

Cities Fit for Climate Change

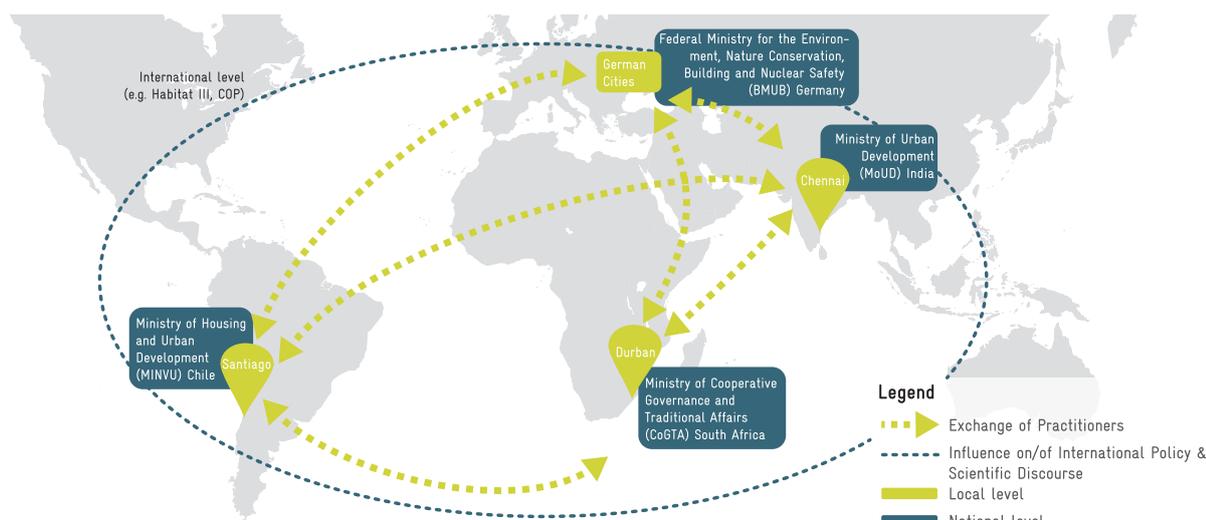
Coping with climate change begins in cities

Our cities are both contributing to and affected by climate change: they consume 70 per cent of the world's energy and heat up the earth's atmosphere by producing over 75 per cent of global CO₂ emissions. At the same time, many urban agglomerations already suffer from the negative impacts of climate change: in low-lying coastal areas, cities are being threatened by rising sea levels and storm surges; in drier climate zones, they must contend with droughts and water shortages; and cities everywhere have to deal with the heat island effect in the densely built-up urban landscape. Accelerated urbanisation exacerbates these problems. By 2050, 6.5 billion people, or two thirds of the world's population, are expected to live in sprawling metropolises. Therefore, new forward-thinking strategies for the mitigation of climate change and adapting to its

effects need to be integrated into established concepts of urban development in order to safeguard urban ways of life and citizen's well-being. The Cities Fit for Climate Change project supports such efforts by putting into practice the guidelines of the 'Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities' and the BMUB Memorandum 'Urban Energies-Urban Challenges'.

Our Partners in Chile, India and South Africa

The project's priorities were determined jointly with the partner cities, Santiago in Chile, Chennai in India and Durban in South Africa. These range from the climate-proofing of instruments, strategies and regulations to the implementation of participatory city development strategies or the development of financing options for realising available climate protection and adaptation plans. The partner cities exchange knowl-



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edge with each other, for example, through hosting three international Dialogue Forums. In 2017, the first two events in Durban and Santiago took place successfully. Representatives from cities in Germany (Leipzig, Nuremberg, Stuttgart, Munich, Frankfurt and Hagen), other European countries, such as Malmö, and the partner cities came together to share their insights into climate-proof urban development. The third Dialogue Forum is planned for 2018 in Chennai. At the end of the project, a final showcasing event will take place in Germany.

