



**Sixth session of United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)**

2024

Cities and Regions Summit

Conference Room 14
UNEP HQ, Nairobi, Kenya

unep.org/environmentassembly



UNEA-6 Cities and Regions Summit

Master of Ceremony



Gulnara Roll

Head of Cities Unit, Mitigation Branch
Climate Change Division, UN Environment
Programme



Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)



**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)

Opening and Welcome Address

unep.org/environmentassembly



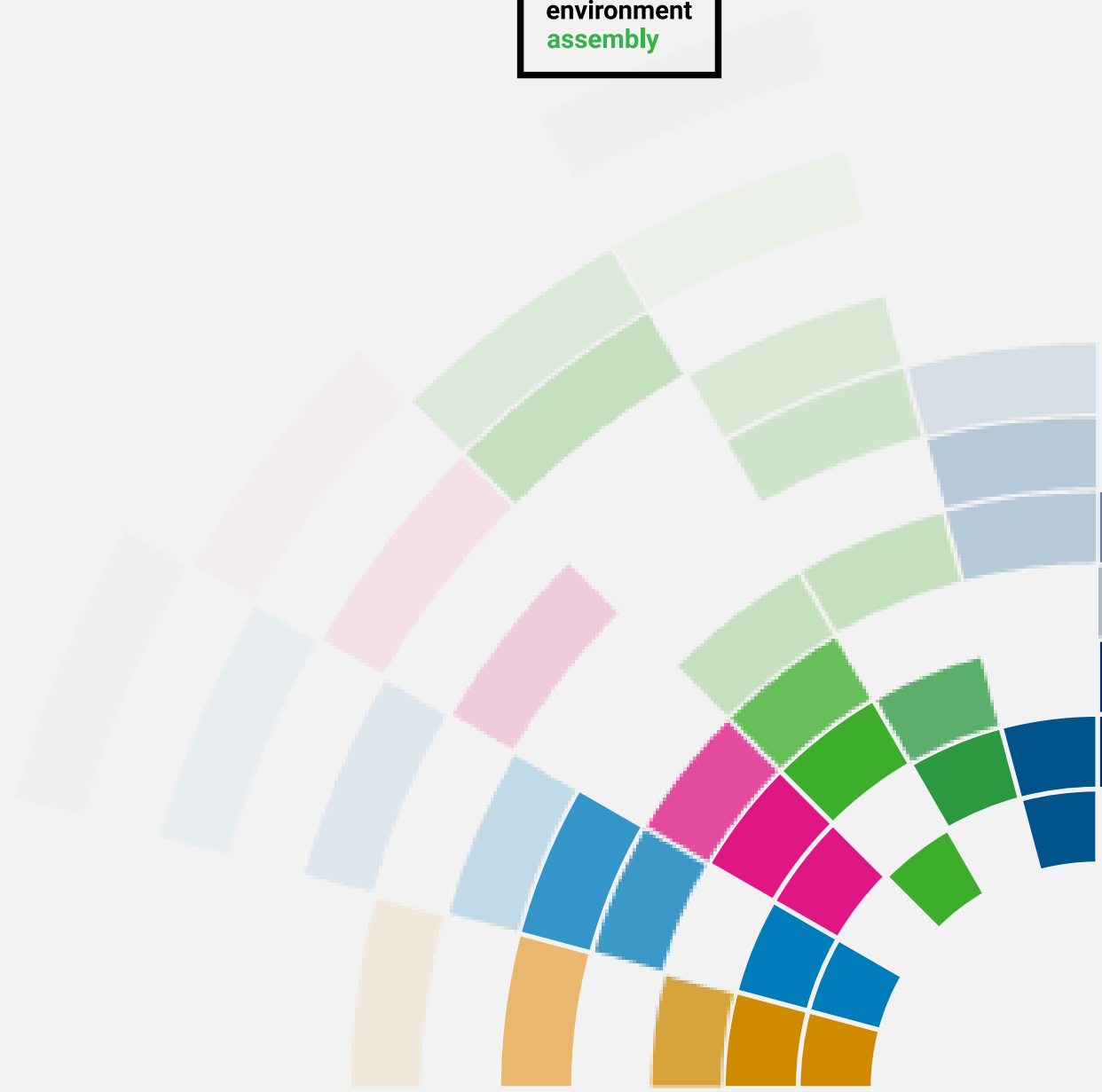
UNEA-6 Cities and Regions Summit

Opening and Welcome Address



Inger Andersen

Executive Director
UN Environment Programme



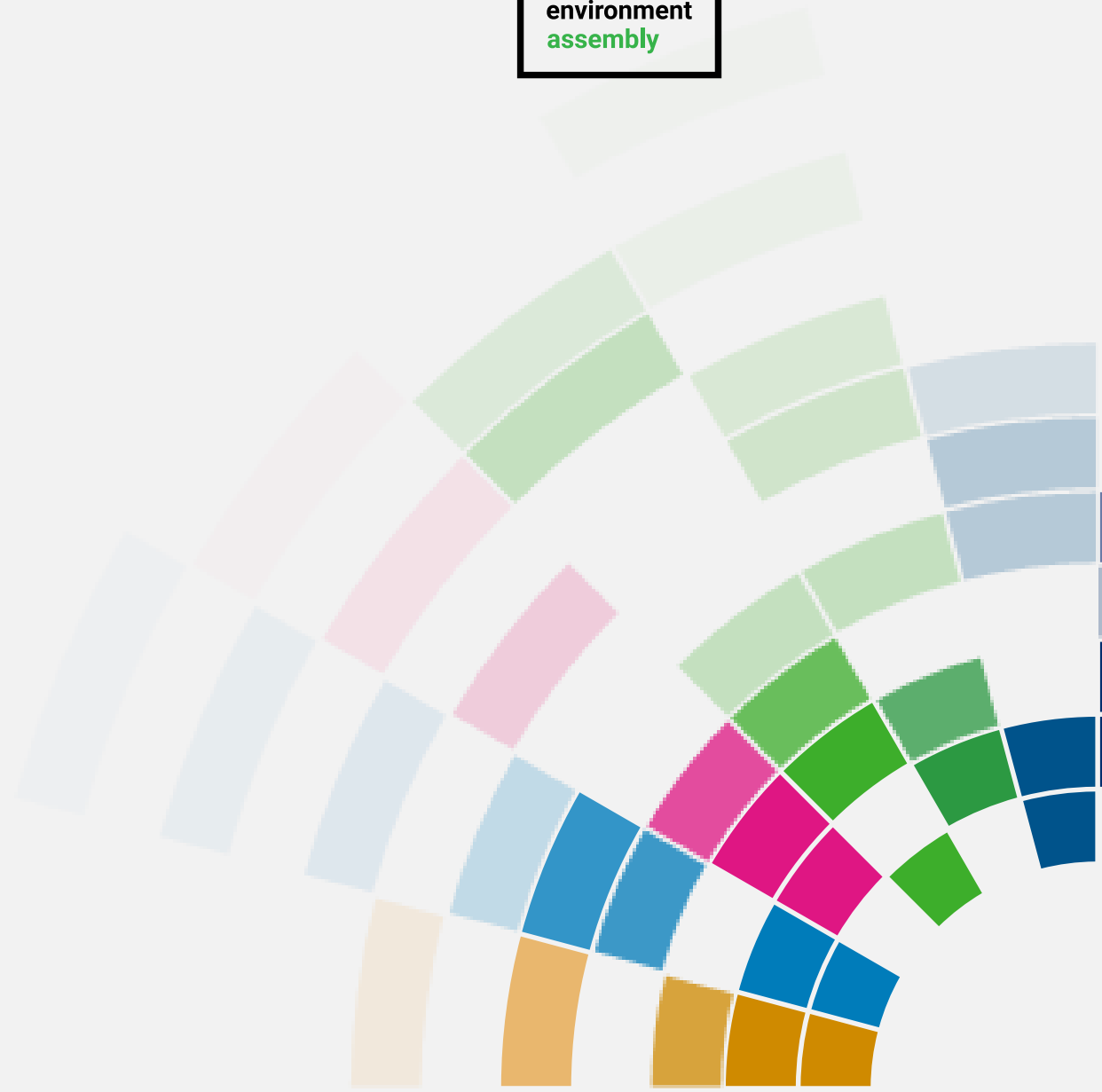
UNEA-6 Cities and Regions Summit

Opening and Welcome Address



Michal Mlynar

Acting Executive Director
UN-Habitat





**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Opening Interventions

**The Critical Role of Cities and Regions in Achieving
Global Development and Environmental Goals**

unep.org/environmentassembly

Opening Interventions: The Critical Role of Cities and Regions in Achieving Global Development and Environmental Goals



Adalberto Maluf

National Secretary, Urban Environment and
Environmental Quality
Federative Republic of Brazil

