



Side Event at ICLEI Pavilion at COP 23

How city-to-city partnerships can support the Paris agreement

Wednesday, 8 November 2017, 15 -16:30 h

The Paris Agreement recognizes that local and regional governments have an important role to play in global climate action. A strong coalition of all levels of governance, communities and businesses is needed to reach the ambitious targets for climate change mitigation and adaptation. City-to-city partnerships provide a framework for municipalities to support each other, to exchange municipal know-how and to share good practices. Reaching beyond fruitful exchange, Municipal Climate Partnerships take joint action. In the last years more than 50 German municipalities developed joint action plans together with their partners from the Global South. The side event will showcase examples of the implementation of these actions plans. Instruments, processes and success factors for joint action in the framework of city-to-city cooperation will be discussed in order to motivate other municipalities to join in.

Participants of the event:

- Moderation: Jessica Baier, Engagement Global
- Panelist A: Verena Schwarte, City of Bonn (Germany), Office for International Affairs and global sustainability
- Panelist B: Mariana Daza von Boeck, City of La Paz (Bolivia), Environmental Affairs Office
- Panelist C: Nomthandazo Hanise, Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (South Africa), Integrated Environment and Sustainable Development

Objectives of the event:

- The audience gained insights into the work of Municipal Climate Partnerships.
- Possibilities of peer to peer learning, north-south exchange and joint action of local governments in the realm of climate change mitigation and adaptation have been discussed.

Questions for the presentation of examples:

- Which are the topics your Municipal Climate Partnership is dealing with?
- What was your most successful project / joint action? Who was involved? What was the contribution of each of the stakeholders? What was the specific outcome and benefit for your municipality? In which way did the project contribute to reach the targets of the Paris Agreement?
- What are the benefits of your specific partnership? What are difficulties and challenges of north-south partnerships? Which are the success factors for joint action on climate change?

Questions for discussion:

- Does peer-to-peer learning work out? What did you "learn" from your partner in global north/south and what can your municipality contribute?
- What are the benefits of your specific partnership? What are difficulties and challenges of north-south partnerships? Which are the success factors for joint action on climate change?

AGENDA		
15:00 – 15:15	Welcome and introduction of the panelist: What does the Paris Agreement mean to your city? What is your motivation to work with your partner city on climate change?	Jessica Baier All panelist
15:15 – 15:30	Example of Joint Action 1: Municipal Climate Partnership La Paz (Bolivia) – Bonn (Germany)	Mariana Daza von Boeck Verena Schwarte
15:30 – 15:35	Questions + Answers	Jessica Baier
15:35 – 15:50	Example of Joint Action 2: Municipal Climate Partnership Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (South Africa) – Oldenburg (Germany)	Nomthandazo Hanise
15:50 – 15:55	Questions + Answers	Jessica Baier
16:00 – 16:25	Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does peer-to-peer learning work out? What did you “learn” from your partner in global north/south and what can your municipality contribute? – What are the benefits of your specific partnership and what are difficulties and challenges of north-south partnerships? – Which are the success factors for joint action on climate change? What would you recommend a local government who wants to get involved in a municipal partnership? 	Jessica Baier + All panelists + audience
16:25 – 16:30	Concluding Statements	