

## Concept note

# Thematic session on “Innovative policy and technology solutions for sustainable urban development”, as part of TEM-M 2017

Bonn, Germany

### 1. Background

The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) is the policy component of the Technology Mechanism of the UNFCCC, which was established in 2010 to help countries to enhance technology development and transfer in their mitigation and adaptation action.<sup>1</sup>

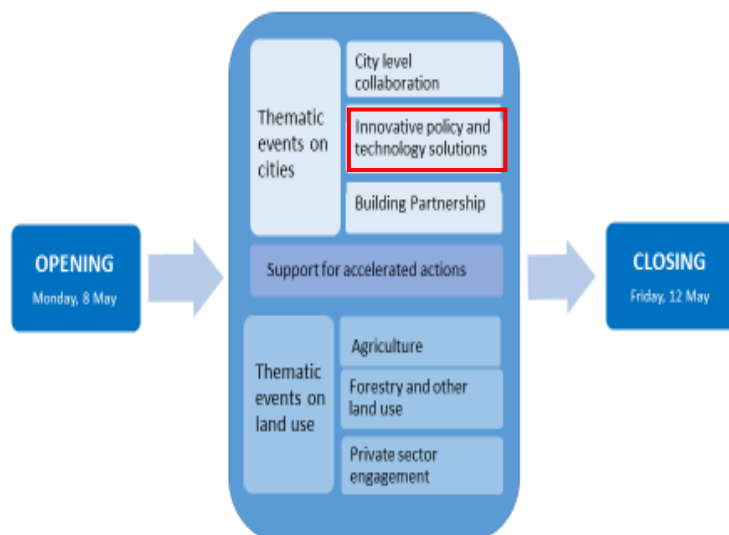
In 2016, the TEC responded to decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 111 by providing recommendations to the High-Level Champions, the Chairs of Subsidiary Bodies and the secretariat with regard to potential topics for future technical expert meetings (TEMs) on mitigation. In response to decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 109 (c) and as per activity 21 of its workplan for 2016-2018, the TEC is to further engage and provide updates during the TEMs on its work related to mitigation on the TEP.

At TEC 14, the TEC considered and accepted an invitation to engage in the Technical Expert Meetings on mitigation (TEM-M), to be held between 8 May and 12 May 2017, by hosting a thematic session on “*Innovative policy and technology solutions for sustainable urban development*”. The TEC further nominated Ms. Stella Gama to facilitate the session and TEC Chair Mr. Michael Rantil to present relevant work of the TEC during the session and requested its task force on mitigation to provide further guidance to the secretariat for the preparation of the event.

### 2. General TEM-M Approach

In order to encourage a wide participation of relevant actors, and to engage them in targeted discussions, the approach to the TEM-M 2017 includes an opening plenary on 8 May 2017 to set the context for the TEM-M, followed by seven thematic sessions/events spread during the first week of the May Subsidiary Bodies sessions. The TEM-M will close on 12 May 2017 with a plenary to synthesize key messages and suggest some action points as a way forward.

The TEC will host the thematic session on “*innovative policy and technology solutions*”, which is part of three thematic events on cities, scheduled to be held on 9 May 2017.



<sup>1</sup> Read more about the TEC's work: <[http://unfccc.int/ttclear/pages/tec\\_home.html](http://unfccc.int/ttclear/pages/tec_home.html)>

### 3. Objectives of the thematic session, hosted by the TEC

This session showcases innovative approaches to urban planning, policies and technology solutions to deliver emission reductions and generate sustainable development benefits in cities. The moderated discussion aims at identifying ways of enhancing the scalability and replicability of the discussed mitigation actions and is focused on international cooperation and dialogue among Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

The TEC, as the policy arm of the Technology Mechanism, in line with its continuous engagement in the TEM process since its initiation, serves as a host for this thematic session to seek cooperation with relevant international technology initiatives, stakeholders and organizations, and promote coherence and cooperation across technology activities.

Complementary to this session with a focus on pre-2020 action, the TEC holds a *special event on innovation*<sup>2</sup> on 12 May 2017, which focusses on how innovation can support implementation of nationally determined contributions and mid-century strategies.

