

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF REGIONS
IN DEVELOPING AND TRANSITION COUNTRIES**

IN THE PROGRAMME

« TOWARDS CARBON NEUTRAL AND CLIMATE RESILIENT TERRITORIES »

1. CONTEXT

The fight against climate changes is a human solidarity imperative. Global warming has become an undeniable reality and developing countries while having insignificantly contributed to greenhouse gas emissions, are the most vulnerable. The 2007/08 UNDP Human development Report indicates that regions will be divided according to the impact of climate change and that the poorest will have to bear most of the consequences. Climate change could bring unprecedented reversals in human development.

In this context, sub-national authorities constitute an indispensable link in the chain to implement mitigation and adaptation policies. Endowed with prerogatives in the field of policy-making and the implementation of investment projects, sub-national authorities are also in the centre of social cohesion. The reduction of energetic and climate vulnerability is a challenge at the crossroads of local concerns

In the field of mitigation aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, sub-national authorities have a wide array of possible actions to undertake. These policies can range from the reduction of energy use, usage that is mainly local in nature, to a more systematic reliance on decentralized production means, especially through renewable resources.

Taking into account climate patterns in long-term decision-making (in agriculture, planning, infrastructure etc.) is also critical for the future of territories. Adaptation measures need be implemented at the level where the risks that threaten installations and individuals are present.

To take into account this context, UNDP and UNEP, with a number of Associations of Regions, wish to promote a paradigm change: towards a territorial approach to fighting climate change

The programme wishes to develop the capacities of regions in developing and transition countries and help them design and implement their Integrated Territorial Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (ITCCSA). 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.
- Conception and provision of necessary **methodological tools** and techniques
- **Training** and assistance on how to use these tools, as well as how to put in place a strategy and prepare an action plan
- Assistance to select projects - **public policies and investments** - and identify appropriate regulatory and financial instruments
- Technical assistance to facilitate access to existing classical funds and to **new financial mechanisms**

A significant part of the support (both financial and technical) is expected to come from decentralized cooperation between regions more advanced on climate change (mostly from industrialized countries but not only) [Expert Regions] and regions from developing and transition countries less advanced on climate change [Strategy Making Regions].

UNEP and UNDP's ambition for the next 5 years is to sensitize and train 500 regions on climate change of which 50 will implement an integrated territorial climate change strategy and action plan leading to new policies and investments.

The following inputs are expected from Strategy Making Regions

2. Implementing the programme

2.1. Phase 1 of the initiative: Awareness sessions; increased awareness and understanding of climate change, its consequences and possible actions at the sub-national level

The objective 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 able to take advantage of the opportunities to ensure sustainable development within their region (regulatory and financial instruments, technological solutions...).

The Saint Malo Summit of regions on climate change to take place in Brittany October 29 – 30 will also be an excellent opportunity to share know how and knowledge between all regions of the world (www.worldsummitofregions.org)

UNEP training/awareness raising capacity at the global and regional levels, with associations of regions (NRG4SD, NF, CPMR, AER, OLAGI, AIRF), will be leveraged to organize and conduct awareness workshops throughout the five continents.

Representatives of sub-national authorities will 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. Expert regions will be invited to participate both to share their experience and increase their knowledge.

All regions from developing countries and countries in transition will be invited with their national governments.

When attending the awareness sessions, invited regions will be requested to make and provide a brief outlook environmental/climate change profile of their region in order to develop an international regional environmental data base. See annex 1 for format of the regional environment profile.

Regions to benefit for an in deep climate change investment, will follow a number of criteria for selection.

These criteria are:

- Strong political willingness from the Region to engage itself on CC activities
- Institutional commitment for the regional authorities to enter the programmewith dedicated staff for this endeavor
- [Existing decentralized cooperation partnerships with other regions participating in the programme](#)
- Agreement and support from the national government;
- National government is well involved in climate change issues
- UN system in general, UNDP in particular are well disposed to support the process
- A minimum level of public (national administration, universities, research institutes ...) or private (consulting firms, technical institutes, specialized NGOs ...) expertise can be mobilized

Mise en forme : Puces et numéros

The first benefiting regions participating in the programme, will be selected before the Saint Malo Summit before or at the Barcelona meeting in September 2008. One global workshop will be organized by the end of 2008 to combine awareness raising and capacity building, as well as first training on tools and methodologies for the design of their strategy.

Mis en forme : Justifié

Supprimé : in September 2008 in

2.2. Phase 2 initiative: Developing the Integrated Territorial Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan

Specific outputs are expected for the elaboration of the Integrated Territorial Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. See annex 2.

UNDP and UNEP are right now identifying and testing the appropriate methodologies and tools which are being shared and fine tuned with expert regions (Paris July 17th) for benefiting regions to elaborate Integrated Territorial Climate Change Strategies and Action Plans.

Guidelines on mitigation and adaptation are under preparation. It will help strategy making regions to proceed with their Integrated Territorial Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

In addition, Regions will be trained and assisted through international consultants from the UN system, Expert regions, International technical organizations and private companies.

UNDP, through national Country Office will dedicate a full staff to monitor on day to day basis the whole process.

In order to achieve this process an estimated budget has been established for the different components of the Territorial Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, which will be made available to Regions

- Carbon budget, mitigation strategy and action plans: USD350,000 to USD400,000
- Vulnerability maps, adaptation strategy and action plans: USD300,000 to USD350,000

Strategy making regions commit to adopting within 12 – 18 months a first integrated territorial climate strategy, including quantified GHG emission reduction targets and objectives, and present and future vulnerability mapping. They then commit to translating their strategy into an operational action plan within the following 6 / 12 months.

