AXIS 4 SYNTHESIS ROUNDTABLE

From Plans to Delivery: Building Resilience for Cities, Infrastructure and Water

Date: Wednesday, 11 November 2026 | Time: 15:00-16:30 | Room: Special Event Room 1, roundtable format

Organized by: Axis IV coordination group: UN-Habitat, UNEP and UNEP-hosted Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC), Cool Coalition, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), World Resources Institute, ICLEI, IADB, SLOCAT, IWMI, SIWI, Alliance for Global Water Adaptation, Climate and Clean Air Coalition, Global Methane Hub

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Background and Objective

The COP31 Presidency of Türkiye has given a prominent role to cities, infrastructure and water at this year's Conference, including through the Resilient Cities and Built Environment Day, which the Presidency has integrated into the Leaders Summit (12 November). Among its priorities for the Global Climate Action Agenda, the Presidency has announced three goals: raising the share of final energy demand met by electricity from just over 20 per cent today to 35 per cent by 2035; halving the growth in global waste by 2035; and reducing energy consumption intensity in the building sector by at least 25 per cent by 2035. These are goals announced by the Presidency to guide voluntary action, not negotiated commitments. Axis IV (Building Resilience for Cities, Infrastructure and Water) is closely linked to all three, as their delivery depends to a large extent on buildings, infrastructure, water, mobility and waste systems at the local level. Contributions to these goals are complementary across the five Activation Groups, connecting multilevel governance, buildings and construction, urban development and infrastructure, water, and circularity. Axis IV is also aligned with the Presidency's focus on Zero Waste, circularity and resource efficiency, which cuts across all six Axes of the Global Climate Action Agenda. COP31 also marks the first year after the submission of NDCs 3.0. UN-Habitat's analysis of the 142 NDCs 3.0 submitted by mid-April 2026 found that 80 per cent include well-developed urban content, up from 49 per cent under NDC 2.0, while urban climate finance remains the least developed means of implementation, present in 19 per cent of NDCs.

Co-convened by the COP31 Presidency, the UNFCCC secretariat through the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, the Climate High-Level Champions and the Axis IV members, this Synthesis Roundtable brings together the five Activation Groups, their Plans to Accelerate Solutions (PAS) and implementing partners to reflect collectively on the Axis as a whole: what has been achieved, which implementation challenges persist across sectors, and where cross-sectoral collaboration can accelerate delivery. It brings together the results of the Axis IV showcase events and feeds into the Resilient Cities and Built Environment Day on 12 November, including thematic roundtables, the World Leaders Summit Segment on Urban Resilience and Climate Change, and the Intergovernmental Council for Buildings and Climate (ICBC) Ministerial Meeting.

Expected Outcomes

- A shared Axis IV narrative on implementation, drawing on the delivered results of PAS and initiatives and on evidence of how the five Activation Group thematic areas are reflected in NDCs 3.0, presented as one pathway from national frameworks to subnational delivery, finance-ready pipelines and measurable benefits for people.
- A set of implementation challenges, opportunities and priority nexuses for delivering NDCs 3.0, NAPs and the COP31 goals, identified collectively by participants, with concrete opportunities for collaboration among PAS, initiatives and other Axes, carried into the Resilient Cities and Built Environment Day roundtables and MM5, and ICBC Ministerial on 12 November.
- Collective priorities and next steps for the coming year, with contributions from PAS and initiatives confirmed through the COP Delivery Package Template.

Agenda

Item	Speaker
Opening and Framing	Moderated by the **Climate Champions Team** OPENING: ● COP31 Presidency representative ● **Dan Ioschpe**, Climate High Level Champion for COP30 Brazil ● **Faith Dedeoglu**, Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, Türkiye - COP31 Presidency ● **Monique Nardi**, UNFCCC Engagement Team FRAMING: ● **Anaclaudia Rossbach**, Executive Director and Under-Secretary-General, UN-Habitat, on cities, infrastructure and water in NDCs 3.0 ● **Şevket Altuğ Taşdemir**, Head of the International Relations Department, İLBANK
Proof of Progress: what has been delivered across Axis IV	Moderated by **Gulnara Roll**, Chief, Sectoral Transition Section, Mitigation Branch, Climate Change Division, Head GlobalABC secretariat and & Principle Advisor, Cool Coalition On accelerating subnational action and finance: ● **Carlos Freitas**, Executive Director, FMDV ● **Annie Mack**, Policy Advisor to the Mayor of Melbourne, Australia

	On built environment pathways of implementation, from roadmaps to demand-driven: • **Audrey Nugent**, Global Advocacy Director, WorldGBC • **Stefan Mager,** GIZ Head of Infrastructure – Energy, Water and Mobility and Member of PEEB's Steering Committee • **Paul King**, CEO, Built by Nature On multi-stakeholder action that impact millions: heat and resilience infrastructure/transport: • **Eleni Myrivili**, Global Chief Heat Officer, UNEP • **Savina Carluccio**, Executive Director of the International Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure (ICSI) On water and zero waste action, bridging cross-cutting solutions: • **Pan Ei Ei Phyoe**, Wetlands International • **Adalberto Maluf**, National Secretary for Urban Environment and Environmental Quality, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Brazil
Interactive dialogue: delivering NDCs 3.0, NAPs and the COP31 goals	Moderated by **Lea Ranalder**, Programme Management Officer, Multilevel Climate Action, UN-Habitat Open floor for participants.
Closing: collective priorities and hand-over	• **Martin Krause,** Director, Climate Change Division, UNEP • COP32 Presidency representative.