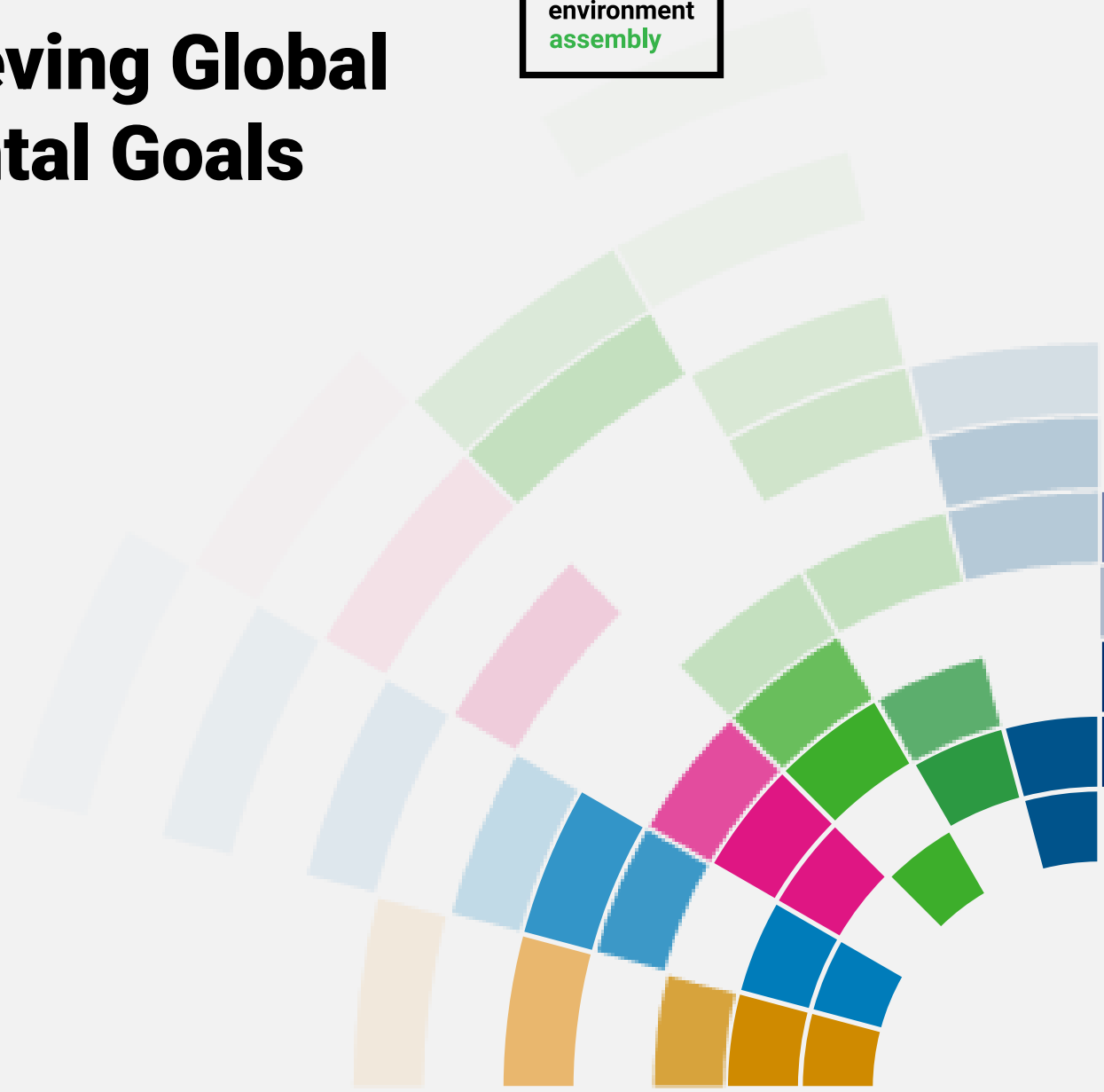


Opening Interventions: The Critical Role of Cities and Regions in Achieving Global Development and Environmental Goals



Peter Anyang' Nyong'o

Governor, Kisumu County
Republic of Kenya

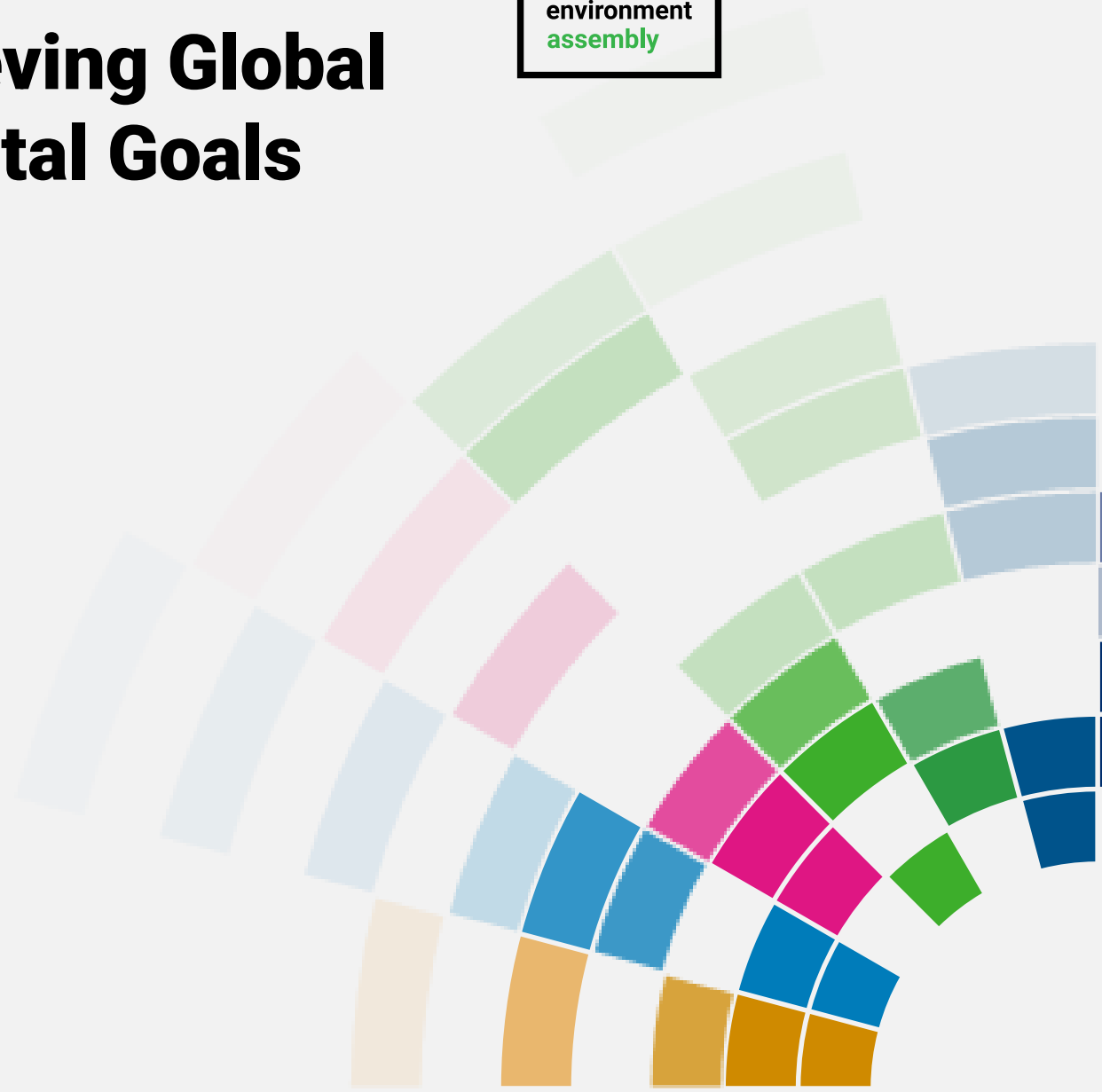


Opening Interventions: The Critical Role of Cities and Regions in Achieving Global Development and Environmental Goals



Josefina Belmonte

Mayor of Quezon City, Republic of the Philippines
UNEP Champion of the Earth 2023



Opening Interventions: The Critical Role of Cities and Regions in Achieving Global Development and Environmental Goals



Gino Van Begin

Secretary-General

ICLEI

(Recorded intervention)





**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Group Picture

By the stairs between conference room 1 and 2

unep.org/environmentassembly



**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Coffee Break

Kindly be back in the room by 11:20

unep.org/environmentassembly



**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Thematic Session 1

**Multi-level Governance, A Key Element for Effective
Environmental Governance**

unep.org/environmentassembly

Panel 1: “All Hands on Deck” to Achieve Goals of the Paris Agreement



Moderator: Andy Deacon

Co-Managing Director
Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy



*Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)*



Panel 1: “All Hands on Deck” to Achieve Goals of the Paris Agreement



*Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the Miro Board*



David Dodman

General Director,
Institute for Housing and Urban
Development Studies
(Recorded intervention)



Patrícia Menezes

Mayor's Office Advisor for
Global Agendas,
Barcarena, Brazil



Clément Payeur

Deputy Permanent
Representative to the United
Nations Office in Nairobi,
France



Asif Nawaz Shah

Multi-level Action, Urbanization
and Built Environment Lead,
COP28 UAE

Respondent: Lea Ranalder

Associate Programme Management Officer, Human Settlements Climate Change and Urban Environment Programme Development Branch, UN-Habitat

Panel 1: “All Hands on Deck” to Achieve Goals of the Paris Agreement



David Dodman

General Director,
Institute for Housing and Urban
Development Studies
(Recorded intervention)



Panel 1: “All Hands on Deck” to Achieve Goals of the Paris Agreement



Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)



David Dodman

General Director,
Institute for Housing and Urban
Development Studies
(Recorded intervention)



Patrícia Menezes

Mayor's Office Advisor for
Global Agendas,
Barcarena, Brazil



Clément Payeur

Deputy Permanent
Representative to the United
Nations Office in Nairobi,
France



Asif Nawaz Shah

Multi-level Action, Urbanization
and Built Environment Lead,
COP28 UAE

Respondent: Lea Ranalder

Associate Programme Management Officer, Human Settlements Climate Change and Urban Environment Programme Development Branch, UN-Habitat

Panel 2: “Beyond Borders”: Coordinated Action to Achieve the Kunming- Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework



Moderator: Ingrid Coetzee

Director: Biodiversity, Nature and Health
ICLEI World Secretariat



*Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)*

Panel 2: “Beyond Borders”: Coordinated Action to Achieve the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework



Lorraine Gerrans

Director: Environmental
Management, Cape Town,
Republic of South Africa



Wade Crowfoot

Secretary of Natural Resources,
State of California, United States
of America



Maria Teresa Becerra Ramirez

Head of international affairs
office, Ministry of Environment
and Sustainable Development,
Colombia



*Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)*

Respondent: Monica Kobayashi

Programme Management Officer for Agricultural Biodiversity and Inland Water, CBD Secretariat

