



UN-HABITAT

Agenda item 2.

Briefing on the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation Initiative

Updates on the Road to COP28

Forty-third meeting of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters

Presented by: Climate change and Urban Environment team

Date: 30 October 2023, 14:30 – 16:30

Background: SURGe Initiative



Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation (SURGe) – a COP27 Initiative dedicated to connecting local, national and global levels for climate action

Challenge

Current national pledges are not sufficient to reduce harmful emissions to achieve the targets of the Paris Agreement. National climate action often focuses only on priority sectors and does not effectively guide local climate action in cities. In addition, local governments lack the technical and financial resources to implement local climate action.

Response

Collaboration across local, national and global level (multilevel governance) is necessary to raise ambition and provide solutions on the ground that help achieve the Paris Agreement through implementation at the local level.



SURGe: Value Proposition



SURGe is a COP27 Initiative that brings together like-minded governments, international organizations, city networks, the private sector, academia and individuals to empower ambitious multi-level climate action.

SURGe Value Proposition

1

MISSION: SURGe as a convening space to connect local, national and global levels to coordinate collective climate action and for improved collaboration between sectoral initiatives – all with the objective to build more strategically on cities and sustainable urbanization as allies to help deliver the targets of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

2

VISION: Achieve global climate goals by using effective multilevel governance to transform cities to be healthy, sustainable, just, inclusive, low-emission and resilient urban systems for a better urban future for all.

Mission and vision is achieved by connecting local, national and global levels for climate action and delivering through five integrated sectoral tracks and track partners.

TO CREATE: use SURGe as a convening space for existing and new initiatives that typically are sectoral, collect good practices from like-minded partners to jointly help empower ambitious multi-level climate action.

TO CONVENE: SURGe as a space to facilitate dialogue, enhance capacity and intensify partnerships to jointly form recommendations on how to effectively accelerate urban climate action through sectoral implementation.

TO ENCOURAGE: Participation at all levels and welcome the establishment of national focal points to help navigate across the world and identify where challenges and gaps still exist.

What is SURGe? Work packages for engagement

Local to Global

Work package 1: Global SURGe Partnership

as a network of working group partners, national governments, city networks, academia, NGOs and others join forces to amplify voices of cities and regions in global climate discussions, ultimately strengthening multilevel climate action

1.1 Coordination the work across the five working groups

Focus: Developing value propositions for each track under SURGe aligned with strengthening the urban lens in new and updated NDCs

Funding option: only limited funding needed; working groups to provide own funding/ fundraising

1.2 Global capacity building for local and national governments

Funding option: USD250,000 in 2024, progressively increasing; funded through extrabudgetary funding in support of developing countries with a particular priority on LDCs + SIDS

Local to National

Work package 2: City and climate change officers as national focal points

Focus: Building a global network of national level city and climate change focal points/teams responsible for supporting urban and local climate action through guideline development, technical advisory services, capacity development and resource mobilization as well as global reporting

Funding option: USD250,000 - 1,000,000 per year/per country. No or limited funding for OECD countries, extrabudgetary funding for developing countries

Global SURGe partners are expected to support this work package

Local

Work package 3: City level roll-out

Focus: comprehensive planning for and implementation of climate action for net-zero and climate resilient development. Strong linkages with the Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor (RISE UP) and with the Building Climate Resilience for the Urban Poor (BCRUP) will be sought.

Funding option: wide range of funding requirements and funding options envisaged. Self-funding, private sector funding, loans, development assistance.

Work package 4: Coordination, partnership building, communication

Focus: A small and lean secretariat hosted by UN-Habitat, responsible for a) communication and partnerships, expanding the network, ensuring the link to other initiatives and networks, and annual reporting; and b) coordination, including convening the Steering Committee, coordinating the five working groups, coordinating between national SURGe focal points and regional offices

Funding option: USD500,000 per year (sourced from extra-budgetary funding, with oversight and support provided by core staff)

Way forward: road to COP28 and beyond

SURGe at COP28

- Updates on SURGe by COP28, including re-enforced working group updates
- Links between SURGe as well as other upcoming and existing Initiatives
- Several side events dedicated to SURGe



Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change

- **Date:** 06 December as the curtain raiser event of Multilevel Action, Urbanization, Built Environment and Transport Day; 10:00 – 12:30; UNFCCC negotiations room (1300+ capacity)
- **Objective:** (i) reinforce mechanisms for multi-level climate action to achieve the targets of the Paris Agreement; (ii) identify and strengthen levers to increase and accelerate deployment of climate finance for cities and local governments to respond to the climate crisis.
- **Invitees:** Ministers of Housing, Urban Development, Environment, Finance, and other portfolios; local and regional leaders; financial institutions; non-government organizations; and other stakeholders
- **Co-convening:** Ministerial Meeting co-convened by several member states which will also develop a Ministerial declaration
- Note Verbale has been sent through the Permanent Missions; personalized official invites to be sent out this week

Executive Board

Work packages including “options and recommendations for operationalizing the SURGe initiative as a meaningful institutional arrangement” will further be developed and presented to the first Executive Board of 2024

WUF12

Full operationalization of SURGe at the 12th World Urban Forum taking place in Egypt

Thank you!

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