

“The Paris Agreement for Climate Change ”

**Training of Trainers Workshop on
Building Cities Resilience to Climate Change and Disaster Risks
Session 2: Global Frameworks for Urban Resilience
Bangkok, Thailand, 7 May 2018**



Outline

- Paris agreement – overview, objectives, and status
 - Elements of the Agreement
 - What does this mean
- Adaptation in the Paris Agreement
- NDCs and long term low carbon strategies
- Global Climate Action Agenda / Talanoa Dialogue
- Negotiations / SB sessions (Bonn, May 2018)
- UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs)



Paris Agreement

Overview | Objectives | Status



THE PARIS AGREEMENT – Overview

The Paris Agreement aims to implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), signed in 1992 and in force since 1994.

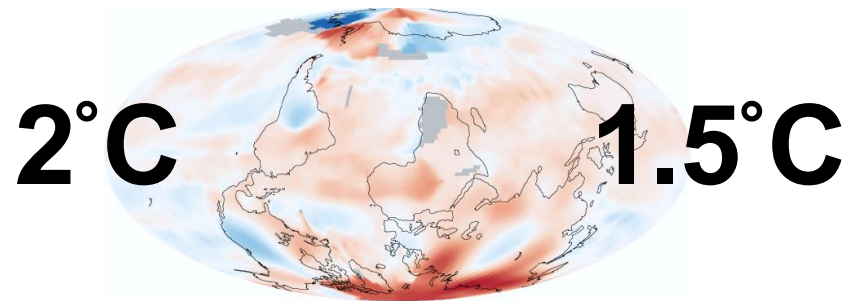
In line with the overarching objective of the UNFCCC to “stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in order to avoid dangerous anthropogenic interference in the climate system,” the Paris Agreement aims to achieve the following:

To hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, as well as pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.



Long-Term Goals of the Paris Agreement

- Long-term goals:
 - Limiting temperature increase to well below 2°C, pursuing 1.5°C (Article 2)
 - Aiming to achieve a balance between emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHG in the second half of the century (Article 4.1)
 - Reducing aggregate emissions in 2030 to 40Gt (1/CP.21, paragraph 17)



- All Parties have committed to limiting their aggregate long term emissions to achieve these long-term goals (expressed through NDCs)



Objectives of the Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement reflects global political acceptance of the scientific realities



Status of Paris Agreement: Entry into Force

To this date **176**

parties have ratified (out of 197 parties to the convention)

***“Humanity will look back on November 4, 2016
as the day that countries of the world shut the door on inevitable climate
disaster and set off with determination towards a sustainable future.”***

- Patricia Espinosa and Salaheddine Mezouar



Elements of the Paris Agreement to Achieve the Target

- **REDD+** : Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, result-based payments, existing framework (Article 5)
- **Sustainable development mechanism** : Cooperative approaches and ITMOs (Art. 6)
- **Adaptation** : on par with mitigation, unprecedented importance (Art. 7)
- **Loss & Damage** : Standalone concept, no sub-sector any longer, under guidance of CMA (Art. 8)
- **Financial assistance** : Mobilization of climate finance beyond existing efforts, for mitigation and adaptation (Art. 9)
- **Technology Development and Transfer** : Establishment of a Technology Mechanism (Art.10)
- **Capacity building** : formation of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB) and the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). (Art.11, decision 1/CP.17, para. 71)



The Paris Agreement – what it means (but doesn't say)

The Paris Agreement is only the **first few steps** on the long road to achieve the limiting of temperature rise below 2 degrees and building low carbon, resilient societies.

- Global **“Carbon budget”** will be exhausted in 25 years (at the level of current emissions)
 - Global net **GHG emissions need to fall to zero** by around 2070. Increasing the level of ambition to 1.5 degrees Celsius brings this date forward to 2050 or earlier.
 - Country must **decarbonize fully** over the coming 35 to 55 years
 - In the next decades unprecedented efforts in **policy development and technological innovation** will be needed.
 - A **fundamental transformation** of the world's energy system by 2070, while keeping in mind the 2030 sustainable development agenda (continuous development and poverty eradication)
-



Adaptation / Resilience in the Paris Agreement

- Paris Agreement not only recognises the link between mitigation and adaptation, but also, in defining the goal, calls for adequacy in action and support for adaptation.
- Adaptation goals are reflected in several Articles of the PA, with Art.7 establishing the global goal on adaptation
- Article 2: The Agreement aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change including by:
 - (a) “1.5°C Goal”
 - (b) Increasing the ability to **adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change** and **foster climate resilience** and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and
 - (c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and **climate-resilient development.**



