

## Roadmap for the Coalition decentralised cooperation and partnerships

### Co-pilots:



### Contributors:



### 1. Context and rationale:

The World Summit for Climate & Territories – WSCT (Lyon, 1-2 July 2015) gathered all kind of non-state actors involved in the fight against climate change, in order to make their voices, commitments and positions heard in the negotiations that led to the Paris agreement on climate.

The dynamic of the Lyon Summit fostered the emergence of various multi-stakeholder coalitions. The actors of territorial cooperation gathered during a workshop co-organised by PLATFORMA, CEMR, AFCCRE, CUF and the NGO ENDA Energy, Environment, Development. The proposed coalition is therefore about extending the opportunity of Lyon meeting in a more sustainable movement and grouping of stakeholders.

The WSCT, as well as the Climate Summit for Local Leaders organised by the City of Paris helped in demonstrating that local and territorial actions are key to effectively fight against climate change and its effects and ambitiously contribute to the objectives set in the Paris Agreement, adopted during the COP21.

All territories, across all continents must henceforth address the climate challenges, that are even more present in Latin America, Africa or Asian. These countries have the highest economic growth potential, and increasing population resulting in increasingly urbanised territories. They are also the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Therefore, beyond actions “at home”, climate related decentralised cooperation abroad enable:

- 1) Exchanges of expertise and best practices;
- 2) Elaboration of inclusive policies and mobilisation of all territorial stakeholders
- 3) A more effective fight against climate change and its effects, and the support to local and low carbon development

Partnership between territories that include a climate dimension will therefore have a crucial role to achieve the objectives set during COP21.

This coalition will aim at the recognition of cooperation between territories as an operational and relevant means of implementation of the Paris agreement for climate, the Lima-Paris Action Agenda (now Global Climate Action Agenda), and the international commitments for climate that will be adopted or updated in the future international fora (especially the future COP of the UNFCCC, or the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – Habitat III)

Doing so, the coalition equally participates to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular, the objective 13 “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”, and objective 17 “Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development”

The Forum on decentralised cooperation and partnerships between territories for climate organised at the occasion of the Climate Chance Summit in Nantes on the 26 of September 2016 confirmed and specified the role of the coalition, the principles it promotes, the challenges that the actors of decentralised partnerships must address and the key advocacy messages that the coalition will defend in view of Habitat III and the future climate negotiations, in particular COP22 in Marrakesh.

#### **5 driving ideas to build the coalition on climate decentralised cooperation:**

- The specificity of decentralised cooperation - or partnerships between territories – is to be non-sectoral but **structuring** and orientated towards capacity building and support to territorialised policies; therefore, a climate focus is highly relevant;
- The coalition “decentralised cooperation and territorial partnership for climate” will draw its strength from various existing – or foreseen – initiatives such as the internationalisation of the covenant of mayors, especially to support its implementation through the elaboration of territorial climate planning; but the coalition will also be strengthened through its capacity to foster bridges with other initiatives of the GCAA or of other coalitions (e.g. “4 pour 1000”, CCFLA, Green Fund,)
- Strengthening solidarity between territories (south/south; north/south; triangular, cross border, etc.)
- Pooling of resources (human and financial)
- Management and sharing of knowledge (gathering information, and capitalise on best practices)

#### **Principles for action:**

- Reciprocity, complementarity, co-construction of projects and appropriation by the partners, mutual learning
- Participation, inclusion, (involvement of all citizens, in particular most vulnerable populations: women, youth, diasporas, and from all territories including peri-urban and rural)
- Sustainability
- Equity (participate to the fight against gender, social, education, etc. inequalities)
- Replicability
- Impact (promotion of actions with a potential to deliver real transformation)

## 2. Objectives :

**Principal objective:** Equip the coalition partners to make their cooperation between territories an operational, relevant and efficient means of implementation of the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs); and therefore participate to the fight against climate change.

### **Specific objectives:**

- 1) Enshrine decentralised cooperation on the agenda for future fora and negotiations on climate and sustainable development
- 2) Facilitate the mobilisation of national as well as European and international finance for territorial partnerships on climate.
- 3) Promote a territorial approach and multi-stakeholder governance partnerships
- 4) Ensure an improved articulation between cooperation activities and sustainable development activities.

