

# LGMA GUIDANCE FOR THE PARTIES ON MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE

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**CITIES & REGIONS  
IN THE UNFCCC PROCESS**



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**UCLG**  
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**UNDER2<sup>o</sup>**  
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*Building on the initial draft led by the above LGMA partners, a final list of endorsers of this statement will be announced at the LGMA COP29 press conference on 11 November 2024.*

For more information, visit [cities-and-regions.org](https://cities-and-regions.org)



## THE ASK

We, the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities constituency, on behalf of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, call on the Parties to the Paris Agreement, current and future Presidencies of UNFCCC COPs, CHAMP endorsers, the UNFCCC Secretariat, other UNFCCC Observer Constituencies, along with 193 signatories to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to:



*Accelerate inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action, through new Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) developed in partnership with local and other subnational governments*

This can be achieved through working together with local and other subnational governments in the revision of the NDCs due in 2025 ahead of COP30 and NAPs – by including them in the planning, financing, implementation, and monitoring of NDCs, NAPs and LTS, reflecting their contributions, ambitions, priorities and support needs and by taking into account the distribution of powers and responsibilities in their implementation and according to their competences.



*For more information on the overall position for COP29 for the LGMA Constituency, please refer to the [LGMA Position on COP29](#).*

## GUIDANCE FOR NEGOTIATORS

**In order to accelerate inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action, through new Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) developed in partnership with local and other subnational governments, we urge COP28, COP29 and COP30 Presidencies Troika to encourage all Parties to actively engage with local and other subnational governments in order to implement the COP28 UAE Consensus Article 161 and the objectives of the Mission.**

To maximize the contribution of local and regional actors in helping collectively develop better quality NDCs, we call on the Parties that have already committed to the CHAMP pledge and those that are yet to join the CHAMP coalition to:

- Include local and other subnational governments, where appropriate and in line with national circumstances, in the development process and content of national climate targets and strategies through institutional and informal processes to enable local and other subnational governments to contribute to further enhancing NDCs and NAPs, integrate local and territorial baseline information, targets and actions for emissions mitigation and adaptation across all sectors and industries, that are clearly reflected in dedicated sections of NDCs 3.0;
- Invest in subnational climate action by helping increase the volume of annual public funding for subnational climate projects and increase subnational governments' access to financing;
- Implement projects in cities, states, towns, and regions that reduce emissions and improve livelihoods, working closely with local leaders and stakeholders to deliver place-based climate action that addresses both climate impacts and social determinants of health.



In support of delivery of CHAMP commitments, national local government associations, starting with the Association of German Cities (DST) in Germany, National Front of Mayors (FNP) in Brazil, and Conference of Mayors (USCOM) in US, are adopting resolutions that commend their national governments, express their readiness to collaborate in the NDCs3.0 and commit to increase their own commitments.

As their contributions to global stocktake, more than 20 local governments across six continents convened their Stocktake4ClimateEmergency sessions. With the outcomes of COP28, these experiences are being transformed into Town-Hall-COPs, so that they can elevate their commitments with enhanced engagement of their communities, connect to the design and implementation of upcoming NDCs3.0 and demonstrate their contribution to global climate action.

Since 2016, the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action has been instrumental in driving numerous multi stakeholder initiatives. The national climate plans and global climate ambitions can be elevated further if such initiatives can be incorporated into new NDCs3.0 as appropriate.

Throughout 2024, LGMA has been connected to new efforts by COP28 and COP29 Presidencies:

- COP28 High Level Champion is proposing to engage the informal sector in urban resilience and climate action can help to advance NDCs and NAPs. Parties should ensure inclusivity and equity under the multi-level governance agenda, and as a prime opportunity under the NDC 3.0 revision process and momentum under CHAMP, by elevating informality in stronger urban content of NDCs and recognition of the role of the informal sector in urban resilience, both in terms of climate action and innovation, lives and livelihoods, and contribution to national progress towards achieving the SDGs, in some of the world's most vulnerable regions; and facilitate investment in partnerships (e.g. entities that can connect formal and informal sectors to foster communication, cooperation and trust) to unlock informality's contributions to urban resilience and equity.
- COP29 Presidency is introducing Multisectoral Actions Pathway (MAP) to Sustainable, Climate Resilient and Healthy Cities as one of the prominent initiatives of COP29 Action Agenda, and proposing COP29 Truce Deal as a unique effort to ensure a global ceasefire during 2 weeks of COP29. LGMA has provided inputs to the COP29 MAP Initiative during its consultation phase. LGMA welcomes COP29 MAP Initiative as an opportunity to ensure synergy and continuity among numerous agendas and processes, to highlight the urgency and importance of urban climate finance and to strengthen the efforts to advance multilevel climate action by COP30. LGMA also expressed its support for a COP29 Truce Deal as a timely and necessary effort, and proposed a strong synergy with the biodiversity COP16 theme on "Peace with Nature" to strengthen such efforts.

