



LGMA SUBMISSION ON EXPERIENCE AND LESSONS LEARNED IN RELATION TO CONDUCTING THE FIRST GLOBAL STOCKTAKE OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

Submitted by:

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- 1- The LGMA Constituency welcomes the **COP28** as *the most ambitious* (in terms of advancing the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement goals), *the most inclusive* (in terms of engagement of stakeholders and introducing new concepts to global action and negotiations) and *the best practice for multilevel action* (in terms of numerous references in operative paragraphs of decisions and initiatives).
- 2- In concrete terms, multilevel action outcomes of COP28 are listed as follows
 - a. More than 15 paragraphs in the COP28 UAE Consensus that contain specific references to local and subnational governments, multilevel action and urbanization, including **para.161 of COP28 GST decisions which Urges Parties and non-Party stakeholders to join efforts to accelerate delivery through inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action**. This COP28 GST para.161 significantly elevates the concept of multilevel action to a new height, by strengthening previous COP decisions, including preamble of the 2015 Paris Agreement *recognizes* the importance of all levels of governments and the preamble of the 2021 Glasgow Climate Pact which recognizes the urgent need for multilevel action.
 - b. **The Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships for Climate Action (CHAMP)** launched at the COP28 Local Climate Action Summit along the margins of the COP28 World Climate Action, which was further strengthened through the **second Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Action** hosted by the COP28 Presidency, High Level Champions and the UNHabitat. By the end of COP28, CHAMP was endorsed by 71 nations and listed among the key COP28 Presidency Declarations. It is noted that some of those CHAMP endorsing countries both in the global North and South have already elevated their 2021 NDCs by engaging their local and regional governments and the [latest UNHabitat Technical Brief released on the occasion of the 6th Un Environment Assembly Cities and Regions Summit](#) demonstrate that more than 65% of CHAMP endorsing countries have an opportunity to strengthen urban contents of their NDCs and thereby raise their national climate ambitions.
 - c. **The demonstration of the significant role of the LGMA Constituency** in the global action and regime by connecting the COP28 Presidency Initiatives to COP28 agreed

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outcomes through its continued, inclusive and innovative engagement with the UNFCCC Secretariat and UNFCCC Parties, through the Multilevel Action and Urbanization Pavilion, local stocktakes and other UNFCCC/non UNFCCC processes, towards and at COP28.

- 3- The inclusive and ambitious modalities conducted during the technical and political phase of the first global stocktake of the Paris Agreement played a huge role in such impressive COP28 Outcomes. The LGMA was proud to be actively involved in both the technical and political phase of the global stocktake, in particular pursuant to **the para.6 of SB56 decision in June 2022 which enabled local, national and international inputs to the global stocktake.**
- 4- The LGMA underlines the 3 below processes as determining factors that contributed to the success of COP28 outcomes and the global stocktake process.
 - a. The Experience through Local Stocktakes – available through [stocktake4climateemergency-outcomes-report](#) and [its key messages](#)
 - b. The specific submissions of UNFCCC Parties for GST outputs – available through [2023 compilation references multilevelactionurbanization towardcop28](#)
 - c. The national and regional commitments to multilevel action in other intergovernmental processes towards COP28. – available through [2023 compilation references multilevelactionurbanization towardcop28](#)
- 5- **In terms of local stocktakes;** these are convened by more than 20 cities convened in 6 continents, demonstrating the local leadership for subnational inputs to the global stocktake. At each local stocktake, following the guidance by LGMA Focal Point, local government officials and their constituents asked “Where are we?”, “Where do we want to go?” and “How do we get there?” across three themes: (1) local climate ambition, (2) alignment with their country’s Nationally Determined Contribution, and (3) climate justice domestically and globally. Through these discussions, participants identified opportunities for enhanced multilevel action, bringing a critical “on the ground” perspective into the broader Global Stocktake high-level discussion. Lastly, Stocktake4ClimateEmergency advances youth involvement in local climate processes through a collaboration with YOUNGO, the youth and children’s constituency to the UNFCCC. The key messages of local stocktakes are presented as below.
 - a. Local stocktakes can accelerate community engagement in the implementation of climate emergency declarations adopted at the municipal councils or regional parliaments. Local stocktakes can be an inspiration for other multilateral agendas (ex:

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SDGs, biodiversity, food) by accelerating multilevel collaboration and citizen engagement.

