

LoCS4Africa 2020

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS REPORT



Local Climate Solutions
for Africa

FINANCE FOR CHANGE

The key forum for leaders to
share strategies on climate action
and financing in Africa

3 - 12 November 2020

[#LoCS4Africa](#)



LoCS4Africa 2020 VIRTUAL CONGRESS

3 - 12 November 2020

ICLEI Africa's LoCS4Africa 2020 virtual congress, in partnership with The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa and others. Co-hosted by The Government of Rwanda, The City of Kigali and The Rwandan Association of Local Government Authorities (RALGA).



CoM SSA is co-funded by the European Union, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation. The content of this report is the sole responsibility of ICLEI Africa and does not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union or the other co-funders.

The LoCS4Africa journey



Our 5th LoCS4Africa congress builds on the strong platform we created in 2011 and strengthened over the years through our subsequent congresses. Each one, focusing on a different theme, has contributed cumulatively and significantly to bringing context-specific, integrated and innovative climate solutions to cities and their surrounding regions across the African continent.

~ Ms Kobie Brand

Deputy Secretary General of ICLEI & Regional Director of ICLEI Africa



A decade of LoCS4Africa



LoCS4Africa 2011
Cape Town, South Africa
Over **25** African countries represented



LoCS4Africa 2015
Durban, South Africa
Over **200** participants from more than **20** countries



LoCS4Africa 2020
Virtual, in partnership with Kigali, Rwanda
Over **1 300** registrants from **91** countries and **370** cities



LoCS4Africa 2013
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
450 participants from more than **25** countries



LoCS4Africa 2017
Ekurhuleni, South Africa
Over **400** participants from **40** countries

WATCH: All the LoCS4Africa 2020 sessions



Lessons from LoCS4Africa 2020



A message from Dr Meggan Spires
Director: Climate Change, Energy & Resilience, ICLEI Africa

For many reasons, LoCS4Africa 2020 was a first for ICLEI Africa and our partners. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was the first time we hosted this congress in a fully virtual format. This allowed many more of our stakeholders to engage with the congress, and for high-level global and regional experts that may not have been able to travel to an in-person event, to participate. It gave us the opportunity to test and refine methodologies and tools for remote engagement that can ensure progress continues during uncertain times. Having said this, we really missed the in-person networking, social engagements and site visits, which have become signature moments in previous LoCS4Africa congresses.

The second first for us was deciding, with our co-hosts and partners, to have an explicit focus in all our sessions on finance, and how subnational finance can be unlocked for cities, towns and regions across the African continent to adapt to climate change, increase access to low carbon energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We knew that meaningful conversations in this regard would require a balance between government officials (historically the main attendees of LoCS4Africa), private sector stakeholders, funders and financiers, as well as thought-leaders from the academic and research fraternity. We are particularly proud that LoCS4Africa 2020 was our most diverse congress yet, with 500 of our registrants being government officials, 152 from academic and research organisations, and 121 from the private sector.

HIGHLIGHTS THAT STAND OUT FOR US

- ▶ During the **opening** and **closing** ceremonies we heard from the highest levels of UN agencies, development finance institutions, cities pioneering climate action, and city networks and associations. These two bookmark sessions opened and closed the congress with a sense of renewed commitment and solidarity, despite the trying times the world found itself in: tackling the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate emergency, and the biodiversity crisis simultaneously.
- ▶ Innovative virtual sessions where cartoons were drawn, ideas brainstormed via mural boards, opinions garnered via virtual polls, and poetry used to inspire and ignite us.
- ▶ The leadership shown by the **Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa** initiative by hosting a focused day on the critical issue of unlocking climate finance for urban energy and infrastructure, and bringing its signatory cities, who are climate change leaders on the continent, to share their best practices, insights and lessons learnt.
- ▶ A strong integrated approach, with a stream of sessions focusing on the linkages between nature and climate, urban systems and climate, and how innovative research and technology can contribute to solving the continent's most complex challenges.

WATCH: Climate finance insights for cities



LoCS4Africa 2020 programme

The 2020 event aimed to respond to the growing acknowledgement worldwide that, to tackle climate change, city-scale finance must be mobilised. Local finance will give subnational actors access to the resources they need to respond effectively to climate change impacts that manifest at the local level, and harness the emission reduction potential in cities.

The four tracks



Financing for energy, infrastructure and ecomobility

- How to drastically scale-up the use of renewable energy and energy efficient interventions in African cities, in ways that are just, by promoting community involvement and solutions that benefit the poor and most vulnerable
- How to harness ecomobility and sustainable transport solutions to reduce the rapid growth of carbon emissions occurring in the African urban transport sector
- How to utilise context sensitive and sustainable building and construction techniques and solutions to build and retrofit infrastructure that is resilient, liveable and green



Financing for research, development and innovation

- How to enable improved government-research partnerships that lead to research being conducted that can be put into practice by the public and private sector
- How to nurture tomorrow's leaders, by creating programmes and incentives for young African leaders to develop context relevant solutions, and remain in Africa, serving its people
- Showcasing innovative Africa-based solutions to improving open access to data to improve health services and responses, service delivery and climate action



Financing for managing risk and harnessing nature-based solutions

- How to enhance disaster risk reduction measures in African cities, so that disasters are planned for proactively, leading to reduced human and infrastructural losses
- How to build back better during and post disasters and health pandemics
- How to better assess and then ameliorate city-level risks, by considering risk in a multi-level and multi-sectoral fashion that considers: climate change, health and food



Financing for nexus and circularity in urban systems

- How to tackle climate change in a systemic approach by assisting local actors in making decisions within complex environments.
- How to harness circular economy and urban metabolism solutions for transformative climate action and sustainable consumption and production patterns
- How to envision and then take action to realise cities that are climate resilient, where residents have access to safe and nutritious food, to good health care services and facilities, within environments that promote mental and physical wellbeing

LoCS4Africa 2020 cross-cutting themes

These cross-cutting themes will be considered and promoted throughout all four tracks



COVID-19 recovery

As countries, the private sector and international aid institutions gear up to roll-out recovery packages to respond to the economic impacts of COVID-19, there are strong calls for these to ensure a green economic recovery and to build back better. This will include new financial principles for post-COVID-19 recovery by placing public health, green jobs, clean energy and climate change at the centre of the economic recovery. Cities play a vital role in this recovery, and thus must be able to easily access these funds to ensure the response is integrated with local government service delivery and support given to vulnerable populations through decentralised financial systems and adoption of the principle of subsidiarity.



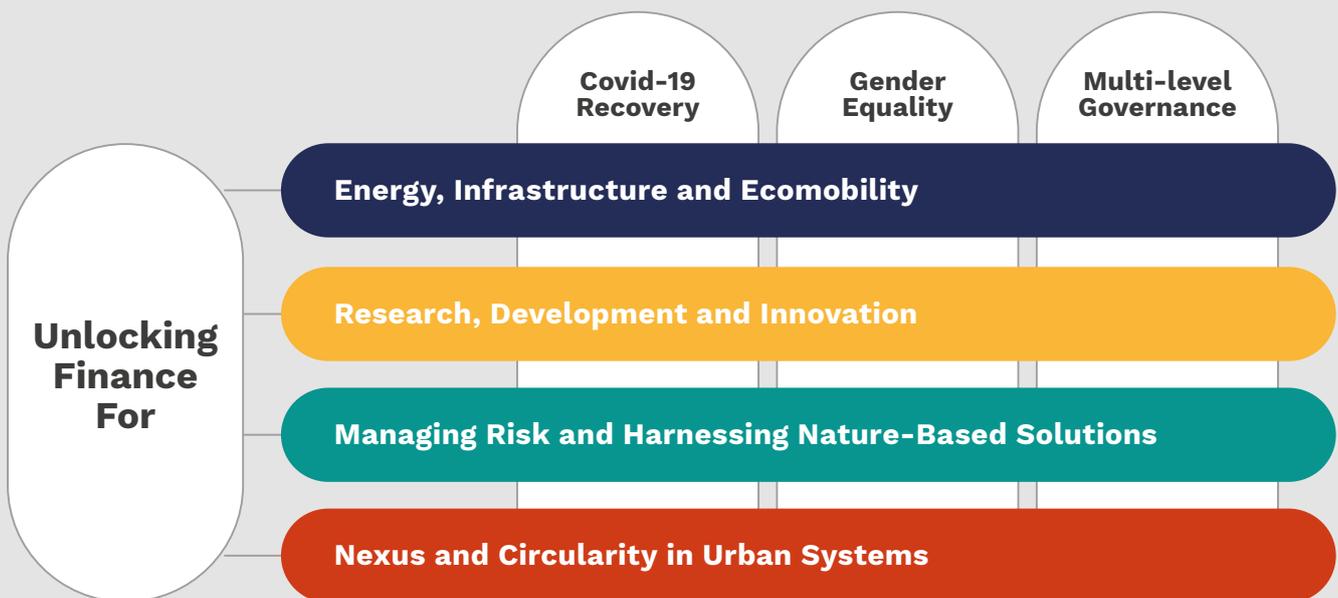
Gender equality

The current COVID-19 pandemic has magnified existing inequalities women face such as unequal economic opportunities, unpaid work, disproportionate vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, and gender-based violence, in addition to existing discrimination in employment, property ownership and access to services. Financing for change therefore requires that gender equality is placed at the centre of climate and finance solutions.



Multi-level Governance

Transformative local level climate change action is only possible when all levels of Government, civil society and private sector players work together in ways that promote transparency and accountability.



LoCS4Africa 2020 in numbers

LoCS4Africa 2020 attracted over 1 300 registrants, who joined us from 91 countries and 370 cities. 500 of our registrants were government officials, 152 were from academic/research organisations, and we were happy to see 121 representatives from the private sector, particularly due to this year's focus on finance. The event took place over 8 days, with 35 sessions and over 200 speakers. Participants spent 3 487 hours on the virtual event platform.

