

# REGIONS4 CONTRIBUTIONS AND OUTCOMES AT COP27

KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR A  
REGIONS-LED RESILIENT FUTURE  
WHERE #MULTILEVELACTIONDELIVERS

## A GROWING VOICE AND RECOGNITION OF STATES, LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS WITHIN UNFCCC PROCESSES

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 27th Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC COP27) was held on 6-18th November 2022 in Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt, and gathered 200 countries and over 45,000 delegates.

A key focus of this COP was around implementation and developing regions, and more than ever the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities' delegation (LGMA), and Regions4, were heard and visible, with its largest delegation to date of **25 regional governments**, that spoke and represented the role of regions and local actors for adaptation and development.

Regions4 was able to contribute directly to the negotiations around the Global Goal on Adaptation and the Global Stocktake, reflecting its valuable role in taking stock of the progress of regional governments on adaptation through the [RegionsAdapt Progress Report 2021-2022](#), and influencing the climate processes.

It led and co-organized 4 high-level events, connecting and supporting more than 20 other events, to allow for regional governments to be represented and have a voice within the Convention. It also represented, through the Council of Governors of Kenya the high-level statement of LGMA in the plenary session at COP on the 16th of November.

As a result, cities and multilevel governance were mentioned as key elements in the [Sharm El Sheikh implementation plan](#) and in the decisions of the [Glasgow - Sharm El-Sheikh Work programme on adaptation](#).



**#SolutionsDay**

**"** *The voice of the regions must sound loud and clear at this COP27, since regions apply 90% of the adaptation measures to climate change. We are natural leaders of some of the transformations necessary for adaptation due to our direct connection with citizens and our capacity to mobilise territorial commitments connecting all stakeholders.* **"**

Mrs Arantxa Tapia  
Minister for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment  
of the Basque Government and president of Regions4

 **#COP27**    United Nations  
Climate Change

## KEY OUTCOMES OF NEGOTIATIONS RELEVANT TO REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND ADAPTATION



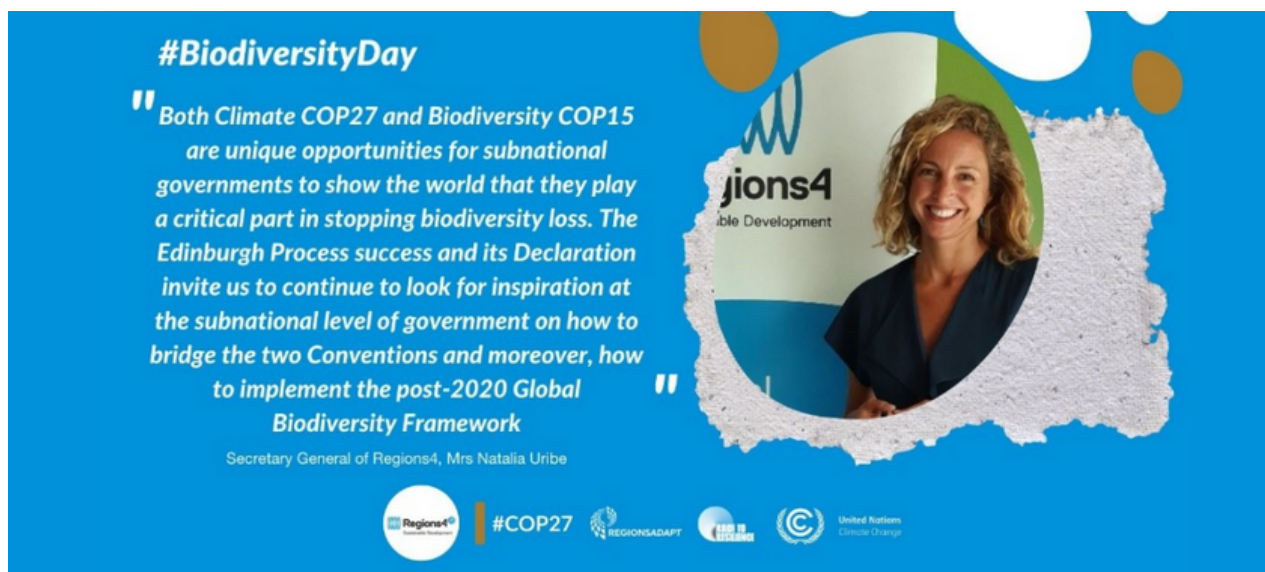
Government of Rabat Salé Kénitra representative, Mme Karima SALAMA, in Regions4 co-organized event on strengthening the capacity to increase resilience to climate change in West Africa.

### Among the key outcomes of COP27, we highlight the following:

**Main decisions:** Set against a difficult geopolitical backdrop, COP27 resulted in countries delivering a **package of decisions**. The package states some of the actions needed for countries to cut greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, as well as boosting the support of finance, technology, and capacity building needed by developing countries. Consult the Sharm-El-Sheikh implementation plan [here](#).