2.3. Phase 3 of the initiative: Designing public policy and investment projects

Elaborating the Territorial Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan is not an end itself. The expectation from Strategy making regions is to ensure the design and implementation of public policy and investment projects.

UNDP will support the sub-national authorities in identifying the appropriate regulatory and financial mechanisms (public / private, national / international) to implement the selected actions. These mechanisms could include carbon finance and CDM, special adaptation funds, international funds such as GEF, national and decentralized cooperation ODA and private sector project financing.

Notably, UNDP is in the process of elaborating a guidebook on financing which will make an inventory of the wide range of existing sources and mechanisms of funding and give recommendations on the most adequate mechanisms for the different types of policies and projects.

The average budget that will be necessary for identification and follow up of 4-6 projects included in the ITCP will be of USD360,000. Specific regional amounts will depend on number, size and type of projects.

3. Lobbying

An important part of the initiative remains also in lobbying main international and national partners to open the venue of the recognition of the roles of the regions, so that a new market can be opened for direct projects proposals coming from regions and direct investments done by and to regions.

3.1. International

At international level, it is important that the UN system should make full recognition of the role of regional and local authorities in fighting climate change ; in this regard, this initiative is a real first step forward.

It is also important that regional authorities organize themselves at international level to be invited at the negotiation of post-Kyoto agreements. This initiative will empower the recognition of the regions at the round tables of negotiation by demonstrating the added value of regional action through concrete projects on the field

3.2. National

In order to make multilateral funds available from national governments to this specific initiative, it is also much welcome to organize a joined lobbying between UNDP and UNEP in one hand and the different regions of the country in one hand. Joined meetings, joined proposals can be done.

3.3. Local

Regional authorities being the link between international and national stakeholders in one hand and the civil society in the other hand can very easily develop awareness campaigns for Climate change.

ANNEX 1: QUESTIONNAIRE TO STRATEGY MAKING REGIONS FOR DEVELOPING THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL/CLIMATE CHANGE PROFILE

Name of the Region:

1. Socio Economic summary:

- Small map situating the region in the country
- Number of population
- Surface
- Capital and main cities
- Main economic data

2. Rough presentation of environmental situation

- Physical information
- Climatologic situation
- Main meteorological data
- Water resources
- Soil resources
- Vegetation resources

3. Rough presentation of economic activities

- Industrial activities
- Agro-ecological activities
- Energy production and consumption
- Other greenhouse gas sources and sinks
- Research and development activities

4. Rough presentation of the administrative position

- Status of the head execution: elected, nominated ...
- Degree of decentralization: budget, administration
- Number of departments involved with environmental issues in general, climate change in particular
- Number of professional staff who can be dedicated to the CC programme

5. Environmental / climate change activities

- What are the main regional environmental programmes: list them
- Are there any CC mitigation and / or adaptation projects in the region: list them

6. International relations

Name the partners which are operating in your regions and specify the area of work and the type of relations your region have with them:

- UN Agencies and programmes
- Inter governmental organizations
- Bilateral Aid Agencies
- Decentralized Cooperation
- NGO

ANNEX 2: OUTPUTS OF THE TRAINING, ASSISTANCE AND ACCOMPANYING DEVELOPING REGIONS

Output 1: assessment of GHG emissions and trends: Bilan Carbone

Participating strategy making regions will be given access to the Bilan Carbone Methodology developed by ADEME (French Environment and Energy Management Agency). This methodology has a double goal:

- Quantification of direct and indirect GHG emissions
- Initialization of a reduction dynamic, by identifying short and long term reduction possibilities and proposing reduction targets.

Emissions will be assessed for each of the principal activities (energy industries, industrial processes, commercial sector, residential sector, agriculture and fishery, freight transport, passenger transport, construction, disposal of waste, manufacturing of future waste) and sub-activities taking place in the region (for passenger transport: road transit, car traffic of residents, car traffic of visitors, plane traffic of residents, plane traffic of visitors, etc...).

In most cases, external assistance for this assessment process (and the following strategy design) will be necessary. To ensure that both the most technical aspects of the Bilan Carbone methodology and the local factors are taken into account, this assistance should be provided by a team of one international consultant experienced in using the BC and one local consultant. As often as possible these local consultants will be trained on using the BC so that they can later disseminate the methodology to other regions. The UNDP Country Office will sign contracts directly with both consultants.

Output 2: assessment of risks related to climate change: vulnerability mapping exercise

Regions will assess the vulnerability of their territory to climate change 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 UNOSAT, hosted by the CERN in Geneva. UNOSAT will also assist in the preparation of the vulnerability maps.

Output 3: adoption of integrated regional climate change strategy

Strategy making regions participating in the pilot phase commit to adopting within 12/18months a first integrated territorial climate strategy, including quantified GHG emission reduction targets and vulnerability reduction objectives.

On mitigation aspects, financing for technical assistance from the team of consultants previously involved in the Bilan Carbone will be provided.

Regarding adaptation, UNDP will use models available free of charge such as PRECIS developed by UK DEFRA and methodologies such as the APF1 to support assessment of the capacity for adaptation of the territory, and the definition of an adaptation strategy. Technical assistance will be provided by UNDP experts from the national communications team.

Output 4: action plan

Regions participating in the pilot phase commit to translating their strategy into an operational action plan within the following 6/12 months.

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