



The Paris Climate Package: A Basic Guide for Local and Subnational Governments

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1 Introduction

The Paris Climate Package, including the Paris Agreement and its related decisions on implementation, opens a new era of universal, ambitious and inclusive action to tackle climate change and cope with its effects.

Through the Paris Agreement, national governments commit to advance on all aspects of climate change and will strive to limit global warming to well below two degrees Celsius (°C), with the intent to pursue a 1.5-degree target, supported by efforts toward climate neutrality by the middle of the 21st century.

At COP21, the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Parties reached a historic agreement to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon and resilient future. The Paris Agreement aims to strengthen the global response to climate change by keeping a global temperature rise well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees. This will be mainly achieved through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Local and subnational governments – and their communities – are inextricably linked to the causes and effects of climate change and are thus vital to the global response. At COP21 in Paris, local leaders demonstrated they are ready and willing to act, sending a clear message that climate action is not solely a task for nations.

The Paris Climate Package reflects this position by recognizing and committing to engage local and subnational governments in fast tracking transformative climate action. This paves the way for local leaders to raise global ambitions, accelerate action and leverage resources unlocked through the new climate regime. Using the Paris Climate Package as a guide, local leaders can shape and sustain the global transition toward low carbon and resilient development, slashing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing local resilience, adaptive capacity and climate impact emergency preparedness.

It is essential that all actors now use the Paris Climate Package as a compass for future action, yet its implications require further unpacking to understand what it means at the local and subnational levels.

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) has developed this guide for local and subnational governments to address four key questions:

1. **The road towards COP21:** *What processes led to the recognition and engagement of local and subnational governments in the Paris Climate Package?*
2. **Local and subnational governments at COP21 in Paris:** *How did local leaders engage in Paris?*
3. **Key outcomes of the 2015 Paris Climate Package:** *What does the Paris Climate Package mean for local and subnational governments?*
4. **Accompanying the implementation of the Paris Climate Package through integrated local transformation:** *What steps should local and subnational governments take to support implementation of the Paris Climate Package?*

2 The road towards COP21 – three key processes

The recognition accorded to local and subnational governments in the Paris Agreement did not happen overnight. It is the result of many years of consistent and determined advocacy by local leaders and their networks.

2.1 Local Government Climate Roadmap: bottom-up proposals and initiatives

Launched in 2007 at COP13, the Local Government Climate Roadmap¹ was an advocacy campaign designed to ensure local and subnational governments were recognized, engaged and empowered in a new global climate regime. The process was built upon experiences through the United States Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and the Covenant of Mayors in Europe, and was inspired by achievements under the Convention on Biodiversity and Rio+20 negotiations.

This process yielded a number of key products, including the Copenhagen World Catalogue of Local Climate Commitments, Mexico City Pact, Durban Adaptation Charter, Global Protocol for

Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories (GPC) and the carbonn® Climate Registry. Each of these demonstrates the strong commitment to climate action among cities and regions across the world.

Local governments have mobilized at the climate negotiations to highlight their commitments and dedication. Events hosted at the city halls of Mexico City, Durban, Nantes, Warsaw, Lima and Paris, in advance of and parallel to the annual COPs, generated key ideas and strategies from local and subnational governments that fed into the UNFCCC processes. This input was presented in several key COP