



Network of Regional Governments
for Sustainable Development

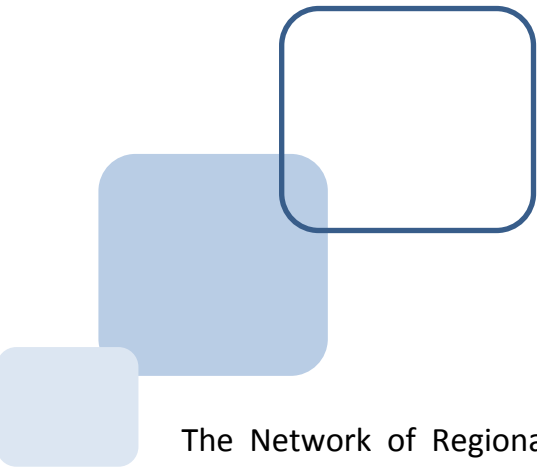


On the Road to Durban

UNFCCC COP 17/CMP 7

Quick Guide

April 2011



The Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development, nrg4SD is an international organisation representing over 600 subnational governments, namely federated states and regional governments, at the global level. The network promotes understanding, collaboration and partnerships in sustainable development and seeks greater international recognition of subnational government's important contribution towards sustainable development. A member of the Association des Régions Unies/Forum Global d'Associations de Régions (ORU/FOGAR), nrg4SD is the voice of ORU/FOGAR in the field of sustainable development.

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nrg4SD members interested in the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change matters may also find the following nrg4SD products useful:

- Subnational governments at the forefront of climate action – Advocacy Paper
- Regions: Conscientious and influential partners in climate action - European Advocacy Paper
- Overview on the main outcomes of UNFCCC COP 16/CMP 6 Cancun
- Quick Guide to the main outcomes of UNFCCC COP16/CMP6 Cancun
- A Tale of 3 Success Stories – A commentary at the closing of Cancun
- On the Road to Durban – Overview on developments towards UNFCCC COP17/CMP7
- Quick guide to key dossiers towards Durban
- Rough Guide to UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol
- Glossary of UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol

This is part of the nrg4SD Quick Guide series.

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On the Road to Durban



From 28 November to 9 December 2011, COP17/CMP7 (the 17th Conference of the Parties) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will take place in Durban, South Africa. Thanks to its official accreditation to the UNFCCC, nrg4SD will continue to work closely with the Secretariat and Parties to the Convention as it has done at previous COPs.

COP16/CMP6 took place in Cancun Mexico in December 2010 and the Cancun Agreements represent progress for the international community, both in terms of regaining trust in multilateralism and of improving the international climate action framework. The Cancun Agreements proved successful for nrg4SD and the other organisations part of the Major Group for Local Government and Municipal Authorities in particular, as for the first time ever, UNFCCC fully recognised the crucial role of both local and subnational governments as ‘government stakeholders’ in global climate change efforts.

In a nutshell, the **new institutions to be developed during 2011** in follow up to the Cancun Agreements include:

- An **Adaptation Framework** to boost international cooperation to help developing countries protect themselves from the impacts of climate change
- A **Registry** where developing countries will detail their voluntary plans to limit greenhouse gas emissions and the support they need to achieve them
- A **Green Climate Fund** to house the international management, deployment and accountability of long-term funds for developing country support
- A **Technology Mechanism** to get clean technologies to the right place, at the right time and to best effect

This quick guide presents the key dossiers towards COP17/CMP7 in Durban and the preparations to be made by nrg4SD in 2011. It outlines the key dossiers for Adaptation, Mitigation, Financing Climate Change, Technology Development and Capacity building.

Key dates 2011 towards Durban



Bangkok, Thailand - April 2011

In April 2011, the sixteenth session of the AWG-KP (AWG-KP 16) and the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA (AWG-LCA 14), as well as workshops pursuant to the Cancun Agreements, took place in **Bangkok**. At the conference, parties agreed on an agenda to work towards a comprehensive and balanced outcome at UNFCCC in Durban at the end of the year. This outcome will address about the implementation of the Cancun Agreements and issues that had not been resolved at Cancun. All actors in the negotiations must push ahead with their work to aim for another significant step in addressing global climate change in 2011.

Discussions in Bangkok under the Kyoto Protocol included not only a focus on what should happen with regard to the future of the protocol but also how it will happen. While developed countries were mainly focused on addressing the implementation of the Cancun Agreements, developing countries wanted to ensure that those issues that were not resolved at Cancun yet are part of the comprehensive Bali Action Plan that governments agreed on in 2007 were dealt with in a balanced way. The working groups are tasked to set a negotiation framework for the final discussion at COP17 in Durban.

