Cities around the world are already acting—many in very significant ways—to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change, but their progress too often goes unrecognized and is not measured or reported consistently. Sharing the impact of these current efforts and catalyzing new action is imperative, in part because a new climate change agreement will soon be negotiated in Paris.

In Paris in December 2015, the United Nations will hold its 21st annual Conference of the Parties (COP 21), with the aim of achieving a universal agreement on climate among nation states.

Real momentum can occur only when nations and cities collaborate.

Cities have an enormous opportunity to make even more of an impact. The potential impact of cities taking climate action in three sectors alone—buildings, transportation and waste—would make an impact greater than the total emissions of the United States and the 28 member states of the European Union combined.
The Compact of Mayors is a global coalition of mayors and city officials committing to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, enhance resilience to climate change and track their progress publicly. It is an agreement by city networks – and then by their members – to fight climate change in a consistent and complimentary manner to national efforts.

- The Compact collects the significant climate action data that cities are already reporting in a consistent, transparent manner and makes that data available in a single place.
- The Compact builds on existing cooperative efforts, partnering with other initiatives to better measure and communicate the impact of city action.
- The Compact represents the greatest opportunity to bring attention to, and quantify, city action, both in the lead-up to Paris and beyond.
The Compact of Mayors was launched at the 2014 United Nations Climate Summit. It was formed by:

- UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
- Michael R. Bloomberg, U.N. Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change
- ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI)
- C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40)
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The Compact of Mayors was formally signed into action in September 2014 with a statement that read in part:

“The Compact of Mayors is an agreement by city networks—and then by their members—to undertake a transparent and supportive approach to reduce city-level emissions, to reduce vulnerability and to enhance resilience to climate change, in a consistent and complimentary manner to national level climate protection efforts. The Compact of Mayors builds on the ongoing efforts of Mayors that increasingly set ambitious, voluntary city climate commitments or targets for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and to address climate risk; report on progress towards achieving those targets by meeting robust, rigorous and consistent reporting standards (as established through City Networks); and make that information publically available by reporting through a recognized city platform.”
WHY COMMIT TO THE COMPACT OF MAYORS?

Compact of Mayors benefits:

- New and widespread recognition of innovative and impactful city action already underway for years
- Platform to demonstrate commitment to be part of the global solution
- Consistent, standardized and reliable assessment of city impact and progress toward meeting commitments
- Evidence of the greenhouse gas impact of city action
- Increased investor confidence and capital flows into cities
- Mechanism for national governments to recognize and resource local commitments
The Compact of Mayors recognizes many existing initiatives to gather the impact of efforts already underway. The following are just a few of the major climate initiatives that complement and are in alignment with the Compact of Mayors’ requirements:

**THE MEXICO CITY PACT**

**DURBAN ADAPTATION CHARTER (SOUTH AFRICA)**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE ROADMAP**

**MAYORS NATIONAL CLIMATE ACTION AGENDA (U.S.)**
WHAT MAKES THE COMPACT OF MAYORS UNIQUE?

BUILD ON INITIATIVES FOR GREATER IMPACT AND RECOGNITION: The Compact is the broadest coalition to unite cities, networks and other global partners with a common aim—to support more climate action in cities, and share the impact of city action with the international community.

STANDARIZES MEASUREMENT AND REPORTING: For the first time, the Compact will standardize the way city climate data is reported, establishing a universal approach to data collection. The data can be aggregated to highlight the collective impact of city actions, which will increase global and investor confidence.

MAKES DATA AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC: Cities primarily report their climate data/actions through two major platforms—CDP (www.cdp.net) and carbonn Climate Registry (carbonn.org)—both of which are partners to the Compact. The Compact will make this data centrally and publicly available through the carbonn Climate Registry to highlight commitments and allow for easy searchability.
Measurement, planning and reporting are critical to achieving climate goals, and Bloomberg’s guiding maxim underscores the mission of the Compact of Mayors. With the use of consistent, transparent measurements, the Compact aims to get cities around the world on a common platform so that the impact of their collective actions on greenhouse gas emissions can be accurately captured.
Any city or town in the world may commit to the Compact of Mayors—regardless of size or location. A city has up to three years to meet a series of requirements and fully comply, culminating in the creation of a full climate action and adaptation plan, and it will be recognized as each step is met. Many cities have already completed some of the activities and can be compliant in fewer than three years.

To commit to the Compact, a city must:

**REGISTER COMMITMENT.**
A mayor may register on either of the Compact’s standard reporting platforms—carbonn Climate Registry or CDP—or email a letter of intent to info@compactofmayors.org. Following its submission, a city will be contacted by the Compact support team.

**TAKE INVENTORY.**
Within one year, a mayor must assess the current impacts of climate change in his/her city. To do so, the city must 1) Build and complete a community-wide GHG inventory with a breakdown of emissions for buildings and transport sectors, using the GPC standard; (2) Identify climate hazards; and (3) Report on both via the CDP or carbonn Climate Registry questionnaires.

**CREATE REDUCTION TARGETS AND ESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF MEASUREMENT.**
Within two years, the registered city must update its GHG inventory to also include a breakdown of emissions from waste sector, set a target to reduce its GHG emissions; conduct a climate change vulnerability assessment consistent with Compact guidance; and report in its chosen platform.

**ESTABLISH AN ACTION PLAN.**
Within three years, a city’s strategic action plan must show how it will deliver on its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.
To join the Compact, a city leader must engage in the following four phases over a 3 year period. Each phase has a 2 step process: Mitigation and Adaptation.