1 300+

REGISTRANTS

Registrants joined us from:



91

COUNTRIES



370

CITIES

Registrants were made up of:



500

GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS



152

ACADEMIC/RESEARCH
ORGANISATIONS



121

PRIVATE SECTOR
REPRESENTATIVES

Event statistics:



8 day

EVENT



35

SESSIONS



200

SPEAKERS



3 487 hrs

SPENT ON THE PLATFORM

Captured in quotes:

The opening and closing ceremonies

WATCH: The opening ceremony



"We, as a country, recognise the urgency of responding to climate change urgently, within this decade of action. Time is running out... This is also why, this congress – LoCS4Africa 2020 – with its focus on finance for change could not be more important at this juncture in history."

~ Dr Mujawamariya Jeanne d'Arc
Minister of Environment, Republic of Rwanda

WATCH: The closing ceremony



"The EU External Investment Plan, which is already operational, is expected to generate up to 44 billion Euros of additional investment in Africa, for low carbon and resilient infrastructure."

~ Mr Stefano Signore
Head of Unit for Climate Change and Sustainable Energy and Nuclear Safety, Directorate-General for International Partnerships in the European Commission



"Perhaps nowhere is the work of climate action more important than in our cities. This is where the climate battle will be won or lost."

~ Mr Ovais Sarmad
Deputy Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC



"Local governments have closer relationships with businesses and hold the key to unlocking climate action on the ground."

~ Sir Nicholas Kay
COP26 Regional Ambassador to sub-Saharan Africa



"This race-to-zero needs collective action. If we all join, we'll all be winners. ICLEI, as the Focal Point of the LGMA constituency to the UNFCCC, will ensure Africa's voice is one of the forerunners in all climate advocacy activities."

~ Mr Yunus Arikan
Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI



"There's a large infrastructure gap that exists in Africa and a need to accelerate climate action to bridge this gap. Africa's most important assets are its young people. Youth is key to supporting green recovery processes."

~ Mr Carlos Manuel Rodriguez
CEO of the Global Environment Fund (GEF)

**Titles of speakers and organisations were correct at the time of the event. They might have changed since.*



"Without finances, climate solutions will remain with the innovators, will remain inactive. With finances, some of the solutions can be applied where needed. This is why I am very excited by this year's congress theme of financing for change!"

~ Honourable Mayor Vincent de Paul Kayanja
Mayor of Entebbe and ICLEI REXCOM Chair



"The COVID-19 pandemic has offered a chance to collectively rebuild our cities, by addressing the climate crisis in an inclusive way. Cities of all sizes can be essential for a green and just recovery."

~ Honourable Mayor Mohammed Adjei Sowah
Mayor of Accra, GCoM Board Member



"We have seen an array of innovative solutions from African Cities in dealing with climate change impacts and with COVID-19, but many challenges remain... [we] require new innovative approaches to disaster risk reduction."

~ Honourable Mayor Mohamed Sefiani
Mayor of Chefchaouen, Morocco



"We the City of Kigali, as co-hosts, with our national government, and ICLEI Africa, welcome one and all to what is a first of its kind during 2020: A virtual congress, focusing on finance, climate change and African cities."

~ Honourable Mayor Pudence Rubingisa
Mayor of Kigali, Republic of Rwanda



"Local government associations act as think tanks for advocacy, resource mobilisation and unlocking climate finance resources."

~ Mr Ladislav Ngendahimana
Secretary General of RALGA



"We face three planetary crises: nature, climate and pollution. To address these, we need to rethink our relationship with nature... We need action from cities to help us deal with urbanisation in Africa. Our cities belong to us all."

~ Ms Inger Anderson
Under-Secretary-General of the UN and
Executive Director of the UNEP



"No topic is as important and as urgent as financing for change in particular in the African continent, where the average age is a decade younger than the rest of the world."

~ Ms Christiana Figueres

Founding Partner, Global Optimism and Former Executive Secretary, UNFCCC



"Let's not miss the chance to create a resilient, 1.5 degree world. Effective action requires leadership from national to local levels, along with good ideas and a commitment to act. Finance is a catalytic piece in this transformation."

~ Mr Nigel Topping

High-Level Champion for Climate Action COP26



"The key topic for the scientific community relates to cities as part of the four big system transitions that we need to affect if we're going to achieve the high-level of ambition of limiting global warming to 1.5°C."

~ Dr Debra Roberts

Co-Chair Working Group II Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



"Evidence-based research is so important in getting the right types of decisions in terms of policy, investment flows, building institutions, even more relevant in highly fluid environments like Africa."

~ Mr Manish Bapna

Executive Vice President and Managing Director, World Resources Institute



"There isn't enough climate finance flow to local governments. We need to strongly push that! But money does not just come. It is attracted by solid policies, strategies, action plans and bankable proposals."

~ Hastings Chikoko

Africa Regional Director, C40 Cities



SPEAKER CLOSING STATEMENTS



"Less than 3% of climate finance flows to African Cities. This makes LoCS4Africa a timely virtual event to explore local climate finance solutions for Africa. The time is now!"

~ Dr Manuel de Araújo
Mayor of Quelimane, Mozambique



"We as a city and as COP hosts have a responsibility to be honest about our roles in climate injustice. As we increase our voice for climate justice, we must ensure fiscal power is distributed equally. Cities' voices must be heard."

~ Councillor Susan Aitken
Leader of Glasgow City Council



"We need significant climate finance commitment from donors, to build better finance systems, business and financial institutions to move from seeing climate change as corporate social responsibility and see it as imperative"

~ Sir Nicholas Kay
COP26 Presidency: Regional Ambassador



"We must embrace the notion that there are multiple stories to be told about African cities' risks. We must understand the narratives that need to be shared and understood. We must mobilise Money bag for the realities on the ground."

~ Dr Olufunso Somorin
Regional Principal Officer,
African Development Bank, Kenya



"Climate action requires bankable action. This is a challenge as local institutions battle with capacity. It's imperative that we support cities to develop financial options from the onset and develop their own financial mechanisms."

~ Mr Rafael Tuts
Director of the Global Solutions
Division of UN-Habitat

Climate Finance Roadmap for African Cities

Building off the experiences shared during LoCS4Africa 2020, and learnings being developed via flagship initiatives such as the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA), ICLEI Africa and partners will develop a *Climate Finance Roadmap for African Cities*, that unpacks:

- ▶ where African cities stand in terms of accessing finance for climate action (both adaptation and mitigation),
- ▶ where they are going: the necessary climate finance needed to ensure Africa's citizens can adapt to climate change and harness low emission development opportunities, and
- ▶ how they can get there: deepening and scaling good practice that is already understood, and developing innovative and new ways of unlocking finance for climate action.





**Covenant of Mayors
in Sub-Saharan Africa**

CoM SSA at LoCS4Africa

Unlocking climate finance for
urban energy and infrastructure
with the Covenant of Mayors in
Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA)

The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa is co-funded by:



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LoCS4Africa, ICLEI Africa's flagship climate event, focused on dealing with pressing issues faced by cities, towns and regions in Africa. With the 2020 theme being, "Finance for chance", a partnership with [CoM SSA](#) was more than fitting. As part of the event programme, November the 5th was dedicated to CoM SSA and served as the CoM SSA regional event for 2020. Aside from CoM SSA Day, speakers from 10 CoM SSA signatory cities presented on high-level panels and countless more engaged in thought-provoking panel discussions, innovative workshops and interactive peer-to-peer knowledge exchanges.

CoM SSA signatories had the opportunity to interact with, and exchange experiences not only with each other but also with others from the 370 cities registered for the event. CoM SSA partner organisations also engaged, showcased the successes of the initiative and provided training to a diverse audience of 255 people during CoM SSA Day.

CoM SSA Day was also the occasion to launch a critical study developed by GIZ and partners that aims to empower local governments to accelerate the development and finance of Climate Projects. The [CoM SSA Finance Roadmaps](#) study defines concrete roadmaps where the proactive role of local government is highlighted for ten specific climate actions, covering each stage of the project lifecycle from project identification to project development, finance and operation.

CoM SSA Day at LoCS4Africa



A key to CoM SSA's success is the three-pronged approach: providing very early stage project development support, enabling networking and partnerships, and promoting deep learning in African cities.

~ Dr Heike Henn

Director: Climate Policy, Energy, Urban Development and Environment, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), as part of the high-level opening:



WATCH: All the CoM SSA Day at LoCS4Africa sessions



CoM SSA Day at LoCS4Africa 2020 saw participants engage in innovative and interactive sessions shedding light on issues that matter most to signatory cities. Local government representatives were able to learn, share knowledge and ask pressing questions in discussions around funding climate action and energy access projects. Sessions featured a broad spectrum of presenters, including CoM SSA partners, funders and signatories, representatives from global governance structures, as well as those from the finance, development and public sectors.

