



**CITIES & REGIONS  
PAVILION**

6-17 NOV 2017 | COP23 | BONN



**Covenant of Mayors  
in Sub-Saharan Africa**



**GLOBAL COVENANT  
of MAYORS for  
CLIMATE & ENERGY**

Event Concept Note – Draft

## **Reality check on vertical integration for climate action in Africa**

### **Background**

The Paris Agreement is a key element that brings together a global partnership to tackle climate change. With the focus now on nations, and considering the National Determined Contributions (NDCs), it is critical to define how nations will implement climate action and how to shape a collaborative effort. This implies the involvement of all levels of government, as well as civil society and the private sector – each making their contributing to national climate action.

As there is still a global gap between national commitments and the emissions reductions needed to keep the global temperature rise well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, there is an urgent need to explore how to raise the level of ambition of the NDCs and how to scale up climate change adaptation efforts.

This event will explore the Sub-Saharan Africa region and approaches to tackle climate change, specifically looking at multilevel governance (also referred to as vertical integration), namely how all levels of government work together to address climate change and access to sustainable, clean energy. This includes looking at approaches to communicate, coordinate and jointly plan approaches, considering mandates and roles for each level of government - all of which are essential to the mutual reinforcement of approaches to address low emission development, sustainable energy and climate resilience.

The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) aims to increase the capacities of cities in the region to provide access to sufficient, sustainable, affordable and clean energy services to urban and peri-urban populations (especially the most vulnerable). CoM SSA is part of the Global covenant on climate and Energy, the largest coalition of cities acting on Climate Change. This session will help to make a reality check on the current situation and how to realistically improve cooperation among all levels of government in climate action to achieve benefits for the communities and the nation. A brief introduction to new guidance on multi-level governance jointly prepared by ICLEI, UN-Habitat and GIZ will be presented to set the scene, followed by a panel discussion to explore challenges and solutions for the African continent, when exploring multi-level governance to scale up climate action. The panel will include African mayors, city networks and national government representatives.

### **Session Information**

Date: 9 November 2017

Time: 13:30 – 15:00

Venue: Cities and Regions Pavilion – Bonn Zone, COP 23

Moderator: Maryke van Staden, Director, Bonn Center for Local Climate Action and Reporting (carbonn Center), ICLEI



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### Session Outline

Activity	Speakers	Time
Introduction	Maryke van Staden – Manager, ICLEI’s Low Carbon City Agenda and Director of carbonn Center, Bonn	13:40 – 13:50
Panel Discussions	Solly Tshepiso Msimanga – Executive Mayor, City of Tshwane, South Africa  President, Botswana Association of Local Authorities, Botswana (tbc)  Maikut Chebet, Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda  Richemond Assie, Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests, Cote d’Ivoire  Claudia Boldrini or Stephan Poth, DG DEVCO, European Commission (tbc)	13:50 – 14:30
Discussions (Q&A)	All participants	14:30 – 13:00
Lunch	All participants invites to join the lunch	