



MATERIAL

INTERNATIONAL KICK-OFF WORKSHOP
FOR THE SEVENTH PHASE OF THE PROJECT
'MUNICIPAL CLIMATE PARTNERSHIPS'

14 to 16 May 2019 in Bonn | No. 105

Service Agency Communities in One World

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INTRODUCTION

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The international workshop held in Münster from 14 to 16 May 2019 marked the launch of the next phase of joint work in the ‘Municipal Climate Partnerships’ project. This was now the seventh time the kick-off workshop has been held. This workshop was organised by Engagement Global’s Service Agency Communities in One World in cooperation with the North Rhine-Westphalian Working Party on Agenda 21 (LAG 21 NRW), supported by the City of Münster. Within the framework of the project, over the next two years a total of ten partnerships will develop joint programmes of action for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Some 90 participants attended the workshop. Delegates included local policy-makers, administrators and civil society actors. The kick-off workshop marks the official launch of the seventh project phase. It set itself the goal of introducing all the participating municipalities to the project’s objectives, timeline, methods and instruments, and facilitating dialogue within the partnerships. It also gave many participants their first opportunity to meet their partners face-to-face. The agenda therefore included sufficient time for participants to get to know each other and interact.

As in the previous phase, this phase involves two partner regions – Africa and Latin America. One specific feature of the seventh phase is that, for the first time, each of the partners from the Global South comes from a different country. Of the ten climate partnerships, seven involve African municipalities – from Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Tunisia, and three involve Latin American municipalities – from Argentina, Brazil and Guatemala.



Participants arriving



1. BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPLEMENTING ORGANISATIONS AND THE PROJECT

1.1. Engagement Global and the Service Agency Communities in One World



Welcoming the participants

Engagement Global is a non-profit organisation that was established in 2012 and unites various programmes under one roof. On behalf of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), it offers various target groups opportunities and financial support for development engagement, and promotes networking among the actors concerned.

Here interested citizens, associations, foundations, non-governmental organisations, businesses, municipalities and schools can find services such as:

- Information
- Advice
- Training
- Financial support
- Networks

The **Service Agency Communities in One World** is responsible for the target group of

municipalities (councillors, administrators and local stakeholders). Established in 2001, the Service Agency is Germany's competence centre for municipal development cooperation. It supports German municipalities in their engagement for development, both by facilitating processes and networking, and by providing funding and human resources. The core **areas of activity** it supports are:

- Fair trade and fair procurement
- Networking in the field of migration and development at the local level
- Developing and shaping municipal partnerships and international inter-municipal relations
- Localising the 2030 Agenda - municipalities for global sustainability

1.2. The North Rhine-Westphalian Working Party on Agenda 21 (LAG 21 NRW)

The North Rhine-Westphalian Working Party on Agenda 21 (LAG 21 NRW) is an independent network of municipalities and civil society associations and stakeholders in Germany's federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia. The network supports local sustainability processes strategically through education, advisory services, projects and campaigns, and implements them in practical ways. It advises, facilitates and supports municipalities and civil society actors in developing and implementing sectoral and integrated sustainability strategies, provides children, teenagers and adults with the skills to manage sustainable development, and contributes to targeted knowledge transfer through research works. It brings actors together and initiates participatory processes to mainstream sustainability goals across society

1.3. The 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' project

In a municipal climate partnership, two municipalities (of whatever type) work together regularly and on a structured basis in the fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The aim is to strengthen partnerships between German municipalities and municipalities in the Global South in the fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation by harnessing the extensive experience and expertise of each municipality. Climate change mitigation and adaptation are integrated systematically into the work of the municipal partnership.

To this end, over a period of two years the municipal partnerships draw up joint programmes of action that include targets, specific measures and allocated resources. The programme of action serves as a guiding framework for the joint work in the medium to long term. A climate partnership can be based on an existing municipal partnership, in which case new key areas of activity are added. Alternatively, a climate partnership can start from scratch as a new thematic partnership between two interested municipalities.

The project revolves around professional exchange between municipal experts, especially within the framework of reciprocal missions. To facilitate exchange among the climate partnerships involved in a project phase, regular network meetings and two international workshops are held. As well as the financial support for the project activities provided by the Service Agency Communities in One World and LAG 21 NRW, the partnerships also receive comprehensive technical and methodological advisory inputs. The project is being implemented on behalf of the BMZ, and is supported by Germany's local authority associations – the German Association of Cities (with two board resolutions), the German Association of Towns and Municipalities, and the German County Association.

The project was launched in 2011. Since then, several additional phases involving new partnerships have been initiated. Each new phase then incorporated both existing

and new partnerships. In the first six phases of the project 60 climate partnerships have already produced their joint programmes of action. The municipalities involved in those phases are now implementing their programmes of action, for which they continue to receive technical and financial support from the project executing agencies. Support is provided for instance through the Service Agency's programme 'Partnership Projects for Sustainable Local Development' (Nakopa), and the BMZ facility 'Reducing emissions, adapting to climate change, preserving forests, protecting marine resources and coastal areas, and conserving biological diversity'.

The **partnerships** of the seventh project phase:

- Bad Berleburg (Germany) – Morogoro District (Tanzania)
- Erfurt (Germany) – San Miguel de Tucumán (Argentina)
- Gersthofen (Germany) – Baringo County (Kenya)
- Hanseatic City of Rostock (Germany) – Panajachel (Guatemala)
- Karlsdorf-Neuthard (Germany) – Guabiruba (Brazil)
- Rural District of Reutlingen – (Germany) Ulundi (South Africa)
- Rural District of Teltow-Fläming (Germany) – Katima Mulilo Town (Namibia)
- Münster (Germany) – Monastir (Tunisia)
- Neu-Isenburg (Germany) – Kwadaso Municipal Assembly (Ghana)
- Osterode am Harz (Germany) – Département de Kaolack (Senegal)



The partnerships in dialogue

2. WELCOME ADDRESSES



Wendela-Beate Vilhjalmsson

Wendela-Beate Vilhjalmsson, Mayor of the City of Münster, opened the workshop. In her welcome address she underlined the shared concern for the climate: 'Climate change affects us all, and does not stop at national or municipal borders. Only global cooperation can have global impact and halt climate change.' She saw the municipal climate partnerships as a good example of how networking across national borders can work. In 2019 Münster and Monastir are celebrating the 50-year jubilee of their twinning scheme. According to the mayor, cooperation through the climate partnership will certainly deepen the links even further. Developing joint approaches and sharing experiences with successes and failures will help lead to positive developments and provide ideas for the future. To create global impact we need to implement global measures.

The City of Münster is endeavouring to meet the challenges of our times. Ms Vilhjalmsson reminded participants that the City of Münster had recently received the 'German Sustainability Award', and is now allowed to refer to itself as 'Germany's most sustainable city'. Key to this, she explained, was that the municipality takes decisions based on whether the outcome will be one we would wish for our grandchildren. At the same time

cycling, and the many citizens' initiatives, also played a role. She wished participants a good start to the process for the next two years.

Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann, Head of Division, Federal states; local authorities, welcomed the participants on behalf of the BMZ. She congratulated the municipalities on their decision to embark on the process of developing a joint programme of action within two years and to play an active role in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Based on her experience with the previous project phases, she assured them that the path would be an interesting, enlightening, inspiring and creative one – for both sides. The municipalities, she explained will need to overcome the same challenges under different conditions, which will unleash creativity. And she added that this would also be needed when tackling climate change.



Dr. Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann

As the key areas of activity of the programmes of action to date demonstrate, she explained, there are many inspiring examples of climate partnerships cooperating in areas such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, flood control, coastal protection, water management, biodiversity and sustainable urban planning. In 2018 Dr Witteler-

Stiepelmann had an opportunity to visit three of the first climate partnerships in Tanzania, which are currently implementing their programmes of action. She said how impressed she was by what has already emerged from those partnerships thanks to the enormous commitment on both sides.

For the BMZ, climate policy is development policy for the future. As far as the Ministry is concerned, implementation of the 2015 Paris climate agreement is in full swing. A strong alliance of industrialised and developing countries, the private sector, civil society and municipalities are working to shape the model for future low-carbon economic growth. Local authorities are playing an important role in this. They not only help cause climate change, but also suffer its impacts.

Local action, as Dr Witteler-Stiepelmann went on to say, has global impacts, and global challenges can be felt locally. This makes **municipalities global actors**. The German Government is convinced that working together with municipalities is fundamentally important for sustaining the momentum generated at Paris and implementing the 2030 Agenda with its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Many municipalities in the Global South possess a wide range of experience with adapting to climate change, while German municipalities are able to offer topics concerning the delivery of general interest services for knowledge transfer. The 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' now aim to pool this practical knowledge. Reciprocal consulting by municipal experts working as close partners has proven an effective way of identifying bespoke solutions for each municipality.

The BMZ is firmly committed to promoting municipal engagement. This is why the budget item for municipal engagement has been quintupled over the last five years from five to 25 million euros. Thanks to this increase Engagement Global was able to expand the support offered by the Service Agency. The huge positive response that the 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' project received led to the Service Agency offering

the current seventh phase. Dr Witteler-Stiepelmann thanked the City of Münster and wished everyone a good start and plenty of success when working together in the climate partnerships.



Mandy Wagner

The next speaker to welcome the participants was **Mandy Wagner, Project Manager, Service Agency/Engagement Global**. The project manager explained that launching a new phase of the project is always a special moment for the Service Agency too. She added that intensive preparations and discussions with interested municipalities had already been underway before the new phase was launched. She went on to say that even if there are still many different questions and challenges at the beginning, she remains convinced that everyone involved is united by the desire to do something about climate change. This work requires passion and a sense of enjoyment when meeting others. In view of the immense challenges it is also necessary to step up climate action at the local level. According to figures published by the World Meteorological Organisation, the last four years were the warmest since records began almost 170 years ago; 2016 was even the warmest year on record. In Germany, summer 2018 was extremely hot and dry, in addition to which an increase in torrential rainfall events caused enormous damage.

This brought home to us just what impacts climate change can actually have. No doubt

the visitors from Latin America and Africa would be able to corroborate these experiences, said Ms Wagner. This is why it is important to also tackle climate change globally within the framework of international cooperation arrangements. Municipalities could play a crucial role here – and have received the backing to do so through various agreements of the international community such as the 2030 Agenda with its SDGs, and the Paris climate agreement.