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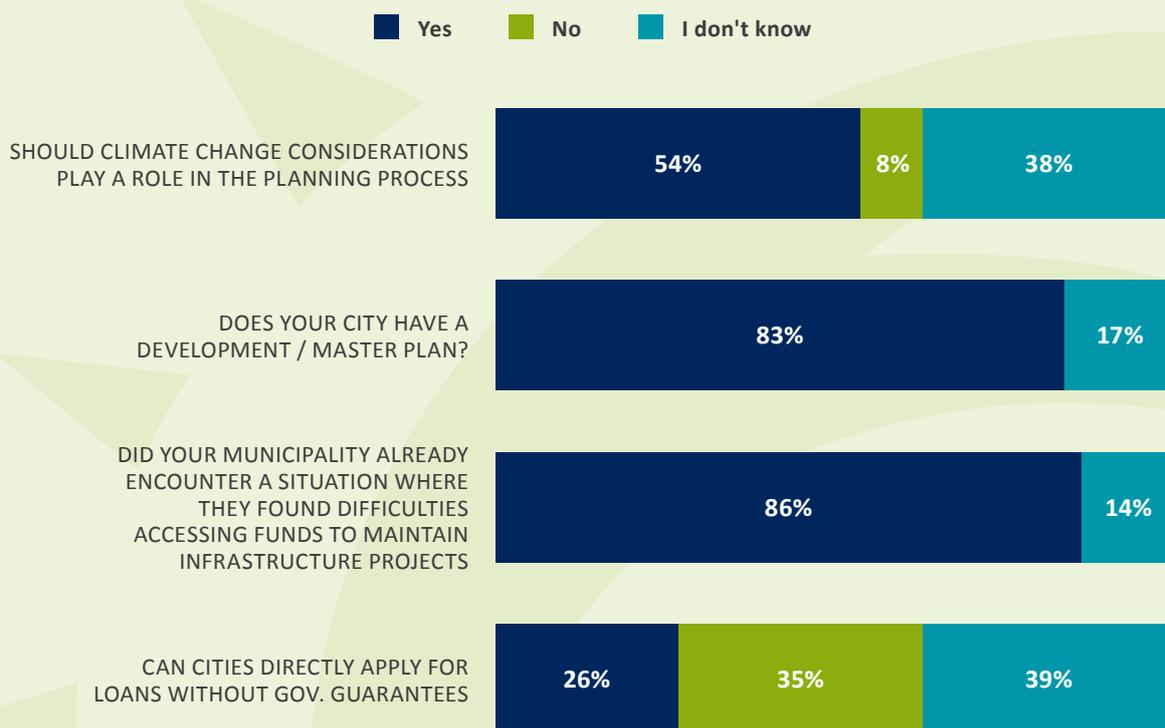


Through polls taken during the sessions, we learnt that 54% of those participating in a particular session thought that climate change considerations should play a role in the planning process, whereas 38% answered that they did not know if it should play a role. This highlighted the need for sensitisation and capacity building in order to mainstream climate change into municipal planning in order to build adaptive capacity on the continent.

Although most cities have urban development plans or master plans for their region (83% according to the audience on the day), there are huge barriers that exist to financing projects, particularly climate projects, that form part of these plans. For the most part, which is an even greater barrier, these plans are based on service delivery projects and do not consider climate projects, as climate change is not yet mainstreamed into these planning processes.

There is also a market failure that currently exists. Not many organisations are able to provide feedback on the financing applications that are submitted by cities, which makes it very difficult for officials to know where they have gone wrong and how best to improve their chances in the future.

Polls taken during CoM SSA Day at LoCS4Africa



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As well as uncovering these barriers, the solution-focused sessions throughout CoM SSA Day highlighted some tangible recommendations and solutions to overcome these barriers for climate projects:

Access to climate finance boils down to building strong partnerships and being smart about the projects that are put forward.

- ▶ Develop projects together with other key stakeholders; these could range from stakeholders from local community organisations and households, to commercial banks and the private sector.
- ▶ Tell a convincing story – why have you selected a particular technology? What is your plan for maintenance?
- ▶ Familiarise yourself with the minimum data and rationale requirements of the fund/financier.
- ▶ Projects that are already priority projects, i.e. form part of your urban development plan or have national government buy-in, are generally more attractive.
- ▶ Projects should reduce risks, increase sustainability, have evident local acceptance and a proven proof of concept to increase bankability.
- ▶ The CoM SSA Technical Helpdesk provides a resource for cities to quickly get support, access training, resources and best practices from other cities.
- ▶ Reach out to the National Designated Authority for the Green Climate Fund in your country to see what early stage project development support is available.

FIND OUT MORE ▶

- ▶ The CCFLA working group on project preparation facilities has put together a comprehensive list of project preparation facilities, access the [Green Cities Finance Directory here](#).

WANT TO GET INVOLVED? Join CoM SSA now



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Lessons from Kampala City Council Authority's (KCCA) street lighting programme:

- 1 demonstrating how investment in such projects can leverage additional funding,
- 2 considering up-scaling of individual projects from the outset,
- 3 strong governance and management systems in establishing and maintaining investor confidence, and
- 4 optimising operations and maintenance to ensure efficient spend of investment.

As part of the CoM SSA Day programme, a closed knowledge exchange and peer-to-peer learning session for CoM SSA signatories was held; 85 participants from over 20 cities learnt from their peers about the key opportunities and challenges faced in data collection for their climate action planning. Cities highlighted the importance of building a strong municipal team, strong collaborating with national government, and how NGOs and universities can provide vital support to data collection. Multi-level governance and cooperation between public and private sectors were highlighted as essential for providing the governance environment necessary for climate change planning, and unlocking the finance necessary to implement these plans.

All sessions were available in French, English and Portuguese to ensure that CoM SSA signatories could engage in their preferred language.

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CoM SSA Day at LoCS4Africa in quotes



"Cities are important. They have great ideas and enthusiasm, but need help to achieve their climate change and energy priorities. We are looking to finance projects that are sustainable, applicable and scalable."

~ Mr Georgios Grapsas

Team Leader, DG DEVCO Unit for Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, European Commission*



"To attract financiers, a city needs to have its house in order: 1) Good corporate governance and risk management; 2) Project alignment to city's strategic objectives; 3) Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting; 4) Financial management; and 5) Political buy-in."

~ Ms Makhosazane Baker

Director: Waste Management and Regulation, City of Johannesburg Municipality, South Africa



"Advice to subnational governments: Start somewhere, even if it's with small fund mechanisms before going to donors. In Makueni County Government, 1% of the budget is used for a climate change fund. Over time we've secured funding from the Green Climate Fund and others."

~ Ms Mary Mbenge

Chief Officer Environment and Natural Resources, Makueni County, Kenya



"CoM SSA has developed Finance Roadmaps for Climate Projects: This provides 10 Action Specific Roadmaps and proactive steps that local governments can take at each stage of the project lifecycle."

~ Ms Carla Rooseboom

Senior Finance Expert, Global Clearinghouse for Development Finance

****Titles of speakers and organisations were correct at the time of the event. They might have changed since.***

The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa is co-funded by:



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About CoM SSA

Started in 2015, the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) is a major catalyst for local climate action in the region, with political commitment from over 230 local governments. The focus of the CoM SSA is to support local governments in moving from planning to implementation with a focus to unlock climate finance at the local level.

CoM SSA is the regional chapter of an international alliance of cities, the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. It is a partnership between city networks, development agencies and funding institutions, supporting cities in meeting the dual challenge of climate change and access to sustainable energy to achieve a low-emission, climate resilient and sustainable energy future.

CoM SSA is co-funded by the European Union (EU), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). For more information, please visit <https://comssa.org/>.



European Union



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UNA at LoCS4Africa

Financing solutions to harness
Urban Natural Assets for Africa (UNA)

Africa's urban transition can be a key global game-changer. The way African cities develop will determine whether or not we achieve our global climate change and biodiversity targets, achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and tackle the intractable issues of poverty and inequality. Yet it is this growth of cities that is one of the primary drivers of the loss of urban natural assets, which undermines the quality and functioning of ecosystems, and thereby diminishes the ability of nature to provide the very services on which our growing urban communities – and, in fact, all life on Earth – ultimately depend. As such, this loss undermines the resilience of city-regions by removing the benefits that nature and ecosystem provide, ultimately impacting on socio-economic systems, and citizen health and well-being. To sustainably accommodate urban growth, cities must invest in management of their natural environments that ultimately sustain all life.

The key question is: **How can urban natural assets be better managed, leading to more resilient cities?**

For the past seven years, ICLEI Africa's [Urban Natural Assets for Africa](#) (UNA) programme has been tackling this question in eight African cities and it continued to do so at LoCS4Africa 2020. The LoCS4Africa virtual congress showcased the programme's activities, processes and learnings, and during one session aired a [video compilation](#) of the programme's most significant learnings and achievements.

The nature focused sessions at LoCS4Africa 2020 provided the opportunity for networking, dialogue and idea exchange to advance the work on nature-based climate resilience. Through programme funding, the *Managing Risk and Harnessing Nature-Based Solutions* track was made possible. **This track supported the advancement of three key focal areas:**

- ▶ Financing for adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
- ▶ The prioritisation of Nature-based Solutions (NBS) in countries' National Determined Contribution (NDC) strategies.
- ▶ Uniting the nature, climate and sustainable development agendas.

Navigate to the *Managing Risk and Harnessing Nature-Based Solutions* section for more information on this track and, in particular, what participants learnt. As part of this track, mayors, city officials and partners of the UNA programme contributed as panelists and speakers. In particular, the cities of Nacala, Quelimane, Entebbe and Lilongwe showcased their work and presented their challenges and opportunities to **Financing solutions to harness Urban Natural Assets for Africa.**

UNA is funded by The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) through SwedBio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University.



ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECOMOBILITY

Although the global share of the population with access to electricity has increased over the past decade, 10% (789 million people) still lack access to electricity, 70% (548 million people) of which are in sub-Saharan Africa. About 85% of the sub-Saharan African population lack access to clean cooking, accounting for 32% (890 million) of the global population without clean cooking access (a total of 2.8 billion people).

The energy, infrastructure and ecomobility track aimed to unpack the following critical issues:

- ▶ How to drastically scale up the use of renewable energy and energy efficient interventions in African cities, in ways that are just, by promoting community involvement and solutions that benefit the poor and most vulnerable.
- ▶ How to harness ecomobility and sustainable transport solutions to reduce the rapid growth of carbon emissions occurring in the African urban transport sector.
- ▶ How to utilise context sensitive and sustainable building, and construction techniques and solutions to build and retrofit infrastructure that is resilient, liveable and green.