### 4. Expected outcomes

- Insights into possible innovative approaches for accelerating low-carbon urban development;
- Enhanced understanding of how to scale up and replicate low-carbon urban solutions across different countries and regions;
- Discussing ways to promoting and disseminating these efforts;
- Summary of recommendations related to the above.

### 5. Structure and Timing

The brief project presentations are followed by a moderated discussion between audience and panelists, guided by the facilitator.

This approach allows for an extended exchange between Parties and non-Party stakeholders in a more intimate format.

- Brief interventions by each panelist, moderated discussion;
- To take place during SB 46 on **9 May 2017**, 90 minutes' event, **15:00 – 16:30**;
- Venue: Santiago de Chile (room with square setting), WCCB, Bonn;

### 6. Guiding questions for the panel (circulated in advance to panelists)

- What can we learn from these innovative approaches? How can countries undertake successful '**technology leapfrogging**' and apply these innovative approaches in the context of their sustainable urban development?
- How can we enhance the **scalability and replicability** of urban sustainable development solutions across different developing countries and regions, how to address these **challenges** and what are **key enablers**?

### 7. Process (Pre-session)

- Panelists to hand in potential slides 1 week prior (3 slides maximum);
- Briefing meeting on 9 May (tbc) between facilitator and panelists;
- Circulate guiding questions to panelists prior to the thematic session;
- Publish agenda, including guiding questions on TT:CLEAR;

### 8. Follow-up (Post-session)

- Besides summarizing key take away messages to be reported during the official closing on 12 May, the TEC will consider main findings of the thematic session for its future work. The task force on mitigation will work inter-sessionally on formulating any follow up actions, engaging with relevant stakeholders in the process as necessary, and presenting its work to TEC 15.

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<sup>2</sup> < [http://unfccc.int/ttclear/events/2017\\_event2](http://unfccc.int/ttclear/events/2017_event2) >.

## 9. Agenda of the thematic session

<b>- Setting the scene: Priorities in technology needs for urban development-</b>	
This presentation will provide insights into the needs, priorities and technological solutions for low-carbon urban development, as identified by developing countries in their technology needs assessments (TNAs).	
15:00 -	Technology needs and solutions identified in TNAs for low-carbon and climate resilient development of urban environments in developing countries <i>Mr. Michael Rantil, TEC Chair for 2017</i>
<b>- Project profiles: What is the innovative part? -</b> <i>Facilitated by Ms. Stella Gama</i>	
Intervention by speakers, briefing the audience about successful innovative approaches in different contexts. Followed by comprehension questions.	
15:10 -	<b>Climate innovation for cities: ways to enhance scalability and replicability of bus rapid transit systems in developing countries</b> Ms. Xiaomei Duan, Technical Director, Far East BRT Planning Co., Ltd., China <i>This presentation will provide examples of BRT systems developed for multiple cities worldwide.</i>
	<b>Climate-friendly and energy efficient cooling as a building block for low-carbon urban development in Indonesia</b> Mr. Winfried Damm, GIZ Programme Manager on behalf of GIZ Proklima <i>This presentation provides insights into how to create framework conditions to improve energy efficiency and sustainability in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector and how this can enhance the mitigation ambition of national emission reduction goals or targets.</i>
-15:30	<b>Integrated Waste-to-energy- carbon capture storage plant</b> Mr. Johnny Stuen, Technical Director, Waste-to-Energy Agency, city of Oslo, Norway <i>This presentation will introduce an example of an integrated innovative approach to waste-to-energy combined with CCS.</i>
<b>- Moderated discussion: -</b> <i>Ms. Stella Gama</i>	
The panel discussion will be facilitated by a TEC member, and will focus on how to enhance the <b>replicability and scalability</b> of examples of actions presented and link this discussion with the general topic of facilitating climate innovation at a national level.	
15:30	<b>Panel discussions along guiding questions</b> Panel consists of speakers from the project profiles who will talk about challenges and key enablers for successful up/re-scaling and replicability of their projects.
15:50	<b>Interactive discussions with the audience</b>
<b>- Conclusion and wrap up -</b> <i>Ms. Stella Gama</i>	
16:20 – 16:30	Brief recap, take-away messages