



The Future We Want Transforming Our World: Local Authorities for Climate Justice

Public Workshop @ Cities & Regions Pavilion

What is the role of municipalities in achieving climate justice and what can they learn from the Global South? These key questions guided us through The Future We Want workshop.

PANELISTS



Els Beeckx – *City of Zoersel, Belgium*



Robert Guimaraes – *FECONAU, Peru*



Dietmar Mirkes – *ASTM /
Climate Alliance Luxembourg*



Andreas Wolter – *City of Cologne, Germany*

The workshop focused on the importance of global partnerships, common challenges faced in Europe and Amazonia, and political recommendations developed to face these challenges. A short question and answer session highlighted the different benefits of global partnerships. Based on the presentation, the key question of how we can convince our local politicians to establish global partnerships was discussed.

“Even though we are facing similar challenges in Europe and Amazonia, we have to be aware of an important difference: indigenous peoples are putting their lives at stake to protect their territories, the rainforest and our climate. Conversely, in Europe we mostly act in free and safe spaces.”

– Thomas Brose, Executive Director of Climate Alliance



On the importance of the ratification of ILO 169 for indigenous rights:

“The more countries ratify the ILO 169, the stronger the convention is.”

– Dietmar Mirkes, ASTM Luxemburg

“Our common challenges are strategies on the ground. Partnerships between European municipalities and indigenous peoples help strengthen a global vision by encouraging local action.”

– Robert Guimaraes, FECONAU Peru

“Learning to defend indigenous territories means to learning to change our consumption patterns in the Western world.”

– Andreas Wolter, Mayor of Cologne

“We’re used to measuring value by money, which blinds us. We can learn a lot of things from indigenous world visions.”

– Dietmar Mirkes, ASTM Luxemburg

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- We must involve residents in climate action; only with the force of the local basis can we make the progress we need and want to see.
- International agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the Agenda 2030 should be used as arguments for global partnerships. Such partnerships play an important role in both agreements; SDG17 for example, focuses especially on this. To convince our local politicians, we should make use of these agreements.
- Global partnerships should be part of local climate action. Only together, in a partnership based on equality and equal rights, can we transform our world.



Climate Alliance