Click [here](#) for more information on the Bangkok workshops

Bonn Germany – June 2011

From 6 - 17 June 2011, the 34th session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) will take place in Bonn, Germany. The second part of the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA and the second part of the sixteenth session of the AWG-KP will take place from 7-17 June.



Adaptation

At COP16 in Cancun 2010, Parties established the **Cancun Adaptation Framework** with the objective of enhancing action on adaptation, including through international cooperation and coherent consideration of matters relating to adaptation under the Convention. Ultimately enhanced action on adaptation seeks to reduce vulnerability and build resilience in developing country Parties, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of those developing countries that are particularly vulnerable.

The **framework** will:

- aim to achieve better planning and implementation, increased financial and technical support; strengthen and/or establish regional centres and networks; boost research, assessments and technology cooperation on adaptation, as well as strengthen education and public awareness.
- be complemented by an Adaptation Committee to promote stronger action on adaptation by means of technical support and guidance to countries, knowledge-sharing and synergy between stakeholders.

➤ One of the new institutions to be developed during 2011 in follow up to the Cancun Agreements is an **Adaptation Framework and Committee**.

Mitigation

At COP16/CMP6, Parties decided to establish a formal **international registry of National Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs)**, coupled with strengthening transparency around their elaboration.

- The registry will have separate sections: one for NAMAs from developing countries requiring international support and a separate one for NAMAs which do not request international support.
- Developing countries will provide information on the actions for which they are seeking support, whereas industrialised countries will provide information on available support for these actions.

- Supported actions will be measured, reported and verified internationally, so aid efficiency can be monitored. For domestically supported actions this will be done at the national level.

➤ Guidelines for matching actions and support, reporting, international consultation and analysis, as well as for measurement, reporting and verification are all to be developed during 2011.

➤ Towards Durban guidelines for strengthened reporting on GHG emissions will have to be worked out. Governments' views on how this may best be done were submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat at the end of March, 2011.

It was also decided to establish **biennial reporting on mitigation progress by developing countries** in a differentiated way to that of industrialised countries.

➤ Biennial reporting on progress towards mitigation objectives by developing countries process of international consultation and analysis of these biennial reports will be established.

COP 16/CMP6 also agreed on **Strengthening** Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (**CDM**) to drive major investments and technology into environmentally sound and sustainable emission reduction projects, by means of:

- A special focus on developing countries with less than 10 CDM initiatives registered.
- Allowing carbon capture and storage projects in the CDM, provided that a range of technical issues and safety requirements are resolved and fulfilled.

➤ To this end, further technical work in order to resolve technical issues and safety requirements and with the aim of having a final decision in Durban will be carried out in 2011 these issues

In December 2010 it was decided to establishing **one or more new market-based mechanisms** to both enhance and promote the cost-effectiveness of mitigation actions.

➤ Technical work will be carried out through 2011 in order for the establishment of such a mechanism to be considered in Durban.

Financing Climate Change

The **Green Climate Fund** was established at COP16/CMP6 in Cancun to house the international management, deployment and accountability of long-term funds for developing country support. The fund is intended **to deploy \$100bn a year by 2020** to protect poor nations against climate impacts and assist them with low-carbon development.

The Fund shall:

- function under the guidance of, and be accountable to COP;
- support projects, programmes, policies and other activities in developing countries using thematic funding windows;
- be governed by a Green Climate Fund Board, comprising 24 members with equal representation from developing and developed countries;
- have its assets administered by a trustee. The final compromise that managed to unblock this thorny question establishes that the World Bank will serve as the interim trustee. This will be reviewed 3 years down the operationalisation of the fund.
- be supported by a professional independent secretariat.
- be designed by a **Transitional Committee** of 40 members, with 15 members from developed country Parties and 25 members from developing country Parties, all having the necessary experience and skills, notably in the area of finance and climate change. COP16 also requested the UNFCCC Secretariat to enable relevant United Nations agencies, international financial institutions and multilateral development banks, along with the Secretariat and the Global Environment Facility (GRF), to second staff to support the work of the Transitional Committee.

➤ Green Climate Fund - As a result of the Cancun Agreements, one of the new institutions to be developed during 2011 is the Green Climate Fund.

➤ The Transitional Committee shall develop and recommend for approval to the COP at its 17th session to be held in Durban, South Africa, from 28 November to 9 December 2011, a number of operational documents for the Green Climate Fund. In the conduct of its work, the COP requested the Transitional Committee to encourage input from all Parties and from relevant international organisations and observers.

