



Multilevel Climate Governance Community of Practice (MLCG CoP)

Background and context

The relationship between the different levels of authority in a country is critical to shaping the global capacity to govern climate change.¹ In order for climate actions to result in tangible development benefits, countries need to innovate and reconfigure their governance systems to forge new institutional arrangements and foster an inclusive and integrated approach to low carbon development. This was one of the key conclusions from the May 2017 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Global Conference held in Berlin: Integrated governance is the foundation for building a common architecture for NDC implementation, transparency and climate finance.^{2 3}

To date, integrated governance is an unaddressed priority in the Paris Agreement. It cannot meet its goals unless national governments work hand-in-hand with all tiers of government, civil society and the multiple private sector partners.

To support swelling interest and scale-up ongoing efforts, the MLCG CoP is being launched to connect stakeholders from national and subnational governments, research institutes, private sector, and civil society on a regular basis and provide sustained technical support to members.

The Asia MLCG CoP is an initiative of the LEDS Global Partnership and is supported by the United States Department of State and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, India (SDC).

Who are we?

The Asia LEDS Partnership is a network of government and nongovernmental partners working to advance LEDS and green growth in Asia. It builds on, and cooperates with, existing regional Asian networks and initiatives, and links efforts in Asia with related work in other regions. Representatives from over a dozen Asian countries are actively engaged in the Asia LEDS Partnership, as well as numerous international partners. The Asia LEDS Partnership is one of four regional partnerships of the Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP). The LEDS GP was founded in 2011 to facilitate peer learning, technical cooperation and information exchange on the formation and implementation of climate-resilient, low-emission development strategies.

Within the various initiatives of the LEDS GP, the thematic Working Group on Multilevel Governance and Subnational Integration (MLG/ SNI) was created in 2013 to facilitate learning and support inter-

¹ UN-Habitat (2011). "[Global report on human settlements 2011. Cities and climate change.](#)"

² GIZ, UNDP, LEDS-GP (2017) "[NDC Conference 2017](#)" Berlin, May 2-6, 2017.

³ Subnational Integration Working Group, LEDS-GP (2017) "[Multilevel Governance along Climate Policy & Action Pathways](#)"

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sectoral cooperation and the integration of climate policies and actions between national and subnational governments (vertically and horizontally), as well as with the private sector and civil society.

Since its inception, the MLG/ SNI Working Group has built relationships and engagement within and across the different regional platforms of the LEDS GP, including the Asia LEDS partnership, by supporting early-mover countries to organize MLG Climate Action Teams, hosting peer learning dialogues and exchanges, publishing reports and case studies, facilitating technical workshops and webinars, providing remote expert assistance, in-depth technical analysis, and organizing panels at multiple regional and global forums.

The ALP's MLCG CoP will enable diverse practitioners and government officials and key partner institutions to explore intersectoral climate actions and addressing MLG challenges and opportunities, while sharing insights that are relevant to other members in the ALP.

Activity Description

The ALP MLCG CoP will conduct the following activities:

- **Peer-to-peer learning**

The ALP will convene the members of the MLCG CoP for 3 virtual peer learning sessions for countries to share experiences and challenges on multi-level governance; as well as specific technical training subjects TBD by participants.

The ALP Secretariat will develop an online knowledge base to share with members that will include existing tools, other resources.

The ALP Secretariat will also support the development of at least 3 new resource materials on multi-level governance from experiences within the Asia MLCG CoP.

- **Technical Support**

Several opportunities for technical support will be available to MLCG CoP participants to improve integrated governance for climate policies and actions.

Early Mover, Multilevel Governance - Climate Action Teams (MLG-CAT):

Two countries in Asia will be selected to partner and receive technical support for strengthening their multilevel climate governance institutional arrangements for LEDS and NDC implementation. Through the MLG-CAT, selected countries will organize an inter-agency team that will work together with the MLG/SNI Working Group to generate an institutional mapping report highlighting the country's current institutional arrangements and mandates to implement climate actions as well as opportunities to address gaps such as asymmetries between levels of government. A national workshop is then delivered to bring together key actors and decision-makers to discuss the findings from the report and develop solutions to enhance integrated governance.

Technical Deep Dives

ALP will provide short term technical support to sub-national entities in 2 provinces/sub-national authorities to adopt the integrated ClimateResilientCITIES climate action planning process.⁴

⁴ The CRCAP process is tailor made to Local Governments (LGs), providing guidance on 9 step process in 3 phases for the development of a climate resilient city action plan that addresses both climate change mitigation and adaptation. It also consists of tools and guidance notes to support LGs to deliver effective local climate action.

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A limited number of members in the CoP will have the opportunity to request specific targeted technical assistance via the LEDS GPs REAL programme ([more info](#)). Specialized support for priority actions will be available from Key Partner Institutions (KPIs), Opportunities to work with other KPIs are being developed.

Participation

Countries and institutions who are members of the Asia LEDS Partnership are invited to subscribe as Members of the ALP MLCG Community of Practice by **Aug 25, 2018**. Participants can be from national and subnational government agencies, technical institutions, private firms, NGOs and/or international organizations working on subnational integration, policies and deployment.

The direct and active involvement of these stakeholders across Asian countries is key to the success of the CoP. Participants are expected to commit to sharing knowledge and experiences, to applying learning and resources, and to providing feedback on results achieved from engagement in the CoP.

Specific performance goals for this Community of Practice for 2018 include:

- Documented improvements in policies, analytic and planning approaches in Multi-level governance in at least 2 countries
- Enhanced knowledge and technical and analytic capacity to support multi-level governance in at least 5 countries
- Development of new technical resources and success stories
- Compilation of tools, resources, training materials, and good practices
- Deep-dive technical support to 2 early mover countries and development of issue briefs/case studies
- Online webinar sessions to enable peer to peer learning
- Supporting at least 2 cities in developing city-level climate action plans

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