



## The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy Fact Sheet

- Name: Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy
  - Total number of cities committed: 7,100+
  - Total number of countries represented: 119
  - Total population represented: 600 million, or 8% of the global population
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- Six months after cities were crucial voices in shaping and advocating for a strong Paris Climate Agreement in December 2015, the world's cities are today ready to announce that they will work together to take bold climate action as part of a new first-of-its-kind, and now the world's largest, global coalition of cities leading in the fight against climate change.
  - The new coalition, **The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy**, formally brings together the Compact of Mayors and the Covenant of Mayors, the world's two primary initiatives of cities to assist cities and local governments in their transition to a low-carbon economy, and demonstrate their global impact.
  - Cities are significant in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. They represent major opportunities to reduce climate emissions and enhance climate resilience. Cities innovate faster, and are less hampered by politics than many nation states in their efforts to move towards clean energy and low carbon infrastructure. And cities do even better when they collaborate.
  - The creation of a single, global merged initiative to represent the impact of cities in this effort is a historic and powerful response by the world's urban leadership to the climate challenge. More and more cities across the globe are heeding the call to act from fellow local leaders, and their response could not be more urgent as nations begin the work of meeting the Paris climate goals.
  - **The joining of these two forces will create the broadest global coalition committed to climate leadership**, building on the commitment of 7,100+ cities from six continents and 119 countries representing more than 600 million residents, already participating in the EU Covenant of Mayors and the Compact of Mayors.
  - The merged initiative will provide a central platform that brings together relevant data on cities' energy and climate actions reported to the current EU Covenant platform and the platforms supporting the Compact of Mayors (CDP Cities and the Carbonn Climate Registry), allowing to compare cities' and regions' achievements to other cities and regions all around the world, and make them publicly available through a new Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy website, to be launched by January 2017.
  - Aligning efforts will allow for **greater collaboration** between cities across the world, bridging gaps and building connections, as well as increasing funding to support and empower cities in their actions.
  - The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy will allow for comparison between cities' and regions' achievements all around the world, as well as global aggregation of the impact of city actions.
  - This historic merger will **harness the convening powers and global resources behind** both organisations, as well as global city network partners, namely, C40, ICLEI, UCLG, and regional networks including Eurocities, Energy Cities and Climate Alliance.

- **The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy** is an international coalition of local and regional authorities with a shared long-term vision of promoting and supporting voluntary action to combat climate change and move to a low-carbon society, based on the following core principles:
  - **Local Governments are Key Contributors:** The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy works to organize and mobilize local, regional and state governments to be active contributors to a global climate solution.
  - **City Networks as Critical Partners:** Local and global city networks are core partners, serving as the primary support for participating cities or regions.
  - **A Robust Solution Agenda:** Focusing on those sectors where cities have the greatest impact, the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy supports ambitious, locally relevant solutions, captured through strategic action plans that are registered, implemented and monitored and publicly available.
  - **Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Fostering Local Climate Resilience:** The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy emphasizes the importance of climate mitigation and adaptation, as well as universal access to energy.
- **The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy** will continue to galvanize cities and local governments in setting more ambitious climate reduction goals, taking accelerated action to meet those objectives, and measuring their progress.
- **This single initiative will have a broader reach and impact on more cities around the world.** It will increase efforts to build even greater momentum for city-level climate action, and provide greater clarity for cities and ensure more consistent and comparable data – giving investors the ability to see that the actions cities have been taking are having lasting, verifiable, and most importantly, **investable** impact.

**Mission and Logistics of The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy**

- Cities participating in this initiative commit to targets that will eventually be more ambitious than those of their respective national government, as defined through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Climate Agreement. For those cities that have already made commitments through either the Covenant or the Compact, current commitments will be honored for a period of at least 2 years.
- The merged effort will establish a Board of Directors, co-Chaired by the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change Michael R. Bloomberg and European Commission Vice President Maroš Šefčovič. The remaining seats will be held by global mayors representing both the full reach of the world’s regions as well as global networks of cities. With the help of a global Secretariat, the board will set, approve and monitor strategic direction and priorities to coordinate and support the work of the cities across multiple regions, through regional “Covenants” or facilitate their setting up where these do not yet exist.
- The new initiative will include an advisory group of global financial institutions to ensure that cities are attractive for investors, as well as an advisory group of global and regional city networks. This group should ensure connectivity to international and local efforts, to connect technical assistance and engagement to the broader global context.
- On June 23, a transition will begin to manage all activities of this coalition under the guidance of the new Board, supported by a Global Secretariat. A “Founders’ Council,” including representatives from global city networks and the European Commission will provide recommendations on strategic and technical issues for the Board. The new initiative will go “live” by January 1, 2017. The months leading up to January 1 will be used to engage in a dialogue with cities and their networks.

**ABOUT THE COMPACT OF MAYORS:**

- Launched in 2014 at the Secretary-General’s Climate Summit by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Michael R. Bloomberg, UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, and activated under the leadership of the global city networks – C40 (led by Mayor Paes of Rio), ICLEI (led by Mayor Park of Seoul) and UCLG (led by Mayors Topbas of Istanbul and Hidalgo of Paris), [the Compact of Mayors](#) now has commitments from more than 512 cities from 6 continents and 94 countries representing over 433 million people or 5.98% of the global population.

**ABOUT THE COVENANT OF MAYORS:**

- Created by the European Commission in 2008 after the adoption of the 2020 EU Climate and Energy Package, [the EU Covenant of Mayors](#) puts cities and regions at the forefront of climate action representing more than 6,800 cities in 57 countries. Signatories pledge to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 40% by 2030, to adopt an integrated approach to tackling mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and to tackle energy access.