### **Challenges identified by the actors of decentralised partnerships:**

- Involve citizens and per-urban or rural territories
- Value local initiative, innovations; avoid mere knowledge transfer but focus on strengthening capacities of local governments and local stakeholders, ensure good governance
- Ensure sustainability and long-lasting impact of the cooperation project
- Adapt the tools and methodologies to the local context and specificities
- Ensure a political or institutional support for the partnerships; pursue a dialogue with national governments to work on an enabling legal environment for these partnerships
- Access to finance and access to geographically disaggregated data.

### **Common priority issues for the coalition<sup>1</sup> :**

- Ensure that the specificity and added value of territorial partnerships (flexibility, plurality of stakeholders, sustainability in time and of impacts, closeness to citizen, actions of planning and structuring of public policies, etc.) to answer the global climate challenge are recognised at all levels;
- Ensure at all level (local, national, European, international) a territorial approach to climate partnerships to value the multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral governance, and enable local and regional governments, and other territorial stakeholders to answer the new climate challenges;
- Put the climate issue at the core of the international action of local governments and local stakeholders.
- Promote development education to raise citizen's awareness about the global challenge of climate change and the added value of climate decentralised partnerships; involve the citizens, and in particular most vulnerable populations (women, youth, diasporas) in the decision making process and international activities.
- Ensure the accessibility of climate funds and inform local stakeholders of the existing opportunities (possibility to mobilise/capitalise on territorial resources and access to international funds such as the Green Fund, national, European or international finance);

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<sup>1</sup> These were determined by the co-pilots and all the participants of the Forum of the coalition at the Climate Chance Summit, Nantes 26-28 September

building on existing international initiatives and in link with the multi-stakeholder coalition on finance

- Ensure an enabling environment at all levels for the multiplication and strengthening of climate partnerships (at the local level with a particular focus on capacity building for international and sustainable development policies; at the national level with a secure legal environment and State political support; at the European and international level with a political and financial support reflected in the programmes and instruments for climate partnerships).
- Foster cooperation scaling, replicability and progressive automatization of the beneficiaries
- Promote cooperation, foster exchanges between the actors of decentralised partnerships, facilitate sharing of good practices and expertise, encourage institutional and social innovations.

### **Recommendations towards COP22, Habitat III, etc.<sup>2</sup> ...**

- Include decentralised cooperation as a mean of implementation of the 5-year action agenda and a concrete way to implement the NDCs: “Support the exchange of knowledge and technology transfer between cities and regions around the world, including through decentralised cooperation.”<sup>3</sup> (COP22)
- Improve the traceability and guarantee a direct access to the Green Fund and other funding opportunities (in particular European programmes) for local stakeholders in the framework of their climate partnerships between territories. (COP22)
- Recognition of partnership between territories as a mean of implementation of the New Urban Agenda (Habitat III)
- Foster development/environment education and awareness raising of citizens on the challenges of climate change – building on local governments and local stakeholders activities of development education.
- Ensure national enabling legal environment for the setting of climate decentralised partnerships
- Collection of geographically disaggregated data to better assess the impact of local projects

### **3. Governance of the coalition:**

The coalition is animated by the partners that voluntarily wish to contribute, following the principle: pooling and mutually strengthening the initiatives of the different partners that participate to the objectives of the coalition.

### **Contributions of the actors of decentralised cooperation and partnerships between territories:**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mobilisation of the network, especially through the working thematic groups</li><li>- Advocacy and dissemination of the messages of the coalition towards European institutions</li><li>- Dissemination of information on opportunities of European financing for climate related partnerships</li><li>- Facilitation of contacts and climate cooperation between European and partner</li></ul>
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<sup>2</sup> Will be discussed during the Forum

<sup>3</sup> Lima-Paris Action Agenda “A 5-year vision”, <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/media/544092/lpaa-five-year-vision.pdf> p4; 12/2015

