



Yaounde Roadmap in Action: Building Sustainable Habitats in Africa

Date and Time: 6 November from 3pm - 4:15pm

Venue/room: Multipurpose room 21

Organisers: Climate Chance and UCLG Africa

Summary of the event:

The Climate Chance Conference Africa 2023, organised in Yaounde, Cameroon, had an objective of drafting, with diverse non-State actors, a precise roadmap of priorities for public actors to respond to housing deficit, sufficient planning, informality housing and governance. With 800 participants from over 40 countries in Yaounde and virtual contributors, the "[Yaounde Roadmap for Sustainable Habitats in Africa](#)" emerged as a comprehensive and widely endorsed solution, signed by leading local government networks like UCLG-Africa, and civil society organisations.

Providing adequate housing for its population is one of the biggest challenges facing Africa today. According to UN-Habitat, the housing deficit in African cities is currently around 200 million, and rapidly increasing. African cities, projected to house two-thirds of the continent's population by 2050, lack sufficient planning and infrastructure development, leading to a triple informality in housing, economy, and governance. From 1990 to 2015, 90% of housing growth was informal, resulting in poor access to essential services, increased pollution, health issues, and climate vulnerability. Urban planning has not kept up with the pace of rapid urbanisation. . The Climate and Development agendas are closely intertwined with a need for coordinated action. Effective Management and inclusive governance are crucial for African Cities to unlock their potential as drivers of sustainable development for their territories and the continent. Climate Chance continues to actively advocate for the messages and concrete recommendations laid out in the Yaounde Roadmap at international gatherings focusing on sustainable livelihoods and climate change. The Roadmap's key recommendations have already been integrated into international dialogues, including several side events at the COP28 in Dubai and the ministerial meeting of the Global Forum on Buildings and Climate in Paris.

The 12th World Urban Forum is an opportunity to continue to reassemble different actors around the key messages of the Yaoundé Roadmap to further strengthen its recommendations. This event provides a great opportunity for local actors from African cities, through networks like UCLG-Africa, to continue discussions on the implementation of actions for an inclusive and sustainable habitat for all its citizens. The WUF12 Forum will also be an opportunity for speakers to further discuss the implications of the Yaoundé Roadmap with regards to this matter.

Key objectives:

This event will highlight the progress made since the adoption of the Yaounde Roadmap for Sustainable Habitats at the Climate Chance Conference Africa 2023, and to examine the priorities of African non-state actors in the implementation of climate action in the urban planning and housing sector. Concretely, our event has 3 objectives:



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1. Explore innovative financing mechanisms to bridge the gap between action and resource mobilisation for sustainable habitats in African Cities. This could include discussions on impact investing, green bonds, and public-private partnerships.
2. Foster collaboration between local actors and national/regional entities by establishing a platform of knowledge exchange and joint development initiatives approaches to urban resilience and sustainable habitats in African Cities. This will promote multilevel governance to address the link between inadequate housing and inequality within cities.
3. This event will be a pivotal moment in advancing advocacy for sustainable habitats across Africa. By convening diverse stakeholders, the event aims to develop a concrete set of policy recommendations that address the Yaoundé Roadmap's key priorities. These recommendations will be presented at key international forums throughout the year, including COP29 in Baku. Climate Chance, UCLG Africa, and all signatories of the Roadmap will champion these priorities, ensuring a strong, unified voice for local actors on the international stage.