- **Adaptation at the core of the discussions:** Adaptation efforts to date are still ‘too little, too slow’ as the most recent edition of UNEP’s [Adaptation Gap Report 2022](#) puts it. COP27 saw progress on the Global Goal on Adaptation, with governments agreeing on the way to move forward and deciding on the establishment of a [framework for achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation \(GGA\)](#), which will conclude at COP28 and inform the first Global Stocktake in 2023, improving resilience amongst the most vulnerable. For more information visit: [Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the Global Goal on Adaptation](#) and [the Sharm-El-Sheik Adaptation Agenda](#).
- **New fund for Loss and Damage:** Despite minimal contributions to greenhouse gas emissions, countries in the Global South are facing the first and worst impacts of climate change. This inequity has put loss and damage –the costs that climate change has already exacted and will continue to exact– on the COP27 agenda. With loss and damage mounting globally, but primarily in countries with the fewest resources to respond, it is critical that COP27 called for scaled-up investment in equitable adaptation alongside mitigation targets.

- Governments took the ground-breaking decision to establish new funding arrangements, as well as a dedicated fund, to assist developing countries in responding to loss and damage. Creating a specific **fund for loss and damage** marked an important point of progress, with the issue added to the official agenda and adopted for the first time at COP27. To learn more click [here](#). Parties also agreed on the institutional arrangements to operationalize the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage, to catalyse technical assistance to developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
- **Finance for adaptation:** US\$100 billion annual target has not been met. The new finance goal has been delayed to next year, along with a status report on the commitment to double adaptation finance by 2025. New pledges, totaling more than USD 230 million, were made to the Adaptation Fund at COP27. Announcing a total of USD 105.6 million in new funding, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Walloon Region of Belgium, stressed the need for even more support for the Global Environment Facility funds targeting the immediate climate adaptation needs of low-lying and low-income states. These pledges will help many more vulnerable communities adapt to climate change through concrete adaptation solutions but fall short of the overall financial goal.
- **Global Stocktake:** Delegates at the UN Climate Change Conference COP27 wrapped up the second technical dialogue of the first global stocktake, a mechanism to raise ambition under the Paris Agreement. The UN Secretary-General will convene a 'Climate Ambition Summit' in 2023, ahead of the conclusion of the Stocktake at COP28 next year.
- **Nature-based solutions and forest protection:** Important progress was made on forest protection and the promotion of nature-based solutions. Nature-based Solutions have been included for the first time in a COP cover decision. The inclusion of NbS within a COP decisions text is something many organisations, including our own, have been working towards, with its importance deriving from the oversight it gives parties to ensure NbS are not misused for greenwashing, violating human rights, or harming biodiversity. The multilaterally agreed [NbS definition adoption by the UNEA](#) and the [USA NbS roadmap](#) released during COP27 were likely two major decisive factors in achieving the inclusion of NbS in the final decision text.
- Specifically, the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan resulting from COP27 includes the term nature-based solutions within a dedicated section on forests with the launch of the **Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership**, which aims to unite action by governments, businesses, and community leaders to halt forest loss and land degradation by 2030.



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AT COP27

More than 500 subnational representatives, including 150+ Mayors, Governors, Councilors, and other local and subnational leaders attended COP27.

They were able to intervene in key plenaries, including the intervention of Regions4, on behalf of the LGMA constituency on the 16th of November plenary session, and the LGMA COP27 closing Statement which was delivered by Vincent Chauvet, Mayor of Autun, France, and member of the COP27 Delegation of the European Committee of the Regions ([watch the webcast starting at 04:45:20 onwards](#)).

Throughout the 70+ sessions, the LGMA Multilevel Action Pavilion served as the home for cities, towns, and regions at COP27 Blue Zone, for the second year in a row since its launch at COP26.

**The Marrakesh Partnership** -constituted of non-party stakeholders, of which Regions4 is also an active member and with RegionsAdapt being the voice of regions for the Race to Resilience- launched key initiatives such as the [Adaptation Agenda](#) and contributed to more visibility for non-party stakeholders.

The Marrakesh Partnership played a key role in highlighting the growing actions and solutions from all stakeholders presented through their Resilience Hub, and 'Implementation Labs', in which Regions4 contributed through targeted interventions from H.E Wavinya Ndeti, Governor of Machakos County, and Chairperson Trade & Cooperatives Committee Council of Governors of Kenya (implementation lab on subnational finance) and Mr. Sergio Graf, representative of the Governor of the State of Jalisco (implementation lab on actionable adaptation plans).

