

Climate Week 2 | Implementation Forum

Session/event brief

Title of the event:

Implementation Lab:

Climate-resilient, Low-carbon Cities: Scaling-up Cities Climate Action

Scope and objectives of the event:

As part of the 2nd Climate Week, the UNFCCC secretariat will organize an Implementation Lab on sustainable cities as part of the Implementation Forum. The Implementation Lab will combine short dynamic action-oriented input presentations with interactive roundtable discussions centered on two core focused areas: (1) integrated decarbonization of urban infrastructure across buildings, mobility, and waste management, including through Urban built design and (2) operationalizing urban resilience through city-level planning and early warning systems.

Expected outcomes:

1. Highlight of practical, scalable solutions for reducing emissions across key urban sectors (buildings, transport, and waste), including Urban built design.
2. Generate action-oriented recommendations for implementing city-level resilience plans and strengthening early warning systems
3. Identify key enablers and tools (e.g., financing models, planning frameworks, regulatory supports) to accelerate local implementation of climate action
4. Strengthen multilevel and multi-stakeholder partnership for effective climate action.

Category/type:

Implementation lab

Participants profile:

1. National governments' representatives (including negotiators and implementers)
2. Subnational governments' leaders (mayors, governors) and technical staff
3. Private sector
4. Subnational networks/coalitions' representatives

Number of expected participants:

120 (funded and non-funded)

Key partners to be engaged:

Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM), C40 Cities, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Under2 Coalition, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), Region4, FMDV, UN Habitat, UNEP, etc.

Solutions to be presented:

To ground the Implementation Lab in real-world action and meaningful collaboration, a number of real-world, implemented, replicable solutions have been selected through a Call for Solutions, to be presented at the event as “concrete kick-off examples”. For this Implementation Lab, the selected solutions include:

1. Scaling community-based early warning systems for flood resilience in durban’s informal settlements	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability - Africa
2. CHAMP for Climate Action	C40 and Global Covenant of Mayors
3. Scaling Up the Global Alliance of Subnational Development Banks (SDBs)	FMDV - Global Fund for Cities Development
4. Zero Waste Cities: Local Action, Global Impact on Methane Emissions	Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA)
5. Integrated Heat Mitigation for Urban Cities of Maharashtra, India	Aga Khan Agency for Habitat India
6. Multilevel Climate Action Planning: Practical Climate Finance Guide for 12 Moroccan Regions	Association of Regions of Morocco (ARM)

Agenda:

Welcome and opening remarks

- Welcome participants and introduce expected outcome of the session

Taking stock of progress and identification of key challenges to implementation

Discussion openers: to be identified from the call for solutions

- What best practices (financial architecture, technology deployment and regulations) have emerged from implementation of solutions on the ground? How are these solutions supporting the design and implementation of NDCs and NAPs?

Breakout sessions: work in groups

Open discussion amongst roundtable participants

Participants will break into 2-4 breakout groups facilitated by a moderator and can either discuss a solution under each group or have more tailored discussions around these 2 topics:

- Integrated decarbonization of urban infrastructure
 - What are high-impact and collaborative solutions that have been proven to reduce emissions in urban planning, buildings, transport, or waste at city-level?
 - What kind of support (e.g., funding, policy, partnerships) would help cities scale such solutions faster?
 - Operationalizing urban resilience through planning and early warning systems
 - What are the key steps and enabling conditions that help cities move from climate risk assessments to fully implemented, financed, and monitored resilience plans?
 - How can cities design or strengthen early warning systems that are inclusive, locally relevant, and integrated into long-term urban development *and emergency response plans*?
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(An ILab reporting template will be shared with the moderator ahead of time to ensure that expectations are met)

Reporting back to plenary

- Report back by breakout groups
- Moderator/chair to summarize key recommendations and highlight what should be shared as recommendation to ACS.

Closing Remarks
