



**CITIES & REGIONS  
TALANOA DIALOGUES**



**PRESS RELEASE:** Canadian Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue to be held this June by ICLEI, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Ville de Montréal.

**7 March 2018, Edmonton, Canada** – The first 20+ events of the 2018 Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues were released **at the CitiesIPCC Conference in Edmonton**, including the **Canadian Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue** to be held by ICLEI, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Ville de Montréal at the [ICLEI World Congress](#) in Montréal this June.

The Canadian Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue will bring all levels of government to the table to strengthen climate action in Canada.

The event will contribute to a wider global exercise called the Talanoa Dialogue launched by the COP23 Presidency of Fiji to establish inclusive, multistakeholder consultations on climate at the country level throughout 2018.

The announcement took place at **8:00 am MST on Wednesday, 7 March** in the **Press Conference Room: Room 4, Meeting Level**.

The event was moderated by **Megan Meaney**, Director, ICLEI Canada Office, with dialogue among:

- **H.E. Dr. Gale Rigobert**, Minister of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development, St. Lucia
- **Veronica Arias**, Secretary of Environment, Quito Metropolitan Government
- **Ben Henderson**, Councillor, City of Edmonton and Chair, Green Municipal Fund Council, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- **Marieke Cloutier**, Chef de division, Service de l'environnement, Division de la planification et du suivi environnemental, Ville de Montréal
- **Yunus Arikan**, Head of Global Policy and Advocacy, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability



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The ICLEI World Congress 2018 in Montréal will be a meeting point for local, regional and national governments, international agencies, researchers and private sector actors from around the world. The outcomes will define how local and regional governments worldwide plan to advance the global sustainability and climate agenda.

The Canadian Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue announced today is part of the [Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues](#), launched three weeks ago at the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues are facilitated by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability on behalf of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments with Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy and UN-Habitat as special partners.

The 20+ confirmed Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues announced at CitiesIPCC Conference in Edmonton include events in Vienna, Austria hosted by R20, in Quito Ecuador, hosted by the Global Covenant of Mayors, ICLEI and C40 and in San Francisco, hosted by the State of California as part of the [Global Climate Action Summit](#) this September.

## QUOTES

**Ben Henderson, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM):** "FCM is pleased to be cohosting a Talanoa Dialogues session at the ICLEI World Congress in Montreal, June 19-22. With influence over half of Canada's GHG emissions, municipalities have developed some of the most innovative GHG reduction projects, in part through assistance from FCM's Green Municipal Fund and the Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program. Through stronger partnerships with our federal government, we can scale up this local innovation and achieve significant emissions reductions at the national level. Thanks to ICLEI for showing leadership on this issue at the UN level and consistently calling for a greater voice for local governments in the UNFCCC process."

**Veronica Arias, Secretary of Environment, Quito Metropolitan Government:** "Quito is advocating a [Call to action for vertical integration of NDC Plans](#) with the support of ICLEI, C40, UCLG, Global Covenant of Mayors, UN Habitat-Regional Office; in collaboration with Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Medellin, Sevilla, Merco ciudades, the Spanish Association of Cities for Climate, and the Brazilian National Federation de Prefeitos; and the endorsement of the French Development Agency, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank Group. Quito plans to host an event the first week of May where cities together with the Ministries of the Environment, Finance and Housing will locally launch the call for vertically integrating NDCS and



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open discussion on how to support cities in gaining access to finance for sustainable and resilient infrastructure projects, including both external finance, better access to national and international capital markets, and internal revenue."

**H.E. Dr. Gale Rigobert, Minister of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and**

**Sustainable Development, St. Lucia:** "I applaud ICLEI for introducing two innovative concepts into climate negotiations; partnerships and multilevel action. Engaging local and regional governments will also enable voices of many towns and cities in small island states to be better heard and supported. I am committed to engaging the Caribbean community in the Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues as well as actively engaging through the NDC Partnership of which St. Lucia is one of many active members."

**Yunus Arikan, Head of Global Policy and Advocacy, ICLEI – Local Governments for**

**Sustainability:** "The Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues is an effort to translate the global process to realities and priorities of local and regional governments. It is now time to put the implementation of Paris Agreement into practice at all levels through multilevel governance and connect it to other sustainability agendas. The Talanoa Dialogue is an opportunity to conduct a reality check of the NDCs and to bring the Paris Agreement home. The first list of 20-plus events from all around the world shows that cities and regions are seizing this opportunity."

**CONTACT (in Bonn)**

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**FIRST BATCH OF 20+ SESSIONS OF CITIES AND REGIONS TALANOA  
DIALOGUES**

Country	City	Event/project	Host	Date
<b>Europe</b>	Brussels	Covenant of Mayors Ceremony	EU Committee of the Regions	22 February
<b>Colombia</b>	Medellin	Urban-LEDS II Expert Meetings	ICLEI and UN-Habitat	26-28 February
<b>Canada</b>	Edmonton	Change for Climate - Global Mayors Summit	GCoM, FCM, City of Edmonton	3-4 March
<b>Canada</b>	Edmonton	CitiesIPCC Edmonton	CitiesIPCC Partnership	5-7 March
<b>Indonesia</b>	Jakarta	Ambitious City Promises Project - Expert Meetings	ICLEI and Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG)	5 March
<b>Philippines</b>	Manila	Ambitious City Promises Project - Expert Meetings	ICLEI and SMG	7 March
<b>Viet Nam</b>	Hanoi	Ambitious City Promises Project- Expert Meetings	ICLEI and SMG	9 March
<b>Europe</b>	Brussels	European Dialogue for non-state climate action	EESC and Climate Chance	23 April
<b>Europe</b>	Bonn	Resilient Cities Congress	ICLEI and City of Bonn	25-28 April
<b>Sweden</b>	Malmö	Clean Energy Ministerial	GCoM, ICLEI, City of Malmö	23-25 May
<b>Austria</b>	Vienna	R20 Summit	R20	15 May
<b>Japan</b>	Tokyo	Tokyo Forum for Clean City and Clear Sky	Tokyo Metropolitan Government	21-23 May



<b>France</b>	Strasbourg	UCLG Executive Bureau	UCLG, Mairie de Strasbourg, Climate Chance	26 May
<b>Ecuador</b>	Quito	NDC Vertical Integration	GCoM, ICLEI, C40	3-4 May
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Montreal</b>	<b>ICLEI World Congress</b>	<b>ICLEI, FCM, Ville de Montréal</b>	<b>19-22 June</b>
<b>Norway</b>	Oslo	TBC	TBC	June
<b>Cote d'Ivoire</b>	Abidjan	Climate Chance - Africa 2018	Climate Chance and ARDCI	28-29 June
<b>Morocco</b>	Chefchaouen	1st World Forum of Intermediary Cities	UCLG	5-7 July
<b>Korea</b>	Seoul	North East Asia Air Quality Forum	ICLEI and SMG	4-5 Sept
<b>USA</b>	San Francisco	Global Climate Action Summit	State of California	12-14 Sept
<b>Argentina</b>	Buenos Aires	U20 Summit	Buenos Aires, Paris and C40	23-24 Oct
<b>Mexico</b>	Campeche	Conferencia Internacional Cambio Climático, Biodiversidad y Acuerdos Regionales - Promoviendo la Cooperación Sur-Sur	SEMARNATCAM, nrg4sd, others	25-26 Oct