What is the Cities & Regions Pavilion - TAP2015?

The Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 is the central point for local and regional climate action at COP21. It is an important milestone in a larger effort to strengthen local and regional governments as highly relevant agents of positive and long-term climate action.

By convening representatives of cities and regions, financial institutions and sustainability thought leaders, the Cities & Regions Pavilion provides a forum for mobilizing resources and building partnerships that support implementation of local and regional climate actions.

The Pavilion signals that cities and regions are ready to act now on climate change, demonstrating that local and regional governments hold tremendous potential to move forward whether or not the world achieves a universal climate agreement.

Learn more: citiesandregions.org

The Transformative Actions Program (TAP)

The Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 is key part of the Transformative Actions Program (TAP), a 10-year framework that aims to accelerate local and regional climate action.

The TAP is an inclusive initiative that unites international development organizations, networks of local and regional governments, development banks, non-profit organizations, consultancies and other types of project implementation organizations. It is launched and managed by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and carried out in cooperation with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40), R20 Regions of Climate Action (R20), Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF), among other partners, and in synergy with the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA).

The TAP supports the development and implementation of climate projects that will raise ambition at all levels and contribute to international climate goals. More than 120 projects from 88 cities and regions in 42 countries will be on display and presented at the Pavilion. Local and subnational leaders will present a selection of more than 80 of the most ambitious, inclusive and cross-cutting projects to an audience of government officials, international organizations, financing institutions and other climate stakeholders.

Who is organizing the Pavilion?

The Pavilion is hosted by Paris and Bristol, European Green Capital 2015, organized by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability in its role as Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) facilitator and supported, endorsed and sponsored by a large number of partner organization and local and regional governments.
The goal of the TAP is to progressively unlock the potential for cities and regions to accelerate implementation of climate actions. It does so by supporting and encouraging investments in urban areas, contributing to the development of new financing mechanisms and helping to eliminate hurdles in access to climate finance.

A total of 88 cities and regions from 42 countries have submitted over 120 projects to the TAP. Over 80 selected projects will be presented between 1 and 11 December 2015 at the Cities & Regions Pavilion during the TAP Time sessions outlined in the program. TAP projects cover a number of critical areas relating to urban sustainability and low carbon development. At the Pavilion, TAP project presenters will discuss innovations in climate change mitigation and adaptation, demonstrating how to reinvent cities by engaging citizens and using innovative tools and sources of data to address urgent climate challenges.

TAP Time sessions will cover:

- Low-carbon development, adaptation and urban planning in Europe
- The Third Industrial Revolution in France
- Innovations in street lighting
- Ecomobility and ecosystem restoration in Latin America
- Resilience and smart urban planning in Mexico
- Waste management, sustainable urban and rural development and reforestation in Brazil
- Clean energy and resilience projects in the United States
- Adaptation initiatives in Canada
- Climate awareness and education
- Climate action, waste management and health initiatives in Africa
- Ecomobility and sustainable agriculture in South Africa
- Renewable energy projects in Seoul, Korea
- Zero-waste and social inclusion in South Asia
- Ecomobility and urban planning in the Philippines and Indonesia

The TAP Platform

The TAP Platform is an online platform that presents all TAP projects in a structured and unified format. It enables all interested parties, including potential funders, to easily compare projects and see how these initiatives can be immediately launched to support the two-degree Celsius global climate target.

The TAP Platform is also an invaluable repository of stories, showing how cities and regions of all sizes are coping with the effects of climate change and how many dimensions of urban life can transform as a result of implementing low-carbon solutions.

Projects can be filtered by country, focus, including mitigation and adaptation and thematic sectors, such as resilience, food security, waste management, education, natural resource management, ecomobility and transport, smart cities and water.

Visit the Platform at tap-potential.org/projects.

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Facts and Figures

Half of the global population lives within 60 km of the sea, and three-quarters of all large cities are located on the coast. According to the OECD, a 50-cm sea level rise due to climate change combined with socio-economic development patterns could lead to a tripling of the population exposed to coastal flooding by 2070 and a tenfold increase in asset exposure, increasing the value of exposed assets from about USD 3 trillion to USD 35 trillion.

Cities account for more than 70% of global CO2 emissions. If the top 50 emitting cities were counted as one country, that 'nation' would rank third in emissions behind China and the United States, writes Nature.

According to the latest INDC assessment by UNFCCC, the implementation of the INDCs that were submitted so far is estimated to result in aggregate global emission levels of 55.2 Gt CO2 eq in 2025 and 56.7 Gt CO2 eq in 2030, a level of commitment compatible with a 2.7°C increment in global temperatures. Another 15 Gt CO2e need to be cut in order to reach the global emission level of 42 GtCO2e in 2030 consistent with having a likely chance (>66 percent) of staying below the 2°C target in 2100.

The 568 local and regional jurisdictions reporting to the carbonn® Climate Registry have committed to reducing near one gigaton of CO2 equivalent by 2020, as much as the entire European Union reduced in its first period of commitment under the Kyoto Protocol, with over 5.000 mitigation and adaptation actions.

Research by C40 shows that if all cities took on aggressive new efforts to reduce building, transportation and waste energy use, they could potentially reduce annual GHG emissions by 3.7 GtCo2e by 2030. By 2050, cities could cut annual GHG emissions by 8.0 GtCO2e over what national policies are currently on track to achieve.
The action will unfold from 1–11 December 2015 in the Climate Generations Areas, the designated civil society area at the COP21 site in Le Bourget, near the Blue Zone where the international negotiations will occur.

The Pavilion will consist of two main spaces, with separate programs running in parallel: the Agora Hall, a large room holding 125 people for presentations and panel sessions, and the Workshop Room for bilateral meetings and workshops.

The media corner will also be equipped for video interviews of Pavilion speakers and participants as available.

Registration to the Pavilion is highly recommended. Access to the Green Zone is open to all, but additional security measures might be implemented for non-registered visitors.

For more logistical information, visit the official COP21 website:

More information is available at citiesandregions.org/media.