According to Many Wagner, by establishing climate partnerships the participants have proved that they can not only make a contribution toward climate action within their own municipality, but also make knowledge available for international dialogue. This means they are part of a growing, dynamic movement: 60 municipal climate partnerships have already been established, and with the partnerships of the seventh phase the figure has now risen to 70. Joint measures are being implemented in numerous projects. In Germany this engagement has been one factor that led to the BMZ acknowledging municipal development cooperation as an area of activity in its own right in 2013. Many Wagner encouraged the municipalities to remain committed and keep following this path. She pointed out that beyond the project itself, the Service Agency also offers various options for financial support and expert dialogue. She wished participants a good start to this project phase, stimulating dialogue, intensive and productive discussions, pleasant encounters and an enjoyable sense of community.

Dr Klaus Reuter, Managing Director of LAG 21 NRW, said in his speech how pleased he was by the very heterogeneous nature of the new climate partnerships. The fact that eleven different countries were participating, he explained, demonstrates that the huge responsibility we face is being assumed across continents and borders. When the idea of launching the ‘Municipal Climate Partnerships’ project was conceived almost ten years ago, the organisations involved were entering uncharted territory, as until then there had been no close cooperation of this kind in the field of climate action. Knowledge

transfer between North and South among equals as one means of strategically tackling the challenges posed by climate change is therefore especially important. Dr Reuter pointed out that time is pressing, and that we now have only ten years at the most to meet the internationally agreed climate targets – and in particular the target of 1.5 degrees.



Dr. Klaus Reuter

As he sees it, the ‘Fridays for Future’ movement demonstrates that the younger generation too are demanding swift and authentic action by those with decision-making responsibility. Often we are accustomed to negotiating compromises. Yet this is difficult with the laws of nature, as we are subject to them. Klaus Reuter drew attention to the known fact that we can only remain within our planet’s limits through systematic and integrated cooperation. As LAG 21 NRW sees it, the municipal climate partnerships are making a significant contribution toward implementing the 2030 Agenda. The climate partnerships aim to bring together actors from the realms of politics, business and civil society, in order to agree and implement joint paths. Mr Reuter went on to explain that the previous project phases have demonstrated that working together creates not only mutual understanding, but also friendships – which motivate everyone involved. Finally, he said that the whole team were looking forward to the joint work and will do their utmost to support the municipalities over the next two years.

3. THE 'MUNICIPAL CLIMATE PARTNERSHIPS' PROJECT

3.1. Municipal development cooperation in Germany

Nadine Thoss (Service Agency/Engagement Global) delivered a keynote speech on municipal development cooperation from a German perspective, as this sets the framework for the municipal climate partnerships and enables them to be seen in context.



Nadine Thoß

Why should municipalities get involved in development cooperation?

Globalisation is shaping municipalities.

Today, all municipalities are confronted by similar challenges such as how to deal with migration flows, international competition for resources and climate change. The pressure that these problems generate is further exacerbated by post-industrialisation, demographic change and budget deficits.

Municipalities are shaping globalisation.

At the same time, an internationalisation of local policy-making can be observed worldwide that is leading to an international positioning of municipalities as hubs of economic, scientific and cultural activity. More and more often, municipalities are joining

forces in networks so that their demands can be fed into international policy-making processes.

There are many different reasons for municipal development cooperation.

- Global challenges such as climate change can only be tackled successfully through measures at the local level → because the local level is directly responsible for several key areas of activity.
- Municipalities possess practical knowledge and experience (delivery of local general interest services etc.).
- One distinctive feature of municipalities is their responsiveness to the needs of citizens.
- Municipal development cooperation enables dialogue among practitioners and cooperation on an equal footing with a wide range of stakeholders.
- In municipal development cooperation, municipalities are often able to operate more flexibly than the national level.
- There is potential for synergy effects between the measures within the municipality and international cooperation.

And at the international level too, municipalities and the work of municipal partnerships are gaining increasing recognition, as reflected in their inclusion in global frameworks and goals. These include for instance the (local) Agenda 21 (1992), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda (2015), the Paris climate agreement of the international community (2015) and the New Urban Agenda (2016). Alongside this trend we also see an increasing professionalisation of municipal cooperation which is now more strongly geared to joint action on an equal footing and mutual learning.

Huge impetus was generated by the 2030 Agenda with its SDGs, which the international community adopted in 2015 and

which superseded the Millennium Development Goals. The 2030 Agenda emphasises universality and shared responsibility among all actors, and forms an important frame of reference for international cooperation. It links sustainability and development in a new way, and pursues the principle of inclusiveness and an integrated approach based on interdisciplinary cooperation. This very approach offers numerous points of entry for municipal development cooperation. Here, activities in Germany can be linked with those in other countries. Among the SDGs, Goal 11 explicitly mentions the municipal level. Two thirds of the 17 SDGs with their 169 targets can only be implemented together with municipalities.

In Germany, the term **municipal development cooperation** refers to all the measures taken by municipalities and policy-making bodies to promote sustainable development in their own immediate setting and in the Global South. In this context, measures in the German municipality (such as education for development, fair procurement or climate change mitigation), and work within the framework of municipal partnerships or international networks (such as knowledge transfer or joint project implementation), complement each other.

Over the last few years municipal development cooperation in Germany has undergone vigorous evolution. Since 2013 Germany's federal budget has included a dedicated item (within the BMZ's departmental budget 23) that in 2009 was worth some 25 million euros. This enables the Service Agency to expand the support it offers for municipalities. Accordingly, the number of German municipalities getting involved in cooperation for development and sustainability is increasing continuously. As of 30 March 2019, 828 German municipalities were making use of the support offered by the Service Agency in order to do so. These trends are also being backed up by resolutions and declarations at the national level. These include the resolution of the German Bundestag concerning the opportunities for development created by urbanisation (2015), the declaration of the Association of German

Cities and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions on the 2030 Agenda (2016), and the new edition of Germany's National Sustainable Development Strategy published in January 2017, which was revised and aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

The human and financial resources available to municipalities limit their scope of action, however. Moreover, some municipalities are heavily indebted and are subject to tight restrictions as a result of budgetary supervision. Engagement for development is voluntary, since municipal development cooperation is not included among the mandatory tasks of municipalities. Nonetheless, municipalities also remain accountable to their citizens with regard to their activities for development. Engagement in this field therefore requires strong backing from both administrators and councillors, as well as from the federal level.



Participants following the presentation

On the other hand, engagement within the framework of municipal partnerships for development also benefits German municipalities. They can become actively involved in global matters beyond their own boundaries, and thus promote awareness of these global issues and voluntary engagement. German municipalities can learn a great deal from municipalities in the Global South, for instance in the fields of communications and strategy, or educational methods. Other benefits may also arise such as the creation of economic and scientific links, training and

motivation of municipal personnel and local stakeholders, and closer cooperation with migrant communities.

How can we build partnerships between equals?

- **Mutual learning.** Both sides can learn from each other in every partnership.
- Planning should be based on the experiences and **interests of both sides**, and take place through continuous mutual dialogue.
- **Shared responsibility** for the measures and results
- **Realistic objectives** and **joint ownership** of the results achieved
- **Knowledge sharing** and joint elaboration of solutions, rather than just funding of projects
- **Respect** and **acceptance** with regard to political structures, decision-making processes and development strategies of the partner municipality
- **Transparency** and **openness** of the partner municipalities with each other and with participating stakeholder groups, for instance by involving municipal associations and networks as well as other disseminators
- **Political backing** of the cooperation in both municipalities



Questions and comments from the floor

3.2. The 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' project

Mandy Wagner (Service Agency/Engagement Global) and **Dr Klaus Reuter (LAG 21 NRW)** presented the 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' project in the context of the new phase. The core product of each climate partnership is a **joint programme of action** that includes strategic and operational objectives, measures and allocated resources (financial resources, human resources and time). The joint programme of action is produced over a period of two years. The joint programme of action forms the basis for realising concrete measures in both municipalities taking part in the climate partnership. It builds on existing municipal plans and strategies, uses strengths and areas of municipal expertise, and identifies resources (not only of a financial nature) to support the activities. It is produced in a

participatory process involving both municipalities, and is discussed and agreed on at joint meetings and in continuous dialogue between the partner municipalities. The programme of action provides guidance and a framework for medium- to long-term cooperation (over a period of 10-15 years), and should therefore be regularly updated and further developed.

Reasons for municipal climate partnerships

- The global challenge of climate change calls for measures at the local and the international level.
- Make the complementary expertise and experience of municipal practitioners visible and available → learn from each other (as equals, in both directions).
- Systematic medium- to long-term cooperation between municipalities enables direct results at the local level.
- Raise awareness of the perspective and situation of our partner municipality through our own experience → strengthen our own education work.
- Develop fresh ideas and share these in the national and international networks.

A climate partnership can take place within the framework of an existing twinning scheme or thematic partnership, or can be established from scratch. In both municipalities, as well as the municipal administrations further actors should also be involved in order to place the partnership on a broad footing (civil society stakeholders, local politicians, the business community, academics). The Service Agency and LAG 21 NRW provide the framework for this through the support and advice they provide, but are not themselves part of the partnership.



Dr. Klaus Reuter

The project does not, however, comprise only the cooperation between the two municipalities. It also encompasses two further levels: **the regional networks** (involving network meetings for German municipalities and for the partner municipalities from the Global South, i.e. African and Latin American municipalities, in order to share experiences with working together in partnership), and **the international network** (for sharing experiences across the whole project).