## SOME KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Race to Resilience:** Heading into COP27, much of the adaptation-focused efforts were coordinated by 34 partners (including Regions4) in the [Race to Resilience](#). Unified with the goal to increase the resilience of 2.9 billion people, the partners had mobilized more than 11,000 non-State actors, with a large portion of these being cities and regions coordinated through LGMA constituency. New regions joined the Regions Race to Resilience: Parana, Baja California, and the state of Gujarat in India.
- **A common adaptation agenda:** A key flagship program was put forward by the Climate Champions with the Marrakech Partnership, the platform for non-State actors launched in 2016 at COP22. The [Sharm-El-Sheik Adaptation Agenda](#) outlines 30 Adaptation Outcomes to enhance resilience for 4 billion people living in the most climate-vulnerable communities by 2030.
- **Urbanisation and Climate Ministerial:** At the first-ever Urbanisation and Climate Ministerial meeting bringing together ministers and mayors to discuss the key challenges facing cities, the COP27 Presidency launched the [Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation \(SURGe\)](#) initiative, which aims to build on commitments of cities and provide a holistic framework to achieve sustainable and resilient urban systems. It also aims to unlock urban climate finance and work with national governments, multilateral development banks, and the private sector to facilitate access to finance and develop a pipeline of bankable projects. The initiative was facilitated by UN-Habitat and ICLEI.
- **Closing the Global Stocktake Technical Dialogue at COP27:** Regional governments through Regions4 and the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) inputted in the Global Stocktake roundtable negotiations, participated in the technical dialogue on site and provided their submission, looking at how regional governments have helped deliver on ambitions on adaptation. The LGMA Focal Points offered the #Stocktake4ClimateEmergency to be led by local and regional governments as an effective tool for ensuring adaptation and mitigation are balanced in the stocktake process. Consult the submission [here](#).
- African cities and regions receive new funding to tackle the water crisis. ICLEI and the World Resource Institute (WRI) launched the [African Cities Water Adaptation Fund \(ACWA Fund\)](#) for water resilience efforts in Africa.
- **Launch of the RegionsAdapt Progress Report 2021-2022** to inform Race to Resilience: Based on the review of the contributions of regional governments through the CDP / RegionsAdapt annual reporting, this report reviews the progress and activities of more than 34 regional governments, in their progress toward adaptation and long-term resilience. The report is a one-of-a-kind report of the contributions of regional governments in shaping a resilient world and assesses trends, evolutions, and innovations for leading the way. Read the report [here](#).

- More than 48 regional governments signed the **Declaration of regional governments for COP27**: Regional governments gathered in June in Rabat Salé Kénitra to shape the Declaration 'Regions for a Resilient Future: driving transformative action for the planet, people & prosperity'. The declaration gathers the key messages of regional governments towards and for COP27, and its main commitments. It was launched at Resilience Day at COP and endorsed by regional governments to share their key messages for the COP negotiations and Regions4 side events. Read the declaration in English, French, and Spanish [here](#).
- On the road to COP28, states, cities, and local governments drafted a declaration, which aims to contribute to the **LGMA COP28 Roadmap**, and was endorsed and reviewed by Regions4: [Glocal Declaration towards COP28](#).

## REGIONS4 HIGHLIGHTS IN A FEW KEY FIGURES

- ✓ Supported **25 member regions** on site.
- ✓ Facilitated **8 accreditations to the COP27**. Financial support to enable participation of **2 African regions**.
- ✓ Facilitated **25 member interventions in 22 events**, including delivery of the Local Governments Municipal Authorities' statement at the high-level segment.
- ✓ Co-organized **4 high-level** events plus a **20th-anniversary networking reception**.
- ✓ Supported and contributed to **9 events as partners**.
- ✓ Participated and facilitated bilateral meetings among regions and with partners (AER, COR, ICLEI, Climate-KIC, Under 2 Coalition).
- ✓ Launched the **#RegionsAdapt Progress Report 2021-2022**.
- ✓ Launched the **#Declaration of Regions in 3 languages** (EN, ES, FR) signed by 48 regions and partners.
- ✓ Co-organized the **#WhatsAtState** Digital Campaign together with **#Under2Coalition @ClimateGroup**, with more than 17 best practices from 17 regions.
- ✓ Influenced the Negotiations on the **Global Goal on Adaptation**.
- ✓ Provided inputs and submission with the European Committee of the Regions to the Global Stocktake second meeting of the technical dialogue.
- ✓ Launched the **#COP28 Declaration** with key partner organizations: Under2, COR, ICLEI.
- ✓ Launched a **joint Press Statement**

## REGIONS4 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT COP27: SHOWCASING THE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP & INSPIRING ACTION

The COP27 was a key moment to increase global ambition on climate action. The overall objective of Regions4 participation at the COP was to promote multilevel governance for increasing ambition and effective action on climate adaptation through the key role of regional governments.



Regions4 members and RegionsAdapt members gathered at COP27.

### PREPARATORY PROCESS TO COP27

Regions4 was able to have a strong presence at COP27, thanks to a year-long solid collaboration with members and partners to develop a participatory strategy (joint webinar, delegation pack, common newsletter, WhatsApp COP27 engagement channel) and roadmap to support our collective advocacy efforts; reinforce the RegionsAdapt community and its contribution to the [Race To Resilience](#) campaign, and continue to raise regions' voice within the UNFCCC with key events and initiatives such as the joint campaign [#WhatsAtState](#) which showcased what regions stand to lose if we don't meet the Paris Agreement targets.



Regions4 and the Under2 Coalition have joined forces to voice regional aspirations and contributions to the COP27. At COP27 attention was focused not only on the targets being set to stabilize global temperature rises but on the actions being taken to achieve them. Regional governments lead climate policymaking and action against climate change as territories continue to face the impacts of this global emergency.

Yet their presence in international decision-making fora continues to be insufficient. The Under2 Coalition and Regions4 took this moment to start their second chapter of the #WhatsAtState –an online communication campaign to elevate the voices of states and regions ahead of this crucial summit that was launched at COP26–.

It also sought to emphasize the importance of including regional governments in the global climate processes by highlighting 17 innovative initiatives taking place at regional level by regional governments. We featured our members across our website, social media platforms, and media.

