



Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa

L'ECHO

The Covenant's
bimonthly newsletter

Nov. - Dec. 2017



L'EDITO

Dear readers,

The effects of climate change are already significant and affect several sectors of activity and natural resources in our local communities.

Africa and its territorial communities are the most affected by the effects of climate change which are increasingly in urban areas given the rapid population growth and very rapid and poorly controlled urbanization. As a result, cities in Africa, already poor and with limited adaptive capacity, will have more socio-economic and environmental challenges that will be exacerbated by climate change.

African cities must therefore ensure a sustainable future for the people living there while limiting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Therefore, mitigation and adaptation to climate change as well as access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy have become urgent issues for African cities. Ladies and gentlemen, Dear guests,

Africa and its territorial communities are the most affected by the effects of climate change, which are more prevalent in urban areas than urban areas. As a result, cities in Africa, with limited capacity, will have more socio-economic and environmental challenges that will be exacerbated by climate change. African cities must be a source of sustainable energy (GHG) emissions. Therefore, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and sustainable energy have become urgent issues for African cities. Ladies and gentlemen, Dear guests,

In this difficult context, the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) initiative is an opportunity to support sub-Saharan African cities to effectively combat climate change and to promote to energy services across Africa. a voluntary commitment.

Through this initiative we can have ongoing support to develop and implement an ambitious and realistic Climate and Energy Action Plan based on the realities of each territory; exchange best practices, experiences and expertise; develop decentralized cooperation and gain international visibility. As mayors, we all know that every action to tackle the climate and energy challenges is a key priority for our citizens and I am confident that the CoM SSA will provide us with significant support in overcoming these challenges.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed about the main highlights of the CoM ASS project that have been running for the past few months ... I take this opportunity to call all cities in Sub-Saharan Africa to join this initiative open to all communities territories and already has 91 cities.

Mrs AMOUGOU NOMA Régine

Mayor of Yaoundé IV, signatory city of the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA)

The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) is an initiative to support committed local authorities to mitigate and adapt to climate change and to ensure energy access in their municipalities through planning and implementing effective climate and energy actions. The action was launched by the European Commission in 2015. The Covenant of Mayors Office for Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) is a project funded by DG-DEVCO for supporting the implementation of the CoM SSA initiative by creating a platform of local authorities, assisting Sub-Saharan cities with the preparation of action plans, setting up of an international network for exchange of experiences and skills, and the development of policy advocacy.

Last news

Abidjan Summit: Signing of the Political Commitment Document of CoM SSA

28th November 2017 | Abidjan - Invited by the CoM SSA Office on behalf of the 1st Forum of African-European Local and Regions Governments, the Mayors of the beneficiary cities of the CoM SSA confirmed their commitment by signing the Political Commitment Document of this initiative funded by the European Union.

This event, organized by UCLG Africa, PLATFORMA and CEMR in partnership with African and European cities networks made the voices of local actors heard at the 5th Africa-Europe Summit or Cooperation held on 29th -30th November in Abidjan.

The signing ceremony which was the main event of the 1st Africa-Europe Forum, was chaired by the Minister of Interior and Security of Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Sidiki DIAKITE.

The signing of this document in the presence of the authorities, allowed the central governments to better understand the commitment of local elected representatives to the population, but was also an opportunity to call non-signatory cities to join the initiative.



COP23: The Covenant of Mayors makes a plea for the integration of the Action Plans of African cities in the climate policies of the countries

9th November 2017 | Bonn The side event organized by ICLEI World Secretariat on behalf of the CoM SSA initiative, allowed representatives of cities and governments to debate on the actions of African local governments to contribute to the fight against climate change and in a perspective of implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of their respective countries. Coming to share the experience of Cote d'Ivoire, the focal point for climate change Richemond ASSIE highlighted the «Bottom-up» approach that his country put forward during the development of its NDC. The choice of this approach allowed them to include the concerns of the territories in the process. Mr Solly Tshepiso, Mayor of Tshwane (South Africa), insisted on the concrete involvement of central governments in the implementation of local activities, because according to him, central governments are not sufficiently aware of the realities at the local level. Moreover, his statement was confirmed by Mrs. Sylvis Thabitha Muzilla, Vice President of the Association of Local Governments of Botswana and Mayor of the City of Francistown, who advocated for a better articulation of efforts between the two levels of governance. In conclusion, the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa was presented as an initiative that brings together local leaders and supports a multi-level governance model.



COP 23: Urbanization and Energy Demand in Sub-Saharan Africa Finding Integrated Solutions for Collaboration.

09 November 2017 | Bonn, the COP23 Pavilion of Cities and Regions hosted three consecutive sessions highlighting the African voices of local governments and national governments, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector. ICLEI Africa, implementing partner of the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa worked with the EU Energy Initiative's Dialogue and Partnership Facility (EUEI PDF) and coordinated the renowned speakers' meeting who shared their points of view. Throughout the day, three main themes emerged: development opportunities and challenges posed by the rapid urbanization and the increasing of the energy demand in Africa; the need to strengthen financing mechanisms for local and regional authorities to enable them to fight against global warming and support the transition to renewable energy by using energy-efficient technologies; as well as optimizing collaboration at all levels of government to strengthen climate action.



The Covenant of Mayors Office for Sub-Saharan Africa (CoMo SSA) at the 4th World Forum for Local Economic Development - LED, Praia, Cape Verde

ADENE - Energy Agency, represented in November (17-20) the Secretariat of the CoM SSA, at the 4th World Forum on Local Economic Development, in Praia, Cape Verde.

Mr. Nelson Lage, Head of the Energy Information Center for Energy and Focal Point for ADENE, participated in the panel on «Climate change and LED: how to mitigate climate change while promoting local economic development» organized by UCLG Africa - United Cities and Local Governments of Africa.

