

**HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE**  
**MAINSTREAMING URBAN ISSUES INTO THE**  
**NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN AND NDCs**  
July 26-27, 2018 - Novotel Manila, Philippines

**BACKGROUND**

Urbanization has brought both opportunities and challenges for development and growth. Our cities, which are centres of economic activity, are home to over 50% of the global population; represent between 70%-80% of the world's total emission of greenhouse gases; and have increased the pressure on limited land resources. At the same time, urban areas are already experiencing negative climate change impacts such as higher sea levels, more heat waves, intense storms and heavy precipitation and extended drought events. These impacts are heavily affecting the vulnerable population and causing major loss of life, social disruption and economic hardship.

The adoption of several landmark agreements—the Sustainable Development Goals, the National Urban Agenda and the Paris Agreement—offers a renewed impetus for the international, regional and local authorities and communities to work together in addressing climate change and development challenges as we face an increasingly urban future.

National urban policies are regarded as an essential instrument for addressing urbanization challenges and identifying opportunities for action. In 2017, the mainstreaming of the urban dimensions of climate change into the Philippines' National Urban Development and Housing Framework (NU DHF), 2017-2023, has been completed. Through this mainstreaming process, the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB), as well as 14 other national government agencies which were part of the technical working group, was assisted and provided capacity building through a 'learning by doing' process. Benefitting from lessons learned of this process, local authorities are currently being assisted in implementing/applying the climate change considerations highlighted in the NUDHF in the formulation of their local climate change action plans and integrated development plans.

At the national level, the recognition of the importance of considering climate change in urban development is embedded in the Philippines' National Framework Strategy on Climate Change (2010). Specifically, the NFSCC has one of its strategic priorities the "institutionalization of guidelines for the construction of innovative climate-resilient and energy-efficient human settlements". However, the articulation of urban climate action in national policies such as the NCCAP and the NDCs has yet to be strengthened such that the design of future and the updating of existing climate change policies already reflect urban adaptation and mitigation needs, priorities and responsibilities for action.

The current initiative of national government in updating the NCCAP (including its Nationally Determined Contributions or NDCs) serves as a good entry point for using the NUDHF as framework for highlighting urban principles and strategies and the built environment in the NCCAP and the NDCs; and at the same time, given the framework's strategies, for the NCCAP and the NDCs to already identify the potential action/implementation areas for cities and the urban systems.

**Objectives**

The Roundtable Discussion on Climate Change in Urban Development aims to provide a space for discussion of and agreements on the key elements of the NUDHF and the entry points to highlight the urban dimension and built environment in the NCCAP and the NDCs. The event will bring together multiple actors in the urban ecosystem—policymakers, national and local government representatives, the private sector, academics and practitioners- to co-generate ideas and scalable solutions and recommend policies, strategies and actions for addressing

urban climate issues; and explore policies and actions needed to deepen the linkages between climate action and sustainable urban development.

Specifically, the activity aims to strengthen the formulation approach of mainstreaming urban issues into the updating process of the National Climate Change Action Plan by:

- Identifying the entry-points in the NCCAP and NDCs to highlight the urban dimension in climate action and the sustainability of the built environment to climate change;
- Defining urban-related targets for the NCCAP, and formulating national, subnational and local climate action recommendations and inputs for integrating urban concerns into the NCCAP and the NDCs;
- Developing indicators (national and local) for urban climate action that are aligned with the climate-related indicators of the New Urban Agenda and the climate-related strategies of the enhanced NUDHF;
- Articulating next steps to support the formulation of mainstreaming urban issues into the NCCAP and the NDCs;
- Making recommendations for localizing the NCCAP and the NUDHF that support climate-friendly development in urban areas.

## **METHODOLOGY AND TOPICS**

The two-day event will be divided into three major segments/components:

- (1) An experts group roundtable discussion on the framework of the NUDHF and how its principles and strategies shall be used to update and revise the NCCAP and NDCs with an urban lens. This is intended for decisionmakers as a venue for sharing expert opinions on climate change in urban areas and efforts at mainstreaming urban issues and the built environment into development planning and practice. This will be done in a plenary.
- (2) A technical roundtable discussion on mainstreaming urban issues into the NCCAP and NDCs. The small RTDs will be grouped according to the seven thematic priority areas of the NCCAP.
- (3) A roundtable discussion and world cafe to formulate recommendations and inputs for integrating urban concerns into the NCCAP and NDCs. The participants will discuss and agree on key areas for action, emerging opportunities and practice, and policy and program recommendations for an enhanced urban focus of the NCCAP and the NDCs.