Paris Agreement – Article 7

- Enhancing adaptive capacity, **strengthening resilience** and reducing vulnerability to climate change
- Parties recognize that adaptation is a global challenge faced by all with **local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions**
- Parties recognize the **importance of support** for and international cooperation on adaptation efforts
- **Parties should** strengthen their cooperation on enhancing action on adaptation, ...sharing information, good practices, strengthening institutional arrangements, assisting developing country Parties in identifying effective adaptation practices, adaptation needs, priorities, support provided and received for adaptation actions
- Each **Party shall, as appropriate**, engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, may include, as appropriate **formulate and implement national adaptation plans**



NDCs – Nationally Determined Contributions



NDCs

Each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve (Art.4)

- Explains what a country is doing to combat climate change and limit future climate risks.
- Report to each other and the public on how well countries are doing to implement their targets;
- Track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability
- Revised and resubmitted every five years, with improvements in each five-year cycle.

Over time, the NDCs are supposed to be strengthened to the point where, in combination, they respect the carbon budget of two degrees Celsius.



190/196

countries have submitted their INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions)

169

Parties have submitted their first NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions)

Key features

- Increasing ambitions; no backsliding
- Actions updated every 5 years
- Tracking progress
- Support; not sanctions

Eight parties have submitted their

Long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies

(United States, Mexico, Germany, Canada, France and Benin Czech Republic, United Kingdom)

→ Embedding NDCs in scenarios that go to 2050 and beyond.



Next step: NDC implementation

- The Paris Agreement needs to be implemented along with the NDCs
- Countries are currently working on implementation plans for their NDCs
- Several implementation organizations support developing countries in preparing the implementation and achievement of the goals set in their respective NDCs.
- Climate change actions identified in NDCs should be integrated and embedded into development planning, national strategies and international frameworks
- Common challenges: awareness building, integrate climate change into national planning, build capacity to analyse, develop and implement climate policies



GCA -

**Global Climate Action
Agenda**



Global Climate Action Agenda (GCA)

Background

COP 22 (Dec. 2016): Launch of the **Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action**, which is to:

- Provide a basis to maximize **collaboration and cooperation** among stakeholders
- Ensure the **realization of existing commitments**
- Facilitate a **greater number of and more ambitious commitments**

- Detailed agenda **to boost cooperative action between governments, cities, business, investors and citizens** to cut emissions rapidly and help vulnerable nations adapt to climate impacts and build their own clean energy, sustainable futures.



Approach: Champions and UNFCCC support unit

- **Champions' core role:** engage for strengthening initiatives and coalitions through high-level advocacy, including communication of success and barriers faced in implementation
- **UNFCCC support unit:**
 - **Convene stakeholders** to enable enhanced cooperation
 - **Facilitate connection**, in particular with other established UNFCCC processes
 - **Enable transparency** in reporting through NAZCA
 - **Support reporting of progress**, in particular through the Summary of Policymakers and the Yearbook of Global Climate Action
 - **Provide operational support** to the High-Level Champions and the knowledge transfer and continuity of functions to future Champions



Climate Summit of Local and Regional Leaders (COP23)



**CITIES & REGIONS
TALANOA DIALOGUES**



- The Climate Summit of Local and Regional Leaders was the premier gathering of local and regional governments at COP23.
- jumping off point for key initiatives and partnerships that support **implementation of the Paris Agreement**, demonstrating that when cities, regions, businesses, communities and all levels of government join forces, it makes climate action stronger and more effective.
- Local and regional leaders from around the world signed the **Bonn-Fiji Commitment** to take further, faster action to deliver the Paris Agreement at all levels of government.
- Encompasses 19 initiatives, including the creation of the **Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy**, the largest global coalition of over 7,400 cities advancing city-level transitions to low emission and climate resilient economies through voluntary action.



BONN-FIJI COMMITMENT

- pushes forward efforts to advance sustainable urban development as an integral part of urgent global climate action and the inter-linked goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- This is particularly focused around Sustainable Development Goal 11 – to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- building a resilient, low carbon society,



Talanoa Dialogue Process

- **Launched at COP 23**, following mandate from Paris to “*convene a facilitative dialogue among Parties in 2018 to take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal*”
 - Talanoa is a traditional approach used in Fiji and the Pacific to engage in an **inclusive, participatory and transparent dialogue**, with the purpose of **sharing stories**
 - Designed to stimulate a global conversation about efforts to combat climate change in which **all actors – Party and non-Party stakeholders** – are invited to actively engaged
 - **Two phases:**
 - Preparatory phase: from January to December 2018
 - Political phase: during COP 24
 - **Inputs and deadlines:** all submissions should be made via the Talanoa Platform by 2 April 2018 to provide input for discussions at the May session; and a later deadline of 29 October 2018 to provide input to COP 24
-



Is the Talanoa Dialogue focused solely on mitigation, or can inputs include adaptation and resilience considerations?

