



DARING CITIES 2022

RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY THROUGH FINANCE



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Government of Japan

DARING CITIES 2022: RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY THROUGH FINANCE

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Created by ICLEI and the Federal City of Bonn, Daring Cities is a community that recognizes and empowers courageous urban leaders – including mayors and other decision-makers, technical staff, researchers, private sector representatives, and community organizers – to disrupt business-as-usual and shift towards business-as-possible.

Daring Cities works to exchange knowledge, build capacity, and elevate the voices of diverse stakeholders to accelerate multilevel action on the climate emergency.

For more information, visit: <https://daringcities.org/>

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DARING CITIES 2022: BOLD LEADERS TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Our world is on life support. The year 2022 has been filled with “unprecedented”, “once in lifetime”, “first-ever” climate disasters like droughts, floods, wildfires, and extreme temperatures in every corner of the world. Yet a comprehensive, global response to the climate emergency has been largely stalled due to the COVID-19 recovery, war, and threats of recession.

Cities, towns and regions are on the front-line of the climate emergency, and many have stepped up as first responders to this crisis. We consider cities and regions to be “daring” when they:

- take urgent action that reflects our state of climate emergency.
- are ambitious in the face of doubt.
- learn from the past and other cities.
- are accountable to their residents and track their progress.

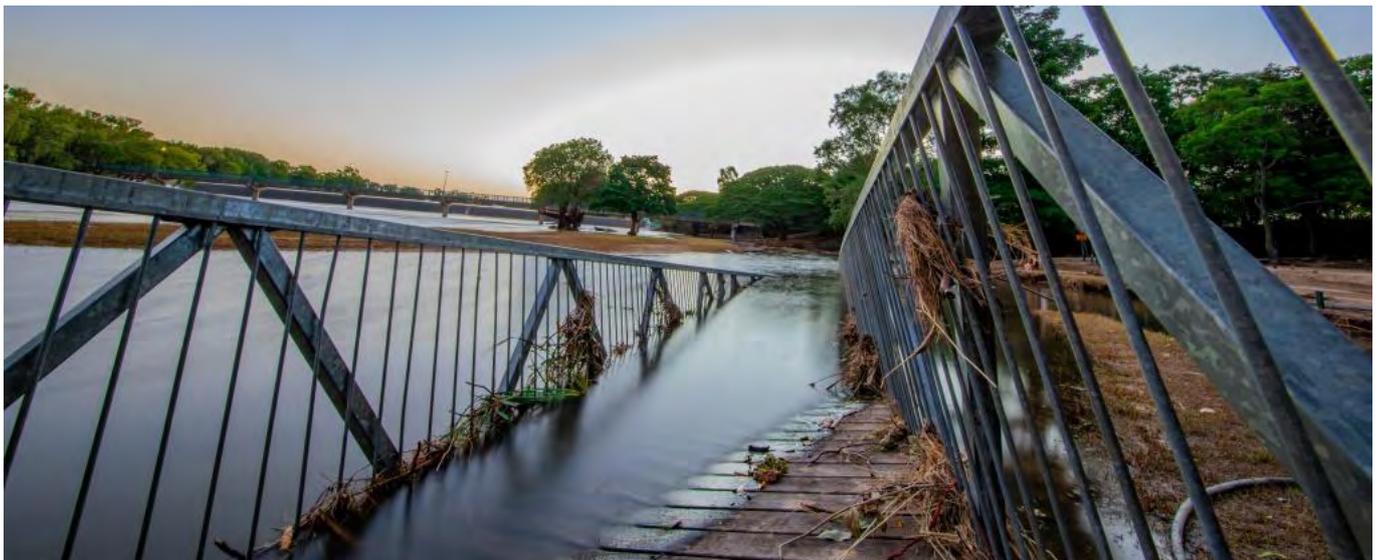
With over 2,500 local and regional governments - accounting for 1 billion people - having declared a climate emergency, cities, towns and regions are a source of inspiration for how to use their power and influence to be the change they want to see in the world.

Daring Cities builds on the legacy of the well established Resilient Cities Congress series and has transformed it into a community. This community exchanges knowledge, builds capacity, and elevates the voices of diverse stakeholders through three cornerstones (Exchange - Disseminate - Advocate), aimed at achieving multilevel action in response to the global climate emergency.

Cornerstone One - Exchange: During 3-7 October, 2022, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, in partnership with the Federal City of Bonn, hosted the only fully virtual, free of cost Forum - Daring Cities, consisting of workshops and high-level dialogues that shared best practices, technical training, and insights from leaders taking bold climate action now and tackling the multifaceted challenges of climate emergency finance.

Cornerstone Two - Disseminate: Throughout Urban October – 31 days to promote a sustainable urban future recognized by UN Habitat – ICLEI gathered the knowledge exchanged during the global virtual forum and disseminated the learnings and perspectives from cities and regions at over ten events in order to reach broader, more diverse stakeholders.

Cornerstone Three - Advocate: ICLEI, as the United Nations’ designated focal point for Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency (LGMA), elevated the voices of more than 500+ representatives, including 150+ Mayors, Governors, Councilors and other local and regional government leaders, by hosting the LGMA Multilevel Action Pavilion in the Blue Zone with over 70 sessions, in collaboration with 45 partners at UNFCCC COP27 in Sharm El-Sheik, Egypt, 6-18 November, 2022.





STATE OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IN 2022

Climate science shows we must make deep, civilization-wide changes by 2030 to limit a planetary catastrophe. This is a matter of survival, particularly for the most at-risk, but increasingly for every place and population on earth.

We are already living in a world where climate change-induced natural disasters are creating devastating impacts for our communities and ecosystems and unmanageable financial costs for local and regional governments. In 2022, some areas in the world experienced record-high temperatures and are suffering drought and wildfires, while others are faced with flash floods.

However, international crises like the COVID-19 pandemic and Russian-Ukraine war have stalled broad-based, swift action to appropriately respond to the climate emergency, despite the urgency of the situation.

Where significant progress has been achieved at the international level is in the engagement of sustainable cities, urbanization and multilevel action in global efforts, including:

References supporting the role of cities and regions to respond to the climate emergency have been made within the G7 Presidency Programme, as well as Foreign Affairs, Development and Climate/Environmental Ministerial and Heads of States Communique.

Within the UNFCCC processes, the LGMA Constituency contributed to the expansion of the Global Stocktake to include cities, regions and nations globally.

The first ever G7 Sustainable Urbanization Ministerial was scheduled and the Urban7 solidified a path to becoming an official engagement group.

Commonwealth Heads of States agreed on a Call to Action on urbanization.

Review of the New Urban Agenda enabled new momentum.

The COP27 Presidency convened the first-ever Climate and Urbanization Ministerial at COP27 and launched a SURGe sustainable cities initiative as part of the Solutions Day of COP27.

Achievements and successes made at the local and regional level were shared during the Daring Cities 2022 Virtual Forum, showcasing how different cities, towns, and regions answered the Daring Cities Call for Transformation and highlighting additional examples of good practices related to climate emergency response and climate emergency finance.

With the leadership of **Makindye Ssabagado Municipal Council, Uganda**, four cities accessed technical assistance (TA) provided by the European Investment Bank (EIB) and World Bank managed [City Gap Fund](#) for their [Transformative Actions Program \(TAP\)](#) project, Sustainable Waste Management Project for Makindye Ssabagabo, Kira, Nansana and Entebbe Municipalities. The success of their joint application relies on their clear rationale and a solid set of actions, involving the key stakeholders and guaranteeing political buy-in. Through this TA, they now get support to design pre- feasibility studies for their waste management project, filling the knowledge gap and fostering climate action.



Check out the Daring Cities Call for Transformation

The **City of Makati, Philippines**, declared a climate emergency and is mainstreaming both mitigation and adaptation in their budgeting. Recognizing the importance of preventive measures, the city receives technical guidance from the [Climate Insurance Linked Resilient Infrastructure Finance \(CILRIF\) program](#), managed by United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and supported by ICLEI. The city's commitments triggered investments in a resilient energy grid, the adoption of a green building code and incentives for the construction of energy efficient infrastructure. Among others, the City of Makati recently received a USD 30 million grant from the Korean government to develop a smart transport system which includes 40 electric vehicles and the establishment of transport hubs. The program will promote job creation, digitalization and reduce the citizens' carbon footprint, as well as the city's general emissions of greenhouse gases. The city also endorsed and is now piloting the ICLEI led [Malmö Commitment](#), and joined the Race to Resilience campaign to engage in relevant discussions on climate emergency at the local level.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
City of Makati



Learn more about CILRIF

77 local communities in **Benin, Africa** are receiving technical expertise support on finance mechanisms such as Public Private Partnerships (PPP) and carbon market options through the GIZ funded Benin Energy Plus project, a partnership between ICLEI and the National Association of Communities in Benin (ANCB). In the frame of the project, a Toolkit was developed, and presented at Daring Cities, to support local governments globally in designing and implementing PPP models, as well as engaging in carbon markets.