**Phase 1: Establish An Action Plan**
Within three years, a city’s strategic action plan must show how it will deliver on its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.

**Phase 2**

**Phase 3**

**Phase 4**

**Compliant**

Upon registering its commitment to the Compact of Mayors, a city will receive an official “Committed” badge.

Upon completing all requirements, a city will receive a “Compliant” badge. A new “Compliant” badge will be issued each year that compliance is maintained through annual reporting.

These badges may be publicly displayed online and in print materials.
A city may register at carbonn Climate Registry or CDP or email a letter of intent to join to info@compactofmayors.org. (A template letter is available for download on www.compactofmayors.org.)

REGISTER COMMITMENT.

MITIGATION

• Cities commit to:
  > Reduce local GHG emissions.
  > Measure community emissions inventory using the GPC – a consistent and robust standard.
  > Set data-based targets for the future.
  > Develop climate action plans to deliver on city targets.

ADAPTATION

• Cities commit to:
  > Address the impacts of climate change.
  > Identify climate hazards.
  > Assess vulnerabilities.
  > Develop climate adaptation plans.
TAKE INVENTORY.

**MITIGATION**
- Build and complete a community-wide GHG inventory using the GPC Standard.
- Report via CDP or carbonn Climate Registry.

In year one, cities only need to report on emissions in two sectors: stationary energy and inboundary travel. In year two, they must report on all sectors.

**ADAPTATION**
- Identify climate hazards
- Report hazards via the CDP or carbonn Climate Registry questionnaires.
STEP 3 — TARGET

SET REDUCTION TARGETS.

MITIGATION
- Update GHG inventory to also include a breakdown of emissions from waste sector.
- Set GHG reduction target.
- Report in chosen platform.

ADAPTATION
- Assess climate change vulnerability utilizing Compact guidance.
- Report in chosen platform.
CREATE EITHER A JOINT OR INDIVIDUAL ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS CLIMATE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION.

**MITIGATION**
- Develop climate action plan demonstrating how city will deliver on its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Report in chosen platform.

**ADAPTATION**
- Develop a climate change adaptation plan demonstrating how the city will adjust to actual or expected climate change impacts.
- Report in chosen platform.

Once Step 4 has been completed, a city will have met all of the Compact of Mayors requirements and will be fully compliant. To maintain compliance, a city will report its progress on mitigation and adaptation annually.
HOW TO REPORT: REPORTING VIA CDP

1. Register your commitment.

2. Report your inventory and climate risk.


4. Upload your climate action plan.
1. Register your commitment.

2. Report your inventory and climate risk.


4. Upload your climate action plan.

Step 1: Go to www.carbonn.org

Step 2: Login or Register

Step 3: Tick box - intent to comply with Compact of Mayors, add date and upload commitment letter.
HOW DOES THE COMPACT OF MAYORS SHOWCASE CITY ACTION?

Once cities input their data into carbonn Climate Registry or CDP, data is:

- Consolidated in the Compact’s central database, the carbonn Climate Registry, accessible through...

- Aggregated to show the collective impact of all Compact commitments:
  - A summary number of GHG impact of all city commitments, globally
  - A summary number of population covered by city commitments, globally

- Shared with the UNFCCC NAZCA (The Non-state Actor Zone for Climate Action) website via the carbonn Climate Registry database as an input into the official UN climate negotiation process

A city profile: Including highlights around commitment status, key actions taken and a mayoral profile.

A searchable database: All city Compact data will be made available publicly through a consolidated database; every city will input the same data.
RESOURCES FOR CITIES

Tools for compliance

- Measurement and planning tools for cities at each step of process: GHG inventory, climate action planning, risk assessment framework and more

Technical support and training

- Materials and guidance documents covering GPC inventories, climate action planning, risk assessment, etc.

Direct support

- info@compactofmayors.org
Once a city commits to the Compact of Mayors, we will work with you to tell your story, including:

- A press release announcing participation
- Media relations
  - Statements
  - Commentary
  - Media interviews
  - Op-eds
- A letter to share with mayors in your network
- Social media templates
- A city profile on the Compact of Mayors website: www.compactofmayors.org
Michael R. Bloomberg is an entrepreneur and philanthropist who served three terms as mayor of New York City, from 2002 through 2013. In 2014, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Bloomberg to be Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, for which he is focusing on helping cities and countries set and achieve more ambitious goals for mitigating and adapting to climate change.

The C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, now in its 10th year, connects more than 75 of the world’s greatest cities, representing 500+ million people and one quarter of the global economy. Created and led by cities, C40 is focused on tackling climate change and driving urban action that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks, while increasing the health, wellbeing and economic opportunities of urban citizens. The current chair of the C40 is Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes; three-term Mayor of New York City Michael R. Bloomberg serves as president of the board.

Created in 2004, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) is the united voice and world advocate of local and regional self-government. Members of UCLG are present in 140 countries, and are organized into seven regional sections, a Forum of Regions, and a metropolitan section. UCLG’s membership includes over 1,000 cities and regions, as well as 155 local government associations.

ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability is a global association of over 1,000 cities, towns and metropolises committed to building a sustainable future. ICLEI has around 300 urban development professionals working in 17 secretariats and offices, supporting cities and regions to become sustainable, low-carbon, resilient, biodiverse, resource-efficient and productive, ecomobile, smart, and healthy and happy. More than 20% of the world’s urban population benefit from ICLEI’s work which is global in scope and impact, and yet very local in implementation.

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat, is the United Nations agency for sustainable urban development. It is mandated to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities while advocating adequate shelter for all.