MUNICIPAL CLIMATE PARTNERSHIPS

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August 2018
100% recycling paper, CyclusPrint
printed with mineral oil-free inks,
carbon compensated
Layout: Fabian Ewert, Königswinter
Print by: Bonifatius GmbH
This printed matter has been awarded the Blue Angel.

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On behalf of

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

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Our goals

Climate change is creating major challenges for municipalities worldwide. At the same time, as local actors they have a key role to play in implementing measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation at the local level.

Through climate partnerships, together with their partners in the Global South German municipalities are assuming shared responsibility for the world’s climate. The work carried out within these partnerships reflects the principle of shared but differentiated responsibility.

Since 2011, together with their partners in the Global South, the German municipalities have been developing joint programmes of action on climate change mitigation and adaptation. These programmes define specific targets and measures. A municipal climate partnership can be part of a city-to-city twinning scheme, or can be a stand-alone arrangement.

The project is initiating a bottom-up process that will take up the challenges posed by climate change. By supporting strategic climate partnerships agreed on between municipalities, we intend to help transfer municipal expertise and generate new knowledge.

What we offer municipalities

We support the municipalities in systematically integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation into the work of their partnerships. Each climate partnership spends two years developing a joint programme of action.

Our services:
➢ We conduct and finance national and international network meetings.
➢ We finance expert missions.
➢ We support the process of designing the joint programmes of action.

What we expect from municipalities

➢ A willingness to design joint climate change mitigation and adaptation programmes and work together with the partner municipality on a long-term basis.
➢ A guarantee that different departments will cooperate with each other, and with selected civil society actors, successfully.
➢ Active participation in a municipal network and its meetings.
➢ Assignment by the municipality of its own personnel for the expert missions.

Project progress

The project was launched in 2011. Since then several more phases were added that each included new partnerships. Each new phase then incorporated both existing and new partnerships.

The first five phases have already been completed - a total of 60 climate partnerships between German municipalities and their African, Latin American and South-East Asian partners have developed joint action programmes. The sixth phase of the project, involving twelve climate partnerships between German municipalities and municipalities in Africa and Latin America, began in October 2017. For the first time, two regions of the world were addressed in this phase. The kickoff for the seventh project phase will be in 2019.

Our project partners

The project is being implemented by the Service Agency Communities in One World of Engagement Global in cooperation with the Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft Agenda 21 NRW e.V. (LAG 21 NRW - Local Agenda 21 Network NRW). It is funded by Germany’s Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

It is supported by the municipal associations:
➢ German Association of Cities
➢ German Association of Towns and Municipalities
➢ German Association of Landkreise

In 2010 and 2013 the Executive Committee of the German Association of Cities adopted specific resolutions to support the project.