During the Panel, Nelson Lage, stressed that «We live times that clearly need global agendas but also local voices and actions and where we need global and local economic development and growth, with equity and equality, sustainability and greener agendas and finally where we need to find global solutions that work and can be monitored locally.» Nelson Lage also stressed the importance of thinking and acting together, with concerted efforts, common and shared vision, and taking on this global commitment with local impact, referring to this as the greatest challenge with a generational impact at the local level that we are facing.



Referring to CoM SSA, Nelson Lage presented this regional initiative under the Global Covenant on Climate & Energy, aiming to support sub-Saharan cities in their fight against climate change and in their efforts to guarantee the population's access to sustainable energy, and stressed that «Through this challenge, municipalities can contribute to a new regional narrative that we believe it can contribute to the global challenges we all face and which need to be aligned with the United Nations sustainable development goals». He finish his intervention by challenging the audience to join CoM SSA and participate in the first edition of the EU-Africa Forum of Local Governments (Abidjan, 27 November), on the eve of the 5th EU-Africa Summit.

NEWS FROM IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The Covenant of Mayors Office visited 4 new cities

November - September 2017 | Dakar - Pikine - Lubumbashi - Nouakchott

In the framework of the Inception visits and launches organized in the beneficiary cities, the COM SSA office visited respectively Dakar and Pikine from 11 to 16 September 2017, Lubumbashi from 17 to 21 September and Nouakchott from 2 to 3 November 2017.

- These visits enabled the CoM team to participate in the official launches of the cities' projects in Dakar, Pikine and Lubumbashi in addition to the technical workshops. These meetings, which usually bring together technical services from the city, deconcentrated state services, civil society organizations, have enabled the CoMSSA team to: Present the initiative in its international context (including the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy) and share the progress and activities of the project,
- Show participants the practical applications of a SEACAP, which should be a compromise between planning and concrete actions,
- Return on the role of CSOs to show cities the importance of working with them in the development of PAEDECs
- Present data collection to address all aspects, characteristics, methods and issues of data collection
- Make an Access / Mitigation / Adaptation Mapping, the objective of which is to identify sources of GHG emissions (mitigation pillar), sources of vulnerability (adaptation pillar) and access to energy needs (pillar access to energy).
- Interview with CSOs to see how to analyze with them their role, the mechanisms and levels of their involvement as well as their expectations.



The CoM SSA at the 1st National Conference on Decentralized Cooperation

5th to 7th October 2017 | Held under the theme «Decentralized Cooperation and Empowerment of Territorial Communities», this event took place in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). As a forum for exchanges, debates, meetings and collective reflection between local authorities in Burkina Faso and their partners in the North and South, this conference was an opportunity for the Help Desk Officer to present the Covenant of Mayors for Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) initiative during the round table 5 on «Decentralized Cooperation, Climate Change and Renewable Energy», to discuss directly with the participants to explain the initiative, its objectives and its advantages as well as the process to register. He also participated to a working session with the Minister of Decentralization and Local Taxation.

The Covenant of Mayors Office for Sub-Saharan Africa (CoMO SSA) the 1st Forum of Territorial Managers and Training Institutes

18 to 21 September 2017, United Cities and Governments of Africa (UCLG Africa) through its African Academy of Territorial Communities (ALGA) held the 1st Forum of Territorial Managers and Training Institutes dedicated to building the capacity of Territorial Communities in Africa . With the theme «The Human Resources of African Local Authorities: Time to Act ... Now! The purpose of this forum was to highlight the challenges and challenges of local human resource management and to understand how professional networks of managers and managers could be improved. The CdM ASS initiative was presented on 20 September 2017 by WARO Director, Juliet Mekone Sales in the Capacity Building Thematic Workshop and on 21 September 2017 at the UCLG Africa National Members Association Meeting.

She took the opportunity to urge forum participants to bring information to their respective cities and convince them that the authorities have joined the initiative to be part of this larger community and have ongoing support to develop and implement a climate action plan ambitious and based on the realities of their territory; exchange best practices, experiences and expertise; develop decentralized cooperation and gain international visibility. In the margins of the proceedings, the documents of CdM ASS and the Global Compact were exhibited in a cartoon by the Director of ARM and the Help Desk. They answered participants' questions, gave more insight into the initiative and the membership process, and collected the participants' contacts for sending the membership campaign documents.

Next Event

African Centre for Cities International Urban Conference	1 - 3 February 2018, Cape Town, South Africa
CoMSSA Steering Committee Meeting	TBC Addis Abeba
CoMSSA Advisory Board Meeting	TBC

THE PARTNERS

The implementation of the project is carried out by a consortium of several institutions specialised in the fields of cities and/or climate which are the following:

 <p>L'Europe locale & régionale</p>	 <p>enda énergie</p>	 <p>Local Governments for Sustainability</p>
<p>www.ccre.eu</p>	<p>www.endaenergie.org</p>	<p>www.iclei.org</p>
 <p>UCLG AFRICA United Cities and Local Governments of Africa Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis d'Afrique CGLU AFRIQUE</p>	 <p>SEA SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AFRICA</p>	 <p>ADENE AGÊNCIA PARA A ENERGIA</p>
<p>www.afriquelocale.org</p>	<p>www.afriquelocale.org</p>	<p>www.adene.pt</p>
 <p>Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Énergie</p>	 <p>Climate Alliance</p>	 <p>energycities WHERE ACTION & VISION MEET</p>
<p>www.ademe.fr</p>	<p>www.climatealliance.org</p>	<p>www.energy-cities.eu</p>



Covenant of Mayors in subsaharan Africa

This initiative is open to qll cities in subsaharan africa

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