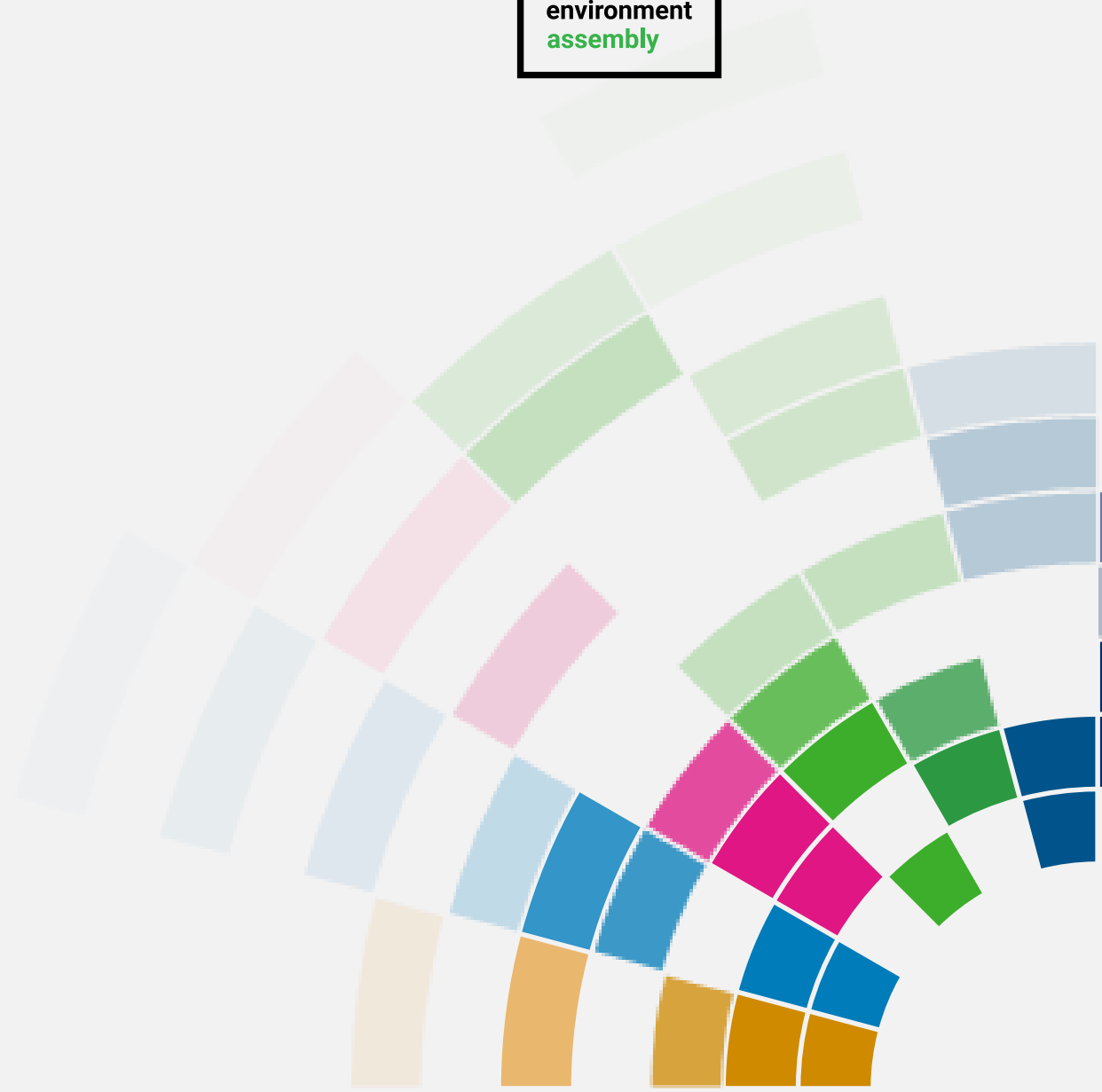


Wrap-Up and Closing of Thematic Session 1



Hellen Wanjohi-Opil

Resilience African Cities Lead
World Resources Institute Africa





**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Luncheon Reception

**Innovation in Action: How Data and Partnerships
Accelerate Climate Achievements**

13:00 – 15:00 | Terrace of the Recreation Centre

unep.org/environmentassembly



**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Thematic Session 2

**Unlocking Finance for Sustainable Urban
Transformation**

unep.org/environmentassembly

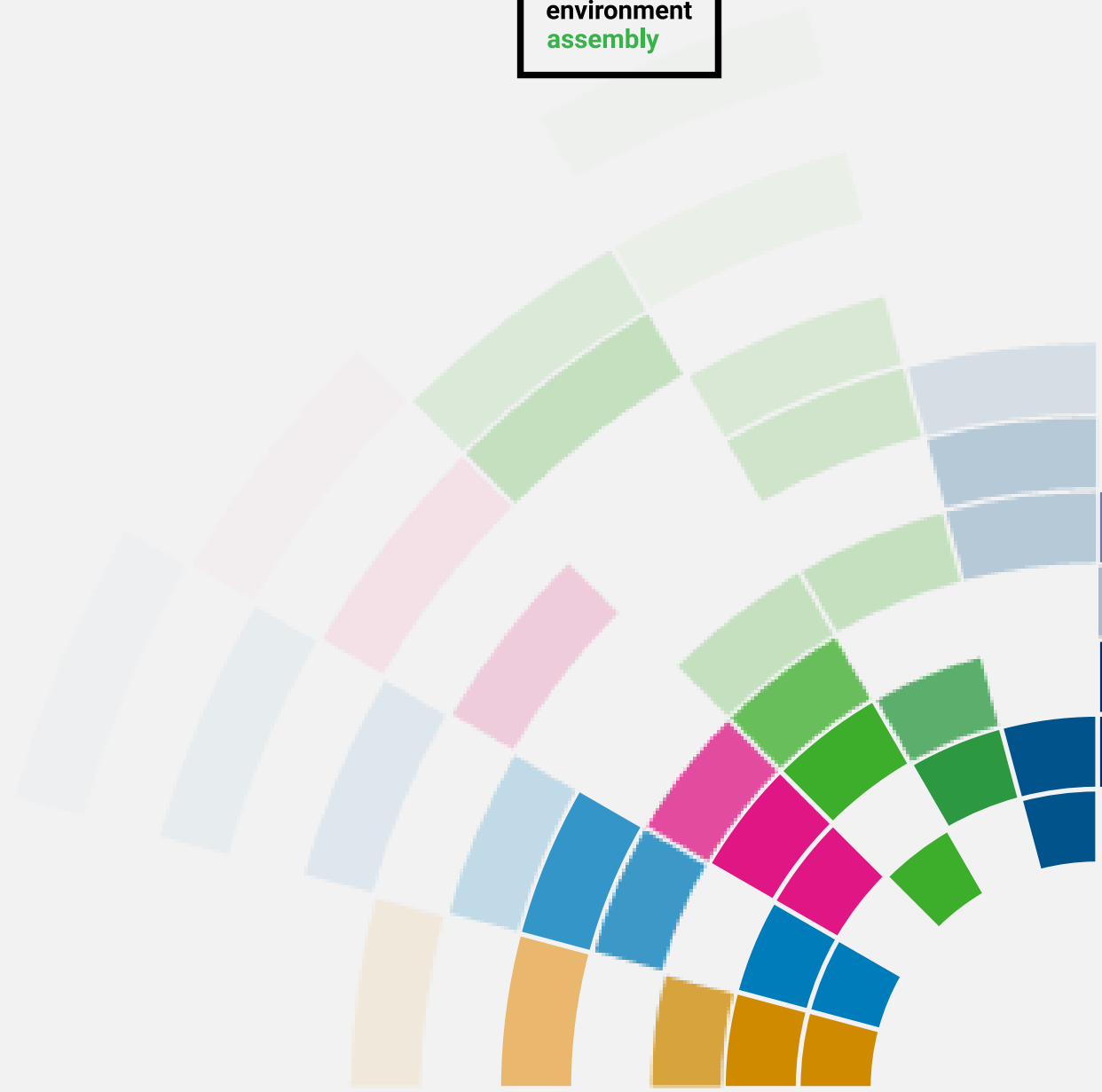


Expert Presentation: Bridge the Local Finance Gap



Eugénie L. Birch

Co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research,
University of Pennsylvania





Bridging the Local Finance Gap

A Paradigm Shift
Requiring New Policies,
Frameworks,
Instruments,
Mechanisms and
Leadership for Finance
to Cities

Presentation Agenda

1. The questions we are seeking to answer
2. The data needed to understand and answer them
3. And the policies needed to address them

1. Questions

How will we reform existing or craft innovative financial mechanisms to increase financing for cities?

How will we de-risk capital (or transfer risk) for more direct investment in cities?

How will international and national reforms allow cities greater direct access to capital markets?

How will the imbalance between mitigation and adaptation investment in cities be improved?

How will we transform the GFA institutional framework to allow and encourage urban SDG finance?

How will we improve investments in nature and biodiversity in cities?