Through the discussions, experts, financiers and city officials identified barriers that limit African cities from planning appropriately to access finance, including the following:

- ▶ projects are not being prepared to the standards required by international funders due to limited skills in project preparation,
- ▶ there is insufficient funding for early stage project development, and
- ▶ cities lack dedicated capacity to undertake what can be a lengthy process.



To overcome the barriers mentioned above, the European Commission has committed 45 million Euros between 2015 and 2022 to the CoM SSA initiative. The initiative's main focus areas are: building capacity, developing climate and energy plans, implementing climate and energy infrastructure projects and unlocking finance at the local level.

Good practices that cities have harnessed during their climate finance journeys emerged from the sessions. Amongst other things, local-level project concepts need to have clear investment potential including opportunities for upscaling, demonstrate support at a municipal level and include the promotion and use of renewable energy such as solar lighting and energy efficient technologies such as LED lights.



KAMPALA CASE STUDY

A key learning came from a success story in Kampala. Kampala City Council Authority (KCCA) developed a public lighting masterplan that highlights where the city currently is (baseline data) and where it wants to go (vision), i.e. from ±1 800 public lights currently to over 18 000 public lights. KCCA developed a critical partnership with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) that has enabled them to unlock finance and implement their public lighting masterplan.



KEY MESSAGES

- ▶ Project preparation costs can be between 5 and 12% of the capital costs of a medium to large scale project, depending on size.



Globally, more than 50% of climate finance comes from the private sector.

- ▶ The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has pledged \$9.8 billion to the One Fund and has implemented 124 projects to the value of \$5.6 billion, with 396 projects having accessed \$269 million in Readiness Grant Funds.
- ▶ City networks and local government associations are critical to increasing municipal capacity to access climate finance; by undertaking a knowledge broker role between subnational governments and potential funders and financiers, as both sectors seek mutually beneficial opportunities. They are also able to facilitate the exploration of pooled finance options, by pooling municipal project ideas to ensure the financial volume most funders seek is met. They also create opportunities for cities to learn from each other and exchange information and lessons.
- ▶ Multi-level governance is essential in ensuring that finance flows to where it is needed most: the local level, by enabling collaboration between national governments that can receive significant flows of climate finance, and local governments that are mandated to support their citizens in dealing with climate change impacts and developing via low carbon modalities.



KEY QUOTES



"Reminding us of key role Agenda 2063 Flagship projects that enable infrastructure connectivity and availability of sufficient, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy in maximizing benefits of African city-level projects."

~ Mr Cheikh Bedda

Director – Infrastructure and Energy Infrastructure and Energy – African Union Commission (AUC)



"In the case of Digital Infrastructure Solutions in action, digital underpinning for infrastructure projects helps to increase accuracy of planning and outcome. We have seen evidence of this from early warning systems to mobility."

~ Ms Molly Webb

CEO, Energy Unlocked



"The Green Climate Fund's focus in cities is transformative action fields: decarbonisation of energy sector, improving energy efficiency, building stock, mobility and transport, urban form, urban resilience, material flow and improving waste management."

~ Mr Drazen Kucan

Lead Urban and Energy Efficiency Specialist – Green Climate Fund



"In response to cities' challenges moving on from climate action plans; project ideas and barriers to accessing climate finance, the European Investment Bank with partners launched the City Climate Finance Gap Fund."

~ Ms Kristina Eisele

Technical Assistance Programme Advisor – City Climate Finance Gap Fund & Technical Assistance to support the African Sustainable Cities Initiative (ASCI) – European Investment Bank (EIB)



"We've developed tools to assist cities in bridging gap between planning and project financing, including decentralised processes through policy based-loans; strengthening local government's creditworthiness and capacities."

~ Mr Sebastien Carreau

Task Team Leader – Agence Française de Développement



"We want to make sure that the environment and people are protected from the potential negative impacts that might occur from mobility projects. Do we have the right mix to ensure that we are avoiding these negative impacts?"

~ Mr Sasank Vemuri

Coordinator – MobiliseYourCity Partnership



“Rwanda is introducing electric mobility and non-traditional modes of transport. The City of Kigali has developed a Master Plan, focusing on mixed use and non-motorised transportation, which will create a resilient transport system.”

~ Mr Alfred Byiringiro
Division Manager for Transport,
Ministry of Infrastructure, Rwanda



“There is a need for more equitable mobility, guided by good design standards and political will, to stir mobility investments; the focus should be on pedestrians and modernised public transport.”

~ Mr Chris Kost
Africa Program Director,
Institute for Transportation and
Development Policy (ITDP)



“The implementation of ICT infrastructure in cities creates sustainable climate change improvement. Cities need to overcome barriers to ICT infrastructure through citizen engagement because they cannot do it alone.”

~ Mrs Dorothy Kisaka
Executive Director at Kampala
Capital City Authority, KCCA Uganda

**Titles of speakers and organisations were correct at the time of the event. They might have changed since.*

TRACK PARTNERS AND FUNDERS



Co-funded by the
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RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

Research is essential to better understand how city-scale project feasibility can be improved, and how climate projects can work to deliver jobs and economic security. The youth possess many of the innovative ideas that will enable the low carbon and climate resilient future they deserve, to become a reality. Finding ways to unlock this innovation is key to cities developing in just and sustainable ways.

Participants who attended the *Research, Development and Innovation* sessions engaged with esteemed speakers and panellists who exchanged views and experiences around how research and innovation can enhance city-scale climate finance. Speakers and attendees unpacked the barriers that prevent countries in the Global South from transitioning to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies, and the interventions necessary to overcome them. It was evident that the barriers to innovation and economic change are much more pervasive than a lack of incentives.

Issues identified, included:

- ▶ insufficient data, knowledge flows and technical capacity in research and development,

- ▶ little understanding around the complex sets of actor relationships, influences, and interactions that shape outcomes at different scales,

- ▶ financial constraints, and

- ▶ unstable policy regimes.

Participants reflected on the importance of data in better understanding baseline circumstances in African cities, while also recognising the value of multiple storylines that reflect on the impacts of climate change within local contexts, and the importance of legitimising these stories and acknowledging the value of indigenous knowledge. This should move beyond acknowledgement, to funding flowing to support the further development and interrogation of indigenous knowledge, and how it can be used as an important resource in tackling climate change and energy access challenges. Similarly, there was a strong call for Africa's youth to be prioritised, as they possess the skills, energy and innovation needed to tackle some of the continent's most intractable challenges.



KEY MESSAGES



The African Development Bank recently analysed data submitted by nearly 40 cities in countries on the OECD's Overseas Development Assistance list. Of these, only 11 cities indicated that they had received funding for their climate action projects from a development bank or other supranational body or development agency. More than 90% of these cities had a risk and vulnerability assessment either completed or in progress, and all of them had an emissions inventory.



The Rwanda Green Fund (FONERWA) is an environment and climate change investment fund. The fund invests in the best public and private projects that have the potential for transformative change and that align with Rwanda's commitment to building a strong green economy. The Green Fund also provides expert technical assistance to ensure the success of its investments. FONERWA in Rwanda has financed 37 projects over 7 years that have created over 144 000 jobs.



KEY QUOTES



"Building collaborations and relationships are foundational for effective climate action."

~ Dr Kathryn Toure
IDRC Regional Director –
Eastern and Southern Africa



"We need to tell our climate stories, and those that include local knowledge. We need a system that categorises different forms of data. And at every point in time, adaptation must be at the centre of everything we do."

~ Dr Olufunso Somorin
Regional Principal Officer, African Development Bank



"Direct Foreign Investment instruments for disaster relief need to be quick and ensure the preservation of SMMEs and jobs. This enables local governments to rebuild infrastructure that creates an enabling environment for the economy."

~ Mr Carl Bernadac
Deputy Regional Director, South Africa,
Agence Française de Développement (AFD)



"A climate-development nexus recognises that investment in the climate space must speak to the developmental agenda of Africa, especially in post-pandemic recovery plans. This must be a rights-based approach."

~ Mr Saliem Fakir
Executive Director, The African Climate Foundation



“Through collaboration with many different partners, we were able to break down silos between government and other institutions - overcoming many of the associated challenges in coping with climate risks.”

~ Dr Richards Jones
UK MET Office



“FONERWA, Rwanda’s Green Fund, has created over 144 000 jobs in the past 7 years. We emphasised involving local communities who best know the impacts of climate change, they’re best-placed to come up with solutions.”

~ Ms Teddy Mugabo
CEO – Rwanda Green Fund
(Fonerwa)



“Youth need peer to peer support and institutional training and skills development and encouraging youth leaders to learn from other movements. Need to learn from movements that have had success so far. Much power will come from African youth. We need to make this investment in civil society to ensure that the youth voice is heard.”

~ Mr Robin Oakley
Co-Director of The Urban Movement Innovation
Fund (UMI Fund)

****Titles of speakers and organisations were correct at the time of the event. They might have changed since.***



TRACK PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

THE IMPACT PROJECT *Improved Municipal Planning in African CiTies* – IMPACT – for a climate resilient urban future is a three-year research project implemented in Malawi and Zimbabwe. The project aims to investigate how enhanced collaboration mechanisms in municipal planning in African cities can enable climate resilient development. Collaborative governance can improve municipal planning and, in turn, increase the resilience of cities to the effects of climate change and numerous social and developmental challenges. Sub-Saharan Africa’s most pressing challenges include, amongst others, service provision, skills development and sustainable governance systems. Climate change overlays these existing challenges, leading to local government officials being required to deal with ever-increasing complexity and uncertainty in decision-making and funding. Governments cannot deal with these challenges or harness the solutions and funding alone and therefore must find innovative ways to engage with research, community and private sector institutions.



