



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



COP27
SHARM EL-SHEIKH
EGYPT 2022

*From Glasgow – COP26
To Sharm El Sheikh – COP27
From #Time4MultilevelAction
To #MultilevelActionDelivers*

CITIES AND REGIONS IN THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE PROCESS

MAY 2022 UPDATE



GLASGOW-COP26 PROVED THE #TIME4MULTILEVEL HAS COME

With their recognition of all levels of governments in the preamble of the 2015 Paris Agreement, local and regional governments became an active partner of the global climate regime. The 26th Conference of Parties (COP) hosted in Glasgow, UK was expected to raise ambition and kick-off the second phase of the Paris Agreement with clear mechanisms. The Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency urged COP26 to embrace multilevel action as an essential element to respond to the climate emergency.

TOWARDS COP26

60+ nations, both from Global North and Global South, raised their climate ambition since 2015 in Paris by engaging with local and regional governments

1000+ cities and regions committed to climate neutrality by 2050 and ambitious targets by 2030

COP26 NEGOTIATION OUTCOMES FOR MULTILEVEL ACTION

Glasgow Climate Pact Preamble highlights the urgent need for *multilevel* and cooperative action,

Glasgow Climate Pact recognizes Constituencies, welcomes the improved Marrakech Partnership, calls for new NDCs by 2022 and for engaging youths in local decision-making

Numerous references to local and regional governments in *Finance* (Article 6.8 Non-Market approaches) and *Action for Climate Empowerment* (education, training, public participation and awareness)

MULTILEVEL ACTION PAVILION – HOME OF SUBNATIONALS AT COP26 BLUE ZONE

- Hosted by the Scottish Government, facilitated by ICLEI and supported by 30+ organizations
- Daily coordination and updates for 400+ representatives of local and regional governments
- 70+ sessions - all broadcasted online - featuring Heads of States, Ministers, Mayors, Governors, Councilors and civil society, with special coverage by IISD/ENB
- 2200+ virtual participants from 100+ countries

CITIES AND REGIONS AT COP26

- 400+ Blue Zone delegations, 200+ events across Glasgow and Scotland
- Launch of the LGMA Glasgow Roadmap toward 2030
- 12+ statements during the COP26 Blue Zone negotiations
- Glasgow Food Declaration, Edinburgh Biodiversity Declaration, Global Subnational Fund, Global Alliance of Subnational Development Banks, Loss-and-damage voluntary contributions, Multilevel Action Playbook and Impact Report
- Bilateral and global multilevel action partnership announcements

UN CLIMATE CHANGE ENGAGEMENT CHANNELS FOR CITIES AND REGIONS – AS OF MAY 2022

Legacy of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are among the most complex, diverse, and dynamic processes on global sustainability.

I. NEGOTIATIONS:

Since 1995, the LGMA has been the official channel to the UNFCCC negotiations and has grown to include 45+ UNFCCC accredited networks of local and regional governments. During each year, the LGMA coordinates written and verbal inputs to the UNFCCC negotiations through thematic and regional working groups, mailing lists, and monthly webinars. Developed in close collaboration with the COP host city, region and country, the Multilevel Action Pavilion serves as the showcasing and networking place for the LGMA inside the Blue Zone, where the official negotiations take place.



II. ACTION AGENDA:

Since 2015, High Level Climate Action Champions are nominated by national governments leading the yearly negotiations (COP Presidencies). The Champions guide the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action as a networking space for multistakeholder collaboration. Organizations can commit and engage through mechanisms such as the Online Climate Action Portal, the Thematic Climate Action Pathways, the Sectoral Breakthroughs, and specific initiatives for ambitious action.

III. COP PRESIDENCIES:

COP is the highest decision making body for the implementation of the UNFCCC. Each year, UN Regional Groups appoint a national government as the COP Presidency, which hosts the COP, nominates the High Level Climate Action Champion, and sets themes for action and negotiation based on their national and regional priorities. To deliver on these, COP Presidencies can assign or lead special networks or initiatives independent from the UNFCCC.

IV. UNFCCC FRIENDS OF MULTILEVEL ACTION:

Decisions in official negotiations are drafted and adopted by representatives of climate or environment Ministries of national governments (Parties) that have ratified the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol or the Paris Agreement. Stakeholders and constituencies can shape or deliver these decisions through informal dialogues with the Parties. An example was the UNFCCC Friends of Cities, initiated by the LGMA in 2013, and elevated into the UNFCCC Friends of Multilevel Action at the 2019 International Collaborative Climate Action in Heidelberg, Germany.

#MULTILEVELACTIONDELIVERS – LGMA ROADMAP TOWARD SHARM EL-SHEIKH-COP27

With the recognition of “multilevel action” in the preamble of the Glasgow Climate Pact, nations should include local and regional governments in all elements and steps of the Paris Agreement.

- Enhanced Multilevel NDCs through:
 - Initiatives like Race-To-Zero, Race-To-Resilience, Thematic Climate Action Pathways
 - Legislative-executive-judicial stakeholders collaboration
 - Energized UNFCCC Friends of Multilevel Action
- Unfinished business; climate emergency
 - Food, nature, adaptation, culture, finance (Art 6.8), circular economy, 1.5°C lifestyles, blue economy, buildings, mobility, waste & consumption, energy
 - Migration and loss-and-damage
 - Connecting the LGMA to the Climate Vulnerable Forum
- 1st UNFCCC COP Climate and Urbanization Ministerial
- Empowering Africa, as well as Mediterranean and MENA Region



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO COP26 BLUE ZONE MULTILEVEL ACTION PAVILION PARTNERS

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Links and updates at www.cities-and-regions.org and lgma@iclei.org.

The views expressed on this paper are those of the original author and contributors, and do not necessarily represent those of the UNFCCC Secretariat, the COP Presidencies, the Champions or the Parties.

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