

Financing Climate Action Working Group of nrg4SD

Minutes of the meeting of 23 March 2011

European regions Aquitaine (FR) Basque Country (ES) Brittany (FR– Coordinator) Catalonia (ES)	Flanders (BE) Rhône-Alpes (FR) Wales (UK) Wallonia (BE) Non-European region Québec (CA)	Apologies Buenos Aires (AR) Mbale (UG) PACA (FR)	Next meeting General Delegation of Québec in Brussels Avenue des Arts 46 - 15.30-17.30, on 17.05.2011
<p>The objective of this meeting was to present the Financing Climate Action Working Group (FCA WG) of nrg4SD and to discuss about its internal organisation and working methodology with the partner Regions.</p> <p>For further information, please refer to the Power Point presentation in attachment.</p> <p>1 - Introduction to the Working Group – The working group will be led by Brittany and Mr. Renaud Layadi, Adviser for International Networks of the Regional Council of Brittany, will be its coordinator.</p> <p>The FCA WG has aroused cross-continental interest within the Network, with the following member Regions joining it: Aquitaine, Basque Country, Brittany, Buenos Aires, Catalunya, Flanders, Mbale, PACA, Québec, Rhône-Alpes, Wales and Wallonia.</p> <p>Renaud made a presentation on the proposed contents, aims and working programme of the WG illustrating them to the other Regions delegates.</p> <p>2 - Objectives of the WG – The objective of the working group is twofold.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the one hand it seeks to create capacity in Regions on how carbon finance works from a technical point of view and to enable them to set their own tools. Parallel to this, the WG will be nrg4SD channel for lobby at EU and UN level in this field. At EU level, nrg4SD will concentrate its lobby mainly on strengthening the climate change dimension in revolving funds and structural funds post-2013. Besides, nrg4SD will try to influence the activities of the EU at international level, while asking the 			<p>Notes & comments for action</p> <p>Cross-continental interest in the WG <i>Intérêt transcontinental pour le groupe de travail</i></p> <p>Technical capacity building for Regions on carbon finance tools <i>Acquisition de capacités techniques en instruments de finance carbone dans les Régions</i></p>

