

Local Government Climate Lounge - COP 15

Copenhagen, Denmark 7-18 December 2009

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADMAP:
BALI - POZNAN - COPENHAGEN

CHANCE FOR CHANGE

Meeting • Dialogue • Advocacy • Convince at COP 15

The eyes of the world will be on Copenhagen in December 2009 with the expectation that a new post-2012 international climate agreement is adopted at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 15).

Local Governments (LGs) have the opportunity to create history by advocating for a strong and comprehensive post-2012 global climate agreement at COP15. Their presence counts, as they continue to seek recognition for the role LGs can and must play in climate protection and the new climate agreement. The contents of the new agreement are in the hands of national governments. Therefore, local leaders must meet with their national leaders to request successful outcomes at COP 15 and to ensure that LGs are significantly referenced in the final text, in order to be empowered to support the implementation of the climate agreement in each country.

The **Local Government Climate LOUNGE** is a meeting space located in the COP 15 building in Copenhagen, at the heart of the groundbreaking negotiations. Thus, LGs and their associations will have a unique advocacy base during UN Climate negotiations for dialogue and interaction with their national government, with other national governments, with other local governments, NGOs and the international press.

The **Local Government Climate LOUNGE** will primarily help to support LGs to advocate to nations the need for references to LGs in the final climate agreement text. During the two-week conference, participating local leaders will discuss the climate negotiating text and its implementation with national government representatives in the **Local Government Climate LOUNGE**. Local leaders will also be encouraged to meet with other strategically important national delegations or groupings of nations.



Mr. Lars Løkke Rasmussen, Danish Prime Minister (right), and Mr. Bertrand Delanoë, Mayor of Paris at the Local Government Climate Change Leadership Summit, Copenhagen, June 2009.

Local leaders participating in the **Local Government Climate LOUNGE** will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and appropriate briefings, information and argumentation to apply the pressure needed. The various meetings will be facilitated by a select group of local leaders: Klaus Bondam, Vice Mayor of Copenhagen, David Cadman, Councillor of Vancouver and President of ICLEI, and Bärbel Dieckmann, Lady Mayor of Bonn and Chair of the World Mayors Council on Climate Change, are among those who have already expressed interest in taking on this role. The **Local Government Climate LOUNGE** will thus provide local leaders with a chance for change and a hub to carry out the most important advocacy work undertaken since Local Agenda 21 was introduced in the Rio Declaration in 1992.

The COP 15 conference is the final destination for the **Local Government Climate Roadmap**, an advocacy journey that began at COP13 in Bali in 2007, and which features stop offs at conferences in Poznan, Copenhagen, Bonn, Bangkok and Barcelona, while accompanying UN Negotiations on the road to COP 15. Since Bali 2007, LGs have tirelessly campaigned for, and achieved preliminary referencing to subnational and local governments by national negotiators.

As of 22 June 2009, over 100 subnational and local government references appear in all areas of importance in the draft climate negotiating text. These references come as a result of in-country mobilisation, as well as numerous bilateral meetings with national delegations at UN negotiations until now, such as with Australia, Brazil China, EU Member States, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Norway, Senegal, South Africa, Switzerland, and the USA. From now until December 2009, all advocacy work must focus on safeguarding these references until the last negotiation day. Efforts must also be made to strengthen existing references in negotiating areas, such as mitigation in developed countries.

By giving local leaders a presence during the two weeks of international negotiations in Copenhagen, the **Local Government Climate LOUNGE** presents a strategic advocacy opportunity for LGs. If the work and experiences of LGs are recognised in the new climate agreement, LGs will strengthen their voice in the international climate arena, gain recognition for their mandate at a national level, and potentially benefit from additional resources at the local level. Thus ensuring that the entire chain of government from national to local are involved in the implementation of the Climate Agreement in each country.

In this way, the Local Government Climate LOUNGE is taking a monumental step forward in promoting multi-level governance in international negotiations.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE LOUNGE

- The **LOUNGE** is a comfortable meeting space of 100 m², situated amidst the national delegation offices in the COP 15 building (Bella Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark)
- The meeting space is rented by ICLEI -Local Governments for Sustainability to secure the place for LGs and their associations within the negotiation area. The related costs must be financed through contributions from those LGs, their associations and partners that aim at a strong LGs presence during COP 15
- Between 7 and 18 December 2009, every day 3 to 5 time slots for meetings will be made available in the **LOUNGE**. Most of the **LOUNGE** time slots will facilitate meetings between local leaders from one country and strategic negotiating nations, as well as groups of nations (G 77, EU, African Group, etc.), on the references in the climate negotiating text. Other meetings related to the climate negotiations can be accommodated.
- In addition, the **LOUNGE** will act as an operational basis for the participating local leaders. They will receive negotiation briefings, be invited to give web interviews and act as LG ambassadors in selected COP 15 side events, in the COP 15 plenary rooms and corridors
- Nomination to access the COP 15: ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability will facilitate - through the UNFCCC Secretariat - the nomination and subsequent accreditation of interested local government representatives to access COP 15. The nomination form is available at www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap
- Accommodation: All participants nominated to access COP 15 are strongly encouraged to register through the NHG booking system (www.cop15.nhg.dk)
- If you are a local representative in your national delegation, we encourage you to contact us to join the **LOUNGE** and its opportunities

DISCLAIMER

Nations are the negotiating parties of the international climate agreement. It is not guaranteed that subnational and local government references will be included in the final text.

DAILY ACTIVITIES in the LG Climate LOUNGE

- preliminary schedule -

8:15 - 9:00 LG Briefings

9:15 - 12:00 Topical meetings / LG Ambassadors at COP 15 Plenary

12:00 - 15:00 Meetings with national delegations / LG Ambassadors at COP 15 Side Events

15:00 - 18:00 Topical meetings / LG Ambassadors at COP 15 Plenary

18:00 - 19:30 Meetings with national delegations / LG Ambassadors at COP 15 Side Events

20:00 - 21:30 t.b.a.

Local Governments' advocacy work at COP 15

Take action! Join the Local Government Climate LOUNGE and its activities from 7-18 December:

- **Local Government Briefings:** Be briefed on international climate negotiations
- **Meet and convince national delegations:** Discuss the climate negotiating text and its implementation with your national government representatives, and/or other strategic negotiating nations or groupings of nations
- **Topical meetings:** Speak and interact with other local government representatives, local government associations, NGOs and the international press.
- **Local Government Ambassadors:** Represent local governments in selected COP15 side events, in COP15 plenary rooms and corridors. Share your views in web interviews.

Strengthen the united local voice by sharing local climate success stories in the Local Government Climate LOUNGE!

Be aware that LOUNGE activities are subject to availability. Visit www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap or write to climate-lounge@iclei.org

Important days for Local Governments advocacy