	<p>local and regional governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interlocutor with the CoMO SSA as member of the Advisory Board of the project.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow up and sharing information on European policies related to environment and climate.</li> <li>- Mobilisation of the network and contribution to the objectives of the coalition, especially through the expert group on climate and energy</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contribution to the definition and implementation of the objectives of the coalition</li> <li>- Awareness raising and mobilisation of the members towards international and European negotiations on climate, and on the related European policies, finance and initiatives</li> <li>- Foster skill improvement of its members towards in mastering European tools.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow up and dissemination of information on finance opportunities for climate partnerships</li> <li>- Facilitate sharing and the appropriation of knowledge and tools</li> <li>- Foster climate cooperation between South local governments, for instance through the promotion of inter-municipality</li> <li>- Impulse and support solidarity initiatives of finance mobilisation</li> <li>- Strengthen the capacities of territorial actors towards the implementation of INDCs</li> <li>- Social marketing towards the knowledge and command of the stakes of climate cooperation</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contribute to the definition of the coalition's objectives and to its animation;</li> <li>- Inform and mobilise the French network for decentralised cooperation and their partners on the existence of the coalition and feed the coalition with their inputs</li> <li>- Guide French local and regional governments towards a "climate culture" within their decentralised partnerships</li> <li>- Advocacy on the relevance of decentralised cooperation as vector of solutions for climate, and therefore on the importance of financing for local and regional governments</li> </ul>
	<p>From CO21 to COP22: put decentralised cooperation at the chore of international stakes</p> <p>The Delegation for the external action of local governments (DAECT) implements the ministerial ambition to bring the topic of decentralised cooperation within international fora of negotiation on the implementation of the new global urban agenda.</p> <p>At a time of democratic crisis and raising populism, decentralised cooperation appears as a tool to curb the upstream international tension or to address them downstream.</p> <p>The calls for proposals to support decentralised cooperation for climate are very operational tools put forward by the DAECT since 2015 to foster and support local and regional governments willing to act for climate. But more than co-financing, it also participates to stronger advocacy at the highest levels – national, European and international – in favour of climate related decentralised partnerships. The objective: gain the recognition of decentralised cooperation as vector, accelerator and catalyst of the climate progress.</p> <p>From the call for proposals "Climat 1" to the call for proposals "Climat 2", the aim is to scale up, increase the impacts, create networking and coalition opportunities. From the operational implementation to the strategic reflection; from the field to</p>

	international fora, the action must be multiple, varied, multi-stakeholder, known by actors of decentralised cooperation and widely recognised.
 Nantes Métropole COMMUNAUTÉ URBAINE	-
Bureau de la Convention des Maires en Afrique Sub-Saharienne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Activities of exchange of experiences, expertise and best practices ; organisation of technical visits for the pilot cities selected by the European Commission with signatories of the Covenant of Mayors Europe</li> <li>- On the long-term, CoMO SSA can present examples of territorial climate and energy planning &amp; participate in the identification of champions and pilot projects of cities interested in decentralised cooperation</li> </ul>
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#### Acteurs manquants :

- UCLG

**Governance structure:** according the variety of partner involved, the governance structure must be very light and flexible, and be able to represent the partners in their diversity, ensuring a global coverage.

In the first instance, the coalition co-pilots ensure its dynamic, drawing on their respective networks and other partners involved. A global coverage will be necessary. Financial, human, logistical resources depend on the coalition partners' voluntary contributions

#### Difficulties identified / caution points for the coalition building:

- The strength of networks: possibility to rapidly mobilise their members and reach to a wide number of local governments and territorial stakeholders. But their weakness: more difficult to directly reach and get concrete feedbacks for territorial actors. The ideal would be to ensure the diversity of partners, but be careful to keep a flexible and swift governance structure;
- Decentralised cooperation being "by nature" transversal and sectorial, the coalition must put forward initiatives reflecting these specificities;
- Before broadening the scope of the coalition and its partners, the objectives and driving principles must be clear;
- How to articulate the activities of the coalition with those of other existing territorial stakeholder coalitions for climate (C40, ICLEI, CCFLA, etc.)? the added value of this coalition is the focus on decentralised cooperation.
- Avoid to appear as a French-cantered or francophone coalition. It will be necessary to broaden the European and international scope.
- Avoid a top-down logic, or a governance through big global networks.

- Putting forward a decentralised cooperation coalition within the GCAA means that it should be first and foremost carried by local governments and territorial stakeholders (not by enterprises or consulting firms).
- However, on the opposite, the coalition must include a wide variety of territorial stakeholders (civil society organisations, private sector, academics, public operator, etc.) which is precisely the objective of a multi-stakeholder coalition;
- Challenge of measuring and monitoring the progress accomplished; the partners of the coalition could be invited to share report on their initiatives during the regular meetings of the Climate Chance Summit.

#### 4. Commitments of the coalition

In line with the synthesis of the workshop "[Decentralised cooperation and partnerships between territories](#)", the members of the coalition could adopt a declaration and commitments, with possible indicators to allow for a regular self-assessment and joint stocktaking of the coalition's achievements.

