

CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE ACADEMY (CCCA)

Africa Workshop

Kampala, Uganda, 3 – 5 May 2011

Aide Mémoire

UNIVERSITIES AND CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE (CCCI)

Background

Universities can help cities solve their complex problems and realize their development potential. However these are still emerging practices. In many countries, the research and training priorities of universities are not in line with the emerging priorities for sustainable urban development. At the same time, the findings of university research are not being mainstreamed into practice, and the knowledge acquired by university staff is often not being mainstreamed in the university curricula, and thus future urban practitioners are not sufficiently exposed to these key issues. In response UN-HABITAT has embarked on strengthening links with universities through its **Habitat Partner University Initiative (HPUI)**. The HPUI is inspired by the acute awareness of the role of education and knowledge in addressing the challenges of sustainable urbanization, the promising good practices championed by some universities, and UN-HABITAT capacity to catalyze and scale up such practices by leveraging its mandate and strategic role in the international development cooperation.

The Habitat Partner University Initiative is the first initiative operationalizing the Education, Training and Research component of the Sustainable Urban Development Network (SUD-Net). It aims at enlarging cooperation between UN-HABITAT and institutions of higher education, as well as facilitating exchange and cooperation between universities in developing and developed nations. (for more information on the HPUI please visit www.unhabitat.org/hpui, where you can also find background documents on universities and Climate Change).

One component of the **Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI)** addresses the collaboration with Universities covering sub-regional meetings, the exchange of researchers and students, the development of university curricula and action research in the pilot cities. CCCI is the lead initiative under the Environmental Planning and Management component of SUD-Net. It aims to build momentum for local governments to more readily respond to the climatic threats they face (Climate Change adaptation) and take bold steps in reducing cities' climate footprint. CCCI aims to enhance policy dialogue and advocacy on the local and sub-national level, on the national level, on the regional as well as on the global level. Knowledge generation and management through the CCCI website and publications, Capacity building for all stakeholders through tool development and partnerships with the professional associations, universities and local government training institutes are other key elements of the initiative.

One key output of the Cities in Climate Change Initiative aims to have Habitat Partner Universities, local universities and local continuous learning institutions adapting their teaching curricula and research to incorporate the issue of cities in climate change and exercise action-research in CCCI partner cities. It also aims at creating maximum linkages with the HPU initiative, the activities relating to Climate Change and Urban Planning as well as the pilot initiatives.

Workshop on Climate Change and Urban Planning (May 2009)

A workshop on Climate Change and Urban Planning was held in Rotterdam between 28 and 30 May. The workshop was organized by The Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS), the Commonwealth Association of Planners and UN-HABITAT. One of the objectives for the meeting was:

“To reach a common understanding on how urban planning and design schools can better address climate change as an integral part of their curricula”

The meeting brought together urban planning practitioners and their associations as well as representatives of tertiary planning schools. Approaches to Teaching on Climate Change were discussed and it was agreed that a virtual **Cities in Climate Change Academy** was to be set up. This web-platform would collect lectures on Climate Change and Urban Planning. The modules could be combined to develop a complete semester course. The objective would be to mainstream climate change into existing syllabi. A road map (from the end of 2009 to 2011) towards the CCCA was also prepared at the workshop. It was agreed that UN-HABITAT will prepare a work plan on how to implement these recommendations from the working groups.

Outcomes of the Workshop on Climate Change and Urban Planning

Cities in Climate Change Academy (CCCA)

- The CCCA will be a web-platform where specially designed lecture sessions would be deposited for download.
- A complete package for each session would contain: a lecture/power point presentation, supplementary lecture notes, a reading list, case studies, suggestions for studio/seminar work etc.
- Lecture sessions could be combined to develop a complete semester (or term) course, which would form one course module of a post-graduate (or graduate) degree. The objective here would be to mainstream climate change into existing syllabi.
- Individual lecture sessions could equally be used to address climate change in a traditional semester/term course. For example a lecture session on “transport planning and climate change” could be inserted in a general semester course on “transport planning”.
- The web-platform should be dynamic. Users should be able to provide comments, upload case studies, lectures, additional reading material etc.¹

Cities in Climate Change Research

- UN-HABITAT with the World Bank and UNEP are planning to set up a “Cities in Climate Change Research Clearinghouse”. Hence, the Climate Change Academy would provide links to the clearinghouse but would not be a depository of research itself.