Follow the #WhatsAtState hashtag on social media and learn more about the campaign on the Under2 Coalition's website. [#WhatsAtState Campaign - Regions4 and Under2 Coalition](#)

## COP27 ACTIVITIES

At COP27, regional governments showed once more that they are, and will continue to be, at the forefront of climate action. Regions4 endeavours to support their efforts, catalyse their leadership, and upscale their actions internationally to foster a truly multi-level climate governance that puts us on a path to recovery for a healthy planet.

Regions4 and a delegation of 25 regional representatives were present in Sharm El-Sheikh to show what raising ambition looks like thanks to regional leadership (regions present included: Basque Country, Catalonia, Flanders, Gossas, Guanajuato, Jalisco, Lombardy, Louga, Minas Gerais, Navarra, ORU Fogar, Paraná, Quebec, Rabat Salé Kénitra, Régions Francophones (AIRF), Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Scotland, Wales, Yucatán, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Australia, Kenya Council of Governors, and several regions from India).

Among the deliverables were a comprehensive [agenda of events](#), a submission to the Global Stocktake, and the Declaration of Rabat Salé Kénitra of 'Regions for a Resilient Future: driving transformative action for the planet, people & prosperity'.

>> The highlights of the Multi-level Action Pavilion and the subnational constituency can be found [here](#).

## REGIONS4 KEY MESSAGES AT COP27


# 5 key messages



#COP27

Achieve net-zero emissions at national and regional level
Lead the way towards adaptation and resilience by including subnational governments in decision-making, implementation and monitoring of climate goals
Share regional innovations, and contribute to the Global Goal on Adaptation and the Global Stock Take
Allow for additional and decentralized financing for adaptation and resilience to reach the local and regional level
Connect the biodiversity, sustainable development goals and climate agendas towards a integrated vision of resilience



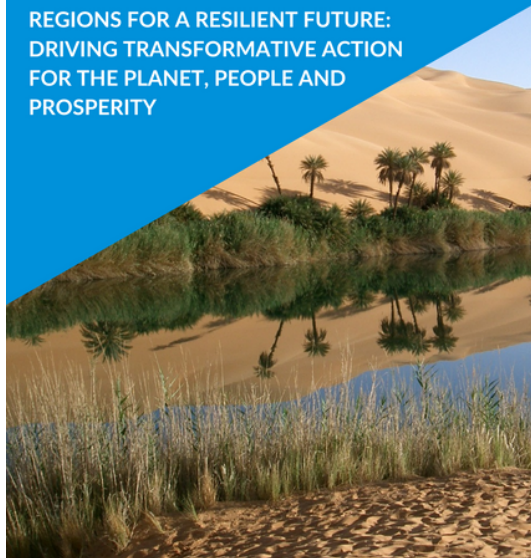




## DECLARATION OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AT COP27

**DECLARATION OF RABAT-SALÉ-KÉNITRA**  
of Subnational Governments towards COP27

REGIONS FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE:  
DRIVING TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION  
FOR THE PLANET, PEOPLE AND  
PROSPERITY



Regional governments gathered in June in Rabat Salé Kénitra to shape the Declaration of Rabat Salé Kénitra of **‘Regions for a Resilient Future: driving transformative action for the planet, people & prosperity’**. The declaration, signed by 48 regional governments and partners, gathers the key messages of regional governments towards and for COP27, and its main commitments. It was launched on Resilient Day and endorsed by many regional governments up until the COP, which shared their key messages within the negotiations and Regions4 events. Consult the Declaration in English, Spanish, and French [here](#).



Launch of the Declaration of Regional Governments for COP27, which includes recommendations like supporting the implementation of multilevel governance, systematically including commitment and actions, dedicate decentralised finance for regional level & more.



Natalia Uribe Regions4 secretary general, Nigel Topping, high-level climate champion, and Amaia Barredo, vice minister of environmental sustainability of the Basque Country.

## REGIONSADAPT PROGRESS REPORT 2021 – 2022



The 'RegionsAdapt Progress Report 2021-2022: Regional Governments Driving Climate Resilient Development', was launched on Resilience Day at COP27.

Each year regional governments are invited to report on their actions and progress through the online CDP States and Regions Questionnaire. This data lets us grasp the progress that our members are doing and share them in our annual RegionsAdapt report. This report covers two years of CDP states and regions data (2021-2022) and includes qualitative data from additional interviews conducted in partnership with the Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3). Also, since 2021, RegionsAdapt is the official partner of the Race to Resilience campaign through which subnational governments

can engage in the UN-backed global campaign led by the High-Level Climate Champions for Climate Action. The data provided is used to inform the Race to Resilience on how regional governments are doing their share in building the resilience of 4 billion people from vulnerable groups and communities to climate risks.

This report is structured around the four commitments that regions take when joining the **Regions Race to Resilience** and RegionsAdapt, and really focuses on capturing the progress our member regions are making in terms of climate change adaptation and sharing with you currently implemented adaptation actions to address the most common climate risk hazards that regions are facing worldwide. It is a great opportunity for you to learn about other adaptation plans, strategies, and actions, and look at trends and evolutions, which can inform your own analysis of progress.