Canada

Disclaimer: This work is being carried out with the aid of a grant from the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the IDRC or its Board of Governors.



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Philanthropy
Advisors

SCALING UP AND EMPOWERING
MOVEMENTS FOR CLIMATE
CHANGE ADVOCACY

MANAGING RISK AND HARNESSING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

The fifth edition of the UNEP [Adaptation Gap Report](#) found that while global climate efforts may be gathering pace, they are not at the level required to meet the goals and targets espoused in the Paris Agreement, and adaptation finance, which is around 5% of total climate finance, falls far short of where it needs to be.

To tackle these issues, we need to:

- ▶ improve financing for adaptation and disaster risk reduction,
- ▶ prioritise the vital role of nature-based solutions (NBS) in countries achieving and raising the ambitions of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and
- ▶ better harness the linkages between nature, climate and sustainability.

The *Managing Risk and Harnessing Nature-Based Solutions* track aimed to deep-dive into these three focus areas.

Participants learnt about:

- ▶ adaptation finance options that exist, especially for nature-based solutions that enhance climate resilience,
- ▶ good practices for accessing these finance options,
- ▶ key opportunities to improve public procurement of nature-based solutions, as well as how more investment from the private sector for nature-based climate adaptation can be unlocked, and
- ▶ key recommended pathways for integrating nature into NDCs and local climate change plans.

A standout session was the *Demystifying Finance for Disaster Risk Reduction* (DRR) session, where innovative insurance products that tackle climate change risk were shared, where tips for the advancement of monitoring and evaluation were unpacked, and where discussions helped ensure that results from DRR investments feed back into programme development for resilience.

Finally, participants were exposed to the challenges around assessing the economic value of nature. They learnt about the criteria and principles needed to adequately make the case for investing in nature-based solutions, what conditions are needed to make these solutions more attractive to investors, and how return on investment for nature-based work can be developed.



Below are **nine recommendations for increased finance flows for managing risk and harnessing nature-based solutions** that were discussed:

- 1 **Involve cities** and local communities in national-level planning, and support cities and local communities in developing bankable projects that meet their needs.
- 2 Integrate nature considerations more fully into urban planning funds as well as climate and conservation funds. Nature is a theme within climate and development projects but until it is **consolidated and mainstreamed** it cannot be harnessed for its true benefits.
- 3 Improve **databases** to record disaster related losses, strengthen social protection mechanisms, and invest in **early warning systems**.
- 4 Invest in **structural and non-structural risk** reduction. Structural mitigation is the physical changes or act of protection from disasters or hazards, whilst non-structural mitigation in emergency management involves what people can do on a personal level that is not structural or physical (for example protective defense such as a surge wall or a storm shelter).
- 5 Make nature comparable to other investments by embarking on **natural capital accounting at scale**.
- 6 Build **capacities** in Africa on natural capital approaches. See [here](#) for an overview of capacity development resources developed under the UNA programme.
- 7 Package nature-based resilience projects with multiple municipalities that can enable projects to be financed at larger scales through a coherent programme.
- 8 Lower investment costs of projects by **making relevant knowledge and data available** and developing **pre-feasibility project pipelines** that focus on nature-based solutions that have clearly depicted climate change benefits, and are scalable and cost competitive.
- 9 Develop projects that are focused on **savings and revenue generation**, as nature-based solution projects provide benefits on both counts.



KEY MESSAGES

- ▶ In the last 20 years 44 sub-Saharan African countries have been affected by hydro-hazards, totalling economic losses of 3 billion USD.



Drought over the last 20 years has affected over 122 million people through 56 droughts.

- ▶ There is an estimated 2 billion ha. of misused and degraded land. We acknowledge that we cannot restore all of this. However, it is estimated that if we restore 900 million ha. of this degraded land we would give ourselves 10-15 years more breathing time, allowing enough time to develop new transportation and energy options as well as greener pathways.



KEY QUOTES



“We have forgotten how to value nature. We need to use existing and old knowledge and put it into practice and incorporate it into the current ways that we value nature.”

~ Mr Martin Lok
Deputy Director, Natural Capital Coalition



“Over the last decade there has been growing understanding that nature-based solutions can be the most sustainable, cost effective and impactful interventions.”

~ Ms Saliha Dobardzic
Senior Climate Specialist, Adaptation Fund



“Globally the most important criteria for nature-based solutions is the cost-effectiveness. We need to show the tangible and non-tangible benefits of nature-based solutions, including social, ethical and cultural benefits.”

~ Mr. Aliou Faye
Regional Director for
Central and West Africa, IUCN



“Insurance itself is not the ultimate solution. It works well as one of the instruments for governments and communities. Insurance works best for disasters that are very severe but less frequent.”

~ Mr Lesley Ndlovu
CEO, African Risk Capacity



“The use of nature-based solutions should focus on savings and revenue generation – it's important that interventions save costs or generate revenue for other economic sectors e.g. use of nature-based solutions in coastal areas can generate tourism.”

~ Ms Giulia Macagno
Economist, EIB



“Rwanda has recognised that it needs to put the environment and climate at the forefront. They've integrated green solutions in all national strategic and district level documents to meet the vision of a green and resilient economy by 2050.”

~ Ms Janet Umugwaneza
Program Manager of Environment and
Climate Change Mainstreaming program, Rwanda
Environmental Management Authority



“We shouldn’t discount the value of having nature-based solutions pilot projects. They demonstrate success in local communities and establishing trust at the local level, enabling upscaling of NbS interventions.”

~ Ms Ernesta Maciulyte
Research Associate, Fraunhofer IAO



“There are three needed pillars for nature-based solutions implementation: 1. Tap into existing markets for goods and services; 2. Build shared value models; 3. De-risk business through strong partnerships to manage political and social risk.”

~ Ms Megan Sager
Director, CSS



“We have to show a positive net benefit to society and investments need to be large; scalable and produce multiple ecological benefits, to make the case for nature.”

~ Dr Jane Turpie
Director, ANCHOR Environment



“We are running out of time. We have 10-15 years to act and act decisively, using nature-based solutions, to address the biodiversity and climate challenges we face.”

~ Dr René Castro-Salazar
Assistant Director-General, FAO



“When approaching Disaster Risk Reduction we face certain challenges; two of these are risk knowledge and risk governance.”

~ Mr Amjad Abbashar
Chief, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



“Something that is poorly understood in developing countries is the risk exposures that we face.”

~ Ms Mia Thom
Technical Director, Cenfri

**Titles of speakers and organisations were correct at the time of the event. They might have changed since.*



"One of the challenges at the city level is to secure finances for the implementation of Nature-based solutions projects, financial support from partners and organisations has been very important in assisting us."

~ Honourable Raul Novinte
Mayor – Nacala, Mozambique

TRACK PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

SwedBio
A programme at Stockholm Resilience Centre

Stockholm Resilience Centre
Sustainability Science for Biosphere Stewardship



Stockholm University



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



LOCS4AFRICA 2020 TRACK

NEXUS AND CIRCULARITY IN URBAN SYSTEMS

The nexus and circularity sessions deepened ongoing conversations about realising integrated infrastructure development and circular economy principles to support African cities in addressing the impacts of climate change and reducing their emissions. We explored ways in which local governments can create effective enabling conditions for private sector and civil society action in leading a circular economy transition to support sustainable and climate-neutral service delivery.

Local governments typically do not have enough leverage on the supply or movement of food, water, energy and wastes because they come from beyond their jurisdictions or are moved by diverse stakeholders, and may not fall within their mandate. This means that they are unable to manage these resources alone. Developing multi-level governance processes is vital to ensure these resources are managed along their whole life cycle.

Investors and donors often look to fund larger capital projects which means that smaller localised projects or businesses don't qualify for funding. However, this can be solved by bundling projects to attract investment and rolling them out in phases. Smaller businesses could also be supported through small grants programmes or through bilateral support.