The 'project milestones' on which the timeline is based therefore comprise the **network meetings** of the participating municipalities (in Germany and the Global South respectively), the **international workshops** (which set the framework by marking the beginning and the end of the project phase) and the reciprocal expert missions (mission phases). The dialogue at the network meetings often generates fresh ideas and motivation, and is an important part



Mandy Wagner

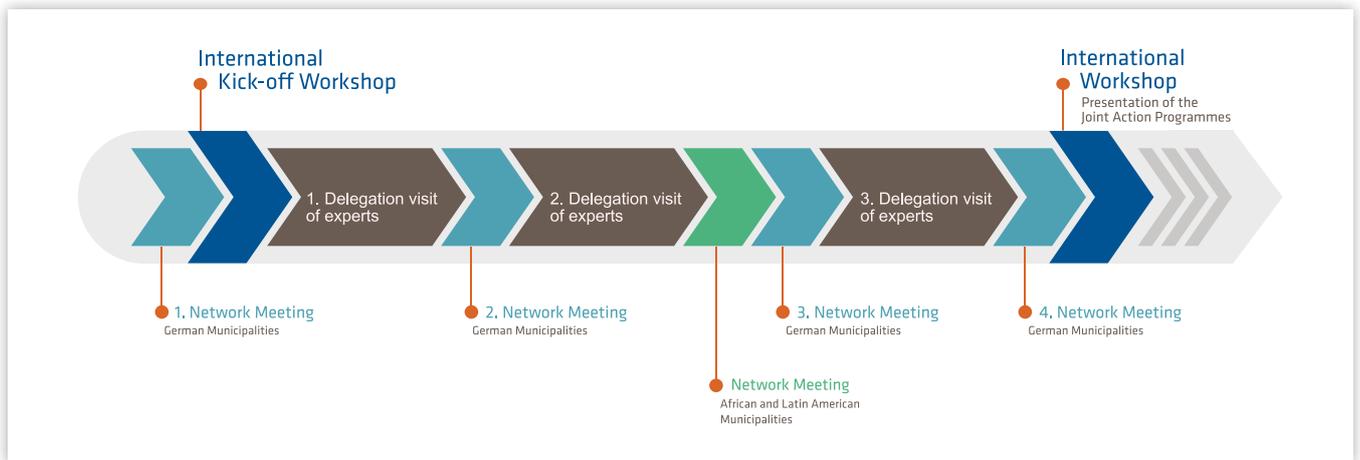


Figure 1: Timeline of the seventh project phase

of the support for the municipalities because participants at the meetings among other things analyse the current status quo, share solutions and discuss next steps. The missions enable experts on both sides to familiarise themselves with local challenges and solutions in the respective partner municipality, and to discuss these, learn from each other and develop the joint programme of action.

phases show that in the participating climate partnerships, permanent working structures were set up, which integrated various actors (different departments of the municipality, civil society, academia and the private sector). The reciprocal missions and the sharing of key documents allowed the partnerships to swiftly identify the key areas of activity for their respective programmes of action. Dialogue at the network meetings generated fresh ideas and motivation.



The participants in dialogue



The 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' were launched in November 2011 with municipalities from Germany, Ghana, Tanzania and South Africa. Since then, the project has been expanded on a phase-by-phase basis. The kick-off workshop in May 2019 marks the beginning of the seventh phase involving municipalities from Germany, and from countries in Latin America and Africa. The findings of an external evaluation of the first three

During the six project phases to date 60 climate partnerships were established. 78 projects have already been implemented by the existing climate partnerships, with support from the Service Agency. Further projects are being planned. The thematic focus of the activities initiated is highly diverse. It encompasses renewable energy and energy efficiency, water and wastewater management, solid waste

management, awareness raising and environmental education, sustainable agriculture and forestry, sustainable mobility and ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change.

Experience to date shows that key factors affecting the course of a project include: strong motivation and dedication, good working and communication structures, and approaches that take account of the financial and human resources available as well as the specific situation of the partnership. There is major potential for mutual learning, and the programmes of action offer a sound platform for applying for funding.

3.3. Manual for preparing the joint programmes of action

Mandy Wagner (SKEW/Engagement Global) and Moritz Schmidt (LAG 21 NRW) presented the manual for preparing the programme of action in order to discuss the methodological and technical aspects, as well as the key steps in developing the programme. The manual describes the process and the

methods involved, from establishing the climate partnership through to implementing and further developing the joint programme of action. It contains specific examples and templates, forms the guiding framework for work in the project, for prioritising the various work processes and for drawing up the timeline. It also shows users how to link this to existing structures and work already carried out. It is designed for the climate partnership actors in both partner municipalities who are responsible for establishing the partnership and designing and implementing its activities (municipal administrators and councillors, civil society, and where appropriate the private sector and academia).

The structure of the manual is based on three major steps (see Figure 2), which to some extent run concurrently. These are described in more detail below.

1. Working structures and communication:

For the baseline analysis, and for developing and implementing the programme of action in the long term, an operational and reliable

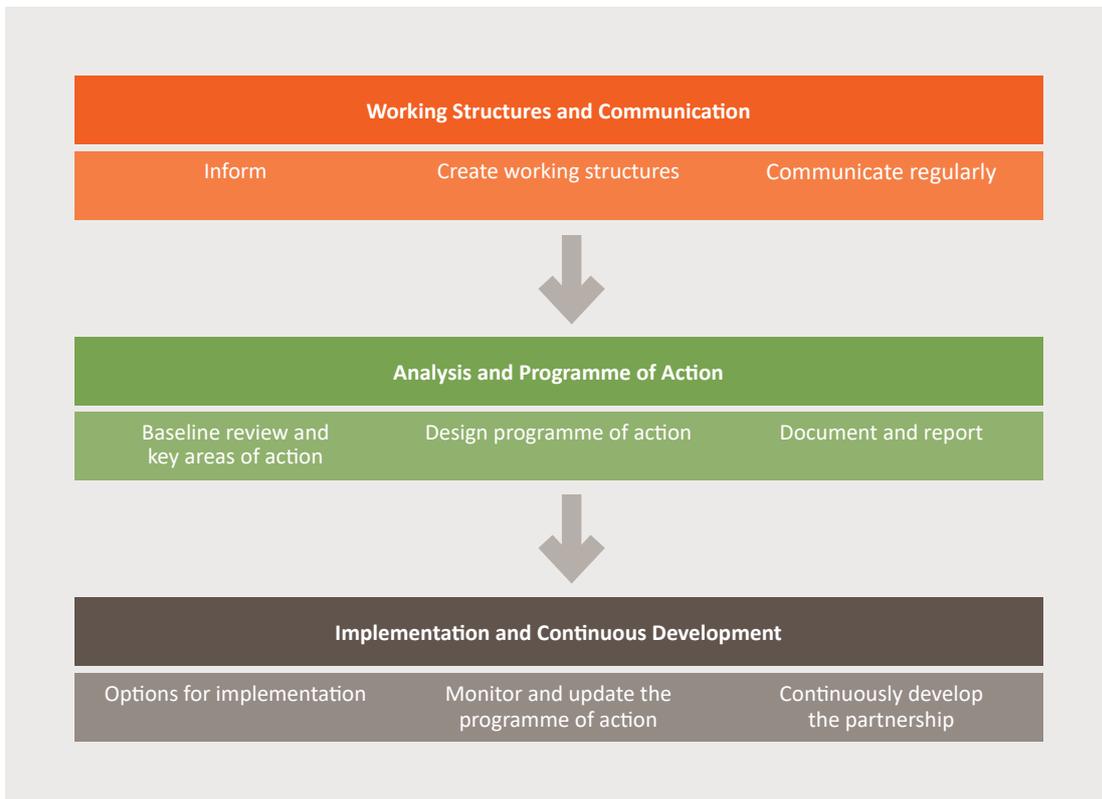


Figure 2: The process of developing the programme of action

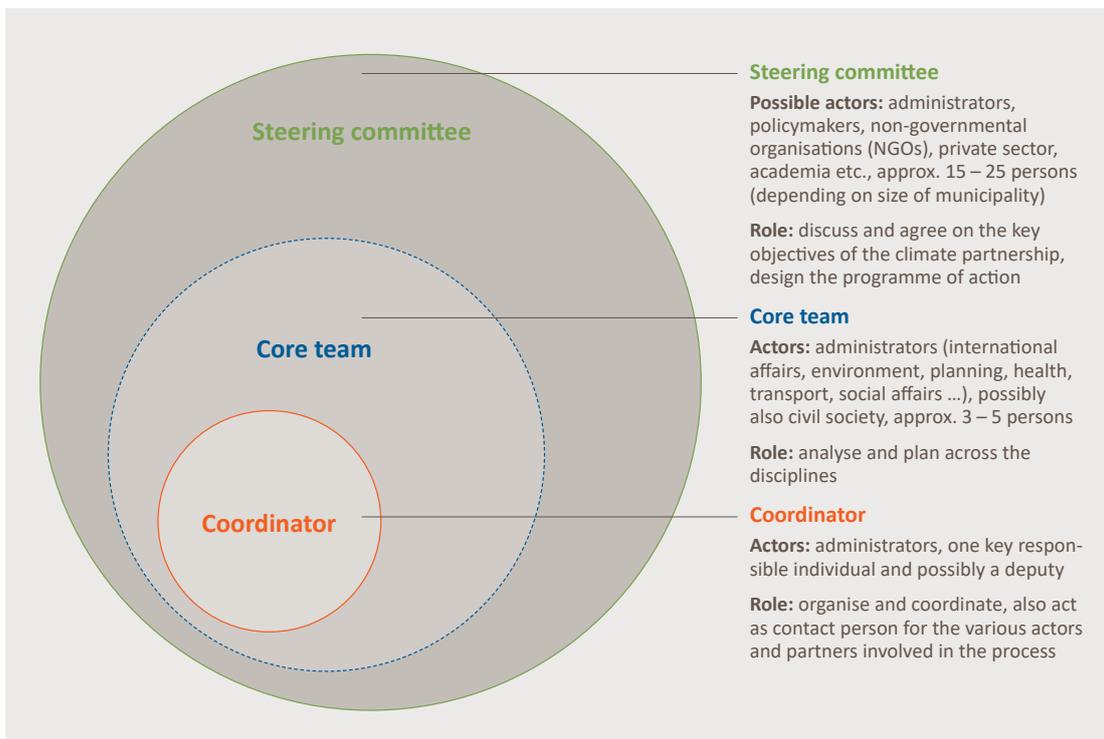


Figure 3: Working structures of the climate partnership

working structure is required. The working structures lay down clear responsibilities and competences, create transparency and support cooperation between the administrators, councillors and civil society. Over the course of the project the official bodies need to meet on a continuous basis.

Experience has shown that to establish a workable climate partnership, the best way is to

appoint in each municipality a coordinator, a core team and a steering committee (Figure 3). It is worthwhile to take time at the beginning to plan the setting up of long-term working structures, as these will form the basis for successful communication and partnership.

