



## TOWARDS CARBON NEUTRAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENT TERRITORIES



### **BACKGROUND: The territory as a place for integrated climate and carbon-related activities**

The 2007/08 UNDP Human Development Report highlights that global warming has become an undeniable reality. While developing countries, have contributed little to greenhouse gas emissions, yet the Report notes that they are the most vulnerable to its impacts. Countries will be unevenly affected by the impact of climate change and the poorest will have to bear most of the consequences.

Implementation of the mitigation and adaptation policies necessary to successfully address the climate change challenge will only be achieved through involvement and commitment at all levels of decision-making. It is therefore necessary to apply a subsidiarity principle, which acknowledges the importance and the complementarity of each level, whether provincial, national or international, and which facilitates the identification of the most appropriate measures to be implemented by each of them.

- ***Entrusted with responsibilities in both policy-making and the implementation of investment projects, sub-national territories and authorities constitute an indispensable and complementary link in the chain to implement mitigation and adaptation policies***

While local and regional governments implement national policies they also have regulatory and planning functions. They are simultaneously policy-makers and investors in a number of sectors responsible for greenhouse gas emissions (basic services, transportation, construction, training, etc ) or impacted by climate change (disaster risk reduction, natural resource management, socio-economic development, etc.). .

- ***The reduction of energy use and climate vulnerability is a challenge at the centre of local concerns***

Ultimately, adaptation is a context-based activity, with planning and implementation of adaptation measures in response to unique circumstances and capacity at different scales. The regional level turns out to be the most appropriate one for the implementation of adaptation measures in a number of areas such as regional water resource management, regional biodiversity conservation, regional infrastructure planning, etc.

In the field of mitigation, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, sub-national authorities have a wide array of actions they can undertake. These range from inter-urban, inter-modal transport to the promotion of decentralized power production, especially through renewable resources.

### **Changing the Paradigm: a local approach to fighting climate change**

The current approach, which favors the development of a wide array of small, dispersed and fragmented projects, must be abandoned in favor of an ambitious integrated planning framework that focuses on economic development and the transformation of territories and that supports the implementation of national policies. The territorial approach responds to a dual objective:

- To integrate climate and carbon related constraints in local planning instruments,
- To promote clean means of production and consumption at the local level.

### **STRATEGY: Develop the capacities of regions in developing and transition countries to implement their Integrated Territorial Climate Plan (ITCP)**

Programme partners would support sub-national authorities in the following areas:

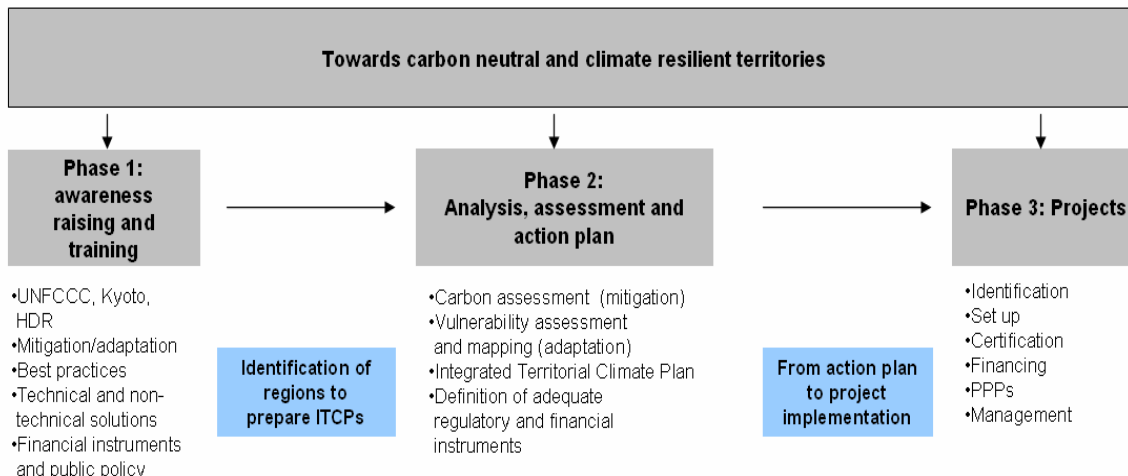
- Know-how and **good practice** exchanges between the United Nations, national governments, regions and the private sector etc.
- Design and provision of **methodological tools** and techniques necessary for the drafting of Integrated Territorial Climate Plan (ITCP)
- **Training** on the use of these tools, and on the design of strategies and an ITCP
- Assistance to select projects within the ITCP and identification of the appropriate regulatory and financial instruments: **public policy / investment projects**
- Technical assistance to facilitate access to **new financial mechanisms**



## IMPLEMENTATION: An ambitious programme for scaling up action to meet the climate change challenge

Territorial strategies: make it possible for regions in developing and transition countries to face up to the double challenge of mitigation and adaptation

Flowchart n°1 : a global and integrated approach in sequencing and scope



The programme (schema no.1) will be implemented by the partners **over a period of 5 years** as follows:

- **Sensitize and train 500 subnational authorities on climate change**

This first phase is made up of two main axes: the preparation of tools to disseminate knowledge and the organization of **learning workshops by peers in 22 regional groupings on five continents**. UNEP training/awareness raising capacity at the global and regional levels will be leveraged to organized and conduct these workshops.