Climate-proofing provides orientation

The existing urban development guidelines and concepts of our partner cities are adapted according to climate-proofing principles. Climate-proofing means that city development strategies, urban design, land use and master plans, and all related investments are resilient and adaptable to the current and future impacts of climate change. Furthermore, adequate climate protection measures need to be taken and they must be aimed at decarbonisation. These actions will provide the basis for designing an individualised climate-proof urban development approach for each city taking into consideration that there are no universally applicable solutions.

How do we plan to support strategies for climate-proof cities?

In order to work effectively together with our partners on climate-proof urban development, this global project is divided into different components:

Component I: analysing pioneering approaches to climate change...

In this work package, good practice examples from around the world are collected and assessed. Descriptions of these projects are compiled in a Sourcebook, which focuses on examples that reflect different aspects of climate-proof urban development, such as munic-

ipal governance approaches, instruments, guidelines, etc. This Sourcebook also showcases the results of the partner cities' projects. Furthermore, it presents how climate-proofing methods from German cities, that participated in the Dialogue Forums, can be applied to the different contexts in the partner cities.

... and addressing the issue of funding

The question of funding is particularly important for emerging and developing countries. The large amounts of financing needed for modernising and building infrastructure cannot sufficiently be provided through domestic revenues or development assistance. Appropriate legal frameworks and financial management capacities required to access international donor funds and private capital markets are needed. To assist our partner cities in identifying and making use of available financing options the project commissioned an urban climate finance study. It includes recommendations for improving municipal access to funding instruments for climate change related work and for better integrating climate change into planning mechanisms. The information will guide further advisory services to the cities and has been made available in city-specific webinars.

Component II: developing climate-proof city approaches in our partner cities

The second work package deals individually with each of the selected cities in our partner countries. The cities are given comprehensive advice on climate-proof urban strategies and will be supported in developing their own climate-proof urban development approach. National and regional frameworks and conditions will be taken into account in order to develop country-appropriate solutions at the local level. For this purpose, local studies have been commissioned to assess the existing trends on climate-proof urban development, such as the predominant discourse, available instruments, urban development policies and existing climate change mitigation and adaptation plans.