<p>Union to help maximise the potential of Regions in climate action and to be an ambassador of the territorial dimension of climate change policy. At UN level, nrg4SD will concentrate its lobbying mainly on ensuring that the existing carbon financing mechanisms continue to work after 2012, on adapting the current carbon mechanisms to the regional level and on pursuing a territorial dimension in any new international carbon funds that may be agreed under UNFCCC.</p> <p>Although COP16 has acknowledged the role of subnational governments in the domain of FCA, many questions are still not answered and Regions do not have a sufficient technical background to develop their own financing climate change instruments. For these reasons, robust, independent, free from private interests and tailored technical assistance is needed.</p> <p>3 - Methodology and tools for the WG</p> <p>Language - The working language will be English, but, following the tradition within the Network, there shall be flexibility towards the use of the other two working languages of the Network (French and Spanish) during meetings</p> <p>Technical WG: relevant for the choice of the delegates representing each Region - The importance of the active participation of the Regions to the WG was stressed. Because of the technical complexity of the issues addressed by this WG, delegates will be required to read some concise bibliography (20-30 pages) before each technical meeting to ensure a common knowledge amongst all delegates. In addition, participants are kindly invited to prepare questions to submit to the experts that will be invited to the WG.</p> <p>Activities – Renaud presented a schedule of the activities for the months ahead. A first technical meeting with participation of CdC Climat as guest experts will take place on the 17th May at the premises of the General Delegation of Québec in Brussels.</p> <p>A second optional technical meeting with other key experts (e.g. EIB, Covenant of Mayors) is foreseen for later this year. The date for May has been fixed using the Doodle pool system, open to all participant Regions.</p> <p>In addition, nrg4SD intends to participate in UNFCCC Pre-COP 17 in Bonn next June and COP 17 in Durban next December, in order to lobby for a territorial dimension into technical negotiations.</p> <p>Besides, Renaud suggested that a delegation of the WG should visit T°Cg in London to plan a common event on Carbon Finance at COP17. nrg4SD bringing in the Public Funding aspect, T°Cg providing a complementary angle through Private Banking interests. He stressed the relevance that the level of partnership and understanding between both networks could add to cover large sectors of Carbon Finance. The meeting could take place after Bonn (late June, early July).</p> <p>4 - Seeking technical assistance: CdC Climat as a guest technical expert - nrg4SD Secretary General Maruxa Cardama and Renaud Layadi have been in contact with CdC Climat (a subsidiary of the Bank of French Local</p>	<p>Lobbying at EU and UN level <i>Lobbying au niveau de l'UE et de l'ONU</i></p> <p>Regions need robust and independent assistance <i>Les Régions ont besoin d'une assistance solide et indépendante</i></p> <p>Working language: EN <i>Langue de travail: EN</i></p> <p>Regions must be aware of the TECHNICAL CONTENT of the meetings <i>Les Régions doivent être conscientes du CONTENU TECHNIQUE des réunions</i></p> <p>Next meetings with CdC Climat as guest expert <i>Prochaines réunions avec CdC Climat en qualité d'invité technique</i></p> <p>Lobbying in UNFCC Bonn and Durban <i>Lobbying à Bonn et Durban dans le cadre de l'UNFCC</i></p> <p>Making contact with T°Cg to plan a common event at COP17 <i>Etablir un contact avec T°Cg pour concevoir une initiative commune à la COP17</i></p>
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<p>Governments) as a guest technical expert of the FCA WG.</p> <p>CdC Climat is dependent from the French Government but is accountable to the French Parliament; it has already had contacts with Aquitaine, Brittany and Catalonia and has established partnerships with other banks and local governments throughout Europe.</p> <p>Following from these conversations and the launch meeting of the FCA WG, it is agreed that CdC Climat will provide free technical assistance to create a common culture on ETS financial tools and benchmarking on other financing climate action mechanisms.</p> <p>It was stressed that there will not be any kind of exclusivity partnership with CdC Climat, who in any case will remain a technical guest to the WG. Renaud and Maruxa shall endeavour to seek free assistance from other instances such as the European Commission, the European Investment Bank or the World Bank. All Regions are warmly invited to suggest other technical expertise.</p> <p>A wider “fellowship agreement” between nrg4SD and CdC Climat will be suggested to nrg4SD’s Steering Committee upon proposal of Brittany in its capacity of nrg4SD European Focal Point and coordinator of this Working Group and with the positive recommendation of the Secretariat.</p> <p>The proposal for an agreement will probably include short, medium and long-term activities. In the short term, CdC Climat could provide training and expertise to the FCA WG; while in the medium term the proposal for an agreement could envisage collaborations for large events organised by either nrg4SD or CdC Climat, exchange of information (e.g. factsheets, research papers, debriefing notes...) and mutually beneficial lobby initiatives on UNFCCC mechanisms. In the long term, CdC Climat could help establish a standardised common methodology for the creation of regional carbon funds and the carbon assessment of public expenditure.</p> <p>It is found that a more long-term collaboration will allow nrg4SD to (i) build technical capacity on this matter with a view to strengthening its lobby interventions in this field within UNFCCC (starting by COP 17 Durban in December 2011) and (ii) work towards the complex goal of elaborating guidelines and methodologies for the establishment of regional carbon funds and tools for assessing the carbon impact of public expenditure.</p> <p>5 - Next meeting and tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Regions must bear in mind the technical content of the WG and are kindly requested to confirm the participation of their technical representatives. 2) The WG is open to any suggestion from the Regions: their active participation is essential to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. 3) The WG coordinator will elaborate a draft agenda for the next meeting and distribute some recommended bibliography. 4) Delegates’ preparation required for next meeting: reading bibliography + preparing questions for CdC Climat. 5) The nrg4SD Secretariat will explore IT solutions to facilitate participation and involvement in the WG. 	<p>Introduction to CdC Climat <i>Présentation de CdC Climat</i></p> <p>CdC Climat as technical guest <i>CdC Climat invite technique</i></p> <p>Suggestions for other technical expertise welcome <i>Suggestions pour d’autre expertise sont bienvenues</i></p> <p>Proposal for a wider agreement with CdC Climat <i>Proposition d’agrément avec CdC Climat</i></p> <p>Short, medium and long-term activities <i>Activités dans la courte, moyenne et longue période</i></p> <p>Confirm the participation of technical representatives <i>Confirmer la participation des délégués techniques</i></p> <p>The active participation of the Regions is essential <i>La participation active des Régions est essentielle</i></p> <p>Read bibliography and prepare questions <i>Lire la bibliographie et préparer des questions</i></p>
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6) Regions must keep up their ongoing work towards the recruitment of new but motivated members

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