For communication within your own partnership and with your partner municipality we can recommend the following:

Communication within your own municipality	Cooperation with your partner municipality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An open and inviting information policy to get stakeholders actively involved in working in the climate partnership • Integration and transparent knowledge transfer within the administration, with councillors and with civil society actors • Outreach through press and media work as well as events (press releases, interviews) • Council resolutions to create reliability for all actors involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key role of the coordinator! • Identify a common working language, possibly involve actors with the relevant language skills in the working structures • Take account of differences in communication structures • Take account of different levels of technical resources • Face-to-face meetings at international workshops and during missions are key, but must also be supplemented through regular indirect communication (VoIP, email chat groups, social media).

2. Analysis and programme of action: The second step usually begins while the working and communication structures are still being set up. In this step the two sides set out to develop a joint vision and a joint programme of action. This first of all requires a deep understanding of the situation in the partner municipality, in order to be able to plan precisely in which areas the two sides should work together. This can take the form of a general baseline analysis that also explores challenges and potential. It can involve for instance the sharing of data, key documents or existing activities. This is followed by the identification of key areas of action, which involves assessing possible fields of activity and may also include SWOT analyses.¹ In conjunction with the missions, it is usually possible to swiftly identify the key areas. This provides the basis on which the joint programme of action can be developed.

The joint programme of action is the **key document** of the climate partnership. It

provides everyone involved with a **strategic framework** and a **timeline**, and makes the cooperation more **binding**. The programme of action describes strategic objectives, operational objectives and measures, and specifies the time, as well as the financial and human resources, required for implementation.

To provide long-term guidance a **vision** is formulated that serves as a basis for developing the climate partnership. The **vision** of the climate partnership describes an idealised state in the two participating municipalities at a certain point in the future, which lies somewhere between utopia and reality. Existing principles of the joint work or climate-related elements can be integrated into the vision.

Possible key thematic areas of the programme of action:

- **In the field of climate change mitigation:** energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy saving, sustainable agriculture and forestry
- **In the field of adaptation to climate change:** water management, soil, agriculture, forestry, biological diversity

¹ The SWOT Analysis is a strategic planning tool. It analyses Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Risks.

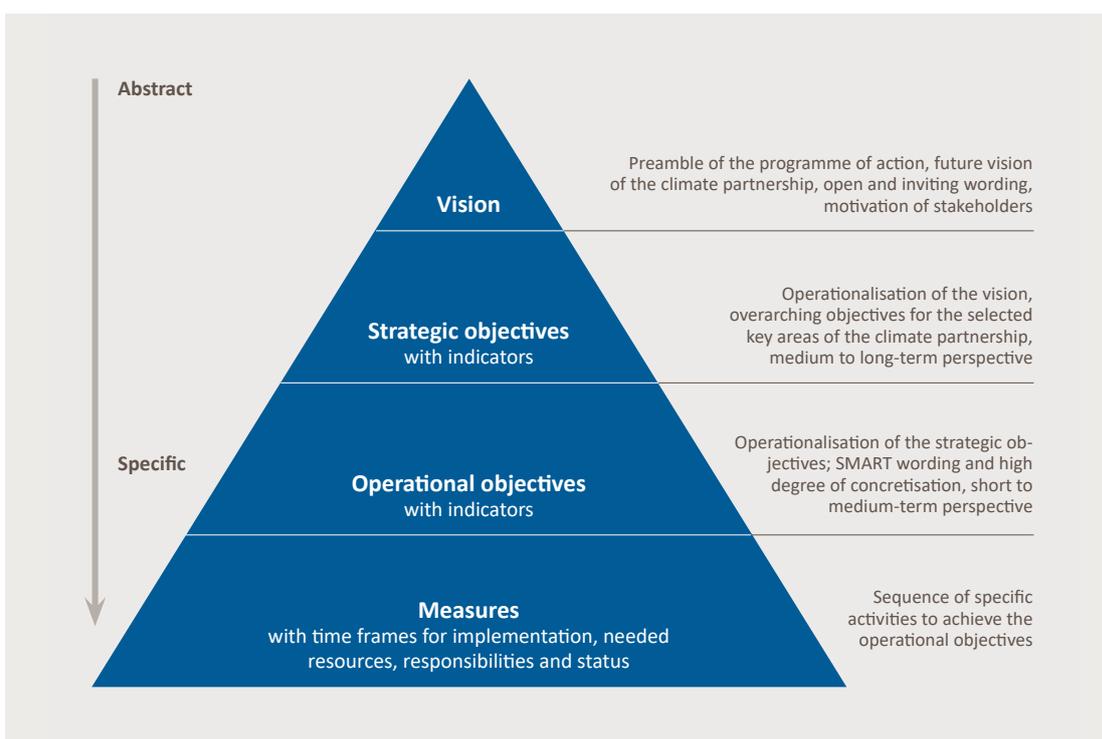


Figure 4: Structure of the programme of action

3. Implementation and continuous

development: Once the joint programme of action has been developed the next step is to jointly implement measures. It is important to list the measures in order of priority, and identify corresponding sources of financing to ensure that they can be implemented. The programme of action forms the basis for funding applications at the international and national level, or for raising private donations.

Reports can be used for strategic monitoring purposes. This includes for instance measuring the achievement of results and promoting positive trends, making adjustments where necessary (in case of undesirable developments or failure to achieve objectives), and continuously improving the strategic approach by comparing the actual situation with targets. It is envisaged that the programme of action will be continuously reviewed, adjusted and further developed as part of a continuous improvement process. In other words, strictly speaking the programme of action is a working document and is never really complete.



Questions from the floor

3.4. Organisational aspects of the project

Nadine Thoss explained some of the key forms of support for the climate partnerships provided by the Service Agency. In this context she referred to the three aforementioned steps of preparing the programmes of action. She invited those present to raise any questions they might have with the Service Agency team.



Nadine Thoß

Working structure and communication

- **The website and the Engagement Global community:** The Service Agency website provides access to presentations and proceedings of the workshops and network meetings, as well as other relevant and helpful studies and photos, in various languages (<https://skew.engagement-global.de/municipal-climate-partnerships.html>). There is also a collaborative platform to support dialogue with other climate partnerships and provide access to all the project-related documents.
- **Individualised project flyers:** Up to 250 flyers per language can be produced to present the work of your partnership.
- **Translations:** Up to 30 pages of project-related documents (masterplans for climate change mitigation, minutes of climate partnership working groups etc.) can be translated per climate partnership.
- **Guidelines, checklists** (e.g. for preparing missions), **proceedings** of international workshops and network meetings
- **Advisory and other support services provided by the Service Agency and LAG 21 NR**

Analysis and programme of action:

- **Expert missions:** Per climate partnership a total of three reciprocal missions, each involving a team of three experts, will be funded and supported. As well as the objectives, characteristic features and organisational aspects of the envisaged missions, Nadine Thoss explained in detail the support provided by the Service Agency (including in particular the payment of travel expenses).
- **Workshop during a mission to Germany:** During a mission to Germany the Service Agency and LAG 21 NRW provide a one-day workshop for preparing the programme of action.
- **Network meetings and international workshops:** During the project period, as well as the kick-off workshop and the results workshop, four meetings are held for the network of German municipalities, and one meeting for the network of partner municipalities.
- **Advisory services on results-oriented project management**
- **Provision of templates for documentation and reporting**

Implementation and continuous development:

- **International results workshop:** Presentation of the programmes of action and planning of further cooperation
- **Advice on financing projects** using the municipalities' own funds, donations, sponsoring, grants etc.
- The Service Agency's **financial and human resources instruments** to support project implementation
- **Option of a further mission** two years after completion of the programme of action in order to update and further develop it
- **Further advice provided by the Service Agency and LAG 21 NRW as required**



Participants following the presentation

4. SHARING LESSONS LEARNED FROM PREVIOUS PHASES OF THE PROJECT

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A panel discussion was held at which several actors from current climate partnerships reported on their experiences. The members of the panel were:



The panel

- **Karl Lichtenberg**, Deputy Chair of the Cologne (Germany) – Corinto/El Realejo (Nicaragua) Twinning Association, second phase of the project
- **Dirtje Gradtke**, City of Oldenburg, Climate Partnership Oldenburg (Germany) – Buffalo City (South Africa), third phase of the project
- **Johanna Reimers**, Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, climate partnerships Bremen (Germany) – Durban (South Africa) and Bremen (Germany) – Windhoek (Namibia), first and second phases of the project

Moderator: ‘You’ve all already gained experience with a municipal climate partnership. How did it all start, and where are you now?’

Johanna Reimers: ‘We first embarked on a climate partnership with our twin city of Durban back in 2011, which is to say eight years ago. Today we are actively continuing our joint work. One of our working groups recently focused on restoring a river in

Durban. Another looked at environmental education for school students and young adults. Together with our twin city in Namibia – Windhoek – we also established a climate partnership during the sixth phase of the project. In this partnership we are currently still in the process of developing our programme of action. Our key areas of action involve solid waste and wastewater management, environmental education and sustainable tourism. In two weeks we will have the final network meeting of the German municipalities, after which the results workshop will take place in South Africa. For us the issue of climate justice keeps on cropping up. Because in Bremen this is just as important to us as our colonial history, and we are constantly trying to manage the project processes together and as equals.’

Karl Lichtenberg: ‘Our links with Corinto already go back 35 years. In 2005 we organised a school and youth exchange scheme, and began with jobs at the circus. Since the town is rather small, simple jobs for children and youngsters quickly led to success. This enabled the population to get to know us. After a few years we then gained the trust of the municipality and were able to plan larger projects. The climate partnership was then a perfect fit. When we began discussions with our partners, numerous thematic areas quickly came to mind such as coastal protection, disaster risk management, and solid waste and wastewater management. So we are already some way toward implementation, and we have converted the circus centre into a disaster risk management centre. We also installed so-called Geotubes² along the

² Geotubes are tubes made from an engineered textile filled with sand that are about 80 metres long and two metres high. They act as a protective barrier and prevent further coastal erosion.

coast. This activity has now been taken up as a pilot project by the national government and is currently being evaluated by the University in Managua.'

Dirtje Gradtke: 'We formed a climate partnership with Buffalo City in South Africa in 2014. We are currently working on the topics of awareness-raising and drinking water protection. We always have the programme of action with us at our meetings, and we regularly review it to make sure it's up-to-date.'

