



The R20 Regions of Climate Action (R20)

Activities/Initiatives Underway in Advance of COP21

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Background of R20

The R20 is a non-profit organization founded in 2010 by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and several other leaders of sub-national or regional governments in collaboration with the United Nations. The purpose of R20 is to facilitate climate change solutions by helping our member regions to implement low carbon economic development projects in sectors such as energy efficiency retrofits, waste reduction, and renewable energy deployment. We do this by working in three primary aspects of development: policy, technology, and finance. www.regions20.org

Compact of States and Regions

The Compact of States and Regions represents a commitment by global state and regional government networks, including nrg4SD, R20 and The Climate Group, and CDP, to provide an annual assessment of the commitments (i.e. GHG reduction targets) and progress towards those commitments (i.e. GHG inventory data) made by state and regional governments around the world to support international climate governance processes. The assessment will include two components that partners believe will provide increased clarity on the current contributions being made by global state and regional governments:

- A single account of GHG reduction targets made by participating state and regional governments, and
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data for all participating governments, reported annually to the Compact in order to assess progress towards stated targets, and standardized in order to enable comparability across regions.

While the Compact will collect a standard set of GHG data, it will not endeavor to create a common methodology for collecting and reporting this data, instead recognizing the various methodologies currently being used by participating governments around the world.

Sub National Action Scaled Up for COP White Paper in Collaboration with Yale University and the Stanley Foundation

White paper that provides examples of a state/region/city has taken measures on cutting GHG emissions that when scaled up nationally could mean significant positive results. The goal is to show that by Country "X" doing what their state/region/city has done that country could easily achieve its fair share of a Kyoto-Style pledge that actually solves the "no more than 2 degree global temperature rise" UNFCCC goal.

Ideally the paper will highlight a state/region/city in China, India, Brazil, South Africa, Russia and the U.S. (5 to 10 examples from all over the world, especially in the most-polluting countries). Other examples can be included if they illustrate the point. The paper should clearly show that when these actions roll up nationally they are significant and are already in place all over the world. The goal is to leverage the findings of the white paper in advance of the COP to show that much work is already being done at the subnational level so national governments are well poised to make stronger commitments.

The COP21 Climate Finance Advisory Committee

Under a mandate from French President Hollande (as chair of COP21) the **COP21 Climate Finance Advisory Committee (CFAC) (led by the R20)** is working to identify climate finance gaps by:

- Creating a comprehensive database of existing public and private climate finance efforts;
- Evaluating national GHG-reduction goals and related development projects (and attendant finance) needed to achieve such goals;
- Establish a mechanism to identify and align (and match/leverage) donors & investors from all



sources on realistic timelines for capital infusions equal to those national aspirations; and highlight finance gaps.

The CFAC will work to the identified gaps with:

- “Best/Fastest Available” approach to design new Funds & project development mechanisms, working with innovative “developers” and de-risking mechanisms;
- Opening existing green funds to regional governments;
- Information sharing by co-hosting conferences, work groups, events:
- January 2015 kickoff meeting of the CFAC;
- September 2015 report-out and new product announcements with UNFCCC.

R20 Women Leaders for Climate Action Initiative

The initiative will highlight the role of women in the three sectors that are being positively disrupted by the transition to the green economy: policy-making, technology and finance in the run up to COP21 and beyond. With increasing recognition that women are key to tackling climate change, the Women Leaders initiative seeks to both inspire and support actions led by women from across the globe on climate and the green economy. Leading women from all sectors of the economy will be involved in crafting a roadmap for climate action for COP21.

A number of concrete initiatives driven by women (demonstration projects), will be showcased at the climate conference in Paris. Thematic areas will include:

- Women and innovation in the green economy;
- Women and energy, and/or water and food security;
- Women taking action against food waste; and
- Women in social responsibility, sustainability education.

Women’s Tribune – Casablanca, Morocco – May 29th-30th, 2015

This event will bring together prominent and trailblazing figures involved in the promotion of the role of women in fighting climate change. These are persons who have each contributed to the combatting this pervasive issue. The Tribune will also recognize the increasingly active and impactful roles and actions women have achieved in countering global climate change. Past themes for the gatherings have included women’s leading innovations in the green economy, societal sustainable development, and the guarantee of the basic rights of human beings such as water and food. The organizations involved in bringing this conference together are R20 along with ICLEI, M6 Foundation, ORU-FROGAR, FMDV, and the Mexico City Pact.

Mediterranean Civil Society Forum – Marseille, France – June 4th-5th, 2015

As part of the many steps in preparing for the annual COP21 for the year 2015, the French President, Francois Hollande has given his support to this conference that will be held in Provence-Alpes Cote d’Azur Region. It will involve hosting a meeting of Mediterranean stakeholders to highlight the need for a joint commitment from them in order to adapt to and combat climate change. In addition, there will be activities that will showcase the contribution of governments, local authorities, associations, enterprises, and networks that are serving as catalysts for sustainable development. The Mediterranean will be a focal point as a region that experiences a rise in average annual temperatures of 2.2 to 5.1 °C. Such a change will greatly impact the biodiversity of aquatic life in the Mediterranean Sea for generations to come. These changes will affect large, essential sectors of the regional economy such as farming, tourism, and energy production. Therefore, it is even more of a vital effort for places such as the Cote d’Azur Region to increase cooperation and awareness on this issue. Conference participants are expected to range to include local authorities, representatives from governments and decentralized State bodies, figures from the business community, leaders in research, prominent teaching figures, and NGOs.

World Summit on Climate & Territories – Lyon, France – July 1st-2nd, 2015



In preparation for the climate conference later this year in Paris, the Rhône-Alpes Region will host a World Summit on Climate and Territories in Lyon. This is done with the support numerous subnational governments' and with others in the international community. French President Francois Hollande will be participating in the official events held by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) French Presidency. This event will seek to further progress and expand the cooperation between non-state actors, subnational governments, and local authorities. In addition to speeches from prominent figures, there will be workshops led by at least one international network of local authorities and another from a non-state actor. The planned workshops include:

- Forest
- Mobility and transportation
- Education and awareness raising
- Energy generation, distribution, and consumption
- Low-carbon economy and jobs
- Agriculture
- Decentralized cooperation and territorial partnerships
- Financing
- Adaption
- Territorial planning

Energy Efficiency Global Forum – Washington D.C., US – May 12th-13th, 2015

This conference will convene hundreds of figures ranging from groups such as high-level industry professionals, members of academia, and policy-makers who are looking to create partnerships, discuss the latest technologies, and develop best practice policies and strategies for global implementation of energy efficiency. Through the activities and people involved, organizers expect the EE Global sessions to offer essential insights from business, policy, and environmental leaders leading the global energy efficient movement. This exclusive, invite-only forum will meet with the goal of integrating effective policies and business practices that will progress and move the international community into more energy efficient action.

ORU-Fogar Summit of Regions – Sevilla, Spain – September 25th, 2015

The Organization of Regions United/Forum of regional governments and global associations of regions will hold its 2015 General Assembly in Sevilla, Spain. This event brings together all facades of the sub-national government in order to further foster cooperation amongst them. The ORU-Fogar was created in South African in 2007 on the basis of the “Declaration of the Regions on their participation in the governance of globalization” which was signed in Marseille, France. This group involves seventeen networks from the founding-Regions from all continents. Their main principles include interregional cooperation, international advocacy, and to be utilized as a speaker for the different regions.