Title: Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC)
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Institute: ICLEI
Session IIIb: Standards for GHG Emission Inventories

Abstract:
Cities are an integral part of the global effort to tackle climate change, but they have been lacking a consistent and transparent way to measure and report emissions. However, inventory methods that cities have used to date vary significantly, raising questions around data quality, and limiting the ability to aggregate local and subnational GHG emissions data. With the GPC, however, cities are required to measure and report a comprehensive inventory of GHG emissions following the same accounting principles established by the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.

In this session, Ms Maryke Van Staden, Head of Low Carbon Cities Program and Director of the Carbon Center (Bonn Center for Local Climate Action and Reporting) in ICLEI World Secretariat, will introduce you to the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC). A newly launched city level GHG protocol, which uses a robust and clear framework to establish credible emissions accounting and reporting practices, thereby helping cities develop an emissions baseline, set mitigation goals, create more targeted climate action plans and track progress over time. With the GPC, cities are required to measure and report a comprehensive inventory of GHG emissions following the same accounting principles established by the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories. By using the GPC, cities will also strengthen vertical integration of data reporting to other levels of government, and should gain improved access to local and international climate financing.

The GPC also underpins the global Compact of Mayors, the world's largest cooperative effort among cities to reduce GHG emissions, track progress and prepare for the impacts of climate change. The Compact – endorsed by preeminent global city networks – has adopted the GPC as part of its core activities to raise the level of ambition and quality of city GHG inventory reporting. Using GPC, cities can report emissions through the carbon Climate Registry, the Compact’s designated central repository, as well as through existing city reporting platforms such as CDP.