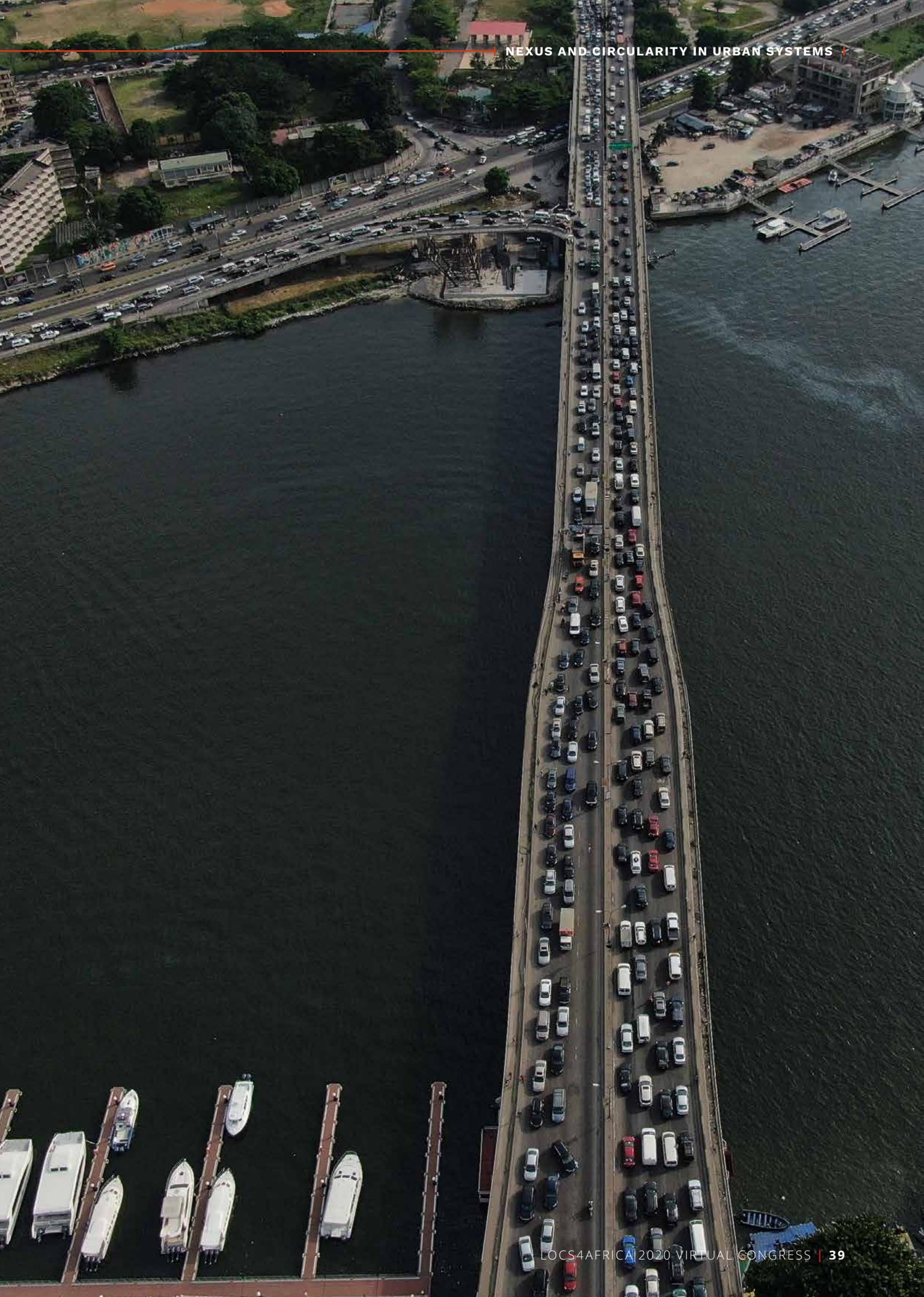
Government enabled initiatives are important to drive innovation and support for circular business that ultimately address climate change. **Local government has a dual role in brokering partnerships and as an actor in their own right, by:**

- supporting SMMEs with small grants,
- establishing platforms for network opportunities with government to build stronger relationships with the private sector,
- promoting the circular economy by establishing a joint and shared vision across the city and country to drive circular and climate friendly approaches, and
- embedding circular principles in their practices, through sustainable public procurement and building market demand for sustainable and integrated solutions.



KEY MESSAGES

- ▶ Integrated infrastructure approaches in local government are still typically champion-led and project based. We need to support institutional shifts to programmatic approaches that reinforce interaction across departments and the realisation of consistent consideration of climate change, food, water, energy, waste and nature in implementing infrastructure systems.
- ▶ Circular economy and low carbon transitions in African cities are presently led through large governmental infrastructure programmes or private sector innovation. We need to develop de-risking and small grant programmes to support the growth of small businesses.
- ▶ We need a shift to life-cycle design thinking that requires more robust business models to enable organisation growth from start-up to mature business.
- ▶ Improved food systems can be an entry point for addressing climate change and many of the SDGs.





KEY QUOTES



"Sustainable Development Goals localisation must engage with jobs in the context of automation; inequality, our most intractable challenge; a climate emergency that is changing our urban contexts; and meaning and belonging, particularly for youth."

~ Prof Edgar Pieterse
Director, African Centre for Cities



"Private sector is key in driving circular economy development, but you need a product and service that consumers want. A Circular Economy business needs a viable and scalable business model and enabling government policies and regulations."

~ Ms Ruka Sanusi
Executive Director, Ghana Climate Innovation Centre



"Government must be accessible and open. We need to reduce bureaucracy and make sure that we attend to businesses. This could mean the difference between the survival and death of an idea."

~ Mayor Mduzuzi Gift Mhlongo
City of uMthlatuze



"I'd like to focus on the role of local governments in driving Sustainable Development Goals. We need to make sure we address climate action at the local level and break the silos. We're looking for projects that scale up climate action."

~ Ms Maryke van Staden
Director of Business Development; Director of Carbons Climate Center, ICLEI



"Municipalities can mobilise finance through revenue generation, allocation from national governments and borrowing from financial organisations. The Development Bank of South Africa is happy to report that municipalities comprise about 1/3 of its loan books."

~ Mr Ben Mokheseng
Head: Transacting Municipalities and Waterboards
– Development Bank of Southern Africa



"Commercial, private and NGO stakeholders contribute to a fund that allows money to be redirected to management of water catchment areas (especially for invasive alien species management) to ensure we maximize rainfall flow to catchments."

~ Councillor Xanthea Limberg
Mayoral Committee Member:
Water & Waste – City of Cape Town

****Titles of speakers and organisations were correct at the time of the event. They might have changed since.***



TRACK PARTNERS AND FUNDERS



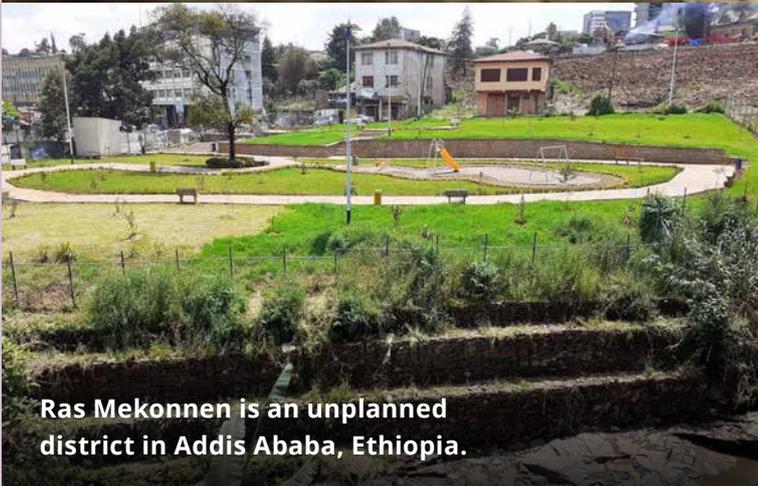
LUNCH AT LOCS4AFRICA

HARNESSING HUMOUR TO ADDRESS RISK: CARTOONS FOR CLIMATE

Humour helps us to look at serious issues in new ways that might lead to new solutions. Cartoons help us to communicate uncomfortable truths, explore complex topics without needing words and they're catalysts for deeper conversations. Cartoons are especially useful in virtual settings.



Lizulu Market
Lilongwe, Malawi.



Ras Mekonnen is an unplanned
district in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

EXPLORING URBAN NATURAL ASSETS IN AFRICA

Urban Natural Assets (**UNA**) for Africa is a cutting edge programme designed to support the daily challenges that local governments in Africa experience around protecting and revitalising their urban natural assets. It integrates nature-based solutions into land use planning for increased resilience. Attendees had the rare opportunity to sit back and enjoy a showcase of the programme's innovative planning and implementation work, as well as the resources it has produced for cities across Africa, to assist them in prioritising nature in their planning.



EXPRESSIONS THROUGH POETRY: WHAT DO THE LOCAL YOUTH OF INFORMAL COMMUNITIES HAVE TO SAY ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE?

Attendees enjoyed poetry from *The People's Process on Housing & Poverty*, a local youth group living in the informal community of George, in Zambia. They use poetry to reflect on and convey their experiences of climate change.



DISCOVER REMARKABLE RWANDA

Participants went on a virtual tour around Rwanda to discover some fascinating sights and exciting activities. As our host country, Rwanda offers many beautiful sites and attractions and should feature high on everyone's future travel lists!





SINGITA'S CONSERVATION JOURNEY

Singita may be known for its luxury wildlife lodges, but the group is motivated not only to provide visitors with an unforgettable tourism experience, but to also care for the planet and its people. Singita's 100-year purpose is to preserve and protect large areas of African wilderness for future generations.



HIDDEN FLOWS ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

The exhibition explores the lived experience of many urban Africans and their relationship with the resources that sustain them and let them flourish. It is particularly interested in the hidden resource flows that are not taken into account in city planning or decision making, and that are under threat in a changed climate. Through the use of photography, the exhibition communicated many ways in which African citizens interact with, and experience, their city, to highlight how we can intervene to improve quality of life, climate resilience and urban nature.



By Sam Reinders



By Sam Reinders

VISIT the exhibition



VIEW the launch event





By Esther N'sapu



By Esther N'sapu



By Katumba Badru



By Katumba Badru



By Rehab Eldalil



By Rehab Eldalil



By Fawaz Oyedeji



By Fawaz Oyedeji

About ICLEI

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network working with more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 125+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.

About ICLEI Africa

Our [staff](#) are experts on the ground, working alongside local and regional governments to anticipate and respond to complex challenges. We lead knowledge exchange for peer-to-peer learning and knowledge co-creation.

We push for robust policies that reflect the interests of local and regional governments and align with national and global sustainable urban development strategies. We bring together international organisations, national governments, academic and financial institutions, civil society and the private sector, creating space for innovation and reflection.

For more information on ICLEI Africa, please visit <http://africa.iclei.org/>.



