

***Technical Expert
Meeting
on Mitigation
(TEM-M)***

***Exploring Pathways to Transform
African Cities
into Low Emission
and Sustainable Cities***

***29 June 2017,
The Palais des Congres
Cotonou, Benin***



Photo by World Bank photographer John Hogg

TECHNICAL EXPERT MEETING ON MITIGATION (TEM-M)

BACKGROUND:

This regional TEM-M was a platform for stakeholders to demonstrate innovative and on the ground actions, and to discuss how emission reductions and sustainable development benefits can be realized through better planned and designed urbanization.

It was designed and implemented as a part of the Technical Examination Process (TEP) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and organized jointly by UNFCCC Secretariat, UN- Habitat, and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability.

OBJECTIVE:

The session aimed to:

- Explore high potential mitigation policies, practices, and technologies with an aim to transform African cities into low carbon and sustainable cities
- Enhance engagement of and collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders to scale up and replicate the best practices discussed during the meeting



AGENDA

MODERATOR:

Belinda Mills, Professional Officer: Low Carbon Cities, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Africa Secretariat

SPEAKERS:

Mr. Vincent Kitio, Chief, Urban Energy Unit, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat
Keynote Presentation: Opportunities to Transform African cities

Mr. Mava Ntanta, Director Development Planning, KwaDukuza Local Municipality, South Africa
Experiences on Crafting Local Low Emission Development Strategies

Mr. Fanuel O.S. Kalugendo, Transport Planning Engineer, Dar Rapid Transit Agency, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Development of Sustainable Public Transport System in Dar es Salaam City

Ms. Omobolanle Olowu, Business Development Manager Wecyclers, Lagos, Nigeria
Efficient Waste Management for Emission Reductions and Sustainable Development in African Cities

Mr. Ash Sharma, Senior Advisor Climate Finance, NAMA Facility
Climate Action in the African Urban Environment - Reflections from the NAMA Facility

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DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

INTEGRATED URBAN PLANNING

- ❖ Provide adequate space for walking streets and public space, with at least 50% of walking streets, open spaces and gardens
- ❖ Apply mixed land use by combining economic and residential activities, and improve connectivity by linking cities spaces
- ❖ Integrate affordable houses and services
- ❖ Promote adequate density and compact patterns (an average of 150 Person /ha)

ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS AND HOUSES

- ❖ Share the cost and benefit of energy efficiency between house owner and users
- ❖ Use a holistic building approach and promote building performance certification
- ❖ Analyze the economic and technical viability of current and proposed climate friendly building design and technology within the country/city context
- ❖ Consider rebound effects to avoid underachievement of efficiency gains



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

- ❖ Focus on integrated management activities, rather than end of line activities (collection and landfill), with overall guidance to reduce, re-use, and recycle
- ❖ Activities can be enticed through cost-reflective users' fees or taxes, and supplemented through the return of energy or a product
- ❖ Implementation timescales should consider the selection of treatment facilities, permits and licenses, public procurement, and Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
- ❖ The social aspects of workers and inclusion of traditional waste pickers is key to the success of interventions

LOW CARBON TRANSPORT

- ❖ Design compact cities and leverage mixed land use to reduce or avoid the need for travel, and promote a shift from energy intensive transport to walking, cycling and mass public transport
- ❖ Create pedestrian friendly pathways for non-motorized transport, and improve vehicle energy efficiency
- ❖ Achieve better coordination among relevant ministries and departments to align policies and investments and identify allies and funders to help enhance implementation and foster long-term continuity
- ❖ Apply a comprehensive approach to monitoring and evaluation, including climate and sustainable development benefits, progress metrics, performance indicators and economic co-benefits, to better assess and improve policy performance

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KEY MESSAGES:

Increased Emissions:

- ❖ The unplanned rapid urbanization throughout Africa can lead to increased greenhouse gas emissions, inequality, urban poverty, and the proliferation of slums

Renewables:

- ❖ Cities should strive to produce and consume energy generated from renewable sources such as solar, wind, biomass and hydro

Sustainable Development:

- ❖ To realize the potential of sustainable development, national and sub-national governments across Africa must shift focus to integrated urban planning, sustainable building design, integrated municipal solid waste management system, municipal waste water management, paradigm shift in public transport system and energy transition

Investments:

- ❖ There is a need to strengthen the capacity of local governments in financial management and investment to encourage innovative and adequate financial investments, which are key components to scaling up and replicating mitigation actions in urban environments

Private Finance:

- ❖ Financial leveraging is key to incentivize private finance, including the use of de-risking instruments

Policy Reforms:

- ❖ National and sub-national governments should consider policy reforms and regulatory changes to have permanent financing sources which redirect financial flows – such as public sector budgets and tax guarantees – rather than short term instruments, such as interest rate subsidies



Questions or comments? Please contact: MIS_unit@unfccc.int

With the technical
collaboration of:



United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat

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