



**Joint submission* by UN-Habitat, GIZ and ICLEI – Local Governments
for Sustainability as input for the Talanoa Dialogue
Multilevel Action for Raising Ambition: Where do we want to go?
(Question 2)**

Where do we want to go?

Vision of the future for your organization and/or sector in terms of its possible role in achieving the 1.5/2 degrees' goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]

Achieving a net-zero emission world by this mid-century requires a multilevel governance framework as envisioned by the Paris Agreement. National governments have options for unleashing the potential of subnational climate action supported by local and regional governments with a view to raising the ambition of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC's) and accelerating their implementation

Benefits of multilevel action for national governments may include;

- ✓ Engendering a **culture of collaborative governance** that leads to success
- ✓ Increasing the **ambition** of the NDC by including subnational governments targets and actions
- ✓ Improving the **likelihood of delivery** by including high-emitting urban sectors and at-risk infrastructure and capital
- ✓ Reducing the **costs** of meeting targets by widening the scope of possible actions to include 'low-hanging fruit' in urban areas
- ✓ Increasing the **success rate of policy delivery** and implementation
- ✓ Improving **access to data and the flow of knowledge** for effective reporting and analysis
- ✓ Enabling a **coordinated effort that can be monitored**

Key elements of multilevel governance for climate action may include;

Recognizing local and regional climate strategies. To reinforce national climate efforts, countries make use of bottom-up and multilevel governance approaches involving climate action at local and regional levels.

Enhancing technical and capacity building support. These may include comprehensive process methodology to guide and support cities and other subnational authorities to define, adopt and embed a low-emission climate-resilient development pathway to their subnational policy, planning, and objectives in line with their national NDCs.

Developing integrated frameworks. Contribution to co-designing the policy and process may lead to integrated frameworks that include communication, planning, coordinating, reporting, learning, capacity building and awareness raising, as well as measuring, reporting and verification.

In particular, parallel, disconnected climate action reporting systems may increase the risk that subnational climate data, commitments, actions and assessments may not be factored in national planning. Similarly, lack of awareness of national plans and actions may hinder opportunities for mobilizing support from local and regional governments.

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Possible and potential new commitments and pledges of to achieve the 1.5/2 degrees' goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]

Urban communities contribute up to 70% of energy-related global greenhouse gas emissions and they are among the most vulnerable hotspots for climate change impacts. Only a third of NDCs are on track for implementation and, according to UN Environment, even if they were fully implemented, global warming is expected to reach between 2.6 and 3.2°C by the end of this century. Given this, the essential role of local and regional governments become even more critical in raising the ambitions at the national, supra-national and global levels.

As an example, potential GHG emissions reductions of the actions reported by entities at the carbon Climate Registry (as of 2017) add up to an aggregate of 5.6 GtCO₂e by 2020, which corresponds to the removal of 1 billion cars taken off the road for one year.



Fig.2.2 Aggregate GHG reduction commitments of entities reporting to the carbon Climate Registry, 2017

Foreseen positive impact of these commitments once they are realized, including contributions to the sustainable development agenda [Maximum 300 words]

The positive impact emanating from the wide array of commitments made by sub national governments could be instrumental in meeting the long term goal of the Paris Agreement within the context of achieving the SDGs.

At the COP23 Climate Summit, local and regional leaders adopted the Bonn-Fiji Commitment to deliver the Paris Agreement at all levels. The adopted document refers to their commitment to implement the Paris Agreement goals in coherence with all elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through a circular, inclusive and shared economy that acts in harmony with nature, and by solidifying the implementation of these global agendas through enhanced policy planning and coordination mechanisms.

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The Bonn-Fiji Commitment also encourages governments at all levels to mainstream the Paris Agreement goals into policies within their jurisdiction to ensure greater policy coherence, align priorities, minimize contradictory or disconnected processes and maximize synergies between the strategies and plans developed in different policy fields. The document also refers to their commitment to join forces with all stakeholders in their communities and territories, leaving no one behind.

The above commitments are supported by the actual data. Supporting green urban economy, improving urban air quality, increased jobs and business opportunity creation are recognized as the top 3 co-benefits of more than 7000 climate mitigation and adaptation actions reported at the carbonn Climate Registry.

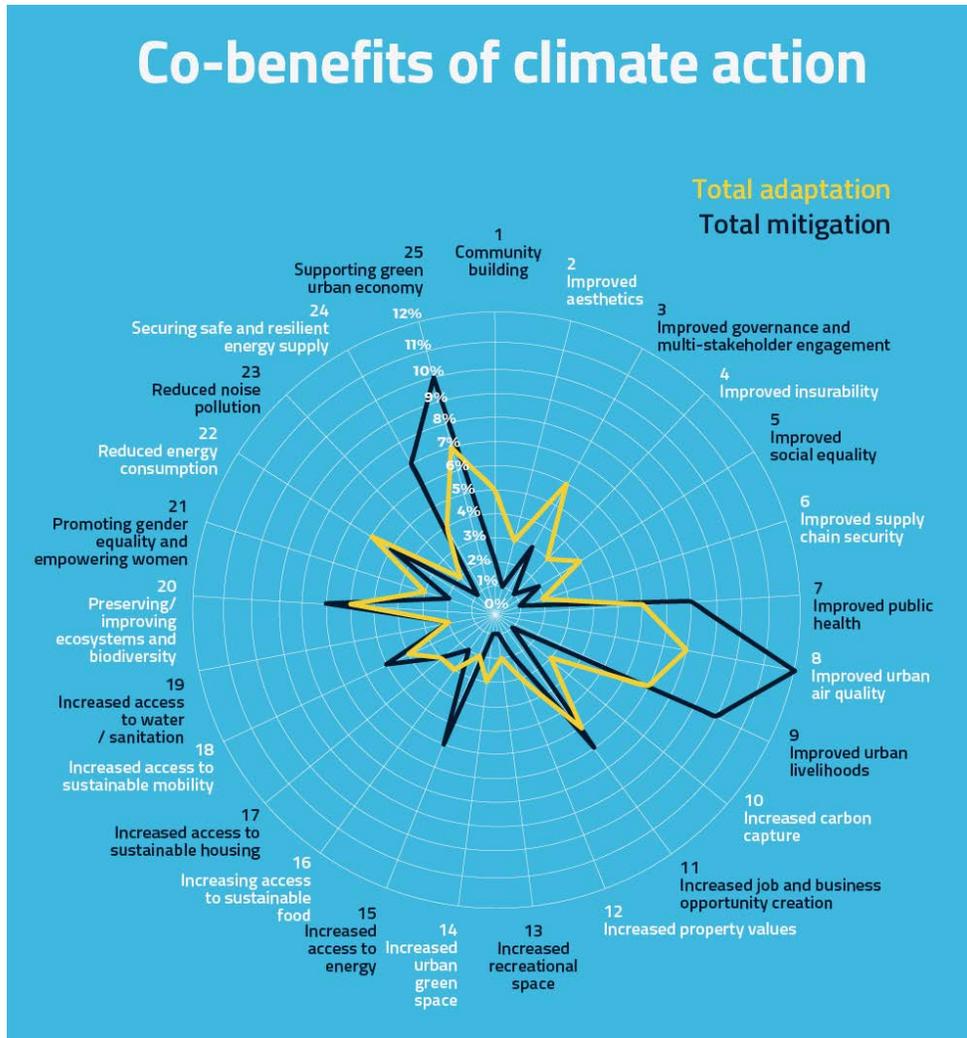


Fig. 2.3 Co-benefits of local climate action reported at the carbonn Climate Registry

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