

COP 25 side event

Climate Change Adaptation and Risk Management in a Multi-Level Governance Context

Monday, 9 December 15:00 – 16:30; Room 5

Background

Multi-level governance refers to the mechanisms of steering, involving increasing connectivity between spheres of governance. It recognises the influence of government institutions operating at different scales, as well as diversification of actors. When talking about multi-level governance, supranational, national, subnational and local levels of government are seen to be interconnected, with political developments at one level impacting the other levels. In this regard, climate governance can be characterised as a multi-level governance process, since it shares the responsibility for action between government levels, as well as across multiple actors from different sectors.

The Paris Agreement and its accompanying decisions acknowledge the importance of involving all levels of government, as well as other non-State actors for its implementation. It further confirms that adaptation is a global challenge faced by all with local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions. In addition, the IPCC 1.5 Special Report recognised that addressing climate change requires ‘accountable multilevel governance’ including a variety of state and non-state actors and institutions from the government, industry, civil society and scientific institutions. In this regard, and in order to develop and implement effective adaptation strategies, all levels of government need to be involved in the process. This is especially true when governments are forced to cope with the impacts of natural hazards induced by climate change. As every level of government has different responsibilities when responding to these events, their disaster risk financing (DRF) needs also differ greatly. The development of new DRF instruments, such as Climate Risk Insurance (CRI) products, should thus focus on complementing the existing products already in use and work towards filling the climate risk protection gap.

In addition, climate adaptation action by regional and local governments is key in promoting resilience to the impacts of climate change, helping to reduce weather- and climate-related vulnerability in urban and rural areas. Discussions with the providers of DRF instruments can play a role in educating governments on their exposure levels and identifying which adaptation measures can reduce the impacts of natural hazards. However, coordination among different levels of government is a complex process which can be challenging to address.

This side event will therefore discuss the topics of climate change adaptation and disaster risk financing as a multi-level governance challenge. Organised by Regions4 Sustainable Development, in collaboration with the Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3) and the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), it will highlight good practices and experiences from different levels of government. It will further reveal common challenges and provide recommendations for policymakers that could guide the development and implementation of national, regional and local adaptation plans and strategies.

Agenda

15:00 – 15:10 **Welcome and introduction to the session**

Ms Elena Moreno, Regions4 President for the North

15:10 – 15:20 **Keynote speech**

Mr Jean Lemire, Envoy for Climate Change, Québec, Canada

15:20 – 16:10 **Panel: Adaptation and disaster risk financing in a multi-level governance context** (7min/speaker)

- Presentation of report on adaptation in a multi-level governance context
Ms Elisa Sainz de Murieta, Postdoctoral Researcher, BC3
- Experience from Latin America
Mr Marcos Penido, State Secretary for Infrastructure and Environment, São Paulo, Brazil
- Experience from Europe
Ms Marta Subirà, Secretary for Environment and Sustainability, Catalonia, Spain
- Decentralised Climate Funds, a Climate Change Governance Approach
Mr Mamadou Ndong Touré, Gossas, Senegal
- Vertical integration in the context of the NAP Process
Ms Angie Dazé, Associate, Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation, IISD
- The Regional Approach to Disaster Risk Financing: Lessons Learned from the Climate Risk Adaptation and Insurance in the Caribbean (CRAIC) project
Mr. Soenke Kreft, Executive Director, MCII

16:10 – 16:25 **Q&A with audience**

16:25 – 16:30 **Closing remarks**

Moderator:

Ms Sara Kupka, Policy Officer Climate Change, Regions4