Moderator: 'The Cologne – Corinto/El Realejo twinning association arose during the time of the Solidarity with Nicaragua movement. What was it like for you to develop a programme for technical action, and how do you work with it today?'

Karl Lichtenberg: 'As far as we're concerned there is no contradiction in the fact that we came from the solidarity movement. We were very happy when we heard about this programme – it's very hands-on, and we're pleased about the support. Through the climate partnership we are able to help improve people's lives in our partner municipality in tangible ways. Nonetheless we are continuing to discuss human rights with the national level. As a civil society organisation we have more freedom than elected local officials to distance ourselves from the national government. When civil society and politicians accept and acknowledge each other, everyone can bring their strengths to bear. A small project can then be turned into a continuous and sustainable structure.'

Moderator: 'How did you find working with programme of action and the manual?'

Dirtje Gradtke: 'For us the programme of action is a living document. We find it helpful to have a thematic foundation on which to base our dialogue. We've got up to 30 ideas for projects and concrete starting points that we can tackle together.'

Karl Lichtenberg: 'Besides which it also provides us with legitimacy vis-à-vis the municipality. Cologne City Council has approved the

programme of action, and that helps us to make more demands.'

Johanna Reimers: 'I'd advise people not to have too much respect for the programme of action and the manual. One might get the feeling that it is a rather bureaucratic work. But once we got going we quickly got down to the practicalities and then it's all about the actual content.'



Johanna Reimers

Moderator: 'How did you feel about the workload?'

Karl Lichtenberg: 'We found that claiming our travel expenses was a lot of work. But the Service Agency does provide support.'



Karl Lichtenberg

Dirtje Gradtke: ‘Once a municipality gets involved in a programme the Service Agency regularly keeps them up to date on the support available. In the case of financial support this usually means a grant covering 90% of the costs. It’s not always easy submitting project proposals because plans need to be drawn up that extend far into the future. But there are plenty of phone numbers you can ring at the Service Agency, and plenty of people ready to listen. There’s usually a solution. It’s worth the attempt.’

international cooperation very attractive. Our professional partners in the climate partnership see this as a huge bonus for them. In Windhoek the tasks arising from our programme of action are even being included in the job descriptions for municipal personnel. In Bremen, on the other hand, we constantly have to keep trying to free up capacities.’



Dirtje Gradtke

Moderator: ‘What advice would you like to give the new climate partnerships?’

Karl Lichtenberg: ‘I’ll keep it short and simple. Our slogan is: “Just do it!”’

Dirtje Gradtke: ‘Use the next couple of years to get to know each other, and meet as often as possible. There will always be time left for implementation afterwards. It’s important for both sides to get to know each other’s structures. Allow the partnership to grow, and collect contacts. Project ideas then often emerge by themselves.’

Johanna Reimers: ‘It can be worthwhile getting the municipalities’ own companies involved, for instance the wastewater utilities. At the beginning we didn’t always find this easy, but since then we’ve managed to change attitudes within the municipality. The wastewater company now even approaches us proactively, as the staff there now find the

5. THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE SEVENTH PHASE

5.1. The municipalities taking part

On the morning of day one the delegates from the participating municipalities introduced themselves and their partnerships.



The Bad Berleburg – Morogoro District partnership

Bad Berleburg (Germany) – Morogoro District (Tanzania)

The local churches in the two municipalities have maintained links since 1990. Now they are taking things a step further. This was the first time that the delegation from Bad Berleburg, which was led by Mayor Bernd Fuhrmann, were able to meet their partners from Morogoro District in person. There are many possible areas for cooperation, such as sustainable agriculture, renewable energy or water management. Together the two sides intend to meet their global responsibilities and help strengthen international networks through their partnership.

Erfurt (Germany) – San Miguel de Tucumán (Argentina)

This partnership has existed since 1993. Following several years during which things were a little quiet, the two cities now plan to expand their cooperation in the field of climate change.

Possible areas include solid waste management, mobility or renewable energy.

Gersthofen (Germany) – Baringo County (Kenya)

Following over ten years of flourishing partnership, in 2018 the partners signed an official declaration of friendship. The ProKapsogo Association is playing an important role. Possible areas of cooperation include drinking water production and wastewater management.

Hanseatic City of Rostock (Germany) – Panajachel (Guatemala)

After several years of cooperating in the field of fair traded coffee, in 2018 the two sides established a city-to-city friendship scheme supported by the Friends of Rostock – Panajachel. The partners intend to work together on solid waste and water management. Lake Atitlán in Panajachel will play an important role in this.



The Hanseatic City of Rostock – Panajachel partnership

Karlsdorf-Neuthard (Germany) – Guabiruba (Brazil)

This partnership has existed since 2010, and is based on extraordinary historic links.

It was established in conjunction with the jubilee celebrations marking '150 years of emigration from the German region of Baden to Santa Catarina'. Having reunited families, and following economic cooperation, the two municipalities are now moving forward in new directions. After the Rural District of Karlsruhe and the Brazilian City of Brusque (which is located very close to Guabiruba) had already formed a climate partnership in 2015, this partnership too now intends to address issues related to climate change.

Rural District of Reutlingen (Germany) – Ulundi (South Africa)

Led by NatureLife International – a foundation that already maintained links with South Africa – this cooperation began in 2010. It aims to conduct an international dialogue on sustainability in which the climate partnership is strategically integrated. There are many areas of possible cooperation. Those envisaged include energy management, natural resource management, disaster risk management and sustainable tourism.

Rural District of Teltow-Fläming (Germany) – Katima Mulilo Town (Namibia)



Delegates from the Teltow-Fläming – Katima Mulilo partnership introducing themselves

This cooperation first began with the establishment of the climate partnership. The Ambassador of Namibia to Germany attended the workshop to express his appreciation of the new partnership. The Rural District of Teltow-Fläming has clearly felt

the impacts of climate change in the form of dryness and forest fires. For Katima Mulilo, solid waste management is a top priority.

Münster (Germany) – Monastir (Tunisia)

In 2019 this partnership is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Since the Jasmine Revolution in Tunisia the two municipalities have liaised. The two cities hope to raise their cooperation to a new level through professionalisation and knowledge transfer. Possible thematic areas for the climate partnership include flooding and torrential rainfall, as well as solid waste management.

Neu-Isenburg (Germany) – Kwadaso Municipal Assembly (Ghana)

The delegations met face-to-face for the first time at the conference, after personal links with Ghana had led to initiation of the cooperation. Both municipalities face major challenges: massive restructuring of the transport and energy supply sectors in Neu-Isenburg, and extreme weather events such as periods of drought, heat waves and torrential rainfall in Kwadaso.

Osterode am Harz (Germany) – Département de Kaolack (Senegal)

An active school exchange scheme and the training of so-called climate change ambassadors led to a municipal friendship scheme. Since 2017 topics such as sustainability and climate change mitigation have played a greater role in the dialogue. Possible key areas of action in the climate partnership might be forestry, water management and solid waste management.

5.2. Evening reception and ceremonial handover of the agreements at Münster town hall



Wendela-Beate Vilhjalmsdóttir

The evening of day one of the conference was rounded off with a reception at Münster town hall, which included the handover of the agreements. In her welcome address, Mayor **Wendela-Beate Vilhjalmsdóttir** did not forget to mention the historic significance of the location. She referred to the Hall of Peace in the historic town hall as the City of Münster's centrepiece – this is where in 1648 the 'Peace of Westphalia' was concluded, bringing the Thirty Years' War to an end. Münster thus laid the cornerstone for a united Europe, she explained. To this day, Münster maintains a sense of itself as a city of peace. The mayor emphasised that global issues such as peace and climate change are closely linked. Global climate change requires globally coordinated actions, because the challenges exist on all continents. This reminds us of the fact that we are one human race in one world. It is in our interest, the mayor continued, to preserve the Earth for the next generations. She said how very pleased she was by the international cooperation in the climate partnerships, and wished all the guests an enjoyable evening.

Jessica Baier, Department Head, Thematic Partnerships and Localising the 2030 Agenda, Service Agency/Engagement Global, said it was a special honour to welcome the new climate partnerships. 'It's all about leaning from each other and supporting each other's commitment', she emphasised. By the end of the day, the first steps will already have been taken. She went on to say that the Service Agency was convinced that joint engagement for climate change mitigation and adaptation was urgently needed and that solutions could only be found jointly. She congratulated the municipalities taking part for embarking on this path together. It's an established tradition, she said, to end the first day with the handover of the agreements that will form the basis for the joint work over the coming years. These are a symbol of our shared engagement, she said.



Jessica Baier

THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE SEVENTH PHASE



Bad Berleburg – Morogoro District



Erfurt – San Miguel de Tucumán



Gersthofen – Baringo County



Hanseatic City of Rostock – Panajachel



Guabiruba – Karlsdorf-Neuthard



Rural District of Reutlingen – Ulundi



Rural District of Teltow-Fläming - Katima Mulilo Town



Münster - Monastir



Neu-Isenburg - Kwadaso Municipal Assembly



Osterode am Harz - Département de Kaolack

6. THEMATIC INTRODUCTION – CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

6.1. Global climate change and its impacts on local policy

M.Sc. Dipl.-Ing. Thiago Garcia, Project Leader, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)

Thiago Garcia discussed the Paris agreement targets and explained the global interrelationships of various earth systems that may approach dangerous tipping points as a result of climate change. Finally he presented a project of the PIK. Here is a summary of his presentation.

1. Current state of research

Thiago Garcia began his presentation with a historical excursion. Around 12,000 years ago the so-called Holocene began, as today's warmer climate epoch that followed the ice age is known. The stable climate led to humans becoming sedentary, and encouraged the development of civilisations. Another important milestone from the perspective of climate research was the

industrial revolution, because since then a long-term trend toward rising temperatures can be observed.

The climate tipping points will play a pivotal role in the further trajectory of climate change. The term refers to subsystems of the climate-earth system that respond particularly sensitively to changes and external influences, such as global warming, due to feedback and interactions. This may result in dramatic climate changes that occur abruptly, develop a momentum of their own and thus become irreversible. These sensitive subsystems include for instance the coral reefs, the Arctic sea-ice cover and the Amazonian rainforest. If the rainforest were to dry out, for example, one result would be the release of large quantities of carbon dioxide, which would accelerate climate change even further. Furthermore, these tipping points can also affect each other, leading to interactions or even domino effects (cascades), as a result of which the entire system may tip or collapse. This clearly illustrates how complex the interrelationships and the interactions between the subsystems are. Climate change also causes other changes such as migration. Since humankind's influence on its environment is currently the strongest factor affecting the global climate, which can lead beyond the tipping points, the term 'Anthropocene' was coined to refer to a new climate epoch beyond the stable cycle of the Holocene. It is possible at a regional level to determine with some probability which regions are being and will be affected by climate change and how (for instance more droughts in North Africa). So far, however, there is a lack of data that would also enable us to link this to the local level.