- Include a "climate approach" in decentralised partnerships (suggested indicator: evolution of number of partnerships with a climate dimension)
- Foster links between the international action and the other territorial policies for sustainable development
- Encourage the setting of cooperation projects through a carbon compensation mechanism
- Sustainability and replicability potential: projects should aim at lasting in time and be replicable in other partner local governments
- Accountability and involvement of citizens: climate partnership should be truly inclusive and involve as much as possible territorial stakeholders and particularly the civil society.
- Cooperation with the other coalitions of the Climate Chance Summit: mutually accelerate the achievement of objectives and strengthen advocacy positions

#### Proposed indicators:

- Number of partnership/ decentralised cooperation projects registered under NAZCA
- Mentions/acknowledgment of decentralised cooperation in international or European agreements, programmes, etc.
- Number of territorial partnerships following initiatives taken during COP21 (and future COP)
- Number of members/partners/institutional or national supports for the coalition
- Number of local governments implementing a cross-sectoral strategy for sustainable development
- Number of territorial climate (and energy) planning established through cooperation
- ...

#### 5. Roadmap

3 scales	Short term	Medium term	Long-term
International & European	<p>Define common messages and recommendations in view of COP22 and Habitat III.</p> <p>Acknowledgement of decentralised cooperation as a mean of implementation for the Paris Agreement and the GCAA</p> <p>Strengthen the advocacy of the coalition towards European and international institutions.</p>	<p>Value the engagement of local governments and territorial stakeholders for climate international action.</p> <p>Strengthen the advocacy of the coalition towards European and international institutions.</p> <p>Improve Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Allow for a direct access for local and regional governments to the Green Fund for climate in the framework of their decentralised cooperation</p> <p>Ensure the presence of territorial stakeholders in the decision body of the Green Fund (e.g. one seat for contributor cities and one seat for beneficiary cities)</p> <p>Improve the traceability of the funds received and perceived directly from and by territorial stakeholders</p>
National	<p>Increase awareness of Member States on the coalition and raise its profile towards national policy makers</p>	<p>Promotion of a secure legislative frameworks for climate related territorial partnerships</p> <p>Improve Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Promotion of innovative legal mechanism to finance climate partnerships (e.g. solidarity 1%)</p>
Territorial	<p>Build on and strengthen the messages, commitments and recommendation formulated at the WSCT in Lyon</p> <p>Define common priority issues and messages</p> <p>Define an action agenda / working programmes for the coalition</p> <p>Identify champions and pilots to showcase the added value of climate partnerships</p> <p>Better identification of the funding opportunities for climate partnerships</p> <p>Foster best practices and information exchanges on the tools/mechanism/partners available to support climate partnerships</p>	<p>Contribute to the operationalisation of the GCAA</p> <p>Exchanges of best practices, guides, trainings. Develop learning opportunities</p> <p>Make available to the coalition the existing or developing tools, especially through national associations</p> <p>Promote “green” cooperation, that systematically include a climate/environment related dimension</p> <p>Promote the transversal character of environmental/climate issues and international action (e.g. foster link between sustainable development and international action unit.</p>	<p>Participate to the globalisation of the Covenant of Mayors through partnerships, facilitating exchanges of best practices and transfers of competencies and knowledge (north/south and south/south)</p>

## 6. Initiatives the coalition could support<sup>4</sup>

- Initiatives for access to energy in Africa, for instance:
  - o [Energies pour l'Afrique](#)
  - o [Africa Renewable Energy Initiative](#) (AU, NEPAD, AGN, ADB, UNEP, IRENA)
  - o [ElectriFI](#) (EU, EDFI)
- Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
  - o In particular the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa
- International, European, national calls for proposals
  - o [Climate calls for proposals of the DAECT](#)<sup>5</sup> (French Ministry of Foreign affairs)
- Other coalitions
  - o Coalition on finance – especially on the mobilisation of resources at the local level, localisation of the Green Fund, etc.
  - o Coalition on transport – especially the initiative “[mobilise your city](#)”<sup>6</sup> and its city to city cooperation dimension
  - o Coalition on agriculture
  - o Cross-thematic gender equality and gender sensitivity in decentralised cooperation

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<sup>4</sup> Will be discussed during the Forum

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/action-exterieure-des-collectivites-territoriales/appels-a-projets-et-fonds-en-soutien-a-la-cooperation-decentralisee/appel-a-projets-climat/appel-a-projets-climat-ii/article/appel-a-projets-climat-ii>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.codatu.org/wp-content/uploads/MobiliseYourCity-A3-BD.pdf>