- b. Local stocktakes can support operationalization of CHAMP initiative and provide a dialogue mechanism for multilevel consultation in NDC preparation and implementation towards COP30 in 2025.
- c. The UNFCCC should incorporate local stocktakes in the GST final outcomes, similar to the language in pgph. 6 from 2022 SB56. Cities and regions should continue with local stocktakes annually to continue local connections to the global climate agenda. These annual local stocktakes can also supplement the GST, which occurs every 5 years and may not be quick enough to respond to the rapidly-evolving climate crisis.

6- In terms of specific submissions of UNFCCC Parties for GST outputs,

- a. the LGMA Constituency warmly welcomes submissions from 19 Parties and Party Groups that contain weak (Africa, LDCs, BAU, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, Russia), moderate (India and Türkiye), or strong ((China, S.Arabia, AILAC, AOSIS, US, EU, Japan, UK, Norway, EIG) elements in references to local/subnational governments or multilevel action, most commonly in the context of adaptation, capacity building and financing.
- b. The LGMA also welcomes the Synthesis Report prepared by the Secretariat under the guidance of the chairs of the subsidiary bodies, which contains around 15 references for multilevel action, in particular para. 469, 547, and 572.
- c. The LGMA strongly believes that these submissions and synthesis elements, paved the ground for the success of inclusion of more than 15 paragraphs in the COP28 UAE Consensus.

7- In terms of national and regional commitments to multilevel action in other intergovernmental processes towards COP28, the LGMA welcomes specific strong references to multilevel action and urbanization, which demonstrate the strong background for such an impressive list of endorsements to the CHAMP Initiative. These specific processes are listed as below ;

- a. G7, including Leaders Communique, Ministerial Declarations from Climate as well Sustainable Urbanization, as well as the G7 Roundtable on Subnational Climate Action in collaboration with U7.
- b. G20 including Climate Ministerial and SDGs outcomes
- c. Africa Climate Summit Declaration, through para.13 and 41
- d. EU Council COP28 Decision, para.43

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LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES (LGMA)* CONSTITUENCY

Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions

at 2023 UNFCCC COP28, Dubai, Nov-Dec 2023



- e. UN Climate Action Summit Declaration, para.8
 - f. BRICS Urbanization Forum
 - g. Draft Loss and Damage Fund
 - h. 2nd UN Habitat Assembly Resolution
 - i. Amazon Summit Declaration
 - j. Belém Declaration of Amazon Cities Forum
 - k. Joint Statement from Presidencies of 3 Rio Conventions COPs ahead of COP28.
- 8- Building on all these above facts and figures, the LGMA encourages COP28-29-30 Troika, High Level Champions, the UNFCCC Secretariat and all UNFCCC Parties to acknowledge the importance of multilevel action and sustainable urbanization in the design of a new global climate regime through the new national climate plans to be submitted by COP30 in 2025.
- 9- Within this scope, towards COP30, the LGMA Constituency will advance its efforts;
- a. in supporting the CHAMP endorsing countries to honour their commitments for multilevel action
 - b. reach out to all UNFCCC parties in delivery of para.161 of the COP28 UAE Consensus GST decision and other specific references from COP28 Outcomes
 - c. Elevate its experience from local stocktakes to “Town-Hall-COPs” as an innovative approach to engaged local and regional governments and their communities to national climate action and global climate regime
- 10- The LGMA also notes that the positive momentum for an ambitious, inclusive and multilevel climate action that emerged from the global stocktake and COP28 Outcomes towards 2030 and 2050 has to be strongly connected to the global efforts to strengthen the 2030 Agenda as announced at the 2023 SDG Summit as well as through a new inclusive multilateralism that will be shaped through the 2024 UN Summit of the Future.

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