- TD is ultimately designed to help the world achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement by **encouraging Parties to submit more ambitious NDCs**.
- **Adaptation and resilience** are important components in the NDCs of developing of countries and are critical for achieving the overarching goals of the Paris Agreement, including promoting sustainable development.
- So whilst the 1.5/2 degrees target is critically important, strengthening the capacity of vulnerable societies to **adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change is necessary to ensure a sustainable transition** towards a net-zero emission society as early as possible.

→ This makes the discussion on adaptation and resilience relevant to the Talanoa Dialogue. Stakeholders are encourage you in particular to share experiences and lessons on actions and initiatives that address both adaption and mitigation.



The role of governments in the implementation of the PA



Implementation of the Paris Agreement

Cities and states played an important support role in securing the ambitious universal climate agreement

To reach its ambitious goals, the agreement recognizes the key role of subnational levels of government in strengthening resilience to climate change:

“Parties recognize that adaptation is a global challenge faced by all with **local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions**, and that it is a key component of and makes a contribution to the long-term global response to climate change to protect people, livelihoods and ecosystems, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of those developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.” states the agreement.



9th Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation

(26-28 April 2018, Bonn, “Resilient Cities 2018” is part of the Talanoa Dialogue!)

- Leaders and decision-makers from around the world - from megacities and small islands in developing and industrialized countries - looked at how their progress on SDG 11 can advance global sustainable development.

Voices from Talanoa



<https://resilientcities2018.iclei.org/>

“We need national governments to raise ambition. This will not happen unless cities do so as well. **You have a leading role to play in advancing the Paris Agreement...** The Talanoa Dialogue is a chance for you to have your voices and experiences heard and for people around the world to learn what you have done.”

- **Patricia Espinosa**

Executive Secretary, UNFCCC



Paris Agreement and NAPs

- Meeting the Paris Agreement's temperature goal will require strong, ambitious and long-term commitment from governments, private industry and citizens in all countries. Yet, even if this ambitious target is reached, **countries will still need to adapt to a changing climate.**
- Paris Agreement will reinforce and build on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's **prior commitments related to NAPs**
- expectation that all countries—developed and developing—will engage in adaptation planning processes. In particular, it calls upon all countries to initiate processes to **prepare and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs).**
- Paris Agreement's **reinforcement of international cooperation** on adaptation



NAP EXPO 2018

Advancing National Adaptation Plans (4-6 April)

- annual outreach event organized by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group under the UNFCCC, in collaboration with various bodies and organizations, to **promote exchange of experiences** and foster partnerships between a wide range of actors and stakeholders **on how to advance National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)**

What are the objectives of the NAP Expo?

- to **advance the formulation and implementation of NAPs** by serving as a forum where different countries, organizations and other relevant actors can interact and exchange experiences on NAPs.



NAP EXPO 2018

Specific objectives include the following:

- (a) To update stakeholders on the **latest guidance on the technical and financial aspects** to advance the formulation and implementation of NAPs;
- (b) To **discuss country experiences**, best practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs and information on support provided and received in relation to the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (c) To offer a **platform for countries** to interact with the GCF and others providing support for NAPs, as a means to improve access to financing for NAPs

Main topics for this year

- Assessing vulnerability and risk
- Designing implementation strategies while taking into account vertical and horizontal integration, and different pathways over time
- Financial support for the formulation and implementation of NAPs;
- Systematic observations, monitoring and evaluation, and learning from experience from past climate shocks



Summary

- The PA is a groundbreaking international agreement, giving a strong message about needed energy and technology transformation towards a low carbon energy system
- To reach 2°C global, net GHG emissions to fall to zero by 2070
- Parties set out climate action goals in their NDCs
- Global Climate Action Agenda / Talanoa dialogue builds engagement of on non-state actors
- Article 7 – Global adaptation goal
- Ongoing negotiations on the elements of the PA,



UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs)



UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs)

- **RCC Bangkok** is a collaboration between the UNFCCC Secretariat and IGES
- The fifth RCC globally, launched in September, 2015
- Hosted by IGES Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand
- Set up to **spread the benefits of the CDM**, to help **under-represented regions** increase their attractiveness and potential for CDM, by building their capacity and reducing the risk for investors.
- **Broader role since Paris** - supporting development and implementation of countries' NDCs to climate action under that agreement, with focus on markets and mechanisms.



COP21 was a
success, but that
was the easy
part

Christiana Figueres
Executive Secretary,
United Nations Framework Convention
on Climate Change



Thank you!

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