

Introducing the project...

- Enhancing the transition to low emission urban development in emerging economy countries.
- Working with selected Model and Satellite Cities in Brazil, India, Indonesia and South Africa.
- Benefiting from ICLEI's GreenClimateCities methodology as the step-by-step guidance.
- Enhancing quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions via HEAT+ software.
- Developing Solutions Gateway and Pools of Experts as support structures to scale-up organisational and technological options and financial models for the implementation of priority actions.
- Encouraging South-South and North-South-South exchanges in collaboration with European partner cities.
- Enabling the global reporting of local climate action via the carbonn Cities Climate Registry, supported with appropriate verification processes and linking to global NAMA mechanisms.
- Facilitating interactions with global climate community in the design of new climate regime.
- Aiming for the sustainability of project outcomes via dissemination of good practices and replication in other countries through a global network.



8 Model Cities

20+
group of Satellite Cities



4 countries -
Brazil, Indonesia, India and South Africa

Demonstrating leadership and innovation in enhancing the transition to low emission urban development



More information?

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The project, "Promoting Low Emission Urban Development Strategies in Emerging Economy Countries" is implemented by:

UN-Habitat is the United Nations' agency for sustainable urban development. Through its World Urban Campaign and technical support it promotes efficient and realistic planning at national, regional and local levels as the most effective way to grow our cities to meet increasing demand for urban shelter and services.

ICLEI is the world's leading association of cities and local governments dedicated to sustainable development. ICLEI is a powerful movement of 12 mega-cities, 100 super-cities and urban regions, 450 large cities as well as 450 small and medium-sized cities and towns in 84 countries.

Funded by:

The project and this document has been developed with the financial assistance from the European Union. The views expressed in this document can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.



Cities moving towards low emission development

Introducing the project
"Promoting Low Emission Urban Development Strategies in Emerging Economy Countries"
(EuropeAid/DCI-ENV/2011/269-952)

What are low emission development strategies?



A low emission development strategy (LEDS) is “indispensable to sustainable development” (Copenhagen Accord, 2009)

In 2010 in Cancun, national governments decided that developed countries *should* develop low-carbon development strategies or plans, and *encouraged* developing countries to develop low-carbon development strategies or plans in the context of sustainable development, being aware of the need to provide related incentives.

Since then, numerous institutions and partnerships have been established to provide a clear definition and technical guidance in implementing the low emissions development concept worldwide.

“LEDS are economic development plans or strategies that encompass low-emission or climate-resilient growth. The key aim is to develop climate change and development policy in “a more coordinated, coherent and strategic manner” (OECD, 2010)

“Integrated climate and (low-carbon) development government strategies that cover the intersection of development and greenhouse gas mitigation” (ERC, 2011)



Why cities and low emission development?

Cities can be vibrant, innovative and exciting places to live.

But unplanned, high-carbon urban growth, alongside rising energy costs and increasing demands on service delivery, are putting pressure on local governments, threatening economic growth, poverty reduction and urban quality of life, and contributing to dangerous rises in global temperatures and subsequent climatic changes.

Cities that pioneer a low emission development model today will be the ones that attract future investment, reduce energy costs and become efficient, inclusive, clean places to live and work tomorrow.

Based on years of intensive advocacy efforts and direct climate action, local governments are now recognized as “governmental stakeholders” at the global climate regime.

Concrete implementation of the concept of low emission development at the local level will demonstrate the importance of local action and strengthen national and global processes at the same time.

What global leaders say...



Cities Leadership for the Urban World. Global sustainability leaders Gino Van Begin (Secretary General, ICLEI), Konrad Otto-Zimmermann (Secretary General till 2012, ICLEI), Marcelo Ebrard (Mayor, Mexico City, Mexico), David Cadman (President, ICLEI), Joan Clos (Executive Director, UN-Habitat), Ban Ki-moon (Secretary General, United Nations), Marcio Lacerda (Mayor, Belo Horizonte, Brazil) and James Nxumalo (Mayor, Durban, South Africa) discussed the stake of role of cities at the Rio+20 Global Town Hall.

“We need to demonstrate that shifting urban development to a low emission path can offer both a better urban livelihood to billions of people and yield immediate, direct, cost-effective and scalable greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Through its vast experience and capacity on stimulating local climate action worldwide, ICLEI is glad to support this partnership”

Gino Van Begin

Secretary General, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

“The post-World War II trends for urban growth are simply not sustainable. The city of the 21st century must be equitable, environmentally sustainable and prosperous. Through urban low-emissions development strategies that promote improved urban planning, mobility, energy, water and solid waste management, this project will allow us to promote more sustainable patterns for urban development.”

Joan Clos

Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

“The road to global sustainability runs through the world’s cities and towns. By building more sustainable cities and regions, you will lead us to a more sustainable world.”

Ban Ki-moon

Secretary General, United Nations, addressing Rio+20 Global Town Hall

