

Forum on experiences and best practices of Cities and Subnational Authorities in relation to adaptation and mitigation, ADP 2.5, 10 June 2014

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Suggestions for a COP Decision on an Action Programme supporting the local and subnational climate action in mitigation and adaptation, 2015-2025

1. Possible architecture of such an Action Programme:

In relation to UNFCCC governance and interaction with other levels of government, among others,

- Parties recognize local government action and will assist in systematic empowerment, engagement and consistency of local climate work globally;
- Parties provide long term, global vision through the international negotiations and outcomes so that other levels of government, such as cities, can fully play their role and catalyze change on the ground ;
- Parties commit to Ministerial-Mayoral dialogues at UNFCCC, and technical cities forum exchange so that they become permanent, common practice within UNFCCC

2. Possible thematic action areas of an Action Programme:

In relation to the possible thematic action areas, Parties can choose and commit in accordance to their own national priorities, to work on a number of action areas with other levels of government, in integrated and international exercises, among others,

- Built on local successes to enlarge and mobilize the number of cities domestically to work on climate change strategies, to commit to local reduction targets and move to carbon neutrality, as well as to design appropriate response to climate change and initiate increased resilience; “convince the non-convinced”; and,
- Support transparency on local and subnational work and provide baseline, consistent information on voluntary progress:
e.g support the “Compact of Mayors”,

As part of the action programme, a series of nations, for example, India, China, Mexico, with the European Union, agree to engage in work with some 20/30 cities and subnational government from these countries to mobilize and increase the number of their local and subnational governments domestically to engage in climate work.

- Stimulate vertical integration of actions and alignment between the contributions of nations and local/subnational action; create and sustain collaborative work
e.g “urban namas” or similar projects

As part of the action programme, a series of nations for example, Indonesia, Chili, Quweit, Tanzania, Thailand, Bresil and Columbia could engage in work with 20/30 cities and subnational government on implementing some vertical integration projects, supported by multilateral funding/financial institutions

- Increase and ease access to financial mechanisms (public and/or private) combined with institutional and capacity building; create windows for city and subnational work
e.g “ GEF”

As part of the action programme, a series of nations, for example Senegal, Equador, Nigeria, South Africa, Norway, Germany, Netherlands, USA, could engage in work with some 20/30 cities and subnational government on examining and improving ways to easing access to (multilateral/public/private) finance

Further concrete measures of the action programme, can include:

- work on examining and improving regulatory and institutional conditions
- work on increasing the availability of data at local and subnational level and dissemination
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3. Timeline:

First outline of text to ADP Chairs and Troika COP Presidencies in September/October 2014
First discussions at Cities Forum and Ministerial-Mayoral Dialogue in COP 20 in Lima
Continue work during 2015 UNFCCC meetings
Adoption at COP21 in Paris

4. Implementation

COP decision does not require ratification;
In 2016, operational set up and preparatory work for the thematic cooperation areas;
Start of work second half of 2016;
Annual reporting on implementation progress;