This is to make sure that the regions in developing countries are informed of the challenges of climate change (mitigation/adaptation), as well as of the measures already taken at the international level (UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol...), best practices and actions successfully undertaken by their peers, and to take advantage of the opportunities to ensure sustainable development within their region (regulatory and financial instruments, technological solutions...).

Representatives of sub-national authorities will therefore be invited to workshops gathering practitioners from other regions, as well as experts from the United Nations, central governments, NGOs, private sector or academia. In this framework, **South-South and North-South decentralized cooperation** will be encouraged while the learning process facilitated by peers will guarantee a better uptake of knowledge.

- **Assist 50 regions in the preparation of their Territorial Climate Plan**

These workshops will help to identify the regions that wish to set up a territorial climate plan. The plan will aim to establish a business friendly environment as well as development patterns that rely on sustainable means production and consumption. Some pilot regions will launch the process by the end of 2008, in the framework of partnership with nrg4SD, the network of regional governments for sustainable development.

After the definition of objectives, the phase will be broken down into two simultaneous sequences (flowchart no. 2):

- Preparation of a **Strategic Mitigation Plan** based on the **carbon budget assessment**: the authority will be able to quantify and qualify its greenhouse gas emissions thanks to a **carbon accounting methodology provided and adapted by ADEME**
- Preparation of a **Strategic Adaptation Plan** based on the **vulnerability assessment of the territory using satellite imagery** and scaling down of climatic and socio-economic models permitting the spatial and temporal projection of possible climate impacts according to different hypotheses (sea level, temperature variation, rainfall etc.) The satellite imagery will be provided by

**CLIMSAT. CLIMSAT will also assist in the preparation of the vulnerability maps.** Using models available free of charge such as **PRECIS** developed by UK DEFRA and methodologies such as the APF<sup>1</sup>, UNDP will support assessment of the capacity for adaptation of the territory, the definition of a strategy as well as with the implementation process.

UNDP will also support the sub-national authorities in identifying the **appropriate regulatory and financial mechanisms** (public / private, national / international) to implement the selected actions.

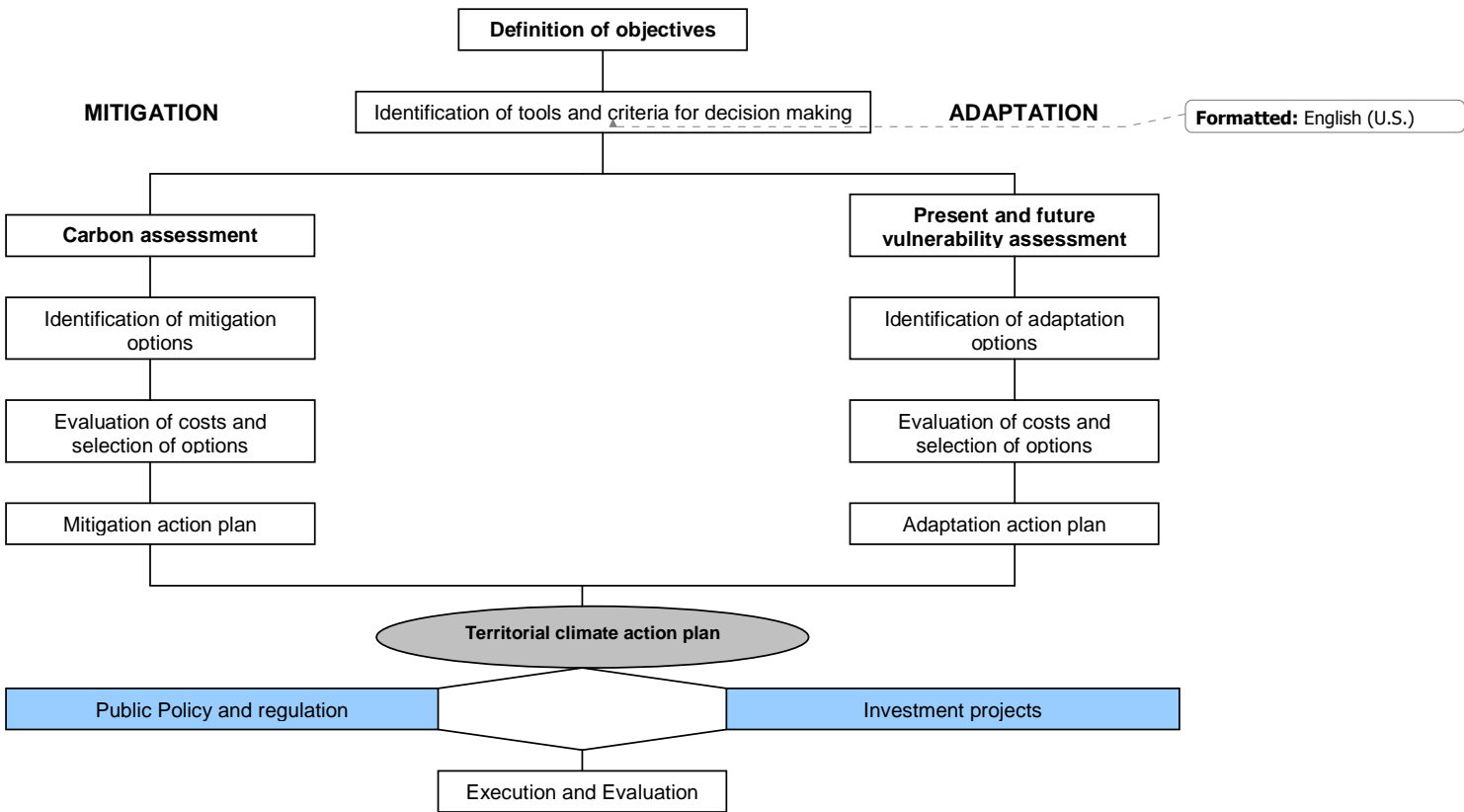
Once prepared, the two plans will be integrated and the subnational authorities will have their ITCP.