Thiago Garcia

2. Climate governance and climate change policy

According to Thiago Garcia a sustainable climate change policy, the SDGs and the planetary boundaries all need to be conceptualised within a single framework, as they are mutually interdependent. Scientists are currently investigating the interactions between the individual SDGs. In 2015 the international community also concluded the Paris climate agreement, which sets the target of 1.5 to 2 degrees. Moreover, there is increasing recognition of the fact that the local level is of key importance for global development. For example, cities are responsible for around 70 per cent of global greenhouse emissions.

Germany already launched its energy transformation some time ago. As well as the National Climate Initiative launched by the German Environment Ministry (2008), in 2011 the government also agreed to exit atomic energy by 2022. In 2019 the Climate Action Plan 2050, which was developed in a participatory process, will serve as a basis for a national climate action law. At the same time this transformation needs to be made as socially sound as possible – we need only think of the (former) mining areas in the Ruhr and Lausitz regions. For the local level, scaling down the regional forecasts and measures presents a major challenge. Questions arise for instance with regard to competence and interaction with the other levels of governance.

Thiago Garcia emphasised that as well as reducing emissions and implementing adaptation measures, achieving the targets of the Paris agreement will require both an enormous effort of will and a fundamental change in our way of thinking.

3. East Africa-India-Peru Climate Capacities (EPICC)

Finally, Thiago Garcia presented the EPICC project. Through knowledge transfer, research cooperation and capacity development, this PIK project aims to give local partners from Tanzania, Peru and India an opportunity to work with seasonal forecasts, and assess present and future climate influ-

ences and impacts. The annual workshops in the partner countries are geared to their needs and requirements, and are designed to further develop dialogue with stakeholder groups and scientific exchange. The project aims to close the gap between climate research, and the application of its findings by politicians, the business community and society as a whole. It provides the partners with an opportunity to deepen their expertise in the fields of agriculture, water management and migration. It also provides information on climate trends that is tailored to national needs. One question that remains open, however, is how scientific models at the regional level can be applied at the local level, for instance using visualisation tools.



The plenary group following Thiago Garcia's remarks

4. Q&A

Question: 'In Kenya, precipitation has changed. It no longer arrives in March, but later. Is that related to climate change, and if so, how?'

Thiago Garcia: 'The situation in Kenya is very worrying. It still hasn't rained. Based on the knowledge we possess today, we can assume humankind is responsible for many of today's challenges. Seasonal variations can be linked to various interactions. There have been a few studies on this, but it remains a major learning process. In actual fact, science has more questions than answers on this.'

Question: 'Many species are threatened by extinction. Yet there are species that cope

well with climate change. Unfortunately these tend to be invasive species that also displace other species. Would you advise us to protect these other species against the invaders, or trust nature to find a new balance and trust species to adapt?’

Thiago Garcia: ‘That really is a difficult question. Interventions may entail major risks. The system is too complex, and there are many interactions. That’s why I’d tend to say stay cautious, don’t intervene prematurely. If we intervene before we’ve fully understood things, then we might no longer be able to restore the original state.’

Question: ‘Why is Africa harder hit by the impacts, even though the continent produces far lower CO₂ emissions than the Global North?’

Thiago Garcia: ‘Now you’re raising the issue of climate justice. The industrialised nations are indeed the main sources of climate change, which means that here in Germany for instance we bear great responsibility. And this also implies the question of what support should be received by those countries and regions that are harder hit by climate change, even though they produce lower CO₂ emissions. Right now I’m not able from a technical perspective to give a clear answer to the question of why Africa is harder hit – the topic is simply too complex. Germany is also badly affected by climate change, though the country also has more means to cope with it.’

6.2. German climate change policy and the role of municipalities

Moritz Schmidt, LAG 21 NRW



Moritz Schmidt

Moritz Schmidt shed light on the history of climate change policy in Germany, and discussed the role of municipalities in this context.

Germany emits significantly more CO₂ per capita than many other countries, and therefore bears corresponding responsibility for the global climate. In the early 1990s this was reflected in the first parliamentary reports on climate change. The signature of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992, together with the Rio Conference, provided the impetus for the emergence of climate change policy as a policy field in its own right. In 1995 Dr Angela Merkel, then Germany’s Environment Minister, organised the first United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 1). Other key milestones thereafter were the Kyoto Protocol (1997), through which Germany undertook to meet climate change policy goals under international law, and the Paris climate agreement (2015), which further concretises the period after 2020 and lays down the target of 1.5 degrees.

Climate change policy is closely intertwined with other policy fields such as environmental, energy, economic, foreign, transport and land-use policy. If, for example, over 60

per cent of Germany's energy consumption is covered by imports, then there is a close link to foreign policy. In Germany we can mine lignite, a fuel with high CO₂ emissions and low efficiency. At the same time, there are jobs that depend on lignite mining, so conflicting objectives arise and compromises need to be found.

CO ₂ emissions of selected countries in 2017	
Country	Per capita CO ₂ -emissions in t
Germany	9,7
Ghana	0,6
Kenya	0,3
Namibia	1,6
Rwanda	0,1
Senegal	0,6
South Africa	8,0
Tanzania	0,2
Tunisia	2,4
Argentina	4,6
Brazil	2,3
Guatemala	1,2

Quelle: Oak Ridge National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy, 2017

The key targets of Germany's climate change policy are ...

- the gradual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (target for 2020: 40 per cent and target for 2050: 80–95 per cent reduction relative to baseline values for 1990).
- higher percentage of renewables in the final energy mix (target for 2020: 18 per cent and target for 2050: 60 per cent of final energy consumption);
- higher percentage of renewables in the electricity mix (target for 2020: 35 per cent and target for 2050: 80 per cent).

Experts assume that the targets for 2020 will not be met. In the transport sector, for instance, CO₂ emissions have remained constant since 1990 due to rebound effects.

Moritz Schmidt specified **three major areas in which Germany's climate change policy instruments take effect:**

- **Market-based instruments:** Emissions trading within the European Union (EU; purchase of CO₂ certificates), Kyoto Mechanisms (cash transfers),³ the German Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG)⁴
- **Market incentive programmes** that promote projects (energy-efficient street lighting etc.)
- **Climate Action Plan 2050⁵:** participatory approach to developing the plan in order to take account of conflicting interests, wishes and ideas of all key stakeholders

The **timeline of the energy transformation can be broken down into three phases:**

Following the installation of new energy systems, Germany is now in the second phase of system adaptation (decentralisation of energy production, implementation of short-term energy storage systems etc.). The third phase will in the future include sustainable management and safeguarding (e.g. storage systems).

The German Government has also recognised that **municipalities are important actors for achieving the national climate targets**, because they will be able to use their expertise and experience to develop and implement locally appropriate solutions. At the same time, climate change mitigation and adaptation are not included among the mandatory tasks of municipalities, and are in fact voluntary. This means that municipalities face pressure to justify their actions, and must think carefully about how they spend the scarce funds at their disposal. The German Government therefore wishes to support municipalities by enabling them to apply directly for funding in order to tackle strategic processes or make investments, or

3 Read more: www.carbon-mechanisms.de/en/introduction/the-kyoto-mechanisms-cdm-and-ji/.

4 The EEG forms the legal framework for feeding green electricity into the public grid. Here, feed-in tariffs are guaranteed for each type of renewable energy (solar PV, wind power, hydro power and biomass). This provides greater investment security. Between 2000 and 2016 the share of green electricity fed into the grid rose from 6 to 29 per cent.

5 Germany's Climate Action Plan 2050, plus explanations: <https://www.bmu.de/en/topics/climate-energy/climate/national-climate-policy/greenhouse-gas-neutral-germany-2050/>.

to fund a position for climate change mitigation management.

In the discussion that followed it was pointed out that the German Government's Climate Action Plan 2050 has not yet been translated into legislation. Since Germany will fail to achieve the targets it has set itself as things stand, it was recommended that the plan be made law before the end of 2019. At this point one participant drew attention to the fact that North Rhine-Westphalia has already passed a law for climate change mitigation.



Participants in plenary

Another topic raised was how this might affect German municipalities, including with regard to local self-government. One example mentioned was the City of Constance, which was the first German city to declare a climate emergency and to make its future decisions subject to a climate proviso. Similar trends in New Zealand, in this case at the national level, were also mentioned.

6.3. Special excursion to Münster's Rieselfelder nature reserve



Participants on the excursion

On the afternoon of day two the agenda included a visit to the Rieselfelder. North of Münster, the Rieselfelder – which translates as 'trickling fields' – were managed from about 1900 onward to allow the wastewater produced in Münster to 'trickle away'. The city's wastewater first of all travelled through long ditches, then passed through sedimentation and distribution tanks before reaching an area of 130 hectares that was divided up into plots. There it was allowed to seep away and evaporate. At the same time the wastewater that trickled away was used as fertiliser for the nutrient-poor soils. People were thus able to use the land to grow cereals and vegetables, and as pasture. In the early 1960s, population growth in the city of Münster led to the Rieselfelder being enlarged to an area of 640 hectares. After a large sewage treatment plant came into operation for Münster in the 1970s, the Rieselfelder fields were decommissioned.

Today, the Rieselfelder form part of Europe's Natura 2000 network of nature reserves that protect certain animals and plants, as well as their habitats. With EU funding, in the late 1990s around 200 hectares of the area were converted into a nature park. Around 600,000 people visit this site every year. For this purpose a network of biking and hiking trails, accessible observation points and information boards have been put in place.



Group photo at the Rieselfelder

7. WORK IN GROUPS

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The next two days revolved around working on the partnerships in groups. This work generated key findings on the situation in the respective partner municipality. This enables the municipalities for instance to better understand the (administrative) structures and challenges of their project partner, and to familiarise themselves with current activities. This is why the work performed in groups and the discussions this involves form an important basis for the first expert missions.