Check out the "Unlocking Public-Private Partnerships Toolkit".

Indore Municipal Corporation, India, is issuing green bonds targeting individual investors for the installation of solar power plants under the scope of their Captive Solar Project. The bonds have an innovative structure that supports the acceleration of sustainable energy financing, helping to provide funds to climate projects and contributing to carbon footprint reduction.

Indore Municipal Corporation



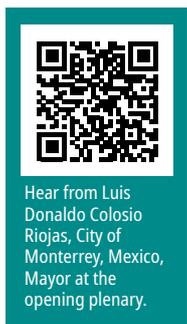
Municipal authorities of the City of Santa Fé, Argentina, faced difficulties in obtaining the necessary funds to reconstruct the city's infrastructure after flooding and used land-based tools to overcome these barriers. The city created a mandatory rainwater harvesting system in exchange for building rights where landowners are required to pay and install or build rainwater harvesting devices.



The **Municipality of Cascais, Portugal,** has implemented 56 climate projects, through the [European City Facility](#), that are part of their current local climate action plan called Route to Carbon Neutrality 2050. These projects also demonstrate an inspiring and outstanding example of multilevel governance, since it is the first municipal level commitment towards carbon neutrality in Portugal, aligned with the country's commitment to climate change.



The **City of Monterrey, Mexico** declared a climate emergency in 2022. With a city population of just over 5 million people, Monterrey was the largest city to declare a climate emergency, in line with the Call for Transformation in 2022.



An updated Compendium of Good Practices will be available in Q1 2023.

FINANCE AS A KEY TO EFFECTIVE CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Paris Agreement called for “making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development”. Yet cities, towns and regions continue to report financing as a main barrier to responding to the climate emergency. The Daring Cities 2022 Virtual Forum focused on climate emergency finance with particular attention to:

- Governance and Public Finance
- Public Private Partnerships
- Innovative Finance
- Resilience Finance
- Climate Justice Finance



CLIMATE
POLICY
INITIATIVE

With the increased occurrence of climate hazards, and the world facing a constant climate emergency scenario, it is imperative to move from business as usual to more incisive action to tackle climate change which includes disaster risk management and reparation of loss and damages.

According to the last report of the Climate Policy Initiative entitled *The State of Cities Climate Finance*, published in June 2021, urban infrastructure investment needs have been estimated at USD 4.5 – 5.4 trillion annually from 2015-2030.

Daring Cities 2022 confirmed the necessity and urgency to redirect private and public finance in order to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement. This means not only to increase the amount available, but also to make it accessible for the cities that need it the most, by overcoming the persisting technical and financial limitations that undermine the capacity of subnational governments in accessing those funds. Hence, increased technical and financial support to cities, towns and regions, particularly in the Global South, is crucial to drive urban decarbonization. Daring Cities aimed to address this demand through peer learning and important exchanges on challenges and opportunities in financing resilient and green infrastructure at the local level, as well as, the importance of a just transition which considers vulnerable groups and gender issues.



As the sessions showed, financing sustainable development requires an integrated and holistic approach, supported by multi stakeholder partnerships and strong political commitments at all levels. During the session “*Moving from triage to treatment: The state of the climate emergency in 2022*”, Katja Dörner, Mayor, City of Bonn, highlighted how these multilevel partnerships are fundamental to foster local climate resilience: “It’s of utmost importance that the different actors work together in the preparation of the event, throughout it and also afterwards to build back better and to make our cities more resilient.”

This cooperative approach needs to be Paris-aligned, as highlighted by Sophie deConnick, Global Manager of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) [Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility \(LoCAL\)](#), during the high-level session “*Close the gap: Innovative finance for urban transformation*”. Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement provides a space for advancing such approaches that can address urbanization at scale. The multilevel cooperation should include different actors, from public to private sector,



including subnational development banks that can work as catalysts of local climate action. In this sense, Daring Cities also highlighted the importance of global initiatives such as the [Global Alliance of Subnational Development Banks](#), coordinated by FMDV, in leveraging opportunities towards a more resilient and sustainable development for all.



Cities have also showcased inspiring examples of how mainstreaming resilience and adaptation is a fruitful strategy to unlock investments from different actors. In the case of the City of Makati, Philippines, the city administration, just like many others, used to prioritize mitigation measures (USD 1.1 million) compared to adaptation (USD 356,000). Recognizing the importance of adaptation, Mayor Binay, ICLEI's GexCom member and the Innovative Finance portfolio holder, has shifted policies and decided to embed it in budgeting processes. Mayor Binay also values the use of innovative finance instruments to help the city in unlocking climate finance and, for that, she advocates for a constant dialogue with the private sector, engaging in blended finance and public-private partnerships. Adaptation measures are also closely linked to a just transition, since these projects largely impact poor and marginalized people.



In most cases, local and regional governments do not have the technical tools to design bankable projects. To address this, project preparation facilities such as the [Transformative Actions Program](#) (TAP) are essential.

Since its creation in 2015, the TAP has given visibility to and supported more than 300 subnational governments to improve their concept notes, thereby developing investment-ready projects.



During the Daring Cities 2022 Virtual Forum, six local governments that are part of the TAP pipeline pitched their projects before a technical jury and received feedback on how to enhance their ideas and reach bankability. For two projects from Argentina and Mexico that focused on the transport and mobility sectors, the jury recommended:

- Having a concrete set of actions for next steps;
- Specifying who their partners are, in what capacity they need these partnerships and what role the partners will play;
- Identifying what kind of financial assistance they require and what the feasible financing options are;
- Knowing to what extent technical assistance is required and how far along the projects are already with technical assistance; and
- Figuring out how they are planning to leverage the capital.

Opportunities

DARING
CITIES
2022



The International Municipal
Investment Fund



Gap Fund
Giulia Macagno &
Augustin Maria



IMIF
Jaffer Machano



CAF
Pablo López

Additionally, for three projects from Germany, Mexico and Brazil, that focused on mobility, energy, and green spaces, the jury provided the following feedback:

- Be clear from the beginning on what the project is trying to achieve;
- Have background information on how the projects reached their current stage;
- Provide more contextualized information; and
- Explain what impact the project is trying to achieve.

Overall the jury felt there were a lot of possibilities and potential for technical and financial assistance to turn these projects into action.

Successful stories were also showcased from projects that accessed technical assistance, such as:

- The Provincial Government of DKI Jakarta, Indonesia, shared how they used C40 - Cities Finance Facility (CFF) to fund their 100 E-Bus project. The Project Preparation Facility helped them estimate the full lifecycle costs of the project to better appeal to funders.
- The Municipality of Cascais, Portugal, shared how European City Facility (EUCF) helped them to fund a unique aspect of their energy communities project that allows them to give energy away to people in need, from solar panels placed in social support facilities, like daycares.
- Makindye Ssabagabo Municipal Council, Uganda, shared how they used the Gap Fund and Climate Smart Cities Challenge Project to fund a sustainable waste management project for Makindye Ssabagabo, Kira, Nansana and Entebbe Municipalities and encouraged cities to submit joint applications with surrounding areas to cover wider populations.

Innovative finance instruments such as PPPs were also featured. The Benin Energy Plus project, which includes the development and dissemination of a [Toolkit on Public-Private Partnerships](#), aiming to assist local governments in designing and implementing a PPP on solar energy projects and provide detailed insights on how subnational governments can engage in carbon markets, was presented.

Daring Cities was able to promote inspiring examples from different cities, while raising awareness of the remaining challenges of addressing climate emergency finance at the subnational level.





CORNERSTONE ONE EXCHANGE





"Cities can show they are the engines of change and beacons of hope for future generations by creating the jobs, livelihoods, and neighbourhoods that will attract people through what cities have always done best: come together, mix, learn and innovate."

Nigel Topping, United Nations Climate Change High-Level Champion

Daring Cities 2022 kicked off on 3 October 2022, World Habitat Day and was attended by 1,800 ambitious climate action leaders, practitioners and change-makers. The five-day global virtual forum consisted of seven high level dialogues and thirteen workshops. The forum focused on exchanging best practices, providing technical training, and sharing timely insights from leaders taking bold climate action and tackling the multifaceted challenges of climate emergency finance.

Daring Cities 2022 applied the Know-Act-Lead theory of change approach, focusing on:

Know: Daring Cities presents and shares the most cutting-edge research and information on climate change and its impact on cities around the world, aimed at creating dialogue between researchers and practitioners. These discussions further support the IPCC Cities Research Agenda, as well as the IPBES process. In 2022, the Summary for Urban Policy Makers by IPCC was presented and discussed.