Parties in Cancun agreed on more **transparency and regular information on** the funds dedicated to the **Fast-start finance** for developing countries (pledge of USD 30 billion by 2012) and how to access them.

➤ Industrialised country Governments are invited to submit a complete overview of fast-start funding to the UNFCCC Secretariat by May 2011 for publication.

One of the outcomes of COP16 in Cancun was the establishment of a **Standing Committee** on long-term finance under COP, which will assist on mobilisation from a mix of public and private sources, delivery and verification of the long-term finance under the Green Climate Fund.

➤ The specific roles and functions of the Standing Committee are to be developing during 2011 on the road to Durban.

Technology

A **Technology Mechanism** was established at COP16/CMP6 in Cancun to facilitate the implementation of enhanced action on technology development and transfer for climate change mitigation and adaptation to climate change. It consists of a Technology Executive Committee and a Climate Technology Centre and Network.

➤ As one of the institutions to be developed in 2011 is the Technology Mechanism, the COP underlined the importance of **continued dialogue** among Parties through the Ad-Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) under its work programme in 2011 on technology development and transfer. Additionally, there is the view that the COP will take a decision at COP17 in Durban, in order to make the Technology Mechanism fully operational in 2012.

➤ By the same decision, the COP requested the AWG-LCA to convene an **expert workshop**, in conjunction with one of its sessions in 2011, drawing upon the preliminary work undertaken by the Expert Group on Technology Transfer, and to report on the results of this workshop at that session. This [expert workshop on Technology Mechanism](#) took place on 4–5 April 2011, in Bangkok, Thailand.

Capacity Building

Parties in Cancun agreed on the increased **capacity-building support** to developing countries by strengthening relevant institutions, networks and climate change communication, education, training and public awareness at all levels. Included in this is increased sharing of information.

➤ There was a public consultation on capacity building to which nrg4SD submitted ideas and that closed in February 2011. During 2011, a **structure for institutional arrangements for capacity building** should be developed as well as ways to increase how to monitor the effectiveness of capacity building. These areas will be considered at COP17 in Durban.

nrg4SD preparations to Durban



nrg4SD is preparing throughout 2011 with a series of meetings and events planned in order to reach a position ahead of COP17 in Durban in December.

The **nrg4SD Working Group on Financing Climate Action** was launched in the first quarter of the year and aims to create capacity in the officers of subnational governments in a complex issue where little expertise exists at subnational level. It enables subnational governments to set up their own regional carbon finance tools and elaborate nrg4SD strategies at EU and UN level. Technical and side events during UNFCCC dates are foreseen under the 2011 work programme of the Working Group.

In June 2011, the second part of the fourteenth session of the AWG-LCA and the second part of the sixteenth session of the AWG-KP will take place in **Bonn, Germany**. nrg4SD will be present at these negotiations in preparation for COP17 in Durban.

Following on from this, at the end of August 2011, the nrg4SD **Annual General Assembly** will take place in Québec (CA). This will be the opportunity to discuss and reach a final position to take to COP17.

On 20-21 October 2011, an event will take place in Lyon (France) entitled **European Conference of Regions on Climate Change**. Organised by the French region of Rhône-Alpes and in close partnership with nrg4SD and the organisation The °Climate Group, it will constitute the preparation event to Durban for European subnational governments/regions.

Sources for more information



UNFCCC	<p><i>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change UNFCCC</i> COP16/CMP6 page, including links to all official documents and webcasts COP16/CMP6 overview, including detailed info on 2011 dossiers and latest developments Meetings – meetings archive Date base of documents National reports Newsletter</p>
UNFCCC LGMA constituency	<p>UNFCCC constituency for Local Government and Municipal Authorities <i>UNFCCC LGMA</i> nrg4SD ICLEI – Focal Point for LGMA UCLG</p>
UNEP	<p>United Nations Environment Programme <i>UNEP</i> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change <i>IPCC</i> Emissions gap report Climate Change Programme News</p>
European Union EU	<p>Climate and Energy Package Second European Climate Change Programme International Climate Finance – EU actions Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and Effort Sharing Decision Roadmap for moving towards a low-carbon economy by 2050</p>

Global Commitment of North and South Subnational Governments to Sustainable Development

The **Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development, nrg4SD** works tirelessly to champion the work of subnational governments on sustainable development, including climate action. International organisation representing over 600 subnational governments* (namely federated states and regional governments) at the global level; nrg4SD promotes understanding, partnerships and projects in sustainable development and seeks greater international recognition of the important contribution of subnational governments towards sustainable development. Member of the Organisation des Régions Unies/Forum Global d'Associations de Régions (ORU/FOGAR), nrg4SD is the voice of ORU/FOGAR in the field of sustainable development.



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