



## Compact of Mayors

### *FAQ for Cities*

#### **“Compact of Mayors – the biggest collaboration to accelerate climate action”**

##### **What is the Compact of Mayors?**

The Compact of Mayors is the world’s largest cooperative effort among mayors and city officials to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, track progress and prepare for the impacts of climate change.

##### **Why Should I join the Compact of Mayors?**

Cities should join the Compact of Mayors to demonstrate and accelerate the collective impacts of local climate action. By showcasing your city’s climate action and commitments on a publicly accessible platform, the Compact of Mayors accelerates ambitious, transparent and credible climate action and positively contributes to the new international climate regime to be adopted by 2015.

##### **What will the Compact of Mayors do?**

The Compact of Mayors will drive more aggressive city climate actions and reaffirm existing targets while capturing the significance of these efforts through a consistent, transparent public reporting of cities’ climate data. The data collected through the Compact of Mayors will become the evidence base we need to quantify the greenhouse gas impact of city action with the aim of:

- Showing national governments the extent of action cities are already undertaking, so that it might be incorporated into national level strategies or further supported through more enabling policy environments and resourcing approaches;
- Encouraging increased capital flows into cities to support local action;
- Demonstrating the commitment of city governments to contribute positively towards more ambitious, transparent, and credible national climate targets by voluntarily agreeing to meet standards similar to those followed by national governments; and
- Establishing a consistent and transparent accountability framework that can be used by national governments, private investors or the public to ensure that we can be held responsible for our commitments.

##### **How do I sign on to the Compact of Mayors?**

The Compact of Mayors is not a signatory campaign. To join the Compact, your city must first become “Compact compliant” by undertaking the following steps:

###### Compact Compliance:

- Register “City Climate Commitments” (targets for GHG emissions reduction and commitment to adapt to climate change);

- Report annually on progress towards achieving GHG emissions reduction targets and assessing climate hazards, using standards established through City Networks; and
- Disclose this information publicly by reporting through a recognized city platform (carbonn Climate Registry or CDP Cities)

Intent of Compact Compliance:

- For cities not yet prepared to report a full inventory or hazard profile, Mayors may choose to indicate “Intent of Compact Compliance” by registering “City Climate Commitments,” and report on progress towards meeting those targets within 1 year.

**Where do I register and report my climate commitments and action?**

Under the Compact, the cities may continue to report through existing city climate reporting platforms, including CDP Cities and carbonn. The carbonn Climate Registry will serve as the designated central repository that will enable the compilation of data through existing national, regional, and global city reporting platforms - mitigating the need to report your city’s climate data more than once.

**What methodology will be used to standardize all Compact-related climate data?**

To ensure a consistent and transparent way to measure emissions which conforms with IPCC national guidelines, the Compact of Mayors will use the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories (GPC) -- the world’s most widely-endorsed GHG accounting and reporting standard for cities. For climate risks and adaptation data, a new framework is currently being developed.

**Are there resources available to my city if we wish to become “Compact compliant” but need local training or technical assistance to do so?**

C40, ICLEI and UCLG are currently working to identify resources to support those cities that wish to become compliant with the Compact of Mayors, but need technical assistance and/or increased local capacity to do so. Please contact us with your interest.

**Does the Compact of Mayors address climate mitigation and adaptation?**

Yes, the Compact of Mayors asks cities to voluntarily track commitments or targets for both greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions and climate risks.

**Who developed the Compact of Mayors?**

The development of the Compact of Mayors was led by C40, ICLEI, and UCLG, in close collaboration with the UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, UN Habitat, and the UN Secretary General’s office. A number of cities and city organizations were consulted directly throughout this process.

**Where can I find more information about the Compact of Mayors?**

You can find out more by writing to us or visiting our websites. Our contact details are below:

- C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group : [www.c40.org](http://www.c40.org) / [contact@c40.org](mailto:contact@c40.org)
- ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability Bonn Center for Local Climate Action and Reporting – carbonn Center : [www.iclei.org](http://www.iclei.org) / [www.carbonn.org](http://www.carbonn.org) / [carbonn@iclei.org](mailto:carbonn@iclei.org)
- United Cities and Local Governments : [www.uclg.org](http://www.uclg.org) / [info@uclg.org](mailto:info@uclg.org)