Mainstreaming Climate Change in planning specializations

- Planning education is as diverse as the work of planners. Planning courses and degrees are, for example, offered by planning and architecture schools or geography departments. Specializations exist for example in urban planning, regional planning, environmental-, housing- or transport planning.
- The various climate change impacts (e.g. flooding, drought etc) and responses need to be understood by the planners. Specific modules should be developed to ensure that for each planning specialization adequate modules are available to address a wide range of expected climate change impacts.

Initial steps towards the CCCA

Three regional workshops are being organized to develop a better understanding of the experiences and needs of Universities in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The first workshop was held in Manila, 1-5 March 2010². The Africa Regional workshop will now be held in May 2011 and the regional workshop for Latin America is being planned for October 2011.

¹ The report on the Global Workshop on Climate Change and Urban Planning can be downloaded from the UN-HABITAT website: <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?cid=9340&catid=657&typeid=34&subMenuId=0>

² The report on the Asia-Pacific CCCA workshop can be downloaded from the UN-HABITAT website: <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?cid=9393&catid=657&typeid=34&subMenuId=0>

A global workshop will be held in conjunction with the Resilient Cities Congress in Bonn, 1-2 June 2011.

Objectives and Expected Outcomes of the African Regional Workshop

There has been a general acceptance by the Rotterdam workshop participants that CCCA needs some preparatory work (with a bottom-up approach). The objectives of the regional workshops would therefore be:

Objectives

- To develop country/region specific course modules that would be tested locally on Climate Change and Urban Planning.
- To reach a common understanding on how to develop more generic course material for the CCCA.
- To further fine-tune the CCCA.
- To prepare regional inputs to the global CCCA workshop

Expected Outcomes

- Conceptualize at least one university modules for Africa to introduce Climate Change and Urban Planning (syllabus and supportive material such as lecture, background reading, case studies, studio ideas etc)
- Conceptualize at least one university module (in at least one of the participating universities) on Vulnerability Assessments.
- Conceptualize at least one university module (in at least one of the participating universities) on climate change mitigation or measuring the Climate Footprint in cities.
- Conceptualize at least one university module on sectoral priorities relating to various disciplines of Climate Change and Urban Planning.
- Agreeing on how the specific modules (as they will be country specific) can be used to build up more generic modules of the CCCA.
- Road map developed and agreed upon regarding the development of Climate Change and Urban Planning University strategy (regional level and city level)

Participants:

The number of participants would be limited and would comprise of two distinct groups: A small number of students and up to 15 faculty from the hosting university, regional universities HPUs and other partner universities as well as UN-HABITAT staff.

Approach

The meeting will benefit from the Climate Change teaching experience of University faculty from selected Habitat Partner Universities in Africa and beyond as well as the practical experience from the pilot interventions.

Students will get the opportunity to present research proposals. Two students will be awarded USD 1,000 each.

Tentative Programme

Day 1, Tuesday, 3 May 2011	
am	<p>Opening and Introduction,</p> <p>Session 1 Climate Change and Urban Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An overview – Climate Change, the science, the impact, mitigation in cities, adaptation in cities, Climate Change Governance - Integrating Climate Change in urban education. - Introduction to tool: Planning for Climate Change – A strategic, values-based approach for urban planners
pm	<p>Session 2: Conducting Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Climate Models, extrapolating weather data and SLR, - Vulnerable people, vulnerable places, vulnerable sectors - Experiences from teaching, gaps, challenges, etc
Day 2, Wednesday, 4 May 2011	
am	<p>Session 3: Sectoral session (adaptation)</p> <p>One of the below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social / livelihood interventions - Spatial planning / land use planning - Infrastructure planning - Shelter/Housing - DRR - Experiences from teaching, gaps, challenges, etc
pm	<p>Session 4: Measuring CO2 equivalents and preparing for mitigation initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urban and sectoral footprints - Preparing for carbon finance initiatives - Experiences from teaching, gaps, challenges, etc
Day 3, Thursday, 5 May 2011	
am	<p>Session 5: Sectoral session (comprehensive planning)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing local climate change plans - Mainstreaming Climate Change into existing (statutory) plans - Experiences from teaching, gaps, challenges, etc
pm	<p>Session 6: Way forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to advance the CCCA for Africa - Preparing for the Global CCCA meeting in June 2011 <p>Closing and Departure</p>