climate finance and sustainable cities</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues that cities are facing today, including ways that climate change socially and economically impacts cities, and the interlinkages between these issues • Complementarity between climate actions and cities' broader social, economic, and environmental goals and priorities, including those reflected in the Paris Agreement, SDGs and other UN targets relevant to cities, such as the New Urban Agenda and the Sendai Framework; • Climate finance in the broader context of cities' infrastructure and sustainable development financing needs; • Finance gap that needs to be closed for cities' sustainable development and opportunities that can be harnessed through climate finance • Importance of the vertical integration that will help to align the NDCs with cities' climate actions plans 	<p>Session moderator: Mr. Mohamed Nasr, SCF Forum co-facilitator</p> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Laila Iskander, former Minister of Environment, Egypt • Dr. Stephen Bygrave, Director of Climate Resilience and Net Zero Emissions in the New South Wales (State of Sydney), Australia • Ms. Gabriela Gamboa, Mayor of Metepec, Mexico <p>Plenary discussion</p>
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>	

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators	
10:45 – 12:30	<p><i>Session 2: Brainstorming session on sustainable cities and climate finance</i></p> <p>Participants will be invited to have a brainstorming session around the issues cities are facing today and how climate change considerations are linked to achieving cities’ broader social, economic, and environmental goals and priorities, including those reflected in the Paris Agreement, SDGs and other UN targets relevant to cities, and the role climate and sustainable finance can play to resolve the issues. Participants will be advised to examine these social, economic, and environmental goals and priorities, as well as cross-cutting consideration of mitigation and adaptation from key urban sectors.</p>		
12:30 – 13:00	<p>Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion</p>	<p>Session moderator: Mr. Mohamed Nasr, SCF Forum co-facilitator</p>	
13:00 – 14:00	<p><i>Lunch</i></p>		

Time	Description		Speakers and moderators
14:00 – 15:30	<i>Session 3: Planning and financing climate change actions for sustainable cities</i>		
	<p>This session will explore ways to mainstream climate change into urban planning and projects, and available options for supporting them through climate finance, including through readiness programs. The session will also examine the enablers required for cities to mobilize climate finance and harness its full potential to meet the financing needs of cities, and available international support opportunities cities can avail of.</p>	<p>Session moderator: Ms. Fiona Gilbert, SCF Forum co-facilitator</p> <p>Presentation: Mr. Vahakn Kabakian, Ministry of Environment, Lebanon</p> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yassine Daoudi, Mayor of Guisser city and Vice President of the National Association of Moroccan Mayors • Ms. Eszter Mogyorósy, ICLEI • Mr. Stephen Hammer, World Bank • Ms. Junko Ota, Kitakyushu Urban Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan <p>Plenary discussion</p>	
15:30 – 17:00	<i>Session 4: Breakout session on planning and financing urban climate projects</i>		
	<p>Breakout group on sources of climate finance for cities</p> <p>The group will discuss the ways to identify finance for low emission and climate resilient urban projects, from public and private sources, at the national and international levels.</p>	<p>Breakout group on innovative financing mechanism and instruments</p> <p>The group will discuss financing mechanism and instruments that cities can utilize to mobilize the funding needed for their urban projects, and the technical support needed.</p>	<p>Breakout group on the financial needs and investment priorities for cities</p> <p>The group will share experiences on how cities assessed their financial needs and investment priorities in different sectors. It will also discuss the role of financial institutions in response to the needs identified.</p>

Time	Description		Speakers and moderators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Mr. Yann Françoise, Head of Climate, Energy and Circular Economy Strategies, Urban Ecology Agency, Paris and Environment Directorate, City of Paris Mr. Jose Andreu / Ms. Alexandrina Platonova-Oquab, Climate Investment Funds (CIF) - <u>Moderator</u> Mr. Christopher Moon-Miklaucic, Urban Finance Research Analyst, World Resources Institute (WRI) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Mr. Sinovuyo Mpakama, City of Johannesburg Mr. John Tidmarsh, chief investment officer, R20 - <u>Moderator</u> Ms. Priscilla Negreiros, Cities Climate Finance Alliance Project Manager, CPI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Mr. Mauricio Rodas Espinel, former Mayor of Quito, Ecuador (video presentation) Mr. Arnaud Heckmann, Principal Urban Development Specialist, ADB Mongolia - <u>Moderator</u> Ms. Sophie de Connick, UN Capital Development Fund
17:00 – 17:20	<i>Coffee break</i>		
17:20 – 17:50	Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion	Session moderator: Ms. Fiona Gilbert, SCF Forum co-facilitator	
17:50 – 18:00	Wrap-up of day 1		

