

Provisional programme of the 2019 SCF Forum

Objective of the Forum

To enhance the understanding on how to accelerate the mobilization and delivery of climate finance for sustainable cities by:

- (1) Bringing together key stakeholders and sharing good practices and lessons learned in financing sustainable cities and integrating climate considerations into cities' broader domestic infrastructure, development, and urban planning processes;
- (2) Identifying challenges faced by actors at the city level to access and attract climate finance and sharing information on available support and;
- (3) Exploring the role of climate finance to facilitate inclusive, participatory, gender-responsive and youth-oriented cities.

Expected outcomes

At the end of the Forum, participants would have a better understanding of:

- (1) The potential of cities in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement;
- (2) The complementarity between climate-related actions and achieving the relevant SDGs and other UN targets and commitments related to sustainable cities;¹
- (3) The role of climate finance in the broader context of cities' infrastructure and sustainable development financing needs;
- (4) Strategies and approaches for mainstreaming climate considerations into cities' broader economic, social, and environmental development priorities and strategies;
- (5) Relevant actors involved in financing sustainable cities at various stages, ranging from development of strategies and plans, early-phase project preparation to project implementation;
- (6) Current trends of climate finance flows for climate-resilient and low emission cities;
- (7) Complementarity of climate finance between municipal, national and international levels;
- (8) Models of financing urban climate change projects;
- (9) The enabling environments needed to scale-up and unlock climate finance for cities and accelerate its flows;
- (10) The capacity-building needs of local actors to access climate finance and available support to meet the needs;
- (11) Policies and measures that will help city authorities to integrate the consideration of youth, gender, as well as socially vulnerable groups in designing and financing urban climate projects.

¹ Including New Urban Agenda from the UN Habitat III, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, etc.

Day 1

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators
08:00–09:00	Registration	
09:00–09:30	<p>Opening session</p> <p>Opening remarks, welcoming the participants and introduction of the Forum</p> <p>Overview of the 2-day Forum and messages to the participants on what this Forum should deliver</p>	<p>SCF Co-chairs</p> <p>Official of the host city / partner organization</p> <p>Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC (<i>tbc</i>)</p> <p>Key speaker on the issue</p>
09:30–10:00	<p><i>Session 1: Scene-setting on climate finance and sustainable cities</i></p> <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>Keynote presentation</p> <p>Plenary discussion</p>
10:00–10:20	<i>Coffee break</i>	

Time	Description		Speakers and moderators
10:20–11:30	<i>Session 2: Brainstorming session on sustainable cities and climate finance</i>		
	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.		
	Brainstorming group focusing on buildings and energy sector	Brainstorming group focusing on water and waste sectors	Brainstorming group focusing on transportation
	Examples of issue(s): - Housing, infrastructure and settlements - Production and distribution of renewable energy - Energy efficiency - Public spaces, green areas and land use - Equitable energy access	Examples of issue(s): - Water and sanitation - Water management - Waste and recycling management	Examples of issue(s): - Mobility and public transit
11:30–12:30	Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion		
12:30–14:00	<i>Lunch</i>		
14:00–15:00	<i>Session 3: Planning and financing climate change actions for sustainable cities</i>		
	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.	Presentations Panel discussion Plenary discussion	

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators	
15:00–16:30	<i>Session 4: Breakout session on planning and financing urban climate projects</i>		
	Breakout group on sources of climate finance for cities 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.	Breakout group on innovative financing mechanism and instruments 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.	Breakout group on the financial needs and investment priorities for cities 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.
16:30–16:45	<i>Coffee break</i>		
16:45–17:45	Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion		
17:45–18:00	Wrap-up of day 1		

Day 2

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators
09:00–09:15	Recap of day 1 and setting the stage for day 2	
09:10–10:15	<i>Session 5: Accelerating the mobilization and delivery of climate finance for cities</i>	
	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.	Presentations Panel discussion Plenary discussion
10:15–10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators	
10:30–11:40	Session 6: Breakout session on capacity-building and readiness support		
	Breakout group on access and accreditation 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.	Breakout group on project preparation and capacity-building support 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.	Breakout group on incentivizing private sector engagement 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.
11:40–12:40	Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion		
12:40–14:00	Lunch		
14:00–15:00	Session 7: Role of climate finance in building more inclusive sustainable cities		
	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.	Presentation Panel discussion Plenary discussion	
15:00–15:15	Coffee break		

Time	Description	Speakers and moderators	
15:15–16:30	<i>Session 8: 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>
16:30–17:30	Report-back of the discussion leaders from the breakout groups followed by a moderated discussion		
17:30–18:00	Wrap-up of the Forum		<p>SCF Co-chairs</p> <p>Host city / organization representative</p>
