

Global NDC Conference 2017

Berlin, May 3-5, 2017

Session Background

Day 1, 15:00-16:30, Parallel Breakout Session #4
Multi-level Governance along
Climate Policy & Action Pathways

Subnational Integration Working Group (SNI-WG)¹

Successful public investment requires co-ordination between national and subnational governments. Effective multi-level governance (MLG) and intersectoral collaboration are key components of successful low emission, climate-resilient development strategies.

Setting the Stage:

Since 1990, the majority of countries have been rapidly urbanizing without delivering emission reductions. In fact, CO₂ emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels and cement production are rising faster than the rate of urban population growth; which again is increasing faster than the rate of national population growth ([data link](#)).² Regionally, this trend is especially divergent in South Eastern Asia, South America, and Middle Africa, among others. This has important implications for shifting governance dynamics.

Definitions:

Governance - processes of interaction and decision-making among the social actors involved in a collective problem that lead to the creation, reinforcement, or reproduction of social norms and institutions." [Problem, Actors, Norms, Nodal points/interaction points, Processes] (Hufty, M. 2011)

Multi-level governance (MLG) - the synergistic "interplay" between institutions, levels of government and civil society organizations that shape how policies and actions are defined and implemented. This can involve vertical and/or horizontal interactions and take numerous forms— e.g. driven by top-down, bottom-up, or hybrid institutional arrangements.

Intersectoral cooperation - the premise that state, municipal, markets and civil society sectors each possess distinct assets that can be combined in a productive manner to solve complex problems. (Kalegaonkar, A. 2000)

Fragmentation - disconnected, polycentric structures of subnational governance, for example between abutting municipalities in a metropolitan area. Fragmentation can create political, institutional or information barriers, inefficiencies in service provision, spillover effects across jurisdictional boundaries, as well as severe income and service level inequalities.

MLG Climate Policy and Action Pathway

- Strategic planning/ agenda setting
- Political leadership
- Stakeholder support
- Policy formulation/ approval
 - Identifying & bridging policy gaps
- Implementation
 - Identifying & addressing barriers
 - Capacity building
 - Financing
- Monitoring & evaluation
- Dissemination, sharing

¹ <http://ledsgp.org/working-groups/subnational-integration-of-leds>

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² <http://ledsgp-data.netlify.com>

