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The Paris Action Statement

Transforming local and regional climate action

Cities and regions are key engines of social cohesion and national economic development and influence a substantial share of global greenhouse gas emissions. They also face strong impacts of climate change, especially with regards to water supply, air quality and health, food security, agricultural incomes, heat waves and flooding.

Widely mobilized, local and subnational governments are on the front-line of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. They are key implementers of climate action in close collaboration with their citizens and local stakeholders. Economic, technological and social innovation is taking place at local and regional levels and contributing to sustainable development in every part of the world.

Putting the world on a below 2°C trajectory and resilient pathway will only be possible if local and regional climate action is accelerating.

Together, national, local and subnational governments, citizens, communities, non-governmental organisations, donors, banks, businesses and international organisations all have an important role to play in accelerating the transformation towards a sustainable future, in every city, province and region across the planet.

A sustainable, climate resilient and low emission world with decent living conditions for all can only be achieved if we take action at the level closest to the citizens.

This requires leadership and collaboration between different levels of governance, innovation and transformation of our lifestyles and supply chains. This also means science-based policies and effective monitoring.

We are coming together in Paris to commit to a new way of working. To do this, we are joining forces to enhance multilevel leadership and partnerships, and scale up climate action in towns, cities, provinces and regions across the world.

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With our varying responsibilities and capabilities, we collectively commit to support local and regional climate action by further deploying resources by 2020.

We recognise that investments in low-emission and climate-resilient urban infrastructure and services are now essential to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and to reduce the risk of harmful climate impacts locally, while simultaneously delivering significant social and economic benefits such as job creation, resource efficiency and public health gains.



To accelerate long term climate action, we agree to work altogether, in accordance with our respective mandates, towards four key objectives by 2020:

1. **To increase the scale and number of cities and regions' climate action** and plans to reduce emissions from high-emitting sectors and enhance adaptation to climate change. Specifically:
 - Coverage should include diverse local and regional contexts across all continents;
 - Ambition will be set with a view to contribute to a below 2°C pathway;
 - Special emphasis will be placed on the metropolitan areas facing rapid urbanisation to leverage their capacity to design and implement ambitious resilient, resource efficient and low carbon planning strategies.

2. **To build climate resilience in as many cities and regions as possible with special attention paid to the most vulnerable cities, regions and populations;**

3. **To scale up financing for local and regional investments; Specifically:**
 - Accelerate financial support to local integrated policies, infrastructure strategies and programmes towards climate mitigation and resilience across all continents;
 - Improve access to sustainable finance for cities and regions.

4. **To reinforce action-oriented dialogue, partnerships and new policies between all levels of government (national, regional, provincial, urban and community-levels). Specifically:**
 - Promote the scaling-up and acceleration of relevant subnational sectorial alliances;
 - Develop new multi-level international partnerships;
 - Enhance national government participation in existing international initiatives;
 - Support the exchange of knowledge and technology transfer between cities and regions around the world, including through decentralised cooperation.

Through collaboration and working in partnership, we will achieve these objectives and accelerate transformation on the ground together with citizens across the world. In the spirit of the Lima Paris Action Agenda, we will continue developing a path of action toward COP22, in Marrakech, to finalise our work plan as initiated here.

We will take advantage of the UNFCCC, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Sustainable Development Goals and Habitat III processes to take stock of, report and review our collective action by 2020.

We will take advantage of our respective working fora and working groups to keep promoting this dynamic.

We invite others to join us in uniting toward these common, ambitious goals for local and regional climate action, and to jointly committing to achieve a resilient and well below 2°C world.



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