So far, 32 regional governments have reported in the CDP survey for 2021-2022 and were captured in RegionsAdapt Progress Report 2021-2022.

- >>> [Read the report here](#)**
- >>> [Press release available here](#)**
- >>> [Check also on Regions Best Practices here](#)**

## REGIONS4 LEADING EVENTS AT COP27

# 4 Key events at #COP27



**Resilience day: A spotlight on states and regions' contributions to the Global Stocktake – 'getting it done'**  
 November 10th, 13:30 - 14:45 (UTC+02:00)  
 Multi-level Action Pavillion (Blue zone – Area B, Building 8, Pavillion 30 – ICLEI)

**The Adaptation Innovation Lab**  
 November 12nd, 16:30 - 17:30 (UCT+02:00)  
 Multi-level Action Pavillion (Blue zone – Area B, Building 8, Pavillion 30 – ICLEI)

**Strengthening the capacity to increase resilience to climate change in West Africa**  
 November 14th, 16:45 - 18:15 (UTC+02:00)  
 Room 3 (Blue Zone COP27 venue)

**Biodiversity day: Hearing the voice of subnational governments: learning from the Edinburgh Declaration for biodiversity on November 16th, 12:00 - 13:00 (UCT+02:00)**  
 Multi-level Action Pavillion (Blue zone – Area B, Building 8, Pavillion 30 – ICLEI)

Check out the webpage for updates: [regions4.org/project/cop27](https://regions4.org/project/cop27)



### *Resilience day: A spotlight on states and regions' contributions to the Global Stocktake – 'getting it done'*

On Resilience Day, 10th November, the Under2 Coalition and Regions4, with the Scottish Government, organised the high-level event **'A spotlight on states and regions' contributions to the Global Stocktake – getting it done'** at the Multilevel Action Pavillion. The event showcased the role of states, regions and other non-state actors in international climate processes and in driving progress on climate change mitigation and adaptation. This event, open to media, reflected on the ambitions and actions of state and regional actors in driving change and being part of the solution.

We had the great honour of counting on the participation of Nigel Topping, high-level climate champion, and Laurence Tubiana, CEO of the European Climate Foundation, among the regions of Rabat Salé Kenitra, Basque Country, Scotland (host), Jalisco, Louga, among others.

#### **In this joint event we:**

- Shared updates on the progress of state, regional, and devolved governments towards mitigation and adaptation since COP26, to inform the Global Stocktake and the Global Goal on Adaptation.
- Underlined the important role of all levels of governments in global climate processes and actions.
- Presented key recommendations and scalable solutions on how to further accelerate progress and regionalise climate commitments.
- Shared messages to inform negotiations through the joint declaration of regional governments for COP27 (Declaration of Regional Governments for COP27).



Nigel Topping high-level climate champion, calls for states and regions to keep pushing each other to raise ambition for our climate - describing these governments as being 'at the frontline' of the climate crisis.



Regional representatives at the Session 1: Leading the race to a resilient future: a look at policies, processes, ambition and action. Intervention from Vice president of Louga, Mr. Badara Samb.

### *Adaptation Innovation Lab*

On Adaptation and Agriculture Day, 12th November, Climate-KIC, the Government of Scotland, and Regions4 organized the '**Adaptation Innovation Lab**' side event, at the Multi-level Action Pavilion.

This 'lab' session, held a workshop session for regional governments, states, and other regional and international actors, to reflect and exchange between peers, on what drives innovation in adaptation actions at the regional level, and what are the enabling environments and methodologies to drive progress.

We had the great honour of holding this event with the regions of Scotland, Lombardy, Catalonia, the Basque Country, Flanders, among others.

#### **In this joint event we:**

- Discussed the key challenges regional governments face in developing climate adaptation responses, as well as examples of how these have been overcome.
- Explored how a systems innovation approach can potentially overcome these challenges.
- Discussed with participants the support they need to explore this further and implement the approach in their own strategies.
- The event was primarily aimed at representatives of regional governments from around the world, but also open to policymakers and organisations working on climate adaptation challenges at a regional scale.



Minister Raffaele Cattaneo from Lombardy region stating that innovation needs to be governed from bottom up, capturing ideas from the ground & turning them into effective policies.

### *Regions4 Networking Cocktail Reception*

On 12th November, a Networking Cocktail Reception was organised by Regions4, with the support of the Basque Country and Lombardy, in collaboration with the Government of Scotland at the Multi-level Action Pavilion to meet, discuss and look at future collaborations, in the year of Regions4 20th Anniversary.



Regions4 and RegionsAdapt members at the Networking Cocktail Reception.