ICLEI Africa would like to thank all our partners, funders and collaborators for making LoCS4Africa 2020 possible



Covenant of Mayors
in Sub-Saharan Africa



European Union



URBAN NATURAL ASSETS FOR AFRICA

SwedBio

A programme at Stockholm Resilience Centre

Stockholm Resilience Centre
Sustainability Science for Biosphere Stewardship



Stockholm University



UCLG AFRICA
United Cities and Local Governments of Africa
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis d'Afrique
CGLU AFRIQUE



URBAN LED S

URBAN LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES



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UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



INTERACT-Bio
integrated action on biodiversity

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Federal Ministry
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on the basis of a decision
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AFD
AGENCE FRANÇAISE
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT



UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



FMDV
Supporting local authorities
to access funding



Unlocking Public and Private
Finance for the Poor



LOCAL
LOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTIVE
LIVING FACILITY



**CLIMATE
CHANCE**



CDP
DRIVING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES



AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CITIES



**AFRICAN CIRCULAR
ECONOMY NETWORK**



**BALSILLIE SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**



LAURIER
Inspiring Lives



**RISE
AFRICA**
Inspiring Action for Sustainable Cities



LOCS4AFRICA 2020 SESSIONS, SPEAKERS* AND RECORDINGS

**Titles of speakers and organisations
were correct at the time of the event.
They might have changed since.*

Opening and closing ceremonies

Open Ceremony

WATCH THE VIDEO



- **Dr Mujawamariya Jeanne d’Arc**, Minister of Environment, Republic of Rwanda
- **Honourable Mayor Pudence Rubingisa**, Mayor of Kigali, Republic of Rwanda
- **Honourable Mayor Vincent de Paul Kayanja**, Mayor of Entebbe and ICLEI REXCOM Chair
- **Honourable Mayor Mohamed Sefiani**, Mayor of Chefchaouen, Morocco
- **Honourable Mayor Mohammed Adjei Sowah**, Mayor of Accra, GCoM Board Member
- **Mr Ladislav Ngendahimana**, Secretary General of RALGA
- **Mr Stefano Signore**, Head of Unit for Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development in the European Commission
- **Mr Ovais Sarmad**, Deputy Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC
- **Ms Maimunah Mohd Sharif**, Under-Secretary-General of the UN and Executive Director of UN-Habitat
- **Ms Inger Anderson**, Under-Secretary-General of the UN and Executive Director of the UNEP
- **Ms Christiana Figueres**, Founding Partner, Global Optimism and Former Executive Secretary, UNFCCC
- **Mr Nigel Topping**, High-Level Champion for Climate Action COP26
- **Dr Debra Roberts**, Co-Chair Working Group II Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- **Mr Manish Bapna**, Executive Vice President and Managing Director, World Resources Institute
- **Ms Aminetou Bilal**, Member, African Union Youth Advisory Council
- **Hastings Chikoko**, Africa Regional Director, C40 Cities
- **Mr Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi**, Secretary General, UCLG-A
- **Mr Sekou Sangaré**, on behalf of His Excellency Mr Jean Claude Kassi Brou, President of the ECOWAS, Commissioner in charge of agriculture, environment and water resources in the Economic Community of West African States

Closing Ceremony

WATCH THE VIDEO



- **Honourable Mayor Pudence Rubingisa**, Mayor of Kigali, Republic of Rwanda
- **Dr Manuel de Araújo**, Mayor of Quelimane, Mozambique
- **Honourable Mohamed Sefiani**, Mayor of Chefchaouen, Kingdom of Morocco
- **Honourable Raul Novinte**, Mayor of Nacala City
- **Councillor Susan Aitken**, Leader of Glasgow City Council
- **Sir Nicholas Kay**, COP26 Presidency: Regional Ambassador
- **Mr Carlos Manuel Rodríguez**, Global Environment Fund (GEF): CEO
- **Mr Ladislav Ngendahimana**, Secretary General: Rwandan Association of Local Government
- **Mr Yunus Arikan**, Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI
- **Mr Rafael Tuts**, Director of the Global Solutions Division of UN-Habitat
- **Mr Carl Bernadac**, Deputy Regional Director, AFD
- **Dr Olufunso Somorin**, Regional Principal Officer, African Development Bank, Kenya
- **Mr Nigel Topping**, High Level Champion for Climate Action COP26
- **Mr Manish Bapna**, Executive Vice President and Managing Director, WRI

Energy, infrastructure and ecomobility

CoM SSA Day Welcome Plenary

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EN ▶

FR ▶

- **HE Émile Gros Raymond Nakombo**, Mayor – Bangui, Central African Republic
- **HE Youssouf, Nicolas Djibo**, Mayor – Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire
- **Dr Heike Henn**, Deputy Director General Commissioner – Climate policy and Climate financing Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- **Mr Stefano Signore**, Head of Unit – Sustainable Energy and Climate Change – Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development in the European Commission
- **Mr Cheikh Bedda**, Director – Infrastructure and Energy Infrastructure and Energy – African Union Commission (AUC)
- **Mr Yunus Arikan**, Director of Global Advocacy – ICLEI
- **Dr Meggan Spires**, Senior Manager – Climate Change, Energy & Resilience

Planning with financing in mind – What are key criteria of financiers that cities' priority projects should fulfil?

WATCH THE VIDEO



EN ▶

FR ▶

- **Mr Georgios Grapsas**, Team Leader, DG DEVCO Unit for Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, European Commission
- **Ms Ina de Visser**, Head of Felicity Programme – European Investment Bank
- **Mr Sebastien Carreau**, Task Team Leader – Agence Française de Développement
- **Ms Marie-Anne Serve**, Project Coordinator – Expertise France
- **Ms Makhosazana Baker**, Director: Waste Management and Regulation, City of Johannesburg

Finance Roadmaps For Climate Projects – How can Local Governments in Sub-Saharan Africa facilitate access to finance?

WATCH THE VIDEO



EN ▶

FR ▶

- **Ms Angelika Wasielke**, Team Leader: CoM SSA, GET.invest, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- **Dr Barbara Samuels**, Executive Director – Global Clearinghouse for Development Finance
- **Ms Carla Rooseboom**, Senior Finance Advisor – Global Clearinghouse for Development Finance
- **Mr Drazen Kucan**, Lead Urban and Energy Efficiency Specialist – Green Climate Fund
- **Ms Kristina Eisele**, Technical Assistance Programme Advisor – City Climate Finance Gap Fund & Technical Assistance to support the African Sustainable Cities Initiative (ASCI) – European Investment Bank (EIB)
- **Ms Mary Mbenge**, Chief Officer Environment and Natural Resources – Makueni County, Kenya
- **Mr Sasank Vemuri**, Coordinator – MobiliseYourCity Partnership

Let's get money moving: financing accessible eco-mobility in a post-Covid world

WATCH THE VIDEO



- **Mr Benjamin de la Pena**, Director – Agile City Partners
- **Ms Charlotte Povel**, Director – KfW Kigali, Rwanda
- **Mr Chris Kost**, Africa Program Director – Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP)
- **Ms Jehan Bhikoo**, Professional Officer: Urban Systems – ICLEI Africa
- **Ms Lena Stiller**, Transport Policy Advisor – GIZ and Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI)
- **Honourable Erias Lukwago Ssalongo**, Mayor of City of Kampala, Uganda
- **Mr Romain Crouzet**, Directeur des Programmes, Association Climate Chance
- **Mr Sasank Vemuri**, Coordinator – MobiliseYourCity Partnership

Harnessing digital innovations to democratise finance for climate action

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- **Dr Diran Soumonni**, Senior Lecturer – Innovation Policy and Management – University of the Witwatersrand
- **Ms Helene Van Caenegem**, Analyst – CPI
- **Mr Hugo Vaughan**, Crowdfunder Global
- **Mr Joel Wanjohi**, Associate Partner – Goodwell Investments
- **Ms Molly Webb**, Energy Unlocked
- **Dr Surendra Thakur**, NEMISA KZN e-Skills CoLab Director; Ministerial Task Team on 4IR; and Research Chair for Digitalisation – Durban University of Technology
- **Mr Youssef Travalay**, Senior Fellow – Africa-Europe Alliance – Friends of Europe



Research, development and innovation

Narrowing the climate data gap for improved project preparation in cities

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- **Honourable Oumar Ba**, Mayor of Ndiob, Senegal
- **Ms Catherine Higham**, Regional Manager – EMEA – Cities – States – and Regions
- **Professor Coleen Vogel**, Global Change Institute – Wits University
- **Dr Daniel Hoornweg** – World Council on Climate Data
- **Dr David Dodman**, Director – the Human Settlements Group at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
- **Dr Kathryn Toure**, IDRC Regional Director – Eastern and Southern Africa
- **Mr Kudzai Ndidzano**, Deputy Director – Climate Change Management Department (CCMD) Ministry of Environment – Climate – Tourism and Hospitality Industry
- **Dr Olufunso Somorin**, Regional Principal Officer – African Development Bank
- **Dr Richards Jones** – UK MET Office
- **Dr Valentina Palermo**, European Commission Joint Research Centre

Jobs for climate: a critical component of resilience

WATCH THE VIDEO



- **Mr Carl Bernadec**, Deputy Regional Director – South Africa – AFD
- **Mr Geoff Tooley**, Senior Manager: Catchment Management Coastal, Stormwater and Catchment Management Department – eThekweni Municipality, South Africa
- **Ms Jessy Appavoo**, C40 Cities Finance Facility's (CFF) Regional Engagement Manager for Africa
- **Mr Jorn Verbeeck**, Head of Research & Innovation – Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM)
- **Mr Saliem Fakir**, Executive Director – The African Climate Foundation
- **Ms Teddy Mugabo**, CEO – Rwanda Green Fund (Fonerwa)

Learning from young leaders: solving global climate challenges

WATCH THE VIDEO



- **Mr Akufuna Muyunda**, Youth Development & Climate Justice Advocate
- **Ms Gugu Nonjinge**, Political Communications Specialist – NDP2030 Ambassador – Social and Environmental Justice Advocate
- **Ms Nisreen Elsaïm**, Member of the UN Secretary-General Youth advisory group on climate change
- **Ms Pato Kelesitse**, Sustain267 Podcast
- **Mr Tumi Leie**, Founding Director Ushiri Group
- **Mr Robin Oakley**, Co-Director of The Urban Movement Innovation Fund (UMI Fund)