**“ Proposed text to negotiators**

*Calls on Parties to involve local and other subnational governments in the planning, financing, implementation, and monitoring of upcoming Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and Long-Term Strategies (LTS), with a view to facilitating inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action.*



## **We call on parties to include local and other subnational governments in the UAE framework for global climate resilience.**

Local and other subnational governments have become natural leaders in advancing adaptation actions and resilience, particularly due to their direct connection with their inhabitants, their knowledge of the local context, their capacity to mobilize and engage with all local stakeholders at local-territorial scale, developing their own city and regional adaptation plans and monitoring progress through the UNFCCC Climate Action portal and other mechanisms. For this reason, the LGMA Constituency reminds of the need to include local and other subnational governments in the UAE-Belem work program.



### *Proposed text to negotiators*

#### **On the UAE-Belem work programme and resulting UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience**

*Calls on Parties to systematically step up their efforts towards effective multilevel climate governance and ensure effective and long-term coordination mechanisms for defining and implementing the National Adaptation plans (NAPs).*

*Calls on Parties to increase the support and predictability for adaptation finance, allowing for targeted and direct support to local and other subnational adaptation actions.*

*Calls on Parties to measure progress by national, local and other subnational governments towards each of the targets referred to in paragraphs 9–10 of decision 2/CMA5, including a specific target on the amount of local and other subnational governments having adaptation plans, and to support the implementation of the UAE framework for Global Climate Resilience at the subnational and local levels.*

*Calls on Parties to take into account the contributions by local and subnational governments to accelerate adaptation action through the Race to Resilience, and Climate Champion-led [Sharm-el Sheikh Adaptation Agenda](#).*

## **We call on parties to include local and other subnational governments in the negotiation of the loss and damage fund operational guidelines, and relevant technical bodies, to ensure that local and other subnational governments needs and contributions are duly considered.**

Implicate local and other subnational governments into the development of the fund and its operationalization, from the decision making to the implementation processes, to take benefit of their capacity to leverage local resources, their knowledge of the territories and local realities, as well as their capacity to generate targeted actions and drive effectiveness.

Deliver on the direct access to finances in its mandate in paragraph 20(e) of the main text and 45 and 49(b) of Annex I of Decision 1/CP28 on Direct access via subnational entities to the fund.

Ensure that the L&D Fund explicitly recognizes the urban and rural dimension of L&D, integrating critical urban and rural loss and damage issues – notably climate displacement and health impacts – into the scope of the L&D Fund, as outlined in on its mandate in paragraph 6 of Annex I of Decision 1/CP28 on the Scope of the Fund.



Mandate the local and other subnational governments to structure and organize one of the Consultative Forum as mandated by paragraph 28 of Annex I of Decision 1/CP28, to create a framework that promotes collaboration and ensures that local voices, needs and contributions are duly considered.

**“ Proposed text to negotiators**

*Invites* the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency in the negotiations, decision-making and implementation of the Loss and Damage Fund Operational Guidelines, and relevant technical bodies.

*Invites* parties to deliver on the mandate of direct access to funds by subnational entities as expressed in paragraph 20(e) of the main text and 45 and 49(b) of Annex I of Decision 1/CP28.

*Invites* parties to mandate local and other subnational governments to organize one of the Consultative Forums as mandated by paragraph 28 of Annex I of Decision 1/CP28.

**To promote greater transparency in target setting, monitoring and reporting while reducing the reporting burden on local and other subnational governments, we ask parties to build on the recommendations of co-chairs on the recognition and accountability framework consultation and reset the vision for the global climate action portal (GCAP).**

To reduce the administrative burden on local and other subnational governments who are already using national, supranational or international monitoring and reporting platforms we encourage the UNFCCC Secretariat, as recommended in the RAF Consultation outcomes, to recognize and build on national jurisdictions and reporting systems, be transparent about data sources in the GCAP portal. We also encourage both the Parties and the UNFCCC Secretariat to ensure interoperability between platforms and the UNFCCC Global Climate Action Portal, when and where applicable, at a minimum to share information on an annual basis.

To enhance transparency of implementation of the Recognition and Accountability Framework Consultation Recommendations, we invite the establishing of an advisory committee that includes representatives of all relevant constituencies to UNFCCC as well as UN Secretary General’s Team leading on implementation of High Level Expert Group Recommendation Report “Integrity Matters” affected by the reform.

Provide appropriate resources to local and other subnational governments to collect and report appropriate data via mandatory and voluntary systems.

**“ Proposed text to negotiators**

*Invites* UNFCCC Secretariat to convene an advisory committee that includes representatives of all relevant constituencies to support implementation of the Recognition and Accountability Framework Consultation Recommendations.

*Encourages* the UNFCCC Secretariat, as recommended in the RAF Consultation outcomes, to recognise and build on national jurisdictions and reporting systems, be transparent about data sources in the GCAP portal.

*Encourages* both the Parties and the UNFCCC Secretariat and all relevant stakeholders to ensure interoperability between their platforms and the UNFCCC Global Climate Action Portal, when and where applicable to ensure greater transparency to the highest possible standard.