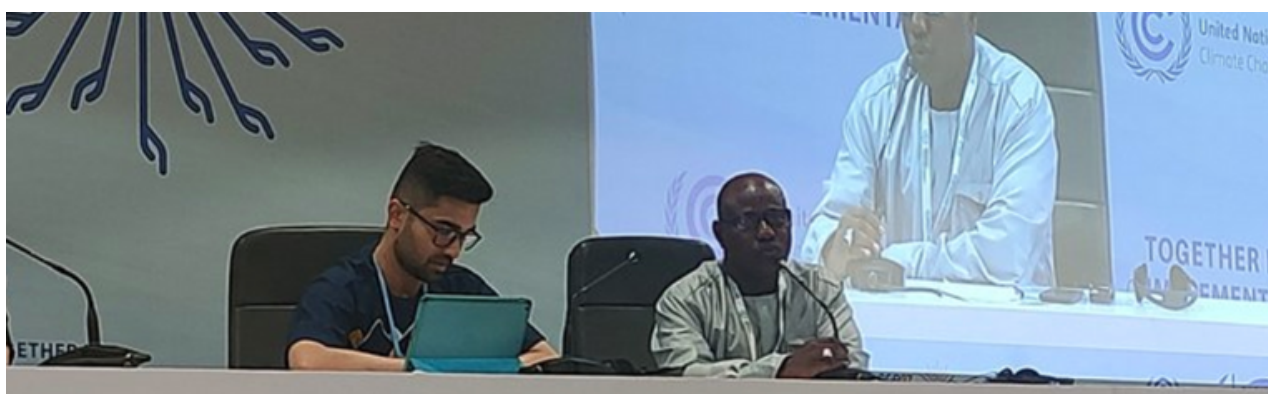
Regions4 and RegionsAdapt members mingling at the Networking Cocktail Reception.

*Strengthening the capacity to increase resilience to climate change in West Africa (official side event)*

On Water & Gender Day, 14th November, the Basque Center for Climate Change (BC3), Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE), and Regions4 organised the event **'Strengthening the capacity to increase resilience to climate change in West Africa'**. West Africa suffers from severe climate-related hazards, which affect communities, livelihoods, and infrastructures, and hamper development and economic growth.

This event explored the collaboration between different actors for a climate-resilient and just development and present some of the current projects and experiences of regional governments and actors in this region.

We had the great honor of holding this event with the regions of Rabat Salé Kénitra, Gossas, among other international partners.



Water Day at COP27, Mr. Moussa Koyaté, President of the Departmental Council of Gossas, Senegal, calls for financial support to improve both the quality and access to water for agriculture and drinking purposes.



Regions4 and partners women delegates at COP27 working together on Gender Day.

## CONNECTING WITH OTHER AGENDAS: BIODIVERSITY AND THE SDGS

### *Biodiversity day: Hearing the voice of subnational governments: learning from the Edinburgh Declaration for biodiversity*

On Biodiversity Day, 16th November, and as a key partner of the Edinburgh Declaration and strong advocate for the integration of agendas, Regions4 along with the Scottish Government, ICLEI, and the Government of Quebec supported the event '**Biodiversity day: Hearing the voice of subnational governments: learning from the Edinburgh Declaration for biodiversity**', which draw the links and connections from COP27 to COP15, highlighting the key common challenges, solutions, and recommendations, to allow to development of integrated nature-based and resilience solutions, at the regional and state level.

We had the great honour of holding this event with the regions of Scotland, Quebec, Jalisco, and São Paulo, among other international partners.



Ms. Kobie Brand, ICLEI Deputy Secretary General and Global Director: ICLEI Cities Biodiversity Center, Ms. Màiri McAllan, MSP, Minister for Environment and Land Reform, Scotland, Mr. Benoît Charette, Minister of Environment, Fight against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks, Québec.



## MEMBERS AND PARTNERS SIDE EVENTS AT COP 27, WITH REGIONS4 PARTICIPATION

### *Downscaling Climate Change Adaptation policies at the regional and local level*

Organized on 11th November by the Lombardy Foundation for the Environment, Lombardy Region, in cooperation with Regions4, this event on **'Downscaling Climate Change Adaptation policies at the regional and local level'** looked at creating and drawing an international comparison between regional governments on the most recent and innovative initiatives involving local authorities in adaptation policies, through European planning, regional community programming for 2021-2027, regional plans and strategies of government, opportunities and criticalities.

We had the great honour of holding this event with the regions of Lombardy, Basque Country, Catalonia, Navarra, Guanajuato, São Paulo among others.



Regions4 family picture with our leading regional representatives from Lombardy, Basque Country, Catalonia, Navarra, Guanajuato, São Paulo.

### *Navarra towards the energy transition*

On 11th November, the Department of Economic and Business Development of the Government of Navarra, in cooperation with Regions4 organized the event '**Navarra towards the energy transition**'. An opportunity to network, exchange, and engage with our community of regional governments around this key topic.

Natalia Uribe, secretary general of Regions4, presented on the role of Regions4 collaborating with the subnational governments to implement their climate action and shared the regional progress in terms of energy transition published in the latest RegionsAdapt Progress Report 2021-2022.



### *The world's Mediterranean climate regions facing the climate emergency: lessons learned and shared solutions*

On 11th November, the Government of Catalonia, the Climate Group, in cooperation with Regions4, organised the event '**The world's Mediterranean climate regions facing the climate emergency: lessons learned and shared solutions**' to explore how states and regions with Mediterranean climates worldwide are tackling the climate emergency. Given the similarities in the challenges, opportunities, and solutions put forward, joint action and project implementation are key to becoming more resilient. The panel shared transformative and effective solutions that are advancing climate change adaptation.

We had the great honour of holding this event with the regions of Catalonia, and South Australia, among other international partners.