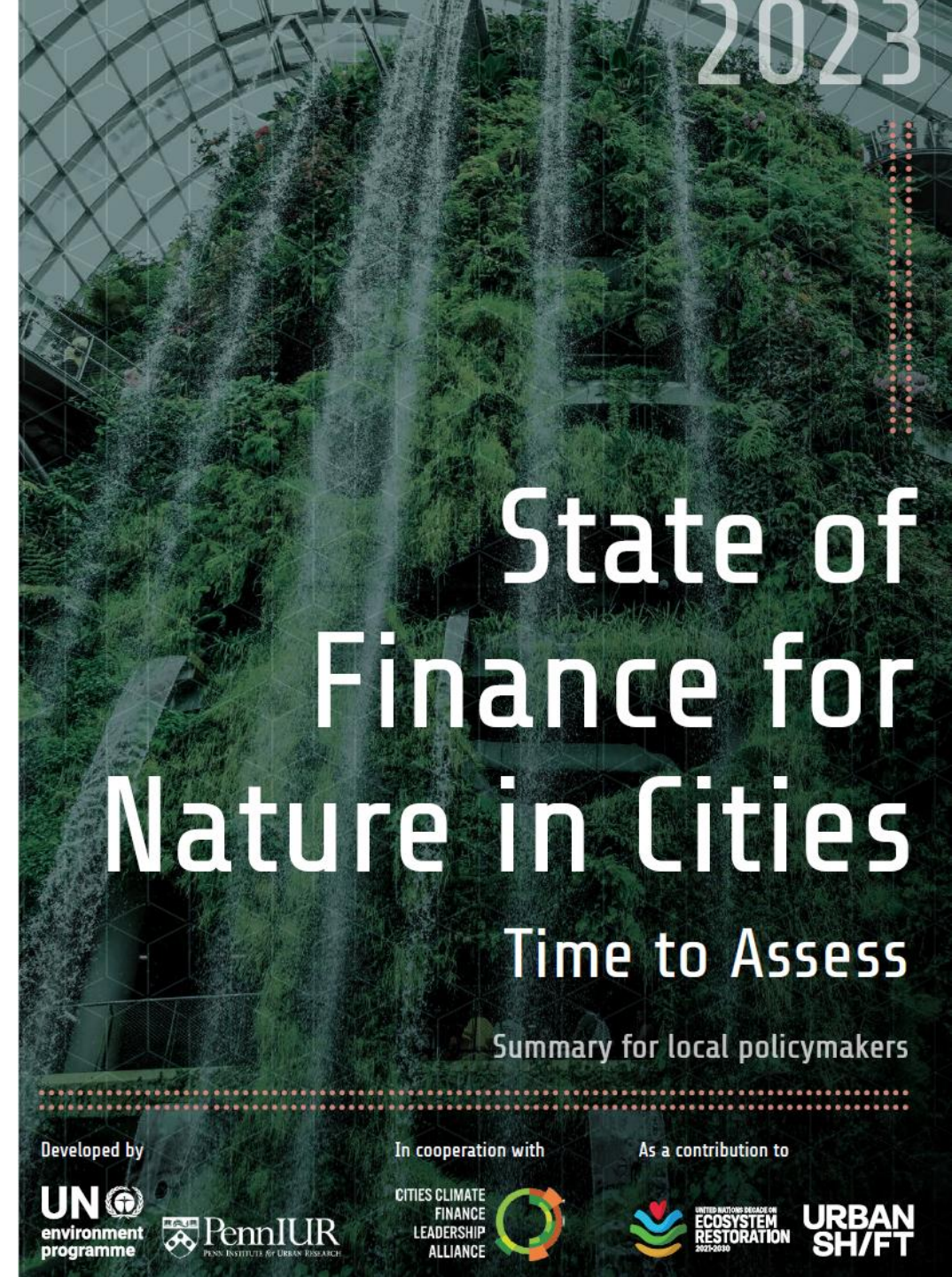
2. Data

The State of Finance for Nature in Cities: Time to Assess

- First effort to define and establish the level of public expenditures on urban NbS in cities around the world,
- Parallel to State of Finance for Nature.

The report revealed the lack of global databases on the subject.

- Public finance accounting networks are focused on national not subnational level data.
- Urban NbS tends to be nested in the overall budget, not disaggregated.



2023

State of Finance for Nature in Cities Time to Assess

Summary for local policymakers

Developed by



In cooperation with



As a contribution to



2. Data

Advancing understanding of urban NbS expenditures

- **Urban NbS activities**
 - UN operational definition
 - Encompasses a list of urban NbS actions in the table to the right.
- **Testing a proposed framework**
 - a modified OECD function of government system (COFOG)
 - classifies government expenditure data by the purpose for which the funds are used.
- **Working with four cities**
 - **UNEP's Generation Restoration Initiative (2024)**,
 - Can they use the framework to register their NbS expenditures across their budgets.

System-level Action	Definition
Urban Forests	Locating forests within cities or at the urban rural interface
Parks and Green Spaces	Providing unpaved, biologically active spaces
Urban Agriculture	Growing plants or animals in and around cities, also local processing and delivering food
Streets	Supporting linear natural infrastructure with strips of trees, plants and vegetation at various scales, planting street trees, and establishing green corridors
Buildings	Building green roofs and walls, capturing, and recycling stormwater, improving air quality, controlling for extreme temperatures, promoting albedo roof treatment
Water Management	Constructing green storm water (e.g., landslide prevention / slope remediation, bioretention areas, bioswales, impermeable surfaces) and drinking water (e.g., watershed conservation and restoration) infrastructure
Riverine Restoration	Improving and or greenlighting rivers, and protecting wetlands, floodplains, embankments, and natural culverts, removing trash
Coastal Protection	Restoring or preserving mangroves, salt marshes, dunes and beaches and conserving and restoring reefs, removing trash



Source: Adapted by the authors from Smart, Sustainable and Resilient cities: the Power of NbS (UNEP 2021)

3. Policy

The **SDSN Global Commission for Urban SDG Finance** harnesses the insights of mayors, climate and finance experts, and scholars to develop and champion innovative ideas and solutions for increasing urban SDG finance.



<https://urbansdgfinance.org/>

The **Commission leadership** includes Co-chairs **Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, France** and **Eduardo Paes, Mayor of Rio De Janeiro**

Distinguished Mayors Commissioners include:

- **Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr**, Mayor, Freetown, Sierra Leone
- **Justin Bibb**, Mayor, Cleveland, USA
- **Sally Capp**, Mayor, Melbourne, Australia
- **Atiqul Islam**, Mayor, Dhaka North City Corporation, Bangladesh
- **Daniella Levine-Cava**, Mayor, Miami Dade County, USA **Jaime Pumarejo Heins**, Former Mayor, Barranquilla Colombia
- **Marvin Rees**, Mayor, Bristol, UK
- **Mohammed Sefiani**, Mayor, Chefchaouen, Morocco
- **Horacio Rodriguez Larreta**, Mayor, Buenos Aires, Argentina

MDB Reforms

The needs of cities have rarely been raised in MDB reform discussions.

Cities play a crucial role in addressing the climate emergency. Yet, cities receive <1% of the required annual global climate finance.

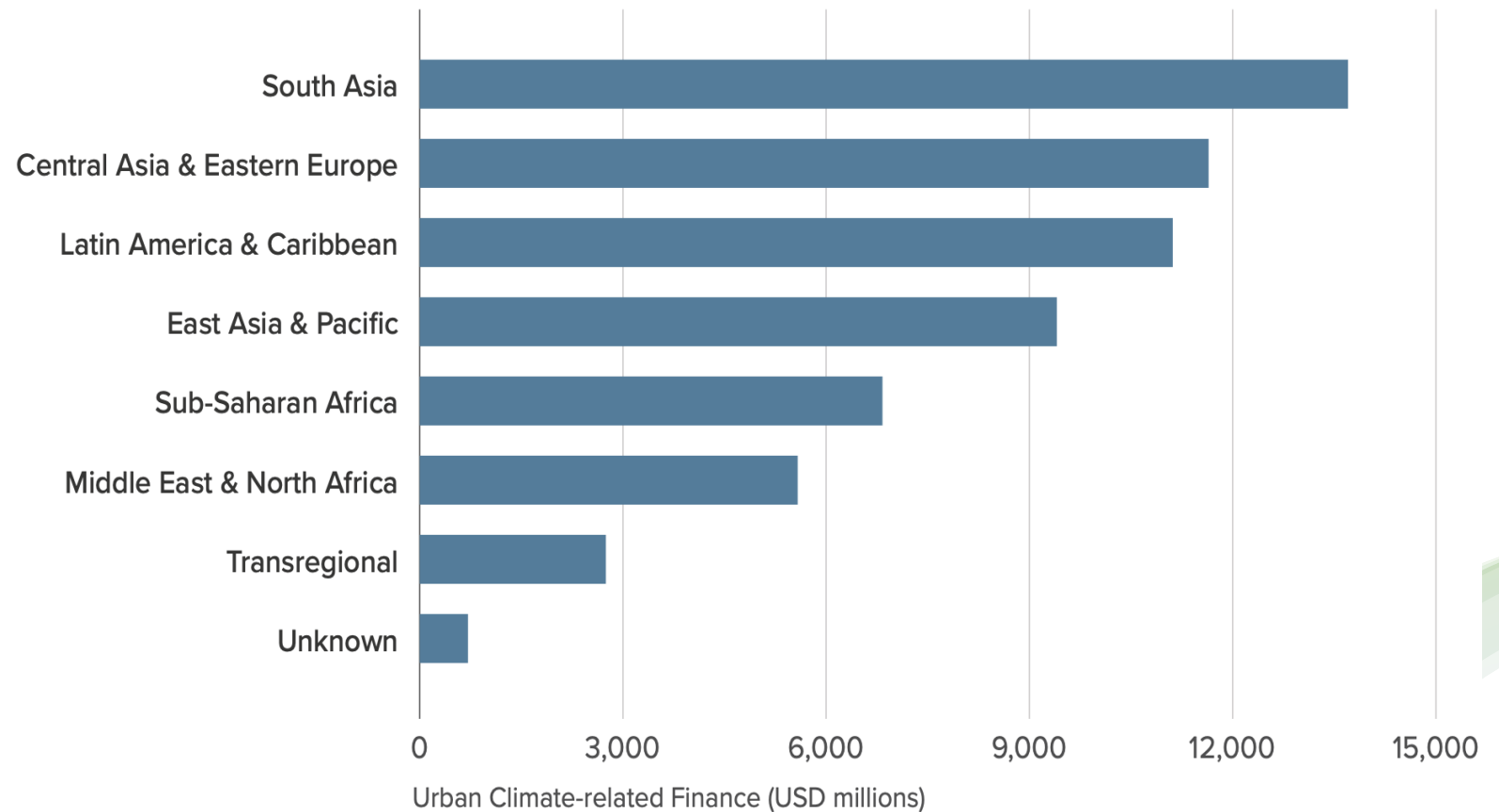


MBD Reforms

MDB urban climate finance should focus on regions with the most pressing urban mitigation and adaptation needs.

CHAMP for Climate Action: 72 countries have endorsed the Pledge to include SNGs in their planning, financing, implementation, and monitoring of climate strategies.