Managing risk and harnessing nature-based solutions

Finance for nature-based climate change adaptation

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- **Ms Ernesta Maciulyte**, Research Associate – Fraunhofer IAO and University of Stuttgart (IAT)
- **Ms Giulia Macagno**, Economist – European Investment Bank
- **Honourable Manuel de Araújo**, Mayor – Quelimane, Mozambique
- **Ms Megan Sager**, Director – Consulting for Sustainable Solutions
- **Honourable. Raul Novinte**, Mayor – Nacala, Mozambique
- **Mr Jean Francois Habeau**, Executive Director – the Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV).
- **Ms Saliha Dobardzic**, Senior Climate Specialist – Adaptation Program, Global Environment Facility (GEF)

When nature makes cents: The economic value of nature for climate

WATCH THE VIDEO 

- **Mr Alope Barnwall**, Senior Climate Change Specialist and Co-ordinator Sustainable Cities programme – GEF
- **Mr Aliou Faye**, Regional Director for Central and West Africa – IUCN
- **Dr Jane Turpie**, Director – ANCHOR Environment
- **Mr John Chome**, Chief Executive Officer – Lilongwe City Council, Malawi
- **Mr Martin Lok**, Deputy Director – Capitals Coalition
- **Dr Rene Castro-Salazar**, Assistant Director-General – FAO
- **Ms Janet Umugwaneza**, Program Manager for UNDP-UNEP Poverty & Environment Initiative Programme at the Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA)

Demystifying finance for Disaster Risk Reduction

WATCH THE VIDEO 

- **Mr Amjad Abbashar**, Chief – UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Regional Office for Africa
- **Lieutenant Colonel Faly Aritiana Fabie**, Project Coordinator of the national disaster risk management – BNGRC
- **Mr Jurg Wilbrink**, Advisor – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- **Mr Gerhard Geosits**, Principle, Allianz
- **Mr Lesley Ndlovu**, CEO – African Risk Capacity
- **Ms Mia Thom**, Technical Director – Cenfri
- **Mr Oumar Sylla**, Acting Director – Regional Office for Africa – United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat)

Nexus and circularity in urban systems

All together now: Mobilising public resources for integrated infrastructure solutions

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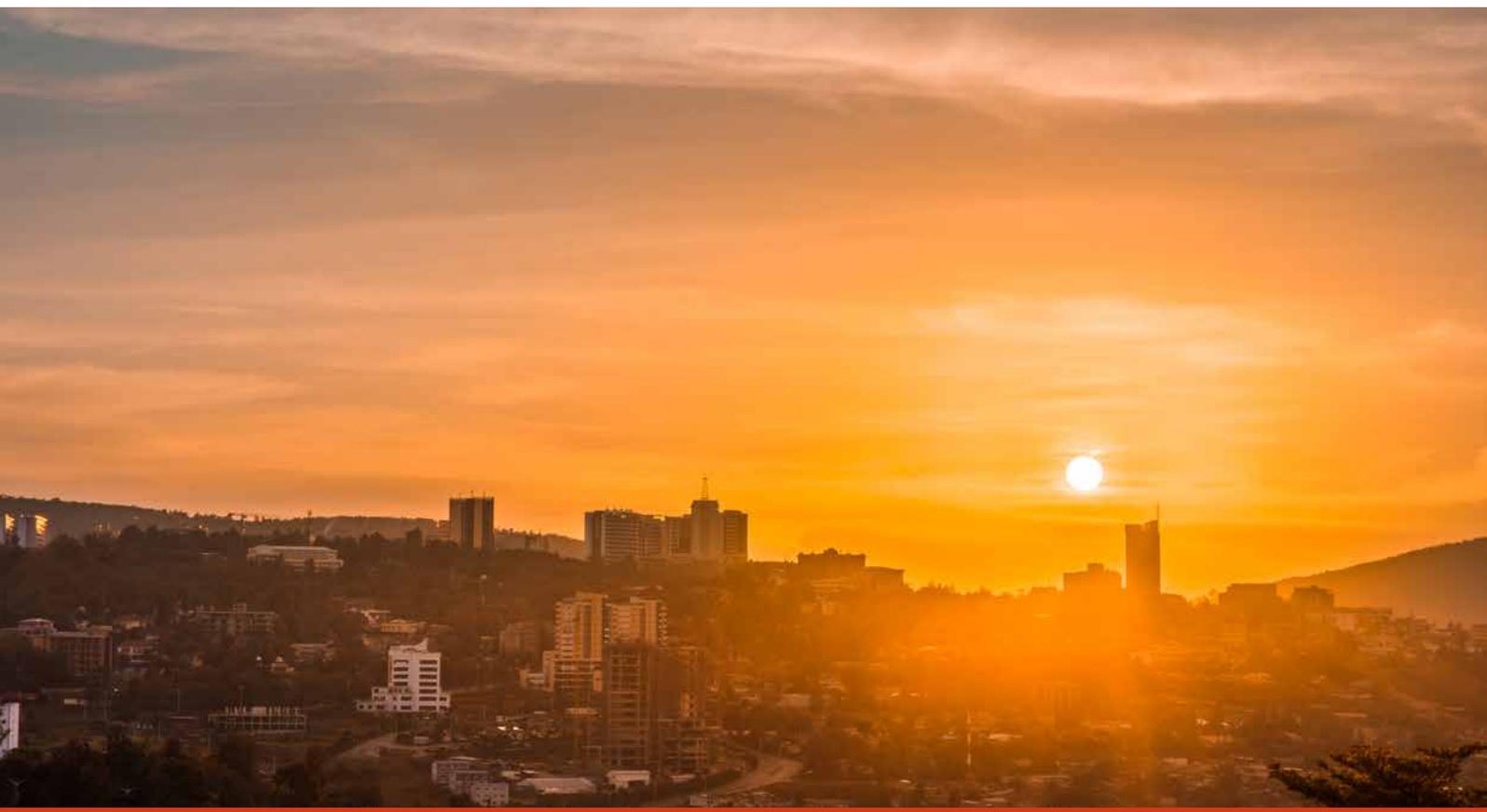
- **Mr Ben Mokheseng**, Head: Transacting Municipalities and Waterboards – Development Bank of Southern Africa
- **Ms Fatou Gibba**, Director of Local Governance – Ministry of Local Government, The Gambia
- **Prof Jose Puppim de Oliveira**, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV)
- **Mr Luc Gnacadja**, President – GPS-Dev (Governance & Policies for Sustainable Development)
- **Ms Maryke van Staden**, Director of Business Development | Director of carbonn Climate Center – ICLEI
- **Councillor Xanthea Limberg**, Mayoral Committee Member: Water & Waste – City of Cape Town

Getting down to business: enabling private sector leadership in the circular economy

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- **Davinah Milenge Uwella**, Principal Programme Coordinator -Climate Change and Green Growth Department, African Development Bank
- **Gracia Munganga**, Africa Manager – Carbon Trust
- **Himkaarv Singh**, CEO – The Compost Kitchen (Pty) Ltd
- **Mr Jonas Byström**, Lead Engineer, Urban Development Division, Projects Directorate, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
- **Honourable Mduduzi Gift Mhlongo**, Mayor – City of uMhlathuze, South Africa
- **Mr. Paul Currie**, Manager: Urban Systems – ICLEI Africa
- **Ms Ruka Sanusi**, Executive Director – Ghana Climate Innovation Centre



Trainings and side sessions

Climate Finance 101



Join ICLEI Africa, cities and partners to learn the basics about climate finance. By the end of the session you should be able to answer: – What mechanisms are available to finance and fund climate projects in local government?- What is climate finance?- How does climate finance flow from funds to beneficiaries?- What are some of the main barriers to overcome in order to access climate finance?- What are the key opportunities to bolster access climate finance?

How to make public lighting projects bankable for bright public spaces?



The session deep-dives into public lighting projects in Sub-Saharan Africa, in particular projects covering the expansion and energy efficiency of public lighting systems. The relevant technical, financial and institutional aspects to consider when developing and implementing such projects are discussed in order to equip attending local administrations with solutions to overcome obstacles during project development.

Transformative Action Program (TAP) Application Training



Join ICLEI to learn what makes a good TAP application, how to frame responses to the questions, and how the application review process takes places. Through this training session cities will be better equipped to submit high quality applications.

Cool buildings for cities in hot climates: Financing energy efficiency for economy, climate and comfort



This training session presents the potential and benefits of energy efficiency in buildings, and gives information about the financial implications and business models for financing such projects. In a discussion with participants, we want to identify what can be done to support cities in successfully implementing such projects.

Embedding gender in climate action



Join ICLEI Africa and CoM SSA to unpack how gender mainstreaming can take place in climate action and why this is such a critical issue for inclusive and sustainable development.



Localising the SDGs through an urban food lens in the Global South: Lessons from the Hungry Cities Project.

DAY 1 ▶

DAY 2 ▶

There are growing efforts to localise the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which acknowledge the vital role of local government and urban actors in driving sustainability. These efforts are supported by an intuitive understanding of the interrelation between each of the SDGs, yet the integration of the SDGs is not as clearly articulated by the underlying SDG targets and indicators. This side event offers global reflections on SDG localisation efforts, and proposes that FOOD offers a useful lens for approaching sustainability in a holistic manner (Day 1). It then delves into the learnings emanating from many global South Cities engaged in the Hungry Cities project to shed light on food insecurity, food retail environments and policy implications for food and urban sustainability (Day 2).

Investing In Urban Nature: The Investment Case for The City of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

WATCH THE VIDEO



Join ICLEI Africa, city officials, and the Interact-Bio team as they unpack the outcomes and lessons learnt from the development of an investment case for nature-based solutions in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.





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Local Climate Solutions
for Africa



Local Governments
for Sustainability

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