Event on the Mediterranean climate regions at the Mediterranean Pavillon.

### *Resilient communities – Shaping and achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation through sub-national action*

On 12th November, the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) in collaboration with Regions4, organised the event '**Resilient communities – Shaping and achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation through sub-national action**' to take a look at how resilient communities can be the building block for developing resilience on a global scale, how local examples can be scaled up to the regional levels and above, and how the EU experience can help shape and achieve an ambitious, but realistic Global Goal on Adaptation.

### *Actions After Impacts: Accelerating Action to address climate losses and damages*

On 14th November, the UN High-Level Climate Champions team, in collaboration with Regions4 organised the event '**Actions After Impacts: Accelerating Action to address climate losses and damages**' to discuss what steps, actions, and innovations are needed to accelerate actions by non-state actors to address climate losses and damages, and how can we mobilise private finance to address climate losses and damages and ensure no one is left behind.



Sergio Graf, Jalisco International Climate Action Coordinator, participating in the side event Actions After Impacts: Accelerating Action to address climate losses and damages.

### *Regions and the hydrogen economy: the hydrogen solution as a vector of energy transition: what role and what challenges for the regions?*

On Energy Day, 15th November, Organización de Regiones Unidas (Oru Fogar), Auvergne Rhône Alpes Regional Council, Association Internationale des Régions Francophones (AIRF), Regional Council of Rabat Salé Kénitra, in cooperation with Regions4 organised the event entitled **'Regions and the hydrogen economy: the hydrogen solution as a vector of energy transition: what role and what challenges for the regions?'** at the Multi-level Action Pavilion to discuss the regional government's role as territorial governments in the energy transition, in particular by their commitment to renewable energy. Some regions members of Regions4 showcased their policies and plans around green hydrogen.

We had the great honour of holding this event with the region of Oru-Fogar, RSK, AIRF (Rhones Alpes), Scotland, Paraná, Catalonia, Basque Country, among other international partners.



RSK, AIRF (Rhône Alpes), Scotland, Paraná, Catalonia, and Basque Country, presented their best practices to show that regions are leading the Energy Transition.

### ***Urban Africa in Action at COP27 sessions – Building urban resilience in Africa: Harnessing nature-based solutions***

On 16th November, ICLEI Africa, in cooperation with Regions4 organised the event **'Urban Africa in Action at COP27 sessions – Building urban resilience in Africa: Harnessing nature-based solutions'** at the Multi-level Action Pavilion to discuss the increasing calls for African-led climate resilience solutions to be deepened and scaled. Solutions that are context-specific, solutions that benefit from indigenous and scientific knowledge. This session unpacked how an African country, working with partners and friends, has charted its own course for climate-resilient development that prioritises the urban poor.

We had the great honour of facilitating the participation of Kwa-Zulu Natal in this event.

### ***The economies of NbS for adaptation***

On 16th November, The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), in cooperation with Regions4 organised the event **'The economies of NbS for adaptation'** to discuss on how nature-based solutions can simultaneously help meet the three great interlinked challenges of our time: responding to climate change risks and impacts, protecting biodiversity and ecosystems, and ensuring human well-being and resilience.

We had the great honour of facilitating the participation of Yucatán in this event.

### ***Marrakesh Partnership, Implementation lab: Actionable Adaptation Plans***

On 17th November, the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership, led by Cities Race to Resilience, WRI, Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance, High-Level Champions' team, in cooperation with Regions4, organised the event **'Marrakesh Partnership, Implementation lab: Actionable Adaptation Plans'** to showcase case studies of cities, states, and regions, that have joined the Race to Zero and Race to Resilience and that have had success in the implementation of adaptation and resilience-building actions, by understanding the challenges that cities, states, and regions, face in implementation, showcasing the importance of risk and vulnerability assessments for integrating aspects of resilience across urban planning and decision making, and demonstrating the importance of Multi-level Governance for enhanced collaboration and resilience building implementation.

We had the great honour of facilitating the participation of São Paulo in this event.

### **COP27 Plenary Session**

On 16th November, Regions4 facilitated the participation at the COP27 Plenary Session of Wavinya Ndeti, chairperson of the Committee Council of Governors of Kenya, who delivered the high-level statement on behalf of the LGMA in which it is highlighted that 'localization is the next globalization' and that climate finance must be decentralised.



Wavinya Ndeti, chairperson of the Committee Council of Governors of Kenya, and Natalia Uribe, secretary general of Regions4 at the COP27 Plenary Session.

### **Launch of the Declaration 'EU Green Deal: from local to global'**

On the occasion of the Solutions Day at COP27, the European Committee of the Regions, ICLEI, Regions4, the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), EUROCITIES, the Under2Coalition, C40 and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), call on national governments, the Parties, and international organisations to fully support local and regional authorities in delivering climate action on the ground. The CoR hosted an event in the EU pavilion gathering global networks of subnational governments to launch the **Declaration 'EU Green Deal: from local to global'**.



CoR event at the EU pavilion to launch the Declaration 'EU Green Deal: from local to global'.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM REGIONS4 AND LEADING REGIONS

We celebrated key announcements such as the nomination of Regions4 Vice Presidency for the Americas, Jalisco, **receiving a UN Climate Action Award**, or **Scotland's leadership to boost the loss and damage agenda** by announcing to triple Scotland's Climate Justice Fund.