The first phase of work in groups

7.1 Roadmap of the project

The **first group work phase** set out first of all to develop a shared **understanding of the guidelines for developing the programmes** of action by addressing any questions or uncertainties. A second aim was to give participants an opportunity to discuss the **broad processes of the project** by referring to a **roadmap**, and to introduce themselves and their municipalities to each other.

Some municipalities began by sharing their expectations of the project and discussing possible areas for cooperation. Together they listed challenges and collected initial ideas for projects. Others had already gone a very long way with their initial analyses and were

already able to begin planning. The climate partnerships drew up initial schedules, collected important data, identified dates for possible missions, and determined what needed to have happened by then. One partnership for instance considered combining the mission with a planned New Year's reception, a foundation gala or a visit to a fair trade exhibition. After the first phase of group work the municipalities were clearly in the mood to get going. 'We can get started', confirmed one participant during the feedback round. Another expressed his pleasure: 'Our partners have a great network. It's going to be really exciting working with them!'



The first phase of work in groups

7.2 Working structures and communication mechanisms

The **second phase of group work** concerned the **working structures and the communication mechanisms** of the newly established climate partnerships. Each municipality conducted their own stakeholder analysis in order to identify the relevant actors for their particular climate partnership, and documented this in a 'stakeholder map'. This enabled them to visualise the relative importance of the various stakeholder groups (by colour coding them), the stakeholders'

institutional links to the municipality itself (shown by distance from the centre) and the stakeholders' links to each other. In each partnership, the two municipalities then presented each other with their findings. This led to a highly productive dialogue that enabled the two sides to define the structures and resources available in each municipality, and collect ideas for establishing the working structures on both sides.

Most of the municipalities assigned a pivotal position in the project to the mayor/the council. In almost all cases, specific offices or departments within the municipality (for climate change mitigation, environment, international affairs, building, transport etc.) were also identified as key actors, and where appropriate the relevant contact persons were also specified. Many municipalities also included in their stakeholder analysis their own enterprises or associated organisations such as utility companies, energy agencies, waste management associations or water utilities. Other actors that the municipalities often integrated included universities, schools, private enterprises, and organisations/associations from the fields of environment, waste management, transport, energy, agriculture, gender equality or non-governmental organisations involved e.g. in development cooperation. Several municipalities broadened the radius for possible stakeholders to include the regional level of government, chambers of commerce, twinning/friendship associations, (local) media, adult education centres, kindergartens, churches or local leaders. Very occasionally actors at the national level, such as the respective line ministries, were also specified.

7.3 The baseline review

The third phase of group work involved the **baseline analysis**. First of all, each municipality drew up their own baseline review in a table. The two sides in each partnership then shared their findings with their respective partners. The baseline review focused on the following questions:

- What specific challenges exist in the municipality with regard to climate change?
- What areas, sectors or individuals in the municipality are particularly hard-hit by the impacts of climate change, or have possibly played a role in creating the challenges?
- What strategies, findings or plans already exist in relation to these problems?
- Do any concrete projects already exist to address the aforementioned problems?



The second phase of work in groups

Answering these questions enabled the participants to perform a deeper analysis of the situation on the ground. This also helped clarify the interests and expectations of the municipalities regarding the joint work in their climate partnerships.

The dialogue demonstrated that the questions which arise are often very similar no matter where. Participants shared for instance the observation that extreme weather events such as torrential rainfall, storms, dry spells or hot spells had become more frequent over the last few years, leading to flooding, drought or damage to infrastructure in the municipalities, and prompting corresponding disaster risk management measures. Many also saw a major challenge in the desired reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, which also touches on (municipal) topics such as energy production and energy saving, mobility and transport, as well as rising air pollution in urban areas. Another pressing problem identified by most municipalities was how society deals with climate change, environmental awareness and sufficient action. Several municipalities also pointed to water scarcity and water pollution, solid waste management, deforestation, forest fires, health and migration. Not infrequently, advancing deforestation and inadequate agricultural practices (overuse of soils etc.) lead to erosion and land degradation. In this context participants also addressed issues of biodiversity such as species extinction caused by monoculture and pesticides, and the emergence of new, resistant species.



The second phase of work in groups

Depending on the particular threat scenario, different groups are affected and/or may play a role in causing climate change: farmers,

business actors, local residents, administrators and local policy-makers, or the local ecosystem (flora and fauna etc.). One striking feature is that ultimately in all municipalities the population were identified as those suffering the impacts, chiefly as a result of extreme weather events.



Participants performing their baseline review

The type and number of documents already produced varies from municipality to municipality. However, plans (master plans, development plans, contingency plans, strategic plans and actions) and studies do exist. These are either of a general nature or relate to specific areas such as climate change mitigation, mobility or infrastructure. These plans are of major importance for implementing measures to mitigate climate change and adapt to its impacts. Decrees/ordinances etc. enable municipalities to regulate potentially damaging actions. Many municipalities in all three regions of the world see environmental education and awareness-raising on existing and advancing climate change and its impacts as a key strategic cross-cutting issue. Their programmes of action will include corresponding accompanying measures for the key areas of activity.

The number and quality of existing ongoing projects and measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation also vary widely. Nonetheless all municipalities have already begun implementing measures, for instance in the field of infrastructure (energy-efficient

retrofitting, development of cycling trails, modernisation etc.), and awareness-raising (campaigns/actions).

The feedback showed that this work session was very important for the participants because it enabled them to gain a clear picture of their partners' situation, and to identify common challenges as well as existing plans and documents. One participant commented: 'It's very interesting to see that we face very many similar challenges and that we all need to adapt. At the same time, our structures are often very different. We've got a solid foundation on which we can continue working.'



Impressions from the work in groups



8. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

At the end of day three participants were provided with an overview concerning the next steps in preparing their programmes of action. To conclude, **Mandy Wagner, Nadine Thoss and Moritz Schmidt** reviewed the workshop. They said how pleased they were by the success of the kick-off workshop, which facilitated informal conversations, lively get-togethers and a concentrated working atmosphere. They expressed their appreciation of the strong results of the work, which will form a key foundation for further cooperation. And they encouraged the municipalities to use the dialogue, and thanked them for their dedication and courage in embarking on this path.

The next steps will now be to establish the working and communication structures, strengthen the personal relationships between the partners, define joint areas of action and develop a joint programme of action. After the workshop the delegations from the African and Latin American municipalities took the opportunity to visit their respective German partner municipalities. For many this was the first visit to their partner municipality. This was therefore a good opportunity for them to gain a better impression of their partner municipality and explore possible topics for joint cooperation.

Kick-off workshop for the seventh phase of the climate partnerships



ANNEX

Agenda

Municipal Climate Partnerships International Kick-off Workshop for the Seventh Phase 14 to 16 May 2019 in Münster

Tuesday, 14.05.2019	
09:30	Workshop begins
10:00	Opening and welcome With welcome addresses by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wendela-Beate Vilhjalmsson, Mayor, City of Münster• Dr Doris Witteler-Stiepelmann, Head of Division, BMZ• Mandy Wagner, Project Manager, Service Agency/Engagement Global• Dr Klaus Reuter, Managing Director, LAG 21 NRW
10:30	Objectives and agenda of the workshop Moderator
10:45	Introducing the municipalities taking part
in between	Group photo
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Global climate change and its impacts on local policy M.Sc. Dipl.-Ing. Thiago Garcia, Project Manager, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
15:00	Municipal development cooperation in Germany Nadine Thoss, Service Agency/Engagement Global
16:00	Coffee
16:30	The 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' project Mandy Wagner, Service Agency/Engagement Global and Dr Klaus Reuter, LAG 21 NRW
17:15	Expectations of the participants Moderator
17:45	Lessons learned in previous phases of the project <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karl Lichtenberg, Chair of the Cologne (Germany) – Corinto/El Realejo (Nicaragua) Twinning Association, second phase of the project• Dertje Gradtke, City of Oldenburg, Climate Partnership Oldenburg (Germany) – Buffalo City (South Africa), third phase of the project• Johanna Reimers, Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, climate partnerships Bremen (Germany) – Durban (South Africa) and Bremen (Germany) – Windhoek (Namibia), first and second phases of the project
18:30	End of day one
19:00	Evening reception in the council chamber at Münster town hall Welcome address by Mayor Wendela-Beate Vilhjalmsson, followed by handover of the agreements by Jessica Baier, Department Head, Service Agency/Engagement Global

Wednesday, 15.05.2019	
09:30	Review of day one Moderator
09:45	The manual for preparing the joint programmes of action Mandy Wagner, Service Agency/Engagement Global and Moritz Schmidt, LAG 21 NRW
10:30	Group session I: Structure of the project
in between	Coffee
13:00	Lunch
14:15	Impressions from the group sessions Moderator
15:00	Special excursion to Münster's Rieselfelder nature reserve Rieselfelder Münster Biological Station, Coermühle 181, 48157 Münster
ab 18:00	Dinner with live music in the 'Schlossgarten' restaurant

Thursday, 16.05.2019	
09:15	Review of day two Jessica Baier, Service Agency/Engagement Global; moderator
09:30	German climate change policy and the role of municipalities Moritz Schmidt, LAG 21 NRW
10:30	Coffee
11:00	Group session II: Working structures and communication mechanisms
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Group session III: Baseline review
16:00	Coffee
16:30	Impressions from the group sessions Moderator
17:00	Organisational aspects of the project Nadine Thoss, Service Agency/Engagement Global
17:30	Looking ahead Mandy Wagner, Service Agency/Engagement Global
18:00	Concluding remarks by participants Moderator
18:30	Closing address Service Agency/Engagement Global and LAG 21 NRW; moderator
19:30	Dinner in the restaurant at Hotel H4