Day 2

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators	
09:00 – 10:15	<i>Session 5: Accelerating the mobilization and delivery of climate finance for cities</i>		
	<p>This session will focus on how cities can mobilize and access finance for their low-emission, climate resilient urban projects and opportunities to address the capacity constraints that city actors are facing. It will also explore ways to create the enabling environments and regulatory frameworks to unlock urban climate actions by the private sector.</p>	<p>Session moderator: Ms. Marzena Chodor, PCCB Co-Chair</p> <p>Presentation: Mr. Philippe Camille Akoa, CEO of the Special Fund for Equipment and Inter-Municipal Intervention, Cameroon</p> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. James Alexander, C40 Cities Finance Facility • Ms. Anja Graef, HSBC sustainable investments • Mr. Arnaud Heckmann, Principal Urban Development Specialist, ADB Mongolia <p>Plenary discussion</p>	
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>		
10:30 – 11:45	<i>Session 6: Breakout session on capacity-building and readiness support</i>		
	<p>Breakout group on access and accreditation</p> <p>The group will discuss opportunities and challenges of cities in gaining access to international climate funds, including through direct access. It will also focus on ways to access readiness support for the institutions seeking accreditation to the funds.</p>	<p>Breakout group on project preparation and capacity-building support</p> <p>The group will discuss the challenges that city actors face during the preparation phase of climate project and identify available technical and capacity-building support. It will also share information on available tools that can help the city actors prepare better project proposals by strengthening the climate rationale.</p>	<p>Breakout group on incentivizing private sector engagement</p> <p>This group will discuss ways to reduce the capital costs and financial risks for local businesses and start-ups to help mobilize private sector investments at the city level. It will also focus on the measures that city authorities can take to raise the awareness of private sector investment opportunities and ratchet up the capacity of local financial institutions.</p>

Time	Description		Speakers and moderators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Ms. Randa Mounir, former GCF focal point at Ministry of Environment, Egypt - <u>Moderator</u> Mr. Drazen Kucan, Lead Urban and Energy Efficiency Specialist, Green Climate Fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter:</u> Mr. Desmond Appiah, Chief Sustainability and Resilience Advisor to the Mayor of Accra - <u>Moderator</u> Mr. Charles Wilson, Director of Development and Partnerships, Gold Standard Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Ms. Benita Ainabe, Financial Sector Specialist Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division, Southeast Asia Department Asian Development Bank (video presentation) - <u>Moderator</u> Carlos de Freitas, Co-Director FMDV - Global Fund for Cities Development
11:45 – 12:15	Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion		Session moderator: Ms. Marzena Chodor, PCCB Co-Chair
12:15 – 13:00	<i>Exhibit</i>		
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>		
14:00 – 15:30	<i>Session 7: Breakout session on climate finance and inclusive and participatory cities</i>		
	<p>Breakout group on the role of climate finance in empowering groups in vulnerable situations</p> <p>This group will discuss ways of integrating the consideration of groups in vulnerable situations in developing low-emission, climate resilient urban plans and projects. It will also discuss participatory approaches in assessing climate and sustainable financing needs of cities.</p>	<p>Breakout group on enabling environments for inclusive growth</p> <p>This group will discuss policies and regulations that can drive national and international climate finance towards fostering a more inclusive, gender-responsive and youth-oriented society and stimulating economic growth. It will also focus on how the policies and programming of the MDBs and international climate funds can contribute to such inclusive growth.</p>	<p>Breakout group on micro-, small- and medium-sized businesses</p> <p>The group will discuss the potential of micro-, small- and medium-sized business and microfinance schemes in funding climate actions that can benefit groups that are in vulnerable situations. It will also discuss available national and international support for such business models.</p>

Time	Description		Speakers and moderators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Ms. Sheela Patel, Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI) (video presentation) - <u>Moderator</u> Ms. Shipra Narang Suri, Urban Planning and Design Branch, UN HABITAT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Youth for Climate Strasbourg, video presentation Ms. Hajar Khamlichi, President of the Mediterranean Youth Climate Network - <u>Moderator</u> Ms. Carol Chouchani Churfane, UNESCWA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Mini-case study presenter</u> Ms. Charlotte Scott, SouthSouthNorth Mr. Yann Françoise, Head of Climate, Energy and Circular Economy Strategies, Urban Ecology Agency, Paris and Environment Directorate, City of Paris - <u>Moderator</u> Ms. Hannah Rotchild, ICLEI CiBiX
15:30 – 16:00	Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion		Session moderator: SCF member Mr. Ivan Zambrana Flores
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>		
16:15 – 17:15	<p><i>Session 8: Role of climate finance in building more inclusive sustainable cities</i></p> <p>This session will highlight the how climate finance can facilitate building a sustainable city that is more inclusive, participatory, gender-responsive and youth-oriented. It will also focus on how climate and sustainable investments can contribute to alleviating poverty of groups in vulnerable situation.</p>		<p>Session moderator: SCF member Mr. Ivan Zambrana Flores</p> <p>Presentation: Ms. Banashri Sinha, UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</p> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Edris Loubega, Shack/Slum Dwellers International • Ms. Ferrial Adam, Researcher, Gender CC <p>Plenary discussion</p>
17:15 – 18:00	Wrap-up of the Forum		<p>SCF Co-chairs</p> <p>Host city / organization representative</p>