We also welcome Auvergne Rhone Alpes (France) and Paraná (Brazil) as new region members of Regions4 to continue working on inspiring opportunities for collaboration on climate, biodiversity, and the Agenda 2030.

We also announced that the Government of Baja California Sur (Mexico), Gujarat (India), and Paraná (Brazil), have joined the Regions Race to Resilience initiative led by Regions4 and the High-level Climate Champions together with more than 70 signatories impacting over 300 million citizens.



Representative from Auvergne Rhone Alpes (France) and Natalia Uribe, Regions4 secretary general.

**São Paulo:** The Government of the State of São Paulo attended COP27 with the objective of maintaining the commitments assumed with international entities and with the Brazilian Association of State Environmental Entities (ABEMA) for reduction, mitigation, and adaptation to climatic changes. São Paulo made a balance of the main public policies of environmental preservation in progress in the entire state. Among the actions is, for example, the Climate Action Plan, which will be in public consultation; the Reforesta program that will recover 1.5 thousand degraded hectares; the Renasce Tietê, which has guaranteed financing for R\$500 million for the revitalization of the sources of two of the most important rivers in the state, in addition to the Novo Rio Pinheiros program with a set of measures that are contributing to the depollution of the São Paulo River.

**Quebec:** The Government of Quebec announced financial aid to help developing countries fight the climate crisis, including renewing their contribution to the Adaptation Fund, partnering with FAO to support projects on Strengthening Agriculture Adaptation, and announced the first Mobilization Strategy for Climate Action 2022-2027 in Quebec.

**Scotland:** An additional £5 million of funding to tackle loss and damage has been announced by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon at the COP27 climate summit. The funds take Scotland's commitment to address loss and damage caused by the climate crisis to £7 million and will enable communities to take direct action to address the impacts of loss and damage. This includes slow-onset effects, such as sea level rise, and non-economic effects, such as the loss of cultural identity. It will also help to tackle existing inequalities, including gender inequalities, which are exacerbated by the effects of climate change.

Moreover, a summary report has been published following on from October's international loss and damage conference hosted by the Scottish Government in Edinburgh. Addressing Loss and Damage: Practical Action highlights the clear funding gap for action to address non-economic and slow-onset loss and damage ahead of a more extensive report to follow COP27.



Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's First Minister at the COP27 Multi-level Action Pavillon

## LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

Looking towards the future, and as a follow up of COP27, Regions4 will:

- Follow-up on COP27 commitments and initiatives related to regions and connecting regions with opportunities.
- Advocacy strategy for COP28, regular consultations, and participatory process with members for joint action and positioning.
- Ensure a strong presence at COP28: side events and RegionsAdapt report, focusing on key priority topics for the year such as water security, gender, and finance.
- Consolidation of partnerships: Climate-KIC, Under2 Coalition, Resilience Hub and Lab, WRI, GIZ, IIED and other strategic partners.
- Development of partnership and project proposal with key partners such as AIRF and Under2Coalition: Supporting developing regions to develop adaptation plans and engage in COP28.
- Reinforce RegionsAdapt community of practice learning sessions with dedicated webinars on learning from 2021–2022 progress report.
- Support the implementation of the Climate Champions Agenda for Adaptation for regional governments.
- RegionsAdapt annual reporting: alignment of RegionsAdapt reporting with Race to Resilience metrics and scoring of progress.
- Continue regions recruitment for RegionsAdapt and Race to Resilience: an amplified voice to include more southern regions (Africa, Latin America, Asia).



## MAIN ADAPTATION INITIATIVES IDENTIFIED AND KEY REPORTS LAUNCHED AT COP27

- »»» [Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation \(Outlines 30 Adaptation Outcomes\)](#)
- »»» [African Cities Water Adaptation Fund \(ACWA Fund\)](#)
- »»» [Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation \(SURGe\)](#)
- »»» [Breakthrough Agreement on New 'Loss and Damage' Fund for Vulnerable Countries](#)
- »»» [Scotland's summary report on Loss and Damage](#)
- »»» [Quebec Announcement to the Adaptation Fund](#)
- »»» [Canada's international climate finance announcement](#)
- »»» [Adaptation Gap Report 2022 | UNEP - UN Environment Programme](#)
- »»» [Mobilizing finance to accelerate climate action and advance the SDGs – Climate Champions](#)
- »»» [Declaration 'EU Green Deal: from local to global' \(This declaration aims to contribute to the LGMA COP28 Roadmap\)](#)

TO LEARN MORE ON COP27 INITIATIVES, PLEASE CHECK THE  
[REGIONS4 COP27 INITIATIVES TRACKER](#)

## MEDIA RESOURCES AND PRESS COVERAGE

To revisit the event and its outcomes please go to [Regions4's youtube channel](#) and [Regions4 webpage](#)

Regions4 at COP27 Press release [here](#)

Regional leaders of the world stress the need to jointly address climate and biodiversity crises Press release [here](#)

The event's social media coverage and key messages can be found [here](#)

The image gallery of Regions4 presence at COP27 can be found [here](#)