List of participants

Deutschland				
Municipality	Family name	Given name	Municipality/organisation	Job title
Bad Berleburg	Fuhrmann	Bernd	Bad Berleburg	Mayor
Bad Berleburg	Heide	Henner	Bad Berleburg	Coordinator for Municipal Development Cooperation
Bad Berleburg	Liedke	Christine	Bad Berleburg	Pastor
Bad Berleburg	Wünnemann	Ines	Bad Berleburg	Coordinator for Municipal Development Cooperation
Rural District of Reutlingen	Bernecker	Julia	Rural District of Reutlingen	Head of Sustainable Regional Development
Rural District of Reutlingen	Mages	Salome	Rural District of Reutlingen	Coordinator for Municipal Development Cooperation
Rural District of Reutlingen	Regelmann	Julius	Rural District of Reutlingen	Department for Solid Waste Management
Rural District of Teltow-Fläming	Biesterfeld	Dietlind	Rural District of Teltow-Fläming	Councillor
Rural District of Teltow-Fläming	Neumann	Werina	Rural District of Teltow-Fläming	Environmental Office/Climate Change Mitigation
Rural District of Teltow-Fläming	Rupprecht	Jennifer	Rural District of Teltow-Fläming	Desk Officer, PR Work
Erfurt	Hoyer	Sylvia	Erfurt	Head of Sustainability Management Unit
Erfurt	Marusczyk	Julia	Erfurt	Coordinator for Climate Change Mitigation
Erfurt	Ohlmann	Georg	Erfurt	Protocol/International Relations
Gersthofen	Biesinger	Christiane	Gersthofen	Adult Education Centre
Gersthofen	Kaminski	Stanislaus	ProKapsogo	Member of the Board, Auditor
Gersthofen	Tittel	Markus	Gersthofen	Expert for Wastewater Engineering
Gersthofen	Wörle	Michael	Gersthofen	Mayor
Hanseatic City of Rostock	Böhme	Steffen	Public Waste Management Rostock GmbH	Corporate Spokesperson
Hanseatic City of Rostock	Matthias	Holger	Hanseatic City of Rostock	Senator for Building and Environment
Hanseatic City of Rostock	Seidel	Burgard	Friends of Rostock – Panajachel	Chair
Karlsdorf-Neuthard	Bonatelli	Ana Paula	Agency for Energy and the Environment, Rural District of Karlsruhe	Project Officer
Karlsdorf-Neuthard	Milani	Roland	Karlsdorf-Neuthard	Head of Finance
Karlsdorf-Neuthard	Weigt	Sven	Karlsdorf-Neuthard	Mayor
Karlsdorf-Neuthard	Ziefuß	Benjamin	Karlsdorf-Neuthard	Head of Building Department
Münster	Badde-Struß	Karin	Overberg-Kolleg, Münster	Teacher
Münster	Denz	Wilfried	Umweltberatung Denz (environmental consulting)	Managing Director
Münster	Dohr	Nina	Münster	Coordinator for Municipal Development Cooperation

Municipality	Family name	Given name	Municipality/organisation	Job title
Münster	Kollmann	Thomas	Münster	Member of Münster City Council/Chair of Twinning Association
Münster	Schukalla	Kajo	Münster	Board for Municipal Development/Board of Monastir Twinning Association
Münster	Wildt	Birgit	Münster	Coordinator for Climate Change and Energy/Preventive Environmental Protection
Neu-Isenburg	Kessler	Björn	Neu-Isenburg	
Neu-Isenburg	Weidner	Josef	Neu-Isenburg	Department for Climate Change Mitigation and the Energy Transformation
Neu-Isenburg	Wölfling	Dirk	Neu-Isenburg	Member of the Municipal Council
Osterode am Harz	Becker	Klaus	Osterode am Harz	Mayor
Osterode am Harz	Christiansen	Thomas	Osterode am Harz	First Councillor
Osterode am Harz	Rusteberg	Tobias	Osterode am Harz	Special Representative for the Partnership with Kaolack
	Reimers	Johanna	Hanseatic City of Bremen	Official Representative to the Federal Government and for Europe/Department for Europe and Development Cooperation
	Elsaefßer	Miriam	German Association of Towns and Municipalities	Coordinator for Municipal Development Cooperation
	Gradtkke	Dirtje	Oldenburg	Coordinator for International Relations
	Petrecca	Federico	Consulate of the Republic of Argentina in Bonn	Interim Consul
	H.E. Guibeb	Andreas B.D.	Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to Germany	Ambassador
	Dr Witteler-Stiepelmann	Doris	BMZ	Head of Division
	Garcia	Thiago	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research	Project Leader
	Lichtenberg	Karl	The Cologne (Germany) - Corinto/El Realejo (Nicaragua) Twinning Association	Chair

Global South

Municipality	Family name	Given name	Municipality/organisation	Job title
Kwadaso Municipality, Ghana	Agyenim-Boateng	Richmond	Kwadaso Municipal Assembly	Municipal Chief Executive (Mayor)
Kwadaso Municipality, Ghana	Boateng	Nana Agyenim	Atwimahene Palace	Odikoro, Atwim-Boko
Kwadaso Municipality, Ghana	Lurimuah	Stephen	Kwadaso Municipal Assembly	Metropolitan Development Planning Officer
Kwadaso Municipality, Ghana	Osei-Wusu	Karikari	Ghanaian German School	Administrator/Operations
Baringo County, Kenya	Kandie	Joshua	Parliament of Kenya	Member of Parliament
Baringo County, Kenya	Kandie	Wilson	Wilskandy Enterprises	Director
Baringo County, Kenya	Koima	Joel Kibiwott	Baringo County, Kenya	County Executive Committee

Municipality	Family name	Given name	Municipality/organisation	Job title
Baringo County, Kenya	Murage	Charles Mwangi	Rift Valley Water Services Board	Engineering Assistant
Baringo County, Kenya	Yator	David	Baringo Central Constituency	Personal Assistant
Département de Kaolack, Senegal	Ndiaye	Baba	District of Kaolack	Président
Département de Kaolack, Senegal	Toure	Moussiané	District of Kaolack	Payeur départemental
Guabiruba, Brazil	Barroero	Deborah	Guabiruba Municipality	Arquiteta e Urbanista
Guabiruba, Brazil	Ebele	Bruna Eli	Guabiruba Municipality	Secretária de meio ambiente
Guabiruba, Brazil	Kohler	Matias	Guabiruba Municipality	Prefeito
Katima Mulilo Town, Namibia	Lilungwe	Patrick Lifasi	Katima Mulilo Town Council	HR & Corporate Services Manager
Katima Mulilo Town, Namibia	Liswaniso	Traphael S.	Katima Mulilo Town Council	Chief Executive Officer
Katima Mulilo Town, Namibia	Mwiya	Georgina	Katima Mulilo Town Council	Mayor
Monastir/Tunesien	Ayed	Sonia	City of Monastir	Chef de service d'aménagement urbain
Monastir/Tunesien	Ghedira	Ahmed	City of Monastir	Adjoint au maire en charge de l'environnement et du développement durable
Monastir, Tunisia	Ayed	Sonia	City of Monastir	Chef de service d'aménagement urbain
Monastir, Tunisia	Ghedira	Ahmed	City of Monastir	Adjoint au maire en charge de l'environnement et du développement durable
Monastir, Tunisia	Trimeche	Ghazi	City of Monastir	Adjoint au Maire en charge des relations internationales
Morogoro District, Tanzania	Kingwahi	Safia	Morogoro District Council	Project Manager
Morogoro District, Tanzania	Marcel Kyowa	Mary	Morogoro District Council	Head of District Environmental Management
Morogoro District, Tanzania	Nassoro Kingo	Kibena	Morogoro District Council	District Chairperson/Mayor
Panajachel, Guatemala	De León Ralón de Urizar	Edna Mercedes	City of Panajachel	Oficina Social de la Esposa del Alcalde (OSEA)
Panajachel, Guatemala	Pablo de León	Enrique Dionicio	City of Panajachel	Asesor del Despacho
Panajachel, Guatemala	Paredes de León	Nydia Marina	City of Panajachel	Dirección de Medio Ambiente
San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	Amado	Claudia Cecilia	City of San Miguel de Tucumán	Coordinadora de Recuperación de Inmuebles Municipales
San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	Apud	María Beronica	City of San Miguel de Tucumán	Gerente Operativo
San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina	Costilla	Rubén Aníbal	City of San Miguel de Tucumán	Jefe Departamento Planificación Ambiental
Ulundi, South Africa	Mazibuko	Richard	Ulundi Municipality	Executive Director
Ulundi, South Africa	Ntombela	Thandeka	Ulundi Municipality	Executive Director
Ulundi, South Africa	Ntshangase	Wilson	Ulundi Municipality	Mayor

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SERVICE AGENCY COMMUNITIES IN ONE WORLD

All publications and information leaflets of the Service Agency Communities in One World can be ordered free of charge (if not yet out of print) or downloaded on its homepage under <https://skew.engagement-global.de/publications-en.html>

Please find below the list of publications available in English.

Dialog Global-Series:

- No. 53: Municipal Climate Partnerships. Documentation of the fifth phase of the project. Bonn, June 2019
- No. 43: Network Meeting Migration and Development at the Local Level. 9-10 November 2015 in Cologne. Report. Bonn, October 2016

Material-Series:

- No. 98: Third European Network Meeting "Migration and development at the local level: Sharing experiences and creating ideas". 28 to 29. November 2017 in Cologne. Bonn, September 2018
- No. 96: First conference on municipal partnerships with Eastern Europe. 23 to 25 October 2017 in Esslingen. Bonn, March 2018
- No. 95: Second Conference on Municipal Partnerships with Asia, 19 to 21 June 2017 in Bonn. Bonn, November 2017
- No. 90: Second European Network Meeting Migration & Development at the Local Level: Linking Actors and Policies. 29th -30th November 2016 in Cologne. Report. Bonn, August 2017
- No. 86: International Kick-off Workshop, 5. Phase "50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015". 12th-14th July 2016 Science City of Munoz, Philippines. Documentation. Bonn, March 2017

- No. 85: Third Conference on Municipal Partnerships with Africa - Sustainable Partnerships on Equal Terms, 19 to 21 October in Erfurt, Documentation. Bonn, March 2017
- No. 80: German-Latin American/Caribbean Mayors' Conference - 'Urbanisation in Germany', Hamburg, 30 to 31 May 2016. Bonn, November 2016
- No. 77: Second Conference of German-Palestinian Municipal Partnerships. 10 to 13 November 2015 in Jena. Bonn, July 2016

Other publications:

- About us. Bonn, September 2018
- The services we offer. Bonn, January 2019
- Municipalities for Global Sustainability and the 17 SDGs. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Bonn, July 2018

Supporters and cooperating partners - The shareholding structure of the Service Agency

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The programme advisory board



The programme commission



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and Development