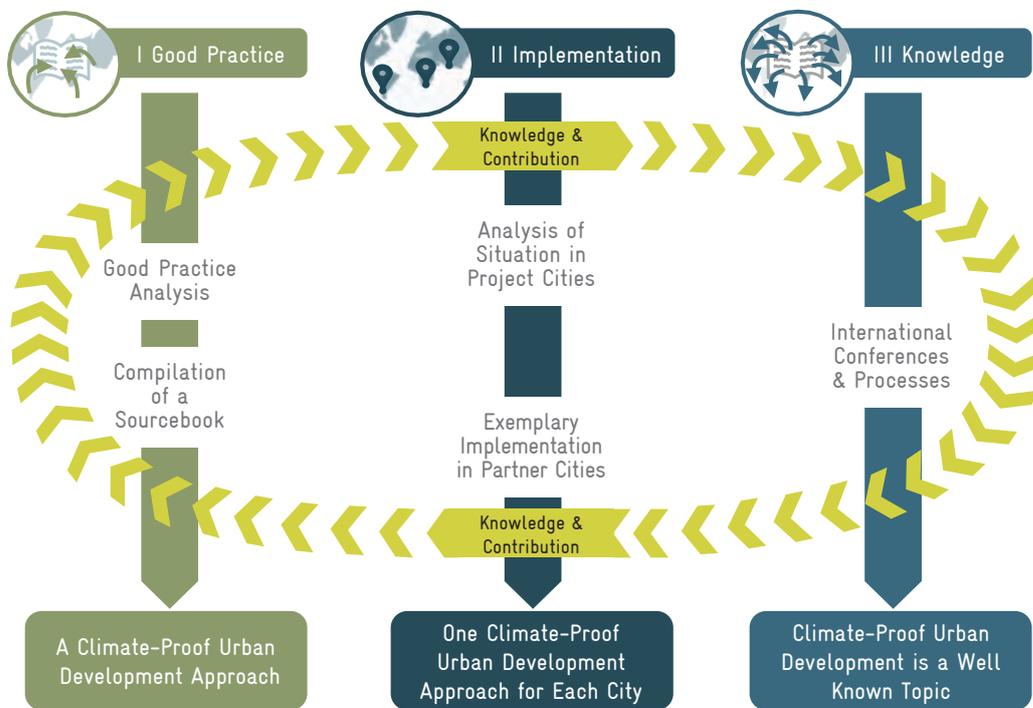
India. Photo: © Daphne Frank



South Africa. Photo: © Dean Hutton/2point8



Chile. Photo: © Amina Schild



In South Africa, CFCC supported the eThekweni Municipality by developing the Climate Resilience Implementation Plan (CRIP). The CRIP is a tool for promoting a stronger integration between existing climate change response mechanisms and its spatial and development planning regimes. The culmination of this support was the inclusion of the CRIP and its proposed actions and projects into the 2017/2018 Spatial Development Framework. The next steps concentrate on further institutionalising the cross-departmental steering committee, which is an exchange platform at the practitioner level that did not exist previously within the municipality. It supports the implementation of the CRIP projects and actions through integrated decision-making processes.

In Chile, an integrated climate-proof urban planning is realised by bringing relevant actors from different departments and governmental levels together in the Climate Change Academy. Through this newly established platform, important lessons were learned from innovative projects in the different municipalities and

the Metropolitan Region of Santiago de Chile. This led to the development of practical strategies of how to integrate climate-proof urban development principles into governance processes, policy instruments and communication strategies. For example, the project supports the stronger integration of climate aspects in one of the biggest housing projects of Santiago. The same approach is being followed in the upgrading of a 12 km-long section of the main avenue of the city, which also serves as an important public space. Consequently, urban planning and the related existing actions become more efficient, resilient and low-carbon.

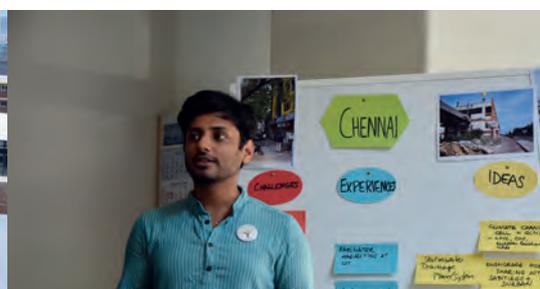
In India, the focus lies on institutional capacity building of government stakeholders through training and awareness raising on mainstreaming climate change and promoting climate-friendly urban development. The first training event took place successfully in October 2017. Furthermore, an institutional platform is created within the Chennai Greater Corporation (municipal administration) including actors such as C40 and the 100 Resilient Cities initiative to prepare a climate



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action plan for the city. Through this plan, the platform will promote a climate-proof urban development. In cooperation with the local NGO Environmentalist Foundation of India, an integrated plan for revitalising a selected section of the Buckingham Canal, the city's largest and one of the most important water ways, is in progress.

Component III: contributing to the international discourse on urban transformation

The third work package focuses on supporting the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), on disseminating the knowledge gained through the work packages I and II, and thereby influencing relevant international discourses. The project's partner cities have actively contributed with their experience in two

Federal Congresses on National Urban Development Policy organised by the BMUB.

Furthermore, the project was involved in the international process leading to the formulation of the 'New Urban Agenda' (NUA). Within this framework, the project organised a variety of events during the Habitat III conference in 2016 and offered local government decision makers a platform to discuss their contributions to put the NUA into action. The project also supports the implementation at the local level of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). For example, the important role of cities in localising and implementing the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) is highlighted through events organised at the Conference of Parties (COP23) in Bonn in November 2017.

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