Act: Daring Cities showcased exemplary local climate action being taken and financed by urban leaders of cities around the world in addressing the climate emergency, from adaptive

and resilience-building measures to efforts to mitigate further contributions to anthropogenic climate change. In 2022, examples of cities advancing on local climate emergency declarations like Monterrey were highlighted.

Lead: Daring Cities facilitated action-oriented discussions with key global partners, including the UNFCCC and COP Presidencies, on delivering the Paris Agreement through collaborative, multilevel action. In 2022, multilevel action through G7/U7 and the COP27 Presidency's SURGe (Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation) initiative were the focus.



"Bonn is committed to climate neutrality by 2035. Daring Cities 2022 again brought together a community of like-minded leaders, who shared insights on how to embed climate action across departments, how to engage all sectors to meet the goal of net zero emissions – and, equally important, how to finance this major transformation", said

Katja Dörner, Mayor, City of Bonn, Germany, who co-chairs the Climate Action and Low Emission Portfolio within the ICLEI Global Executive Committee.

KEY CONCLUSIONS FROM DARING CITIES 2022: CORNERSTONE ONE - EXCHANGE

The global virtual forum showed once again that cities and regions are the epicenter of the climate emergency response. With perspectives from every region of the world, Daring Cities 2022 made clear:

Now is the time to formalize climate emergency action into city and regional processes to demonstrate that multilevel action vision of Glasgow Climate Pact is turned into practice.

Daring Cities 2022 emphasized the importance of moving beyond commitments to instead institutionalize climate action across all branches of government, within all departments, leaving no one behind. Speakers offered examples from declaring a climate emergency to building resilience into disaster recovery budgets or designating climate initiatives, as mandatory government work.

Additional highlights included:



Debra Roberts, IPCC Working Group II, Co-Chair, emphasized the importance and global impact of cities, despite their small geographic footprint saying, *"Almost all of the world's non-urban population is impacted by urban systems by connecting infrastructure and family and kinship ties."*



Luis Donaldo Colosio Riojas, Mayor, City of Monterrey, Mexico, invited other subnational governments to come forward and join them in declaring a climate emergency in their cities because *"The only way to solve this ever growing, ever more difficult puzzle is through accepting that we face an unprecedented crisis that requires both local and global efforts."*



On the importance of cities declaring climate emergencies, **Margaret Hender**, Co-founder of CEDAMIA, said, *"People know they cannot address the climate crisis alone. But to be motivated to join, they need to know that their local council and many others in their community are also taking action."*

After experiencing typhoons in 2017 and 2019, Seberang Perai Municipal Council, Malaysia, developed a climate action plan with 5 commitments that support the Penang Green Agenda 2030 in transforming the region to become a family focused, green, and smart state.



Ono Hiroshi, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Japan, emphasized the shift from negotiation to implementation in the climate emergency: *“We cannot afford to slow down our efforts toward decarbonization. Our commitment to accelerating the global effort in this critical decade is unwavering. In Japan, the number of zero carbon cities exploring zero carbon emissions by 2050 has now reached 766, covering 94% of Japan’s population.”*



In Germany, the federal law defines certain duties which local governments must invest in. *“Climate measures are still voluntary at the local level, not mandatory, and that has to be changed”*, said **Katja Dörner**, Mayor, City of Bonn, Germany; ICLEI Global Executive Committee Member; and Co-Host of Daring Cities.



Abigail Binay, Mayor, City of Makati, Philippines, and ICLEI Global Executive Committee Member, pointed out that current disaster response and recovery budgets should be expanded to include resilience: *“It would be an opportunity to advance and fund climate change adaptation and innovations locally.”*



We learned how the expanded climate innovation agenda and focus on creating flourishing lives for the projected world population in 2100 of 11 billion people, building on the strengths of various stakeholders, while shifting to a life-centered approach, can tap into the power of the fourth industrial revolution with an example from **A.M. Rakeeb**, Mayor, Kalmunai Municipal Council, Sri Lanka: *“The main challenge is shifting the focus on climate from sectors and structures to human needs. This is embedded in our city due to our long history of exposure to weather calamities.”*



Hana Morel, Sustainability and Advocacy Lead, Museum of London Archaeology & ICOMOS spoke on how to mend current divides in our society saying, *“Focusing on culture and heritage, eg: placemaking, can reconnect people and create more inclusive policies that are proven to offer better results in terms of sustainable growth and enriching lives.”*

More funding options are available to cities than ever before, yet access to those funds remains a challenge.

Daring Cities 2022 spreads a message of hope when it comes to climate emergency financing. Many examples of innovative financing solutions were shared including tools, facilities, and PPPs that have worked for cities, towns, and regions from across the globe. Climate emergency financing challenges were also shared, pointing to a lack of technical expertise or capacity within local governments to create bankable projects, discrepancies between available funding and funding being distributed, and the red tape, slow pace and disconnect between communities and financial institutions. Particularly, for cities, towns, and regions in the Global South, they would prefer and are better positioned to receive grants rather than loans.



Additional highlights included:

Nigel Jollands, Associate Director, EBRD and Steering Committee of the CCFLA, gave us a glimpse of hope about the current willingness to invest in climate projects saying, *“Donors are so much more active now and willing to contribute if they can see that the projects that they’re going to help finance are part of a bigger vision.”*

Examples of innovative finance models like Land Value Capture (LVC), that can generate revenue for a city while ensuring equitable benefits of climate resilience efforts, were shared from the Capital District of Bogotá, Colombia, the City of Santa Marta, Colombia, and the City of Santa Fé, Argentina. National governments were encouraged to create enabling environments that guide cities to use innovative financial instruments such as LVC by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.



Felix Akrofi, Senior Officer, Sustainable Energy, ICLEI World Secretariat, pointed out that *“Public Private Partnerships are a unique opportunity for a lot of projects that require a lot of capital expenditure to get started off the ground by bringing public funds together, and the private element adds efficiency, making sure that the project reaches its intended outcome, which is a problem with public funds, especially in developing countries.”*



Frank Cownie, President, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability; Mayor, City of Des Moines, USA proclaimed the historic passing of the Inflation Reduction Act as a landmark example of collaborative climate emergency financing saying, *“Of the \$369B provided by Inflation Reduction Act, a significant portion is accessible to cities and offers a good practice model for other countries to look to for facilitating local to national climate action.”*



Sophie de Coninck from Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL) spotlighted their work through performance-based grants in 34 countries in Africa, Asia Pacific and the Caribbean, to reform the way the system is using intergovernmental fiscal transfers for local level climate action.



The International Institute for Environment and Development shared how community-based financing is an inclusive framework rather than a rigid model of delivery. Learn more in this Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) funded report.



Margaret Hender, Co-founder, CEDAMIA, made a pitch for local green bonds saying that they are *“a very effective and empowering way of engaging the public. People can invest even quite small amounts and get satisfaction from seeing tangible and almost immediate on the ground climate solutions.”*



Speaking on the importance of data as a tool to access funding and citing ICLEI USA’s ClearPath Climate Planner software as resource, **Melissa Englund**, Sustainability Coordinator, City of Englewood, USA, said *“Data is a powerful funding mechanism to show the need in our community and the impact of the work and to open a conversation, good or bad, on where a city is on their goals, so we can plan today for a better tomorrow.”*



CDP encouraged cities to view financial risk disclosure as their legal duty. **Alexandra Hill**, Senior Technical Analyst, CDP North America, indicated *“Climate related financial disclosure is a good practice and is how cities stay ahead of the curve.”* We also learned that now is the time for cities to get involved with the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures, as there are indications that financial disclosure will become mandatory in the near future.



A just climate transition depends on multilevel action, community engagement, local investment, and trust.

Daring Cities 2022 spotlighted the disproportionate impact that the climate emergency has on women and youth, persons with disabilities, minorities and marginalized groups, and brought attention to programs across the globe that are working to right this wrong.



"A just transition means to implement the inevitable ecological transformation of the entire economy and society in a way that is as socially equitable as possible. We need to make sure not to overlook the people, especially the most vulnerable, when fighting climate change. We need to make sure to leave no one behind", said

Ruben Werchan, Senior Policy Officer for Sustainable Urban Development, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany.



Mehrnaz Ghojeh, Head CFF Climate Action Implementation, Head Knowledge and Regional Engagement, C40 Cities, provided guidance on how to approach climate justice projects saying, *"Projects that really maximize the benefits for frontline and marginalized groups are not just focusing on avoiding unintended consequences, but they really go beyond and find out the existing systemic barriers and how the project can contribute to address those."*

Representatives from community-based organizations in Africa, Asia and Latin America shared how bottom-up approaches and community engagement are paramount, but support from the local and national level is needed to scale them up.



The City of Malmö, Sweden, highlighted how they bring different sectors within their city together through their Green Roof project and Sustainable Business Hub, to focus on resilience and sustainability to ensure no one gets left behind.