- **Support the implementation of hundreds of projects within the territorial climate plan**

In each of the 50 regions the partners will assist in the identification and the formulation of the projects:

- **New regulations and policies:** regulation of the energy efficiency of buildings, revision of urban planning documents, extension of emergency systems, introduction of carbon taxes, financial incentives etc.
- **Material investments:** building insulation, cogeneration (energy from waste), small solar or wind energy farms, geothermal energy, sustainable transport etc.

**Flowchart n2: Preparation of integrated territorial carbon plans and project identification**



<sup>1</sup> Based on the methodology developed by UNDP in 2003 : *Adaptation Policy Framework*, co-published by Oxford University Press and UNDP, 2003.



**RESOURCES:**      **The mobilization of partners has facilitated a number of positive developments during the first semester of 2008**

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**Prior to the official launch of activities in St. Malo in October 2008, a number of activities have been undertaken**

- **Database** established on different adaptation and mitigation projects undertaken by subnational authorities and supported by the United Nations (UNDP, UNEP, FAO, UNITAR, ISDR)
- **Brochure** drafted on "Actions undertaken by regional and local authorities on climate change issues", based on data collection of different activities, illustrated by concrete examples
- Guidelines and **methodological tools** to prepare territorial climate plans:
  - o adaptation of the **Carbon Budget methodology** for sub-national entities prepared by **ADEME**
  - o availability and adaptation of the **CLIMSAT** tools allowing modeling **and mapping of the vulnerability of territories**, and development of analytical approaches, based on three case studies (Matagalpa Region in Nicaragua, River State in Nigeria and Kalimantan in Indonesia)
  - o adaptation of methodologies of UNDP aiming to elaborate policies and adaptation measures
- **Identification of four to six pilot regions**, in which the territorial approach to adaptation and mitigation will be implemented with the help of various European regions. Thanks to decentralized cooperation and to national and international development assistance, the capacities of the pilot regions to design their ITCP will be strengthened. Innovative sources of financing will be explored to support investment projects, including carbon finance with the support of UNDP MDG Carbon Facility.
- **Resource mobilization: UNDP, nrg4SD, the regions and Veolia Environnement** have already mobilized financial resources to implement this preparatory phase

**Thanks to the support of the following initial, strongly committed partners:**

- **Associations of regions: nrg4SD** a network of regional governments wishing to exchange their experiences in the field of sustainable development. With the collaboration of the Northern Forum that unites the regions around the Arctic Circle, the International Association of Francophone Regions, the Latin American organization of sub-national governments and the European Assembly of regions
- **French Environment and Energy Management Agency, ADEME**
- **Agencies and programmes of the United Nations:** UNDP, UNEP, in collaboration with CLIMSAT and ISDR
- **Private sector:** Veolia Environnement

**FUNDS TO BE RAISED: USD 70 million for the implementation of territorial strategies that would leverage USD 2.5 billion for projects in developing regions**

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**UNDP already has an operational trust fund**

Since 2006 UNDP has been managing a Trust Fund and has mobilized USD 50 million to implement programmes based on a territorial approach to development. This trust fund will be made available for this programme on climate-related policies, and a separate, autonomous window will be opened for that purpose.

**The implementation of the programme over 5 years requires USD 70M :**

<b>Phase 1: USD 6M:</b>	- Training workshops in 22 regional groupings:	22*250,000= USD 5.5M
	- Preparation, expertise, follow-up, reporting and evaluation:	USD 0.5M
<b>Phase 2: USD 40M</b>	- Carbon budget + mitigation action plans in 50 regions:	50*400,000= USD 20M
	- Vulnerability maps + adaptation action plans:	50*300,000= USD 15M
	- Preparation, expertise, follow-up, reporting, evaluation:	USD 5M
<b>Phase 3: USD 19M:</b>	- Identification and follow up of 4-6 projects included in the ITCP:	50*360,000= USD 18M
	- Preparation, expertise, follow-up, reporting and evaluation:	USD 1.45M
	United Nations Administrative support costs - General Management Support (GMS):	7%= USD 4.55M

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