### Experts Group RTD - Plenary

#### **I. Framing the discussion: Urban and urban systems and the links to climate change and the SDGs**

Input through presentation by:

- **Climate Change Commission** on the status of the NCCAP and NDCs
  - Updates on the NCCAP and NDCs
  - Identifying the status of urban actions in the NCCAP and the NDCs by comparing the interlinkages of the NUDHF, NCCAP and NDCs
- **UN-Habitat** on Urban Climate Change Actions and Governance
  - Reflection on the capacity development process within the context of urban and climate governance and through the revision of NUDHF and intended revision of NCCAP and NDCs.
- **Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council**
  - The New Urban Agenda and the linkages between urbanization and sustainable development

- **Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board** on the NUDHF principles and strategies and the intersection of urban and climate change
  - Where and how climate change was mainstreamed into the enhanced NUDHF and lessons learned
  - Using NUDHF in updating the NCCAP
  - Key policy/program recommendations based on strategies
- **National Economic and Development Authority** on Sustainable Urban Development and Climate Change Indicators (SDGs 11 and 13, other relevant SDGs)

Technical RTDs - Small group discussion per focus area

## II. Mainstreaming Urban issues into the NCCAP and NDCs

The focus areas for this session are the thematic areas of the NCCAP: **Food Security Water Sufficiency, Human Security, Ecosystems and Environmental Stability, Climate-Smart Industries and Services, Sustainable Energy, Strategic Knowledge and Capacity Development, and Finance.**

Lead agencies of all the focus areas will each give a 2-3 presentation of their agency's position on the topic -Mainstreaming urban issues into the NCCAP and NDCs; as well as, the challenges and opportunities for mainstreaming (in terms of **Technical Capacity; Planning; and Governance.**

After the presentation, there will be open discussion on the following questions:

- What are the entry points to anchor the urban issues of the enhanced NUDHF along the seven focus areas of the NCCAP?
- What are your additional insights on urban issues and opportunities envisioned in the NCCAP revision process?
- How can we integrate climate-related NUDHF priorities that cannot be categorized under the seven focus areas of the NCCAP?
  - Alternative 1: Feedback on the need for an additional section and if so who takes the lead in formulation urban mainstreamed recommendations for a new focus area.
  - Alternative 2: Feedback on anchoring these urban issues into the cross-cutting focus area VIII.
  - Alternative 3: Combined alternatives and other ideas.

RTD and World Cafe

## III. Putting the Framework into Action

This session will explore the mechanisms, instruments, policies, and partnerships necessary to implement or support urban climate actions at the local level. The participants are expected to come up with recommendations and inputs for integrating urban concerns into the NCCAP and the NDCs as well as develop indicators for urban climate action that are aligned with the climate-related indicators of the NUA and the climate-related strategies of the NUDHF.

### TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The *Roundtable Discussion on Climate Change in Urban Development* is designed for actors and stakeholders in the urban ecosystem—policymakers, national and local government representatives, the private sector, academics and practitioners. An estimated 60 participants are expected to attend the two-day event. See attached list.

Around 10 pax (not included in count) will be from UN-Habitat Country and Regional offices. During the roudtable discussions, each group will be assisted by one facilitator. It is estimated that facilitators and documenters will be needed for the two-day event.

**DATE AND VENUE**

The *Roundtable Discussion on Climate Change in Urban Development* shall be a two-day activity primarily involving input presentations and multiple roundtable discussions. It will be held on July 26-27, 2018 at Novotel Manila Araneta Center, Quezon City.

## PROGRAMME OUTLINE

TIME	ACTIVITY	Responsible Person/s
<b>July 26, 2018</b>		
8:00am	Registration	
8:30	Welcome Remarks	UN-Habitat
	Keynote Address	CCC
<p>Experts Group Roundtable Discussion (Plenary)</p> <p><b>Session 1: Framing the discussion: Urban and urban systems and the links to climate change and the SDGs</b></p> <p><i>An experts group roundtable discussion on the framework of the NUDHF and how its principles and strategies shall be used to update and revise the NCCAP and NDCs with an urban lens. This is intended for decisionmakers as a venue for sharing expert opinions on climate change in urban areas and efforts at mainstreaming urban issues and the built environment into development planning and practice.</i></p>		
9:00	<p>Presentations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Climate Change Commission</b> on the status of the NCCAP and NDCs</li> <li>➤ <b>UN-Habitat</b> on Urban Climate Change Actions and Governance</li> <li>➤ <b>Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council</b> on the New Urban Agenda and the linkages between urbanization and sustainable development</li> <li>➤ <b>Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board</b> on the NUDHF principles and strategies and the intersection of urban and climate change</li> <li>➤ <b>National Economic and Development Authority</b> on Sustainable Urban Development and Climate Change Indicators (SDGs 11 and 13, other relevant SDGs)</li> </ul>	
12nn	Lunch	
1:00-5:00pm	<p>Technical RTDs - Small group discussion</p> <p><b>Session 2: Mainstreaming Urban issues into the NCCAP and NDCs</b></p> <p><i>A technical roundtable discussion on mainstreaming urban issues into the NCCAP and NDCs</i></p>	
<b>July 27, 2018</b>		
8:30am	Registration	
9:00	Presentation of outputs	Participants
10:30	<p>RTD and World Cafe</p> <p><b>Session 3: Putting the Framework into Action</b></p> <p><i>A roundtable discussion and world cafe to formulate recommendations and inputs for integrating urban concerns into the NCCAP and NDCs.</i></p>	

12nn	Lunch	
1:00pm	<b>Policy discussion</b> <i>Developing urban responses to climate change across areas of information &amp; knowledge, capacity, cooperation &amp; coordination, and financing</i>	Moderator: CCC-PRDD
3:00pm	Way Forward and Closing	CCC