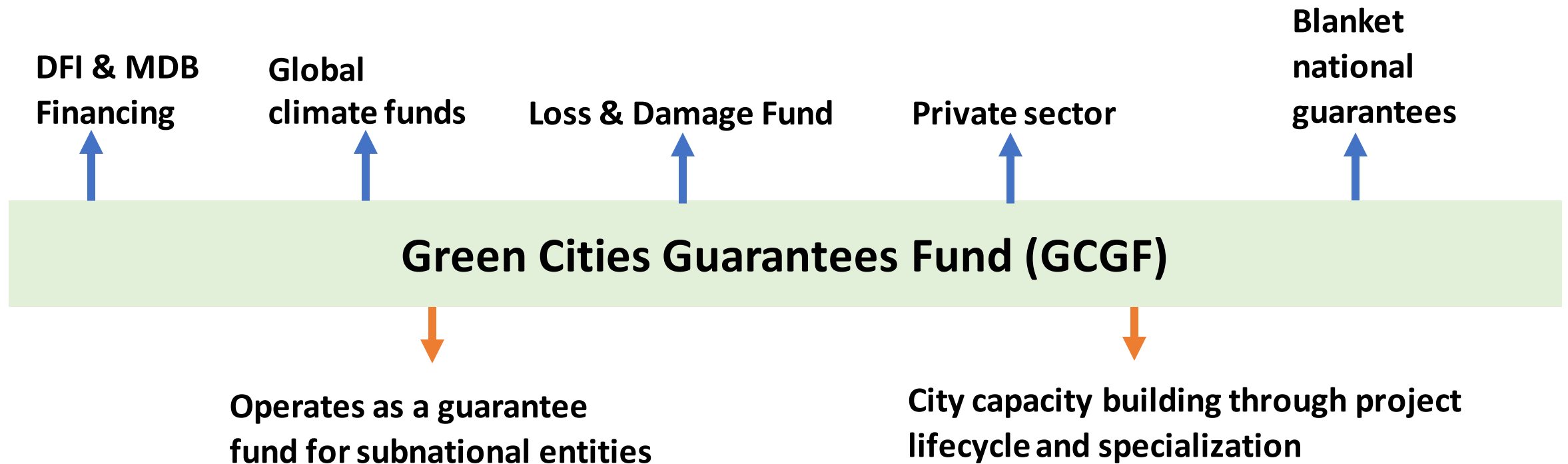
<https://www.cop28.com/en/cop28-uae-coalition-for-high-ambition-multilevel-partnerships-for-climate-action>



Urban Climate-related Finance by Region (2015-2022)

New (or modified) Institutions

A **GREEN CITIES GUARANTEES FUND** is an alternative blended-finance option to sovereign guarantees. It would facilitate low-interest long-term loans in local currency, tailor made for countries but mandated for cities' needs.



Private Sector

“The climate adaptation market is huge and growing, the business models are in place, the opportunities are diverse and the surge of public funding for adaptation sweetens the deal.”

– World Economic Forum

Only 1.6% of adaptation funding comes from the private sector. (WB, 2021). The private sector needs much stronger engagement to help them understand the massive opportunities for investment in urban climate action.

- Make the business case for investing in cities and massive opportunities from urban climate action. Demonstrate an active pipeline of projects to investor community (with CDP)
- Showcase best practice examples and innovative financial mechanisms
- Approach needs to include investor roundtables to discuss critical issues like creditworthiness and guarantee instruments and how to strengthen business case for private investment

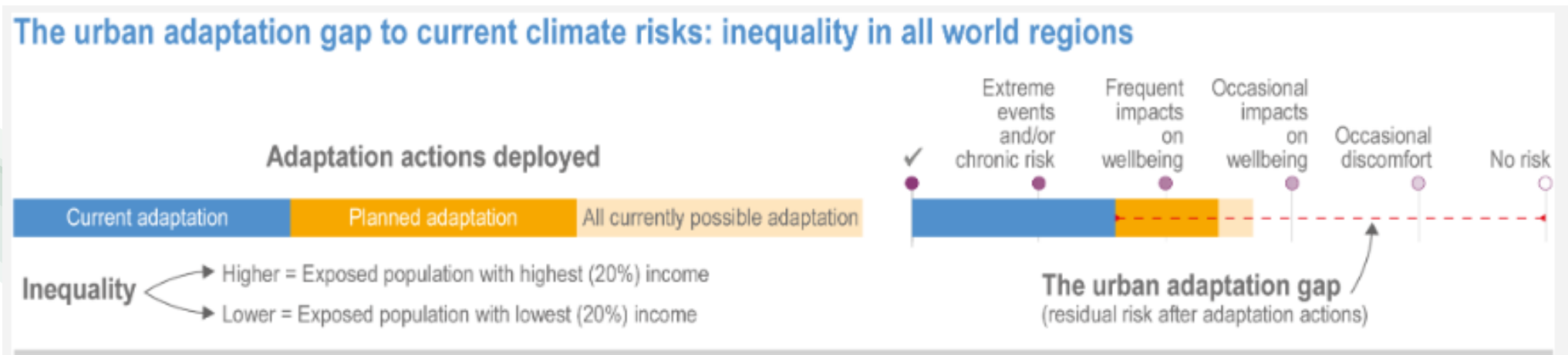
Adaptation Imbalance

State of Finance - of \$384 Billion in climate financing, only \$7B into adaptation

Artificial Division – the divisions are functions of the monitoring processes, not what is most operational for cities

Cost-Benefit calculations - rarely include adaptation and mitigation. We need a more holistic approach to finance that delivers an integrated set of indicators. This is particularly acute for strategies like nature-based solutions

Technical Assistance - Cities need support to develop projects that can demonstrate both mitigation and adaptation.



Local Conditions and Context

Cities around the world deal with very different governance, regulatory, legal, economic and environmental conditions. Solutions need to adapt to city and country-specific conditions.



Panel 1: Innovative Financing Models for Sustainable Urban and Territorial Development



Moderator: Agathe Cavicchioli

Deputy Director of International Advocacy for C40
Cities and GCoM's joint programme



*Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)*

Panel 1: Innovative Financing Models for Sustainable Urban and Territorial Development



Kweku Lisk

Deputy Mayor of Freetown,
Sierra Leone



Jean Lemire

Envoy for Climate Change,
Northern and Arctic Affairs,
Government of Quebec - MRIF,
Canada

***Respondent:* Kamelia Kemileva**

Co-Director, Global Cities Hub



Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)



**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Coffee Break

Kindly be back in the room by 16:20

unep.org/environmentassembly

Panel 2: Facilitating subnational governments' access to climate and development finance



Moderator: Ruth Zugman Do Coutto

Chief, Mitigation Branch, Climate Change Division,
UNEP



Contribute to the discussion by
providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)



Panel 2: Facilitating subnational governments' access to climate and development finance



Priscilla Negreiros

Senior Manager, City Climate Leadership Alliance (CCFLA), Climate Policy Initiative
(Recorded intervention)



Alope Barnwal

Coordinator, Sustainable Cities Program, GEF Secretariat



David Albertani

CEO, Catalytic Finance Foundation

Respondent: Mirey Atallah

Head, Climate Adaptation Branch, Climate Change Division, UNEP



Contribute to the discussion by providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)



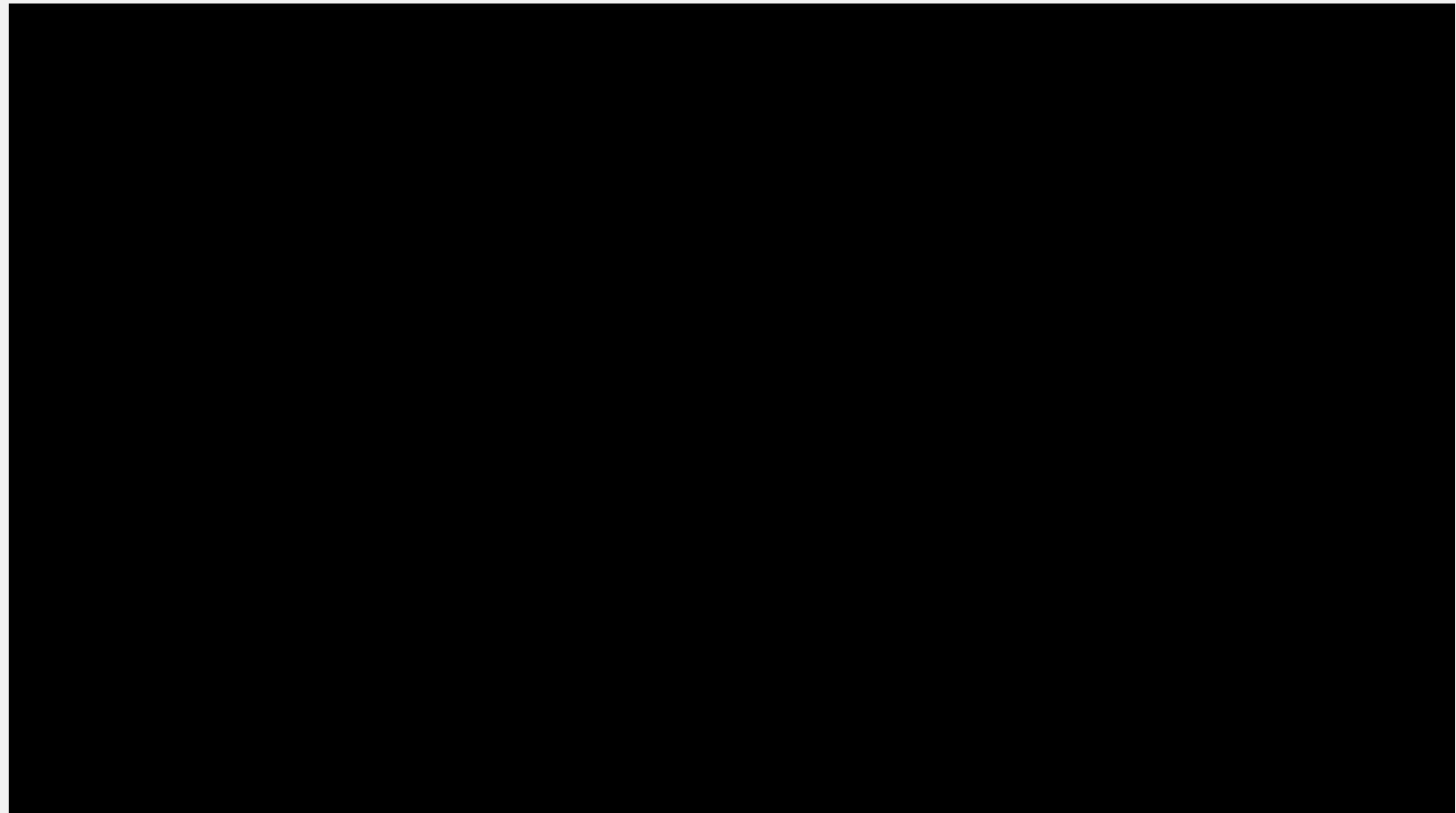
Panel 2: Facilitating subnational governments' access to climate and development finance



Priscilla Negreiros

Senior Manager, City Climate
Leadership Alliance (CCFLA),
Climate Policy Initiative

(Recorded intervention)



Panel 2: Facilitating subnational governments' access to climate and development finance



Priscilla Negreiros

Senior Manager, City Climate Leadership Alliance (CCFLA), Climate Policy Initiative
(Recorded intervention)



Alope Barnwal

Coordinator, Sustainable Cities Program, GEF Secretariat



David Albertani

CEO, Catalytic Finance Foundation

Respondent: Mirey Atallah

Head, Climate Adaptation Branch, Climate Change Division, UNEP



Contribute to the discussion by providing inputs to the [Miro Board](#)

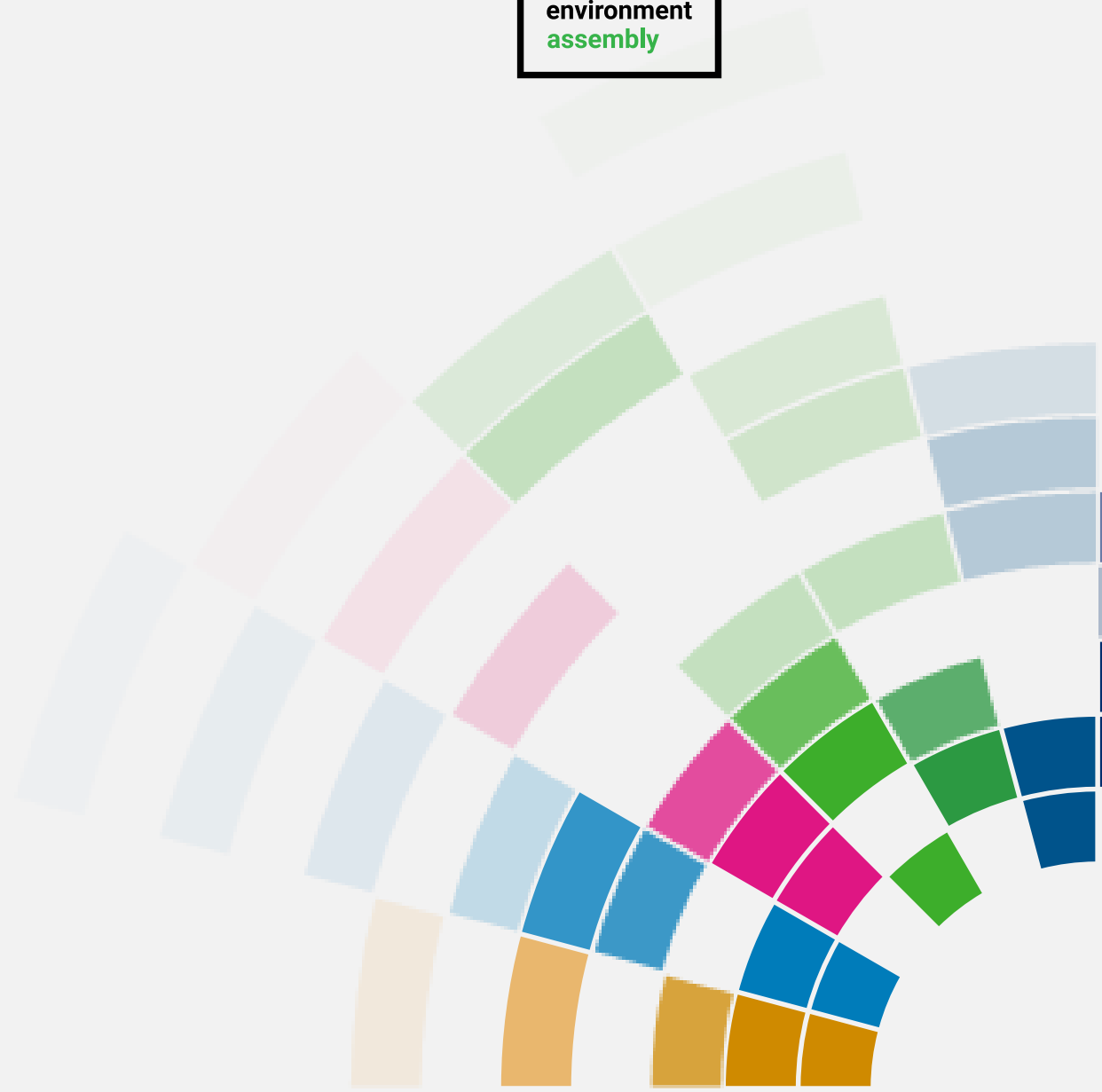


Wrap-Up and Closing of Thematic Session 2



Eugénie L. Birch

Co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research,
University of Pennsylvania





**Cities and Regions
Summit**

2024

Sixth session of the United Nations
Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)



Closing

Empowering Subnational Governments to Achieve Global Environmental Goals

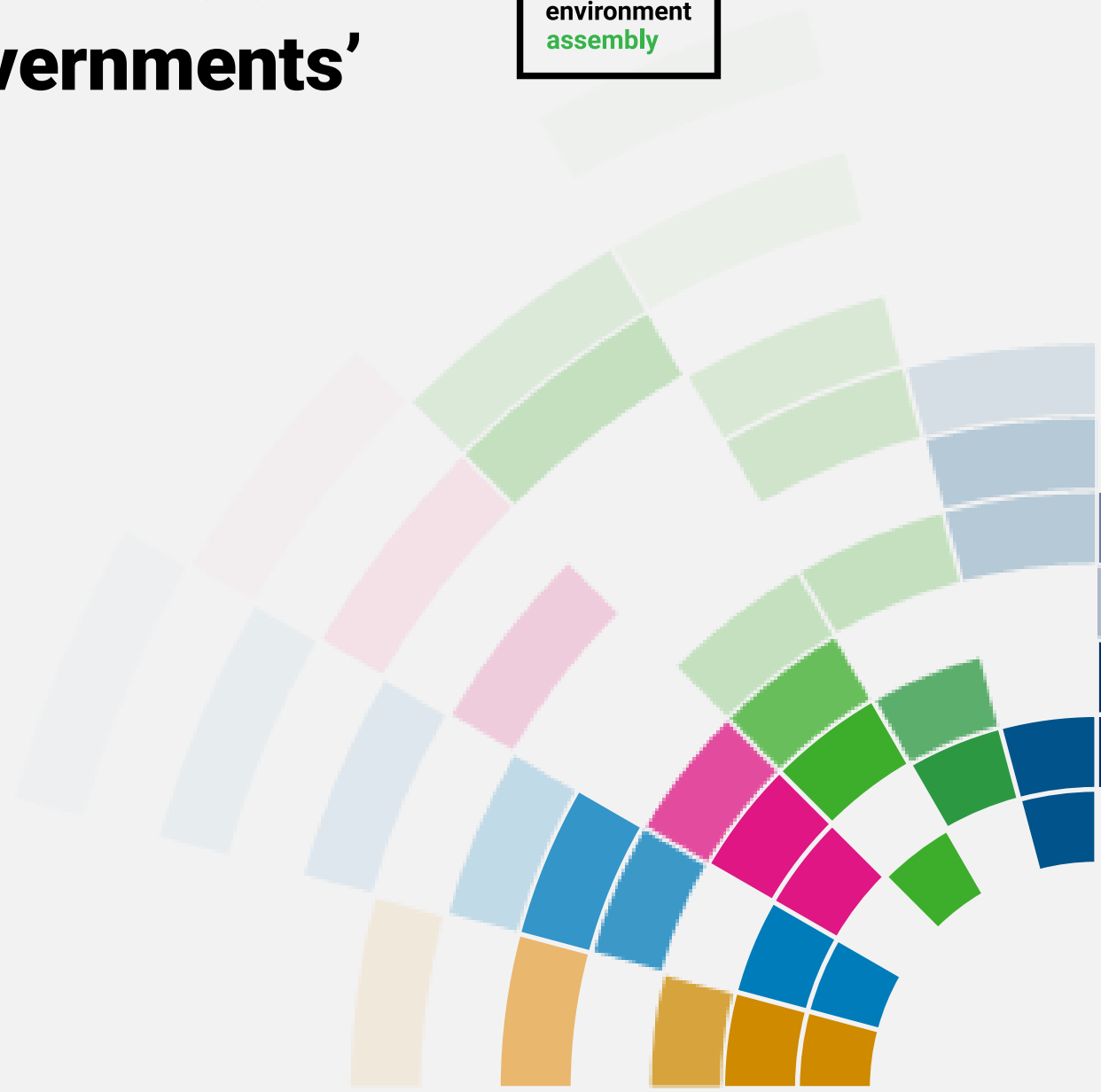
unep.org/environmentassembly

Intervention: How to Increase Ambition and Facilitate Subnational Governments' Contributions to Global Goals



Vann Monyneath

Under-Secretary of State for the Ministry of Environment, Cambodia



Intervention: How to Increase Ambition and Facilitate Subnational Governments' Contributions to Global Goals



Rafal Trzaskowski

President of the City of Warsaw; and Member of the European Committee of the Regions, European Union

(Recorded intervention)



Intervention: How to Increase Ambition and Facilitate Subnational Governments' Contributions to Global Goals



Clare Hart

Vice-president of Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole and UCLG Representative
(Recorded intervention)

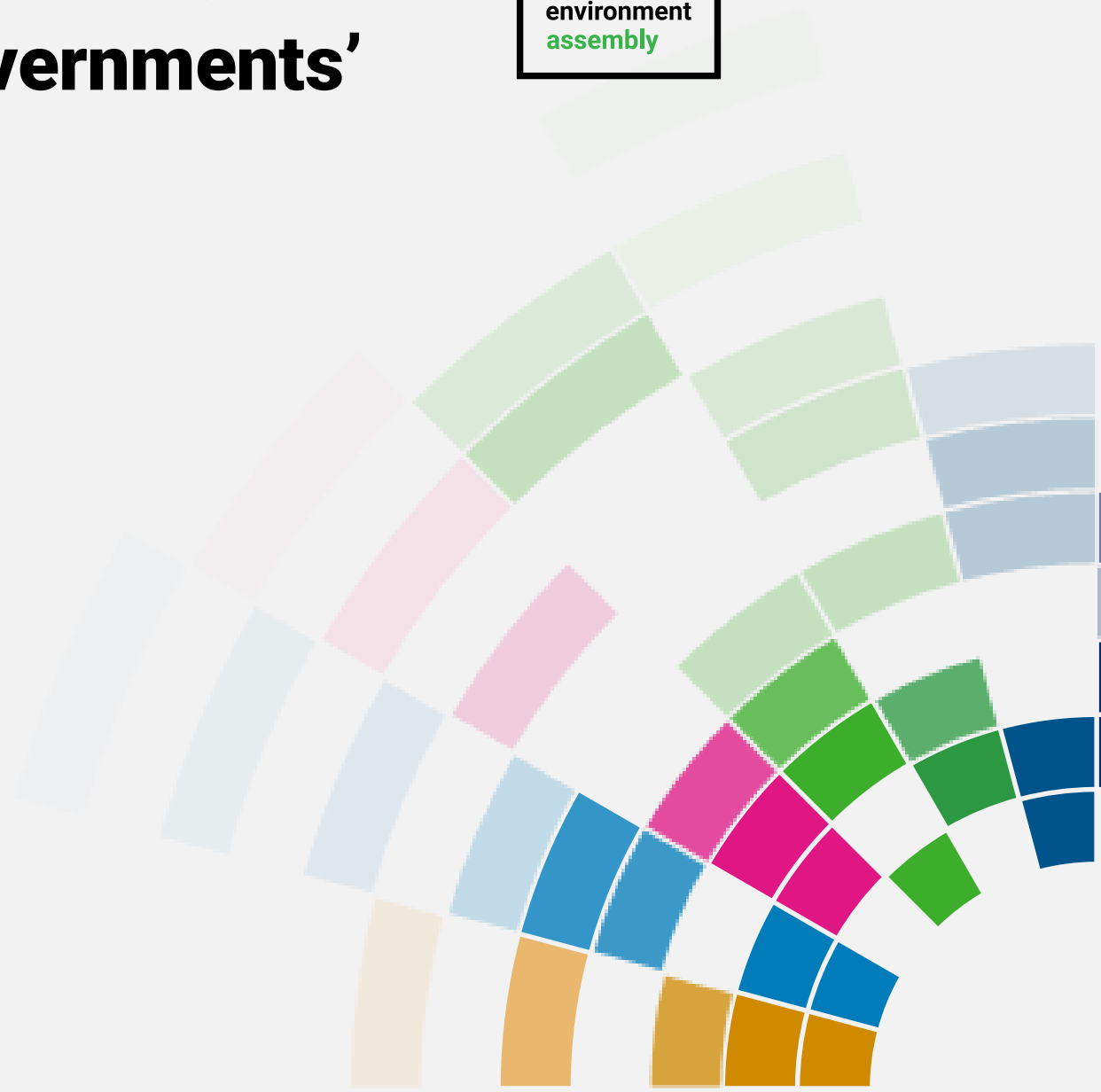


Intervention: How to Increase Ambition and Facilitate Subnational Governments' Contributions to Global Goals



Xiomara Acevedo Navarro

Director of Fundación Barranquilla+20; and
Representative of UNEP Major Group for Children
and Youth

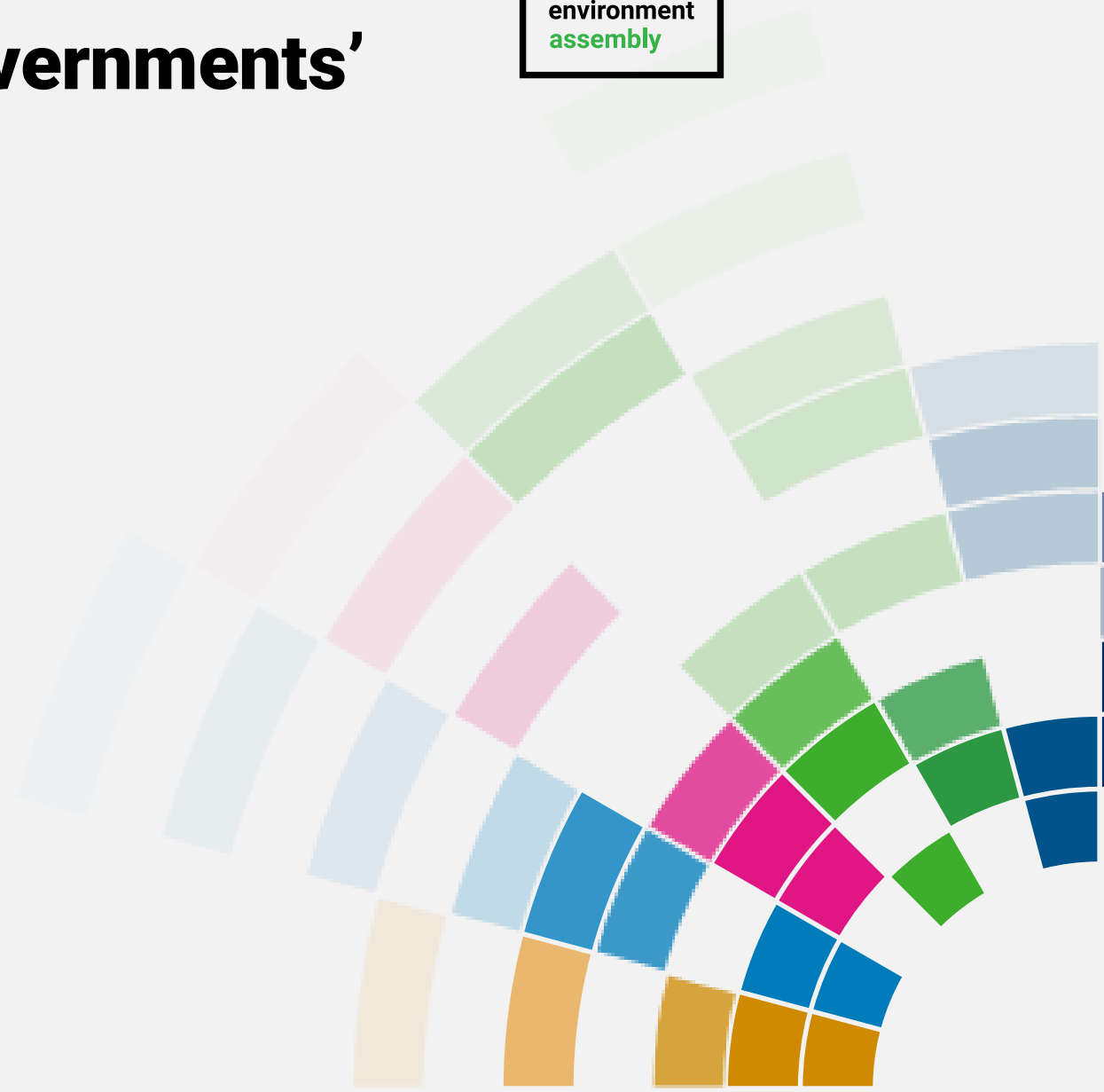


Intervention: How to Increase Ambition and Facilitate Subnational Governments' Contributions to Global Goals



Firdaous Oussidhoum

Special Adviser to the UCLG Secretary General,
United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

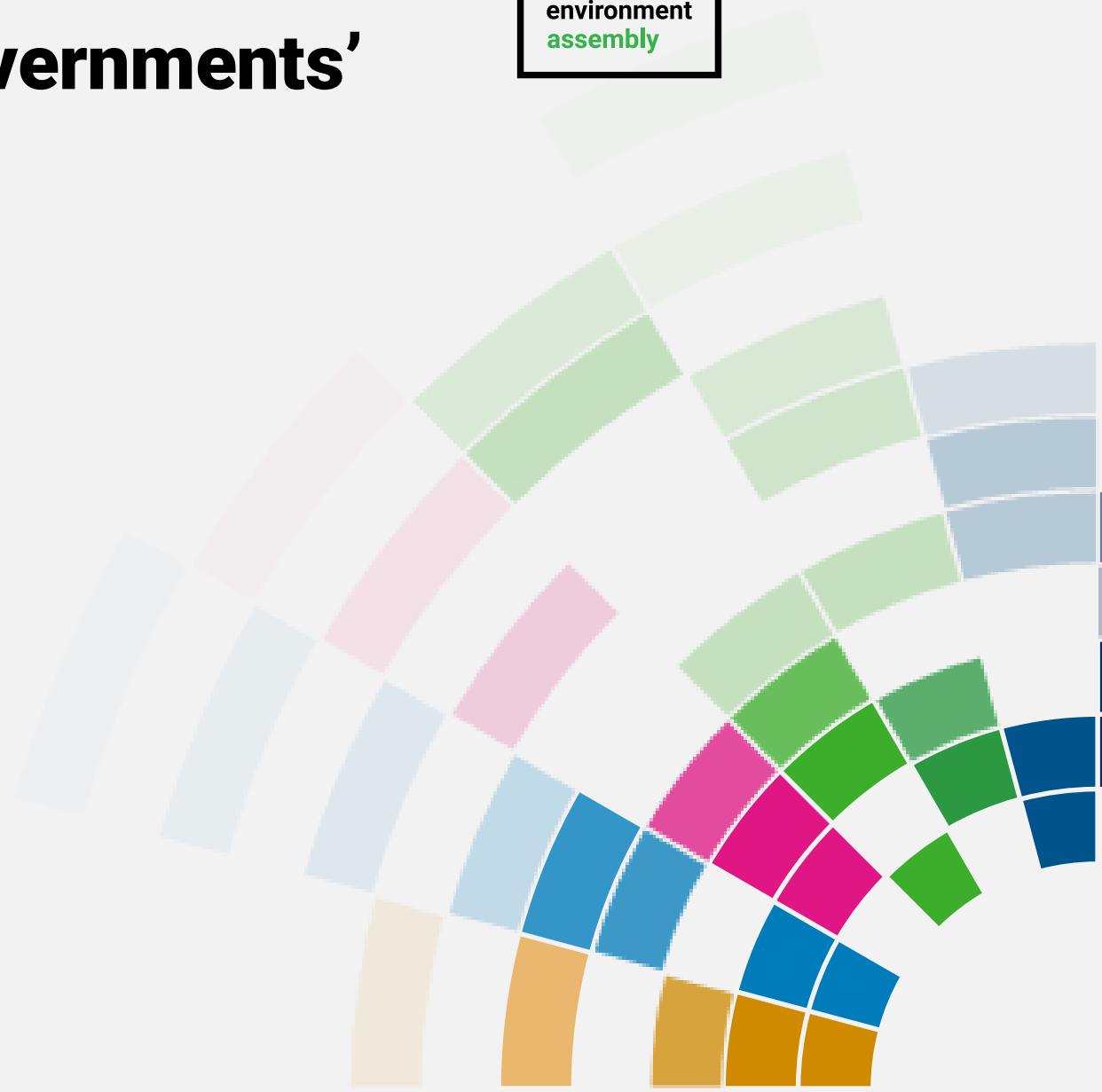


Intervention: How to Increase Ambition and Facilitate Subnational Governments' Contributions to Global Goals



Magash Naidoo

Head: Circular Development, ICLEI; and Co-chair of the Local Authorities Major Group

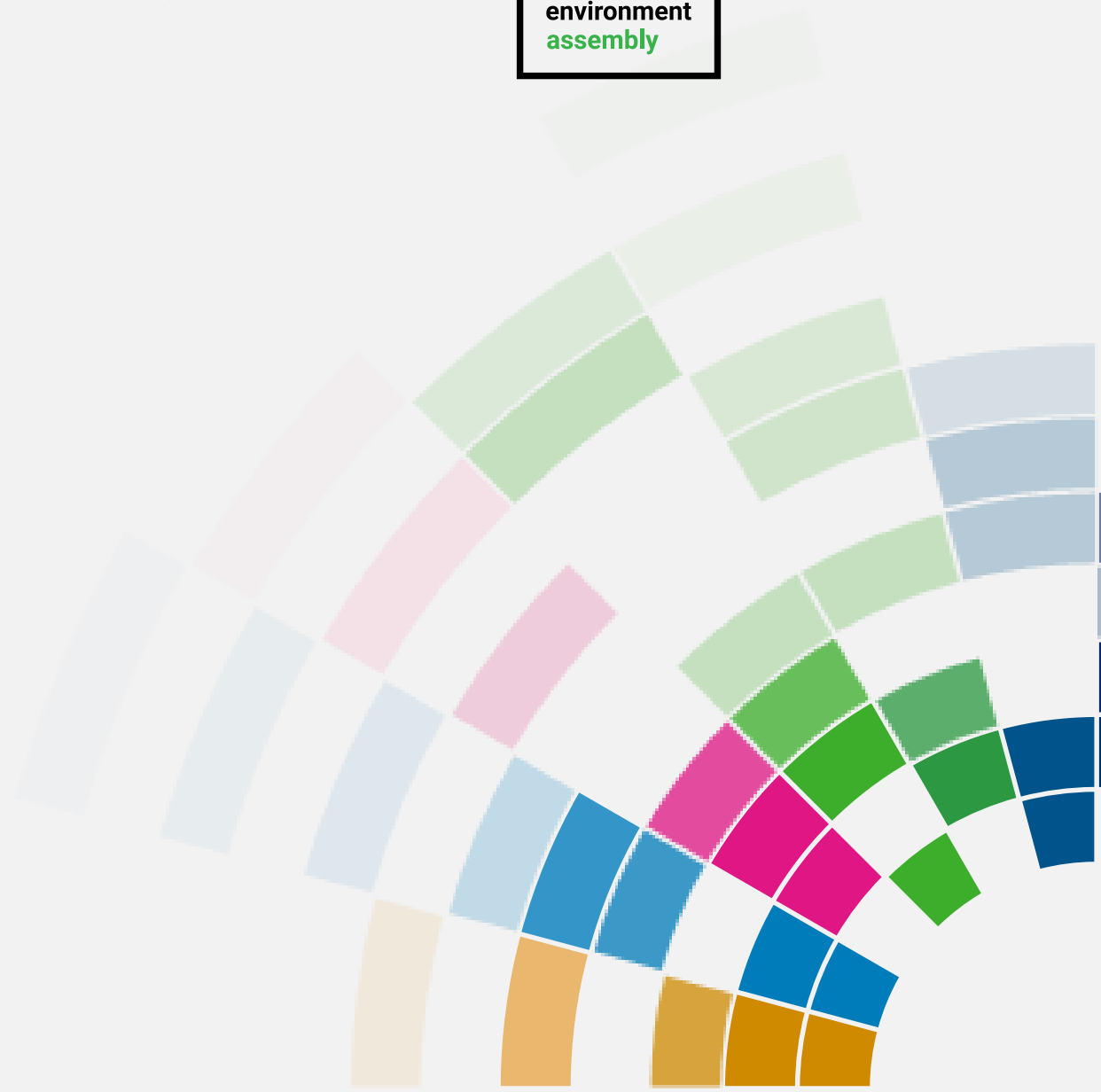


Closing Intervention of the Summit Rapporteur



Josefina Belmonte

Mayor of Quezon City, Republic of the Philippines
UNEP Champion of the Earth 2023

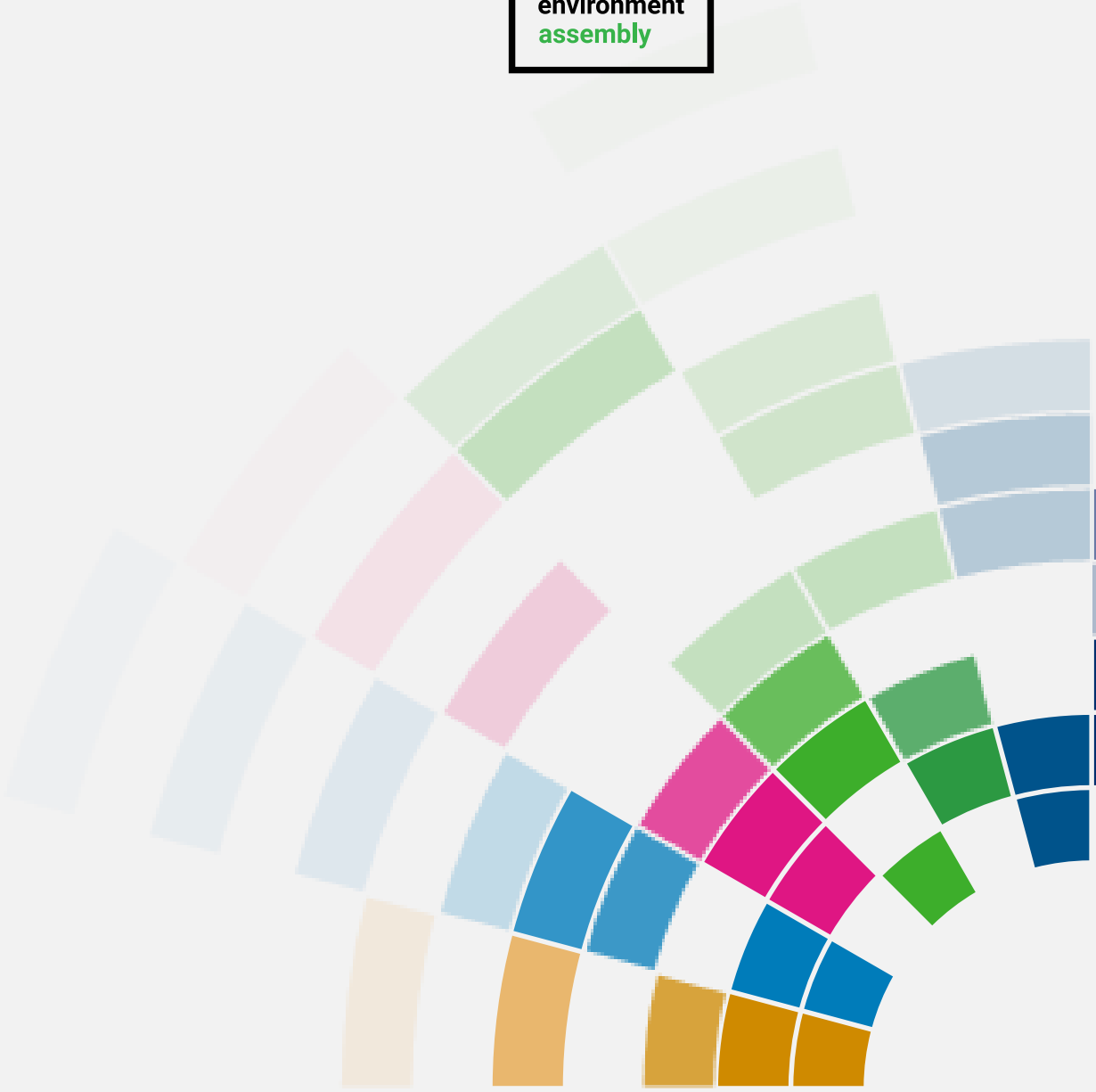


Closing Remarks



Dechen Tsering

Director a.i., Climate Change Division
UNEP





Thank you

for attending the UNEA-6 Cities and Regions Summit

unep.org/environmentassembly

United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
PO Box 30552 – 00100 GPO Nairobi, Kenya