Abigail Binay, Mayor, City of Makati, Philippines, and ICLEI Global Executive Committee Member, shared the importance of urban sustainability city networks in climate justice work saying, *"In Makati, we invite the community, households, the private sector, and our NGOs to engage in our climate adaptation measures. We wouldn't be able to do this without the help of international organizations like ICLEI, UNDRR and GCoM."*



SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH

Leaders expressed a desire to include youth in local climate action and sought examples of this. Youth shared good practices on how to meaningfully engage them locally and on further action needed to safeguard the future.



"We do not need to push young people into our agendas. We need to be pushed by the young people's agenda and how they view the world to build a safer future." - **Anuela Ristani**, Deputy Mayor, City of Tirana, Albania



Xiomara Acevedo, Activist, Founder and C.E.O, Fundación Barranquilla +20, Colombia, shared how to engage youth through examples of initiatives in Latin America, but also emphasized the actions that need to be taken to strengthen youth engagement. This includes more flexible funding that responds to urgency of the moment and recognizes the non-traditional benefits of working with the youth, like connections into the community and impact on local culture.



Chilando Chitangala, Mayor, City of Lusaka, Zambia, shared her approach and philosophy on youth engagement saying *"We use a bottom up approach to understand what people really need. We work with youth and children as we believe that nothing is for them without them."*



Ben Santhouse-James, Co-Lead, YOUNGO Renewable Energy Working Group, noted Project Leo - Local Energy Oxford, one of the largest participatory energy projects in the world, saying, *"We've seen in this recent energy crisis that more people want to take control of their own energy fate. We need more projects like that."*

We Can Do It!



SPOTLIGHT ON GENDER

Workshop: Partnering with vulnerable groups for inclusive local climate investment prioritization and planning.

This workshop showcased examples of successful “People-Public Partnerships”, including how investing in local solutions that address the needs of the most disproportionately affected by the climate emergency, can increase their access to economic opportunities, better services and infrastructure, and reduce inequalities through participatory, inclusive, and accountable urban governance.



“We need to shift the global climate architecture - the local communities, and especially women and girls, need to have a say in investment’s decisions.”

Anwesa Tewary, Learning and Knowledge Management Specialist, Huairou Commission. *“The grassroots-led Community Resilience Fund, through the Huairou Commission, empowers women to make decisions on which type of investments they want to pursue, strengthening their resilience and helping forge partnerships with their local authorities, as well as, at the global level.”*

@BONNGLOBAL WORKSHOP: FINANCING FEMALE DRIVEN CLIMATE ACTION

This workshop spotlighted three projects that empower women, break down patriarchal systems historically found in financial institutions, and tackle the climate emergency through resilience-based projects.



Dennis Lucy Avilés Irahola, Senior Researcher, Center for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn, summed up the disproportional impact of climate change on women saying, *“Women are more vulnerable than men to malnutrition, livelihood loss, rising costs, water insecurity, mortality and losses due to floods and droughts. The exacerbation of existing gender inequalities also affects women’s capacity to respond to extreme climate events.”*



Examples of Gender-Focused Climate Projects and Initiatives:

- Urban Natural Assets for Africa: The Resilience and Restoration for Life (UNA Resilience) project redirects the response to the climate emergency by placing women at the center of governance, planning, and financing in projects.
- Zero Waste Project in La Paz, Bolivia works with women to provide dignity, improve working conditions, and recycle waste.
- Bhungroo©, a WECF-funded project in India, invests €6,000 to support 6-10 farming communities by training women to build and maintain rainwater capture systems. These Women Climate Leaders are able to double their harvest and income and are empowered to take part in their community governance.
- BMZ shared their feminist policy for sustainable development, adopted in 2022, that aims to increase the total share of Official Development Assistance that specifically targets gender equity to 93% by 2025.



RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION ARE TOP PRIORITIES FOR MANY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WHERE UNPRECEDENTED CLIMATE IMPACTS ARE BEING FELT TODAY.



Carmen Vogt, Head of Section Cities, GIZ, on their recent insight brief on addressing support gaps for sustainable urbanization in the NDC Partnership said, *“We see more and more countries addressing Disaster Risk Reduction issues and climate change adaptation simultaneously - notably small island developing states.”*



Delroy Williams, Mayor, City of Kingston, Jamaica, and ICLEI Mexico, Central America & Caribbean Regional Executive Committee Member: *“Cities like Kingston feel huge impacts of climate change, yet contribute relatively small carbon emissions. We believe an equitable arrangement is necessary and must be geared towards low income cities.”*

Cities, towns, and regions are encouraged to see if insurance solutions like Climate Insurance Linked Resilient Infrastructure Finance (CILRIF) and Urban Infrastructure Insurance Facility (UIIF) that promote comprehensive, integrated and proactive approaches in lessening the socio-economic and environmental impact of climate disasters, would aid their resilience efforts.

The Federal City of Bonn shared how they're well positioned to become an MCR Resilience Hub due to the number of organizations working on climate located within the city and the recent experience with nearby flooding disaster.

Grassroot groups raised that vulnerable communities are most in need of adaptation projects but that special attention needs to be paid to ensure they don't exacerbate inequality.



SESSION SPOTLIGHT: GLOBAL LEADERS ROUNDTABLE - INNOVATIVE CLIMATE FINANCE FOR MULTILEVEL ACTION TOWARDS COP27

Gino Van Begin, Secretary General, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, in partnership with Katja Dörner, Mayor, City of Bonn, Germany, and Daring Cities 2022 co-host, invited leaders for a live-streamed round table discussion on innovative climate finance for multilevel action towards COP27, which was hosted at the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) headquarters in Bonn, Germany.

The session built upon the outcomes of the Glasgow Climate Pact adopted at COP26 with its explicit reference to multi-level action, in connection to the preparations towards COP27.

This included the first-ever Climate and Urbanization Ministerial, and launch of SURGe, a Sustainable Cities initiative by the COP27 Presidency.



Watch the recording of this roundtable discussion.

GLOBAL LEADERS ROUNDTABLE

Innovative climate finance for multilevel action
towards COP27



The roundtable included:

- **Ingolf Dietrich**, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung) - BMZ, Germany
- **Ovais Sarmad**, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC
- **Ayman Tharwat Amin**, Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Director Department of Climate, Environment and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt
- **Oliver Krischer**, Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Transport, State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany
- **Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven**, Member of the Board, GIZ
- **Katja Dörner**, Mayor, City of Bonn, Germany; ICLEI Global Executive Committee Member, and Host of Daring Cities 2022
- **Sharon Dijksma**, Mayor, City of Utrecht, The Netherlands; ICLEI Special Envoy for COP27 Ministerials
- **Abigail Binay**, Mayor, City of Makati, Philippines, and ICLEI Global Executive Committee Member
- **Gerry Muscat**, European Investment Bank (EIB), Head of Division, Urban Advisory
- **Gino Van Begin**, Secretary General, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

Key Conclusions on Multilevel Climate Finance:

- Different cities in different contexts can and must act in different ways to fund climate emergency initiatives. For example, the Federal City of Bonn, despite good budgetary standing, must focus on its *“mandatory obligations”* before spending money on *“voluntary efforts”* such as climate action. The challenge in Makati, the Philippines, is instead not about what to finance, but how to finance it, as they normally must take out a loan via a government bank. Accessing international funding is very difficult and tedious for them, and many local governments don't even apply for a loan or a grant in international markets because statistically, only 10% make it through.

- **Ingolf Dietrich**, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung) - BMZ, Germany, shared the keys to financing for cities and regions saying, *“The collaboration of all levels of government and the establishment of local regulation on providing finance is important. Sometimes cities cannot access international finance, so fiscal decentralization to support them is also needed.”*

- **Oliver Krischer**, Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Transport, State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany spoke favorably about bottom-up urban development advocacy saying, *“We see that in Germany the power comes often from the local level towards the state and federal level. And for me, it's a form of support if the power comes from the bottom.”*

- Big financial institutions like the EIB are already lending directly to cities, but only because they set up a financing framework, specifically to fill that gap. Most of the time, there is still a gap between investors and cities.

- **Gerry Muscat**, Head of Division, Urban Development, EIB, spoke on how Urban Framework loans enable EIB to fund a larger financing package, saying, *“It's difficult for us to directly finance small climate investments. That's why we created the Urban Framework Loan, through which we can finance a slice of a city's long-term investment program over 3-4 years.”*

- Reputation is a city's main currency to attract investors. Showing fiscal discipline, transparency, and in general a favorable environment to do business will indeed help attract investors. Corruption and uncertainty disincentivize any flow of money.

- National and local governments need strong institutions that have proven experience working in a predictable and transparent way. This creates an enabling environment, not only for local/national efforts, but also for international investors to come in.

