



Regional and local authorities for Development
Climate change and development cooperation: innovative regional and local solutions for prevention and adaptation
La Rábida, 26 May 2010

DRAFT PROGRAMME (as at 20 May 2010)

Rationale

Climate change impacts directly or indirectly on development objectives, in particular on the Millennium development goals and the target to reduce the number of people living in poverty. Climate change causes more vulnerability in low-income countries, where the poor have greater dependence on climate sensitive sectors, than in the responsible countries in the North. Droughts, floods and other natural disasters put already vulnerable communities at risk and strain their ability to meet their basic food requirements, all the more as their members earn their livelihood from self-sustaining agricultural activity.

Climate change has a geopolitical dimension and consequently climate equity and multilateralism must become new paradigms. On the one hand, developing countries have a relatively small responsibility regarding climate change. On the other hand, they have a reduced capacity to adapt, often an exploding demography as well as a legitimate right to economic growth. Therefore, developed countries should address this global phenomenon in a concerted manner through multi-stakeholder and multi-level initiatives.

Regional and local administrations have a central role to play in fighting against and mitigating climate change. They are the ones that decide and implement policies in areas that suffer as a result of climate change or where adaption to its consequences can be effected, notably environment, transport, infrastructure, aggregation systems for agriculture and disaster risk management.

PLATFORMA brings together networks of local and regional authorities already working on climate change in their international cooperation activities. The aim of this conference is therefore to exchange local and regional experiences and innovative best practices related to the prevention and adaptation to climate change. Proposals will be elaborated on how regional and local authorities can improve their cooperation, in order to strengthen their participation in the global fight against climate change.

Tuesday, 25 May 2010

- 15:00-19:00 PLATFORMA steering committee meeting
- 21:00 Official dinner

Wednesday, 26 May 2010

- 09:00-09:15 Registration of participants
- 09:15-09:45 Opening session

Welcome by

- Juan Manuel Suárez Japón, Vice-Chancellor of UNIA
- Petronila Guerrero, President of the municipal council of Huelva
- José Juan Díaz Trillo, Minister for Environment, Andalucía

Opening by:

- José Pablo GONZÁLEZ DURÁN, Mayor of Collado Villalba and President of the Development cooperation Committee of FEMP
- Klaus KLIPP, AER Secretary General

09:45-11:00 Introduction: Challenges of climate change and the role of regional and local authorities in mitigation and adaptation

- ➔ How are and will LRA be affected by climate change?
 - The elaboration of adaption policies
- ➔ How do LRA tackle climate change consequences?
 - The elaboration of mitigation policies
- ➔ How should LRAs advocate for inclusion in national and international dialogues?
- ➔ How to articulate strategies and work with national and international frameworks?

Presentations

- The Territorial approach to climate change (TACC), by Giovanna Chiodi Moire, UNEP Associate Programme Officer, Regional Office for Europe
- Regional adaptation plans from the Andalusian perspective, by José Fiscal, General Director for climate change and urban environment, Andalucía



Round table:

- Paqui Santonja Mayor, Executive Advisor, Cabinet of the Directorate of State for the European Union, Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
- Isaura Leal Fernández, Secretaria General de la FEMP
- Giovanna Chiodi Moire, UNEP Associate Programme Officer, Regional Office for Europe
- José Fiscal, General Director for climate change and urban environment, Andalucía

Moderator: Frédéric Vallier, Secretary General of CEMR

11:00-11:20

Coffee break

11:20-12:30

Session 1: Multilevel democratic governance in the context of climate change: the added value of decentralized cooperation

- Sharing knowledge and building capacity
- Raising citizens' awareness and integrating the poorest populations in climate change related policies
- Developing multistakeholder partnerships, notably with the private sector

- Cécile Batungwanayo, Attachée, Walloon Agency for Air and Climate
- Derek Taylor, Chairman of Lancashire-Gulu Link Association
- Mónica Alonso López, Director of the Energy Agency of Tenerife, Cabildo de Tenerife

Moderator: José Fiscal, Director General for climate change and urban environment, Andalucía

12:30-13:45

Lunch

13:45-15:00

Session 2: Disaster Risk Management in developing countries – best practices and territorial approaches

Climate change causes more severe and more frequent natural disasters. People in developing countries are often more vulnerable to such disasters, because of weaker means of protection:

- How can LRA prevent and mitigate the consequences of floods, droughts, mud-slides, rising sea levels and other natural disasters?
- What are the common problems LRA face on this issue and what experiences and best practices could be shared and promoted?



- Sebastian RIEDER, Policy coordinator, Eurisy
- Martín Guillermo Ramírez □ Secretary General, AEBR
- a representative of the German Committee for Disaster Reduction

Moderator: Klaus Klipp, AER Secretary General

15:00-15:15

Coffee break

15:15-16:30

Session 3: Covering basic needs and securing the existence: food, agricultural and energy production and supply in the climate change context

Climate change causes severe repercussions for the agricultural sector in developing countries, putting into danger the already limited capacities in covering their food requirements:

- ➔ How can regional and local authorities help the local agricultural sector to adapt its practices?
- ➔ How can LRA contribute to sustainably manage local natural resources and increase food security?

- Joe Dewbre, Senior Agriculture Policy Analyst, Directorate Trade and Agriculture, Division Development, OECD
- a representative from País Vasco
- a representative from the Red Cross Spain

Moderator: representative from FEMP

16:30-17:00

Conclusion by Klaus Klipp, AER Secretary General

With the support of the European Commission

