

# eMag of climate action in Africa

**#4 Sustainable Cities in Africa**

Thursday 7 April 2022



CLIMATE  
CHANCE

# Introduction:

# Climate agenda and sustainable African cities

**The eMag #4 on Sustainable Cities is part of the preparation of the World Urban Forum to be organised by UN-Habitat in Katowice, Poland from 26 to 30 June. It is also based on the Climate Chance Development of Sustainable African Cities Coalition, which is coordinated by FNAU and MTPA.**

The coalition's roadmap, developed last year, is based on the observation that African contexts are marked by an increasing urbanisation, high population growth and agglomeration. Therefore, the human impact of climate change and the climate vulnerability of populations are accentuated. It is therefore necessary to ensure sustainable, resilient and circular urban development.

**This urgency to act is also underlined by the third part of the latest IPCC report published on Monday 4th April 2022.**

The report states that Africa will be among the regions of the world that will experience the highest rate of growth of urban land and shows that cities will be able to achieve the goal of net zero emissions only through "deep decarbonisation and systemic transformation".

It says there is a strong urgency to integrate mitigation and adaptation in cities to address climate change and its effects, in light of the increasing frequency of extreme weather events.

There is also a broad consensus that the benefits will go far beyond cities. The IPCC explains that to achieve this "transformative change" we need to engage different levels of government by integrating local and regional authorities and non-state actors and by involving significant funding.

**Read in the press this week: "AFRICA: Mayors launch "Healthy Cities" for urban health and well-being" Benoit-Ivan Wansi, Afrik 21, 5 April 2022.**

The author reports on a meeting between African mayors organised in Dubai with the support of the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Habitat Programme (UN Habitat). The objective is to launch a platform to improve the governance of cities in the health and welfare sector and to promote sustainable livelihoods.

This will be an initiative to follow in the coming months.

[Read the article here !](#)



# News :

# The FNAU on the road to the World Urban Forum

## Adeline Fauré, FNAU

**The mission of the FNAU (National Federation of Urban Planning Agencies) is to support the development of public policies of local authorities on urban planning, to engage agencies in dialogue and shed light on priorities during national, European and international debates.**

At the international level, the FNAU seeks to provide solutions to tomorrow's challenges by promoting the expertise of urban planning agencies in the development of sustainable cities through several activities:

- Supporting the creation of urban agencies, e.g.: Tripoli (Lebanon)
- Promoting the international cooperation of French agencies
- Coordinating other networks:
  - MTPA, a global network of urban agencies created by FNAU and UCLG Africa to coordinate and exchange at the international level. The network has a very committed African branch and helps coordinate the Climate Chance coalition.
  - The PFVT technical secretariat, a platform for exchanges between French actors working on the city at the international level to create a network of public and private actors on urban issues and to promote the World Urban Forum (WUF) with an organisation in the form of thematic working groups that produce booklets of recommendations that will be brought as common messages to the next WUF in Katowice.
- Participation in international events such as the Climate Chance Summits

**What is latest news on the World Urban Forum in Katowice, Poland, to be held from 26 to 30 June 2022?**

This forum aims to monitor progress in the implementation of the new Urban Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It is a space for dialogue and meeting between city stakeholders around the world which allows to put forward priorities for the sector. Because of the geopolitical context, the forum will be an opportunity to show that cooperation and solidarity are crucial and to address the issue of hospitality. The French community at the Forum are planning to carry this message. The FNAU will coordinate the French delegation that will be present at the Forum

**What is new with the work of the Climate Chance Sustainable Cities Coalition?**

The last Virtual Workshop in 2021 raised known issues:

- High urban population in cities of all sizes
- High vulnerability to climate change due not to geographical conditions but to urban sprawl in risk areas, without integrated urban development strategies. Faced with the lack of competence and capacity of local governments, the workshop produced three recommendations:
  - Design a systemic, operational and adapted governance and planning framework
  - Develop leadership
  - Integrate all stakeholders in planning projects, in particular the inhabitants

# Case study:

# Bobo-Dioulasso's climate plan

**Nelson de Lamarre, ICLEI**

ICLEI Africa is the secretariat for the African continent of ICLEI. The organisation hosts the secretariat of CoMSSA (Covenant of Mayors of Sub-Saharan Africa).

#### **Why cities and climate in Africa? Some figures :**

- By 2050 the urban population will triple
- 4% contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions
- 3% of total climate finance received
- 548 million people don't have access to electricity

#### **The CoMSSA provides a unique opportunity to advance climate action and sustainable energy. It involves more than 280 local governments. What are the objectives?**

- To increase access to sustainable energy and support local climate action.
- To localise the NDCs and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), empower local authorities, initiate local action.
- To improve the institutional framework and improve capacities of local authorities.
- To promote political ownership and dissemination of good practices.

**Cities that join the Covenant commit to developing a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SEACAP) with 3 pillars: mitigation , adaptation, and access to sustainable energy.**

#### **Case study: The action plan of the city of Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso:**

##### **What are the objectives?**

- To support the development of Bobo Dioulasso in a low-carbon and resilient manner
- Raise awareness and involve communities in the challenges of climate change
- Strengthen technical capacities within the city to plan, implement and monitor climate and sustainable energy actions
- Create a solid energy-climate database on which to base sound policy choices
- Give national and international visibility and recognition as a pioneer city for climate action

##### **How can this be achieved?**

- Technical training for the municipality
- Participatory workshops with residents and various local stakeholders

##### **What are the advantages for the city?**

Giving a long-term vision, highlighting the city's actions at the international level, facilitating partnerships and access to donors, having a clear understanding of the city's priorities in the fight against climate change.





# Case study:

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## Results identified during the process of Bobo-Dioulasso's PAAEDC :

- Adaptation pillar: Data collection via documentary research and participatory workshops involving citizens and local actors enabled to identify 7 sectors that are highly vulnerable to climate hazards (droughts, floods) such as water, energy, transport, etc. Thanks to this initial study, the city was able to set adaptation objectives for each sector. For example, for transport, the city wants to have at least 20% of its roads protected against flooding and landslides by 2030.
- Mitigation pillar: Stationary energy, transport and waste were identified as the main sources of greenhouse gas emissions in the city. This has led to the setting of mitigation targets in 15 actions.
- Access to energy and clean cooking method: Following a survey of 1100 households and an assessment of energy access, the city was able to set 3 targets and plan 15 actions to improve access to sustainable, reliable, secure and affordable energy.



**The case study of the city of Bobo-Dioulasso was published in the last Global Synthesis Report on local climate action 2022 of the Climate Chance Observatory.**

[Read full report here !](#)

# Upcoming events

Join us on Thursday 28th April 2022  
from 3 to 4 pm (Paris Time)  
for the eMag on Sustainable Buildings in  
partnership with Afrik 21 !