TOWARD UNFCCC COP27:



Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC, emphasized the importance of cities in achieving the climate goals stating, *“Cities are at the center of addressing climate change. There is no doubt about it. It is important that we pay attention to cities, urbanization, and all that matters in the management of cities, their planning, their finances, and their climate efforts.”*



Ayman Tharwat Amin, Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Director Department of Climate, Environment and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt, shared the Presidency’s vision for COP27 saying, *“This is the implementation of COP. After five years of interpreting the Paris Agreement and producing its rulebook in Glasgow, it’s now time to act through holistic and multilevel initiatives, including SURGe and the new Ministerial on Urbanization and Climate.”*



Sharon Dijksma, Mayor, City of Utrecht, the Netherlands, and ICLEI Special Envoy for COP27 Ministerials, commended the COP27 Presidency for their focus on implementation at the local level through initiatives like SURGe and the first Ministerial on Urbanization and Climate. She launched an [ICLEI/LGMA COP27 Call to Action](#) to support these initiatives and our shared mission to give multilevel action a central position during COP27. *“If successful, this will be the last COP where cities are not formally recognized voices on the agenda”*, she said.



Both Ambassador Amin and Mayor Dijksma recognized the importance of equity in this critical moment in the climate negotiations. Minister Amin noted *“The impacts of climate change are unevenly distributed and this issue of equity should be addressed in a just way, to ensure that there is a fair distribution of resources and training among the cities. It is not only a matter of current cities to strengthen their social equity, but new cities as well, so they can be built taking equity into consideration.”* Additionally, Mayor Dijksma, emphasized *“A social agenda is needed, since the most vulnerable in the world are not the first ones to receive the benefits of our policies.”*



In the closing high-level dialogue of Daring Cities 2022, **Susan Aitken**, Leader, Glasgow City Council, United Kingdom, acknowledged the impact of Daring Cities saying, *“Daring Cities has been a key staging post for Glasgow on our road to net-zero. Over the past three years, it’s been a real opportunity for us, as the host of COP26, to refine and strengthen and give momentum to our shared message on the critical importance of local climate action and encouraged cities, towns and regions to contribute to their nations stocktake as Glasgow has been for the last 13 years. A local level stocktake that recognizes and quantifies climate action at the ground level, complementing the global stocktake, is going to be an incredibly strong tool in our army. It helps to put us on that climate emergency footing to highlight the actions and impact we’re having.”*



DARING CITIES 2022 SIDE EVENT: COOPERATIVE CLIMATE ACTION - MUNICIPAL POLICIES FROM G7 TO COP27



This event supported the declaration and focused on the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement. The event aimed to demonstrate the potential of cooperation between governmental levels and various groups of stakeholders and thus, shape a message for the COP27 in November 2022.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), in cooperation

with the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) of Engagement Global (EG) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, invited local decision makers, practitioners from local governments, civil society, academia / think tanks, and policy makers to participate in this exchange.



"We support Mayor Kadokawa of Kyoto City, Japan's sentiment that we are in a crucial phase to transform declaration to implementation, which means that local governments, in strong cooperation with the national government need to create plans that meet local characteristics." **Jochen Steinhilber**, Directorate-General, Displacement; Crisis Prevention; Civil Society, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



DARING CITIES 2022 SIDE EVENT: SUMMARY OF URBAN POLICYMAKERS FOR IPCC 6TH ASSESSMENT REPORT- CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE AT THE SERVICE OF CITY LEADERS



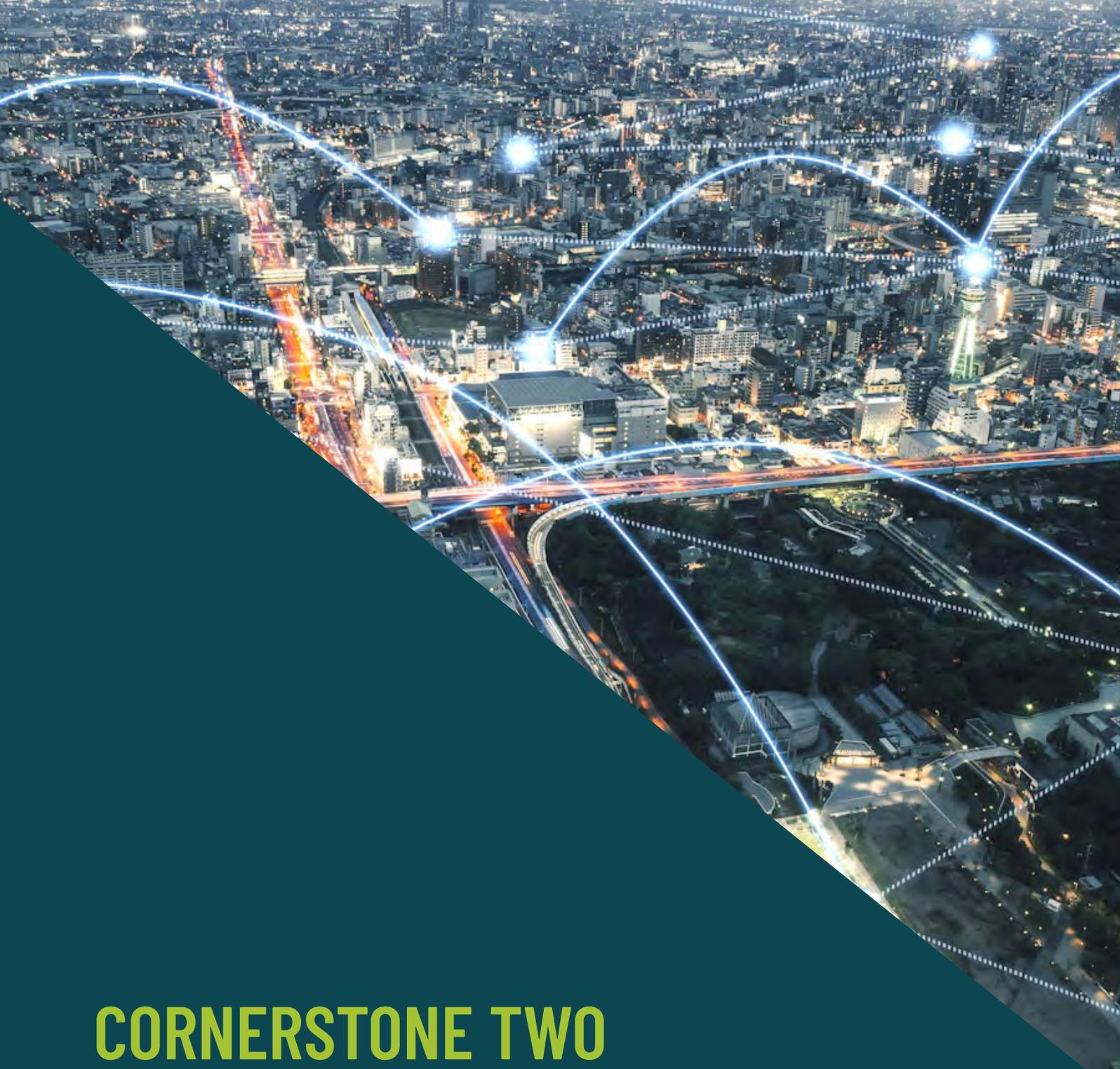
City and business representatives, partners and stakeholders engaged in the IPCC Summary for Urban Policy Makers process, came together to discuss and reflect on their experiences and on the key challenges they are facing in further science-based, informed policy making. Cities and business representatives shared actions, solutions and measures that are being put in place to tackle the most urgent issues of climate change in their localities, and how they are engaging with their communities and local stakeholders to accelerate their ambitious climate actions.

The Global Covenant of Mayors - in partnership with Resilience Shift, and in collaboration with their business network, the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) in collaboration with GIZ - supported the collection of input and contributions to the Summary for Urban Policymakers (SUP) of the IPCC 6th Assessment Report (AR6).



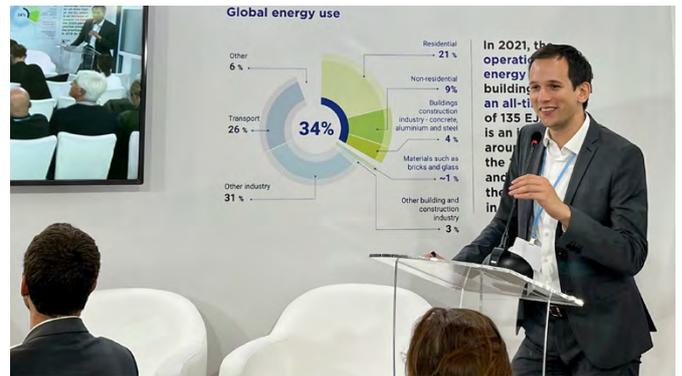
Read the Summary for Urban Policymakers of the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report.





CORNERSTONE TWO DISSEMINATE





Each October, those interested in sustainable urbanization from national and local governments to universities, NGOs and communities are encouraged to hold or participate in a multitude of activities around the globe as a part of Urban October. It is an opportunity for everyone to be part of the conversation about the challenges and opportunities created by the fast rate of change in our cities and towns and thus, offers a rich agenda in the urban sustainability space.

The month began with World Habitat Day on 3 October 2022 (the first day of Daring Cities 2022), with a theme of Mind the Gap. Leave No One and Place Behind. Urban October ended with World Cities Day on 31 October 2022, with the theme of Act Local to Go Global.

Urban October is a chance to bring the Daring Cities message to the world stage. From the Innovate4Cities conference to the G20, we are developing opportunities to connect the outcomes of Daring Cities to the rest of the world.

In 2022, ICLEI staff or leaders disseminated the outcomes, conclusions, and advocacy points across ten events over three weeks.



LIST OF DARING CITIES 2022 CORNERSTONE TWO EVENTS

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TOPIC
11 October	EU Regions Week, Farm to Fork procurement for resilient food regions, by ICLEI and European Committee of the Regions	Role of public procurement, food systems and circular culture in addressing climate emergency
12 October	European Committee of the Regions COP27 Plenary Debate	Position of CoR towards COP27
12 October	Time-to-Act Hydrogen Forum 2022	Tokyo Metropolitan Government contribution to COP27
11-12 October	Let's Act on Loss & Damage, Edinburgh, UK	Scottish Government contribution to COP27 agenda on Loss and Damage
13 October	UCLG World Congress, Daejeon, Republic of Korea	UCLG contribution to COP27 agenda through Climate Emergency Plenaries and Pact for the Future
18-20 October	C40 Mayors Summit, Buenos Aires, Argentina	C40 contribution to COP27 agenda
19 October	LGMA COP27 Webinar	Final LGMA consultations before COP27
21 October	Finance Your Cities Conference, Abidjan, Côte D'Ivoire by FMDV	FMDV inputs to COP27 Agenda
31 October	World Cities Day	Final preparations for SURGe Initiative and COP27 Climate and Urbanization Ministerial



COP27
ARM EL-SHEIKH
EPT 2022

CORNERSTONE THREE
ADVOCATE

LGMA KEY ADVOCACY POINTS AT UNFCCC COP27

The voice of cities, towns and regions at the UNFCCC process is represented by the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency where ICLEI acts as the focal point. The LGMA inputs to UNFCCC COP27 were compiled and announced at the press conference hosted by ICLEI and LGMA in the UNFCCC COP27 Blue Zone on 6 November, 2022, on the first day of COP27.



[View the press conference recording.](#)

The ICLEI/LGMA COP27 Call to Action, championed by Mayor Dijksma, that was launched at the virtual forum, was presented with signatories from 50+ mayors, representing major networks as well as 25+ non-state actors including youth, subject matter experts, and multinational companies.



“LGMA calls on UNFCCC Parties to acknowledge that multilevel action delivers the Paris Agreement, building on the recognition of the multilevel and cooperative action in the Glasgow Climate Pact and the transformative power of sustainable urbanization to respond to climate emergency”, said **Yunus Arikan**, Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI World Secretariat and Focal Point for LGMA.

Key asks to Parties at COP27 included:

1. Endorse the SURGe Initiative, a multilevel climate governance initiative, sponsored by the COP27 Presidency and endorsed by 70+ organizations, focusing on five tracks: buildings and housing, urban energy, urban waste/consumption, urban mobility, and urban water
2. Welcome the first-ever UNFCCC COP27 Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change
3. Mobilize Climate Emergency Finance to accelerate implementation of the Paris Agreement

SEE LIST OF ICLEI/LGMA COP27 CALL TO ACTION SIGNATORIES





DARING CITIES AT THE LGMA MULTILEVEL ACTION PAVILION

The LGMA Multilevel Action Pavilion, the home for local and regional governments in the UNFCCC COP27 Blue Zone, hosted over 55 sessions, featuring 400 speakers of rich programming and meaningful dialogues, showcasing that #MultilevelActionDelivers with support from over 45 organizations. Daring Cities was presented as one of the partners to the COP27 Multilevel Action Pavilion, pursuant to the vision that COP27 is part of Cornerstone Three of Daring Cities 2022.



See the LGMA Multilevel Action Pavilion Daily Mailings.

LGMA hosted a daily briefing that detailed the key points of the ongoing COP27 negotiations, the issues that were discussed, and what it all meant for cities, towns and regions worldwide. The briefings provided an opportunity to continue to raise the conclusions and advocacy points from Cornerstone Two of Daring Cities 2022 to the broader city, town, and region audience.



COP27 LGMA MULTILEVEL ACTION PAVILION PARTNERSHIP

CONVENER



Local Governments for Sustainability

HOST



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

IN COLLABORATION WITH



CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS



Cities Commission For Climate Investment



ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES MAIRES FRANCOPHONES



CIDADE DE SÃO PAULO



European Committee of the Regions



GLOBAL COVENANT OF MAYORS FOR CLIMATE & ENERGY



IZMIR METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY



Ministry of the Environment
Government of Japan



POST 2020

SFU SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

LOCAT Partnership

UCLG United Cities and Local Governments

UNCDF

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE CENTER

EVENT PARTNERS



CitiesWithNature



RegionsWithNature



eit Climate-KIC



COSLA



FUTURE LEADERS NETWORK



FMDV Supporting local authorities to access funding



OCEAN & CLIMATE PLATFORM



ORU



Fogbar



Regions4 Sustainable Development



RESILIENT CITIES NETWORK



UCLG AFRICA Cities in Government Japan City of Africa



UNDER2 GOVERN THE CLIMATE GROUP



UNITED STATES CLIMATE ALLIANCE



UCL

WE DO

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

COP27 OUTCOMES

On the road to COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency to the UN recalled its success from the year before to see “multilevel action” enshrined in the Glasgow Climate Pact. This new era of the Paris Agreement was opened so that, at COP27, our attention turned toward #MultilevelActionDelivers as a galvanizing intention. At its most fundamental, our goal for COP27 centered on enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions in the next phase of the Paris Agreement built through collaborations across all levels of government.



CLIMATE AND URBANIZATION MINISTERIAL

In a COP first—and embodying a decade-long vision in the making—the first-ever Climate and Urbanization Ministerial was hosted by COP27 Presidency at the Solutions Day, supported by UN-Habitat. The moment brought the climate and urban communities together at the minister-level for the first time, with sentiments on its value, encapsulated in remarks delivered by **Sharon Dijksma**, Mayor of Utrecht, Netherland, and COP27 Special Envoy for the LGMA: *“This first-ever Ministerial Meeting on Urbanisation and Climate Change is a milestone in the history of COP. As far as I am concerned, we should have taken this step much earlier because cities have a key role to play in combating climate change. Cities are crucial in achieving the climate goals.”*

Building on numerous endorsements from nations in both Global North and Global South, in a welcome statement by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, multilateral development banks offered very strong support to SURGe, upholding the spirit of COP27 that investments in local-level climate action are needed at a large scale. Calling for the event to become an annual occurrence, **Libby Schaaf**, Mayor of Oakland, California, said, *“we respectfully request that you institutionalize this joint Ministerial dialogue and commit to hold it every year.”*





SURGe INITIATIVE

For the first time in the climate space, a new initiative opens the doors for the climate and urbanization communities to come together to approach climate action in a holistic way. The COP27 Presidency launched the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) Initiative in collaboration with UN-Habitat and facilitated by ICLEI with the objective to enhance and accelerate local and urban climate action through multi-level governance, engagement, and delivery through five integrated tracks. By COP27, more than 100 partners endorsed the initiative. Yet, to not only advance the initiative through the COP Presidency or local governments, we aimed for SURGe to be owned and upheld by the parties. To this end, the United States, Japan, the Netherlands and others, offered supportive remarks for SURGe during the Climate and Urbanization Ministerial.

GLOBAL STOCKTAKE

As the Paris Agreement celebrated its fifth year, moving into its next phase toward implementation, nations take stock of the agreement's progress while defining a vision for the road ahead. Following ICLEI's successful advocacy during the June 2022 Bonn intersessional meetings, the UNFCCC recognized that the Global Stocktake should include local-level contributions. Daring Cities 2022 officially opened this local exercise, calling for cities in more than 100 countries to host their own stocktaking event in 2023, and releasing a standardized reporting form and toolkit. Under the banner of #Stocktake4ClimateEmergency, local stocktakes will draw inspiration from 2018's Talanoa Dialogues to answer three questions—*Where are we currently in reaching the goals of Paris (both nationally and in local climate action plans)? Where do we need to go? How do we get there in a just and equitable way?—and ultimately usher in an emergency mode for the Paris Agreement.*



LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND

Following Scotland's historic £2m pledge for a dedicated loss and damage fund set out at last's year's COP26 in Glasgow, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon announced an additional £5m funding pledge to tackle loss and damage caused by the climate crisis in developing countries. The Scottish Government also released a summary report that captures critical insights on how principles for addressing loss and damage can be developed and put into practice called "Addressing Loss and Damage: Practical Action".

Building off Scotland's leadership, COP27 ended on 20 November, 2022 with a breakthrough agreement to provide "loss and damage" funding for vulnerable countries hit hard by climate disasters, along with a package of decisions. We warmly welcome that financing loss-and-damage is finally being addressed in the UNFCCC process. We are particularly proud that the political, technical and financial leadership of subnational governments led by Scotland and Wallonia since COP26 played an instrumental role in breaking the taboos on loss and damage.

Our practical actions prove that loss-and-damage funding can be distributed in a fair and equitable way; additional indebtedness can be avoided and these good practices can be replicated by all interested. Swift action also ensures that not just a mechanism is established, but that funds reach those most in need, particularly women.



[Addressing Loss and Damage: Practical Action Report](#)



CLIMATE EMERGENCY FINANCE ADVOCACY PAPER

ICLEI, in partnership with UNCDF, and FMDV, released a climate emergency finance paper, based on outcomes from Cornerstone One: Exchange of Daring Cities 2022 to guide the climate emergency finance agenda at COP27. The paper guided interventions of Mayor Binay during COP, as the Innovative Finance portfolio holder, and the session on subnational finance during COP. After the event, the paper was promoted through newsletters and among the CCFLA and GcOM network.

The paper focuses on 3 main topics, which are considered as the key drivers for change towards climate emergency finance: (i) role of subnational development banks, that can act as financial intermediaries; (ii) sustainable urbanization as a non-market approach in the UNFCCC Art6.8 negotiations, which would enhance multilevel cooperation and scale climate action; and (iii) the importance of empowering project finance/preparations facilities, such as Transformative Actions Program (TAP), by deploying investments in their pipelines as a way to accelerate the access to technical assistance at the local level.

The paper provides an overview of the current challenges faced by local and regional governments when facing a climate emergency and how this situation differs from a “business-as-usual” scenario in terms of scale, focus, type of support, rapidness, and key actors. It details that one of the main challenges we face is the immediate necessity for finance to flow to actions to tackle the climate emergency and avoid catastrophe. Despite significant efforts that have been made to increase the availability of funds, accessibility to finance remains a challenge for the subnational level – resulting in a growing finance gap, as the urgency of action also scales up.

Given the urgency to tackle climate hazards, the document advocates for finding innovative finance mechanisms and invites different stakeholders such as national governments, subnational banks and the private sector to support local and regional governments in overcoming the barriers and accessing climate finance. The essentials of the paper was presented by Mayor Sefiani at the COP27 High level Finance Ministerial on 15 November.

READ THE PAPER HERE.





ICLEI'S VISION ON YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND NEXT GENERATIONS ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY TOGETHER



/ ICLEI @ / ICLEI GLOBAL @ / ICLEI
<https://iclei.org/>



ICLEI GLOBAL YOUTH STATEMENT

At the “Youth in Local Climate Action” day at COP27, ICLEI marked this occasion with the launch event at the LGMA Multilevel Action Pavilion. Mayor Erion Veliaj from Tirana and Juliet Oluoch from YOUNGO joined the session in person at Sharm el Sheikh, sharing their insights and expressing their support.

The vision statement is a result of a collaborative effort between ICLEI colleagues from the regional offices, youth and some of our member cities. The document provides a snapshot of the work done by ICLEI with youth, outlines ICLEI’s position on the role of youth in the climate emergency, and defines three main pillars that will guide ICLEI’s effort in fostering youth engagement in climate action going forward.



DARING LGMA LEADERS AT COP27

At COP27, the LGMA delegation consisted of more than 500+ representatives, including 150+ Mayors, Governors, Councilors and other local and subnational leaders. The voice of cities and regions carried much wider than the LGMA Multilevel Action Pavilion, through an estimated 2,000 collective interventions around the Blue Zone.



The LGMA opening statement delivered by **Kobie Brand**, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability and Regional Director, ICLEI Africa Secretariat, at the COP27 plenary called on UNFCCC Parties to mark COP27 as the beginning of the multilevel action era and to endorse the SURGe Initiative.



Yuriko Koike, Governor, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Japan, took part in the COP27 Presidency Implementation Summit Roundtable on “Investing in the Future of Energy: Green Hydrogen” and the high level opening of COP27 Global Climate Action Agenda.

Kale Roberts from ICLEI US, **Veronica Arias** from CC35, **Carlos De Freitas** from FMDV, **Yunus Arikan** from ICLEI as well as **Manuel de Araujo**, Mayor, Quelimane Municipality, Mozambique, represented the LGMA Constituency at the Global Stocktake Technical Dialogues, informing them that sustainable urbanization and multilevel action are beacons-of-hope to drive global climate action into “emergency mode”. The commitment for local and regional governments to convene Stocktake4ClimateEmergency dialogues throughout 2023 was also necessary to create the much needed political momentum for Global Stocktake towards and at COP28 in Dubai in December 2023.

ICLEI and FMDV hosted the first ever Marrakech Partnership Breakthrough Lab with a focus on subnational finance.



Yunus Arikan, Global Director of Advocacy, ICLEI, in his LGMA focal point capacity, presented suggestions to advance multilevel action at and beyond COP27 to Mr. Simon Stiell, the new UNFCCC Executive Secretary.



Mohamed Sefiani, Mayor, Chefchaouen Municipality, Morocco and ICLEI COP27 Special Envoy for Africa, spoke on behalf of the LGMA at the 5th High Level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance.



Wavinya Ndeti, Governor of Machakos County, Kenya delivered LGMA COP27 High Level Segment Statement



Minna Arve, Mayor of Turku, Finland, **Manuel de Araujo**, Mayor of Quelimane, Mozambique, **Anne Reynolds**, Mayor of Hobart, Australia, **Mohamed Sefiani**, Mayor of Chefchaouen, Morocco joined the launch of the IPCC 6th Assessment Report Summary for Urban Policy Makers (IPCC SUP) and its Action Agenda.



Erion Veliqaj, Mayor of Tirana, Albania, European Youth Capital 2022 addressed the YOUNGO COP27 Youth Day event on behalf of the LGMA.



Travis County Commissioner, **Dhaka North** Mayor, Lusaka Mayor and **Frank Cownie** as ICLEI President contributed at the MPGCA Human Settlements event as well as COP27 GCA High Level Closing.



LGMA delegation intervening at the first-ever COP27 Climate and Urbanization Ministerial included:

- **Mohamed Sefiani**, Mayor, Chefchaouen Municipality, Morocco
- **Libby Schaaf**, Mayor, City of Oakland, USA
- **Sharon Dijksma**, Mayor, City of Utrecht, the Netherlands
- **Cintya Ribeiro**, Mayor, Municipality of Palmas, Brazil
- **Atiqul Islam**, Mayor, Dhaka North City Corporation, Bangladesh

Katja Dörner, Mayor of the Federal City of Bonn addressed the LGMA Global Townhall towards COP28 and underlined the role that Daring Cities 2023 can play in the year of Global Stocktake.

Mayor **Sharon Dijksma** of Utrecht, The Netherlands and ICLEI Special Envoy for COP27 Ministerials and **Yunus Arikan**, Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI, joined the dialogue of UN Secretary General with UNFCCC Constituency Focal Points.

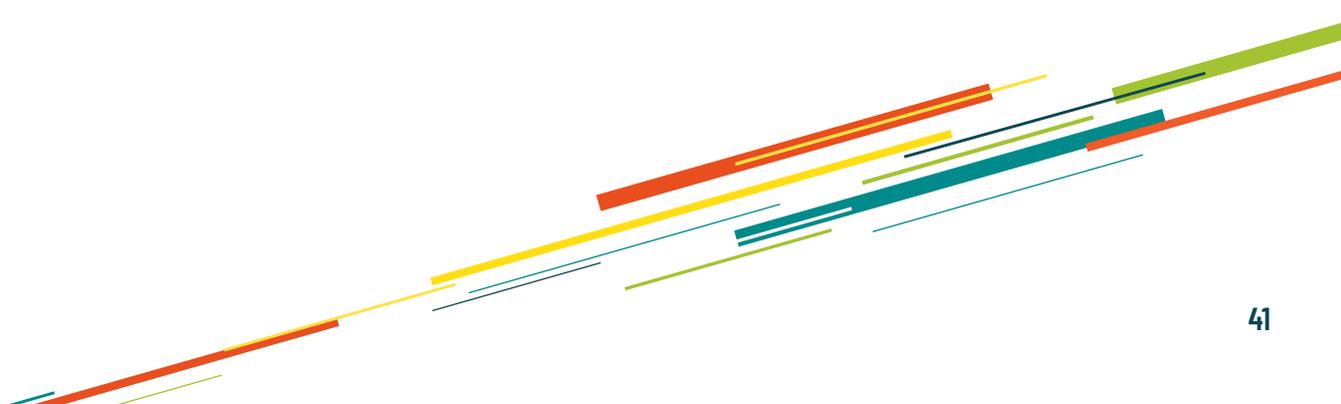
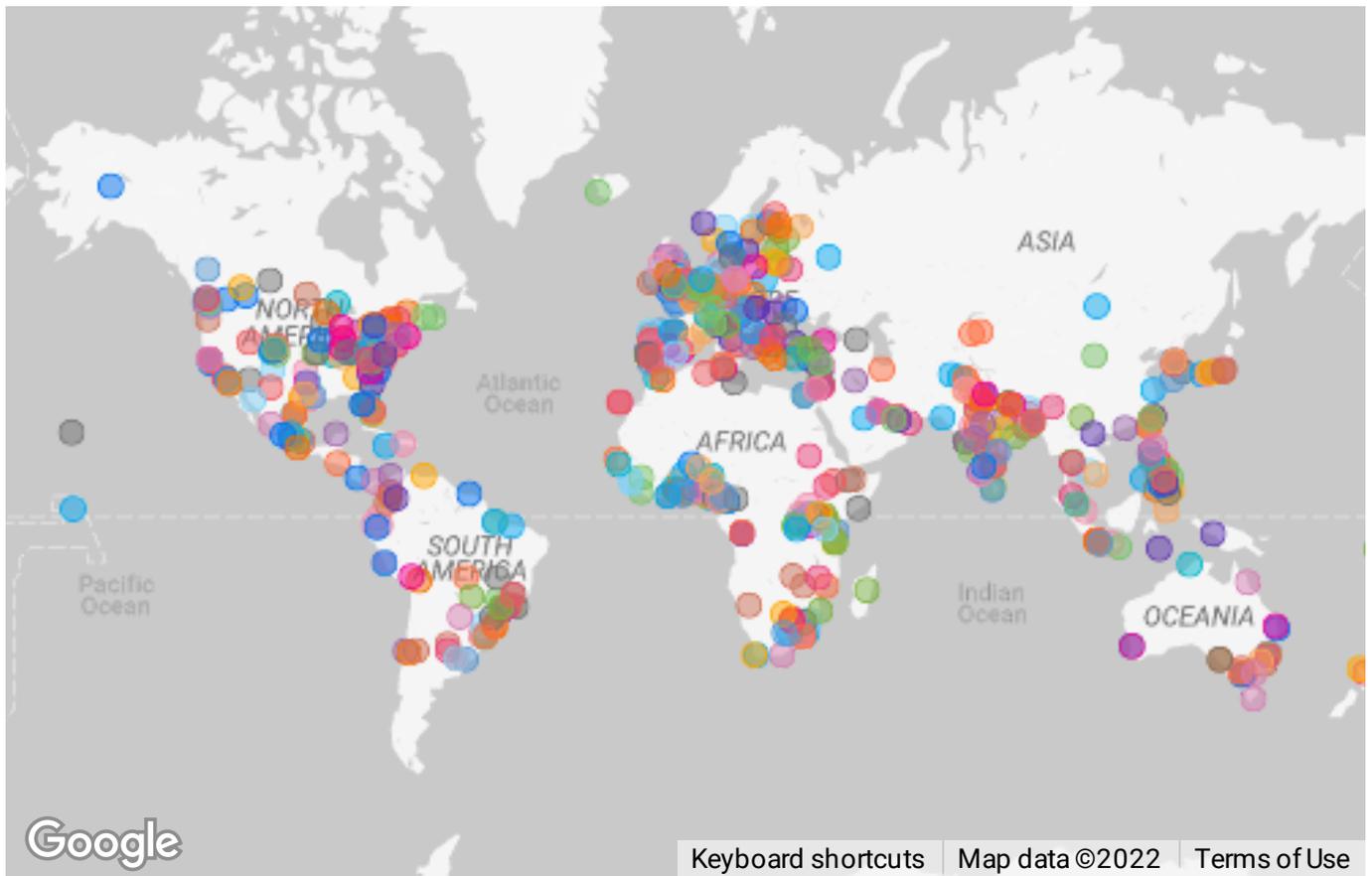
The LGMA COP27 closing statement was delivered by **Vincent Chauvet**, Mayor, City of Autun, France and member of the COP27 Delegation of the European Committee of the Regions.

DARING CITIES 2022: IN THE NUMBERS

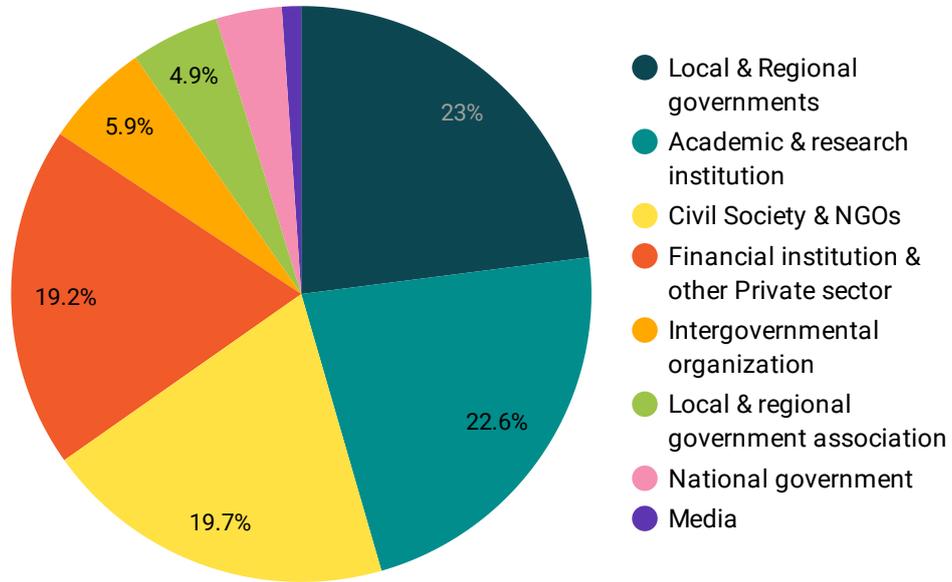
Attendees*
1,743

Countries
133

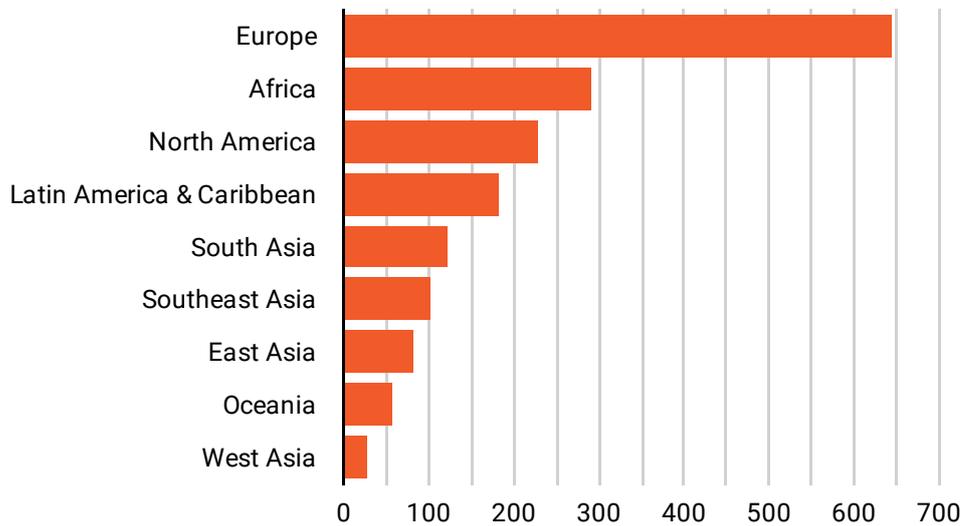
Cities
706



Attendees by organization type



Attendees by ICLEI region



THANKS TO OUR DARING CITIES 2022 PARTNERS



**NACHHALTIGKEIT.
SUSTAINABILITY.
DURABILITÉ.
BONN.**



The State Government of
North Rhine-Westphalia



EVIDENCE
OVER
IGNORANCE!

There is
NO
PLANET B

SYSTEM
CHANGE
NOT
CLIMATE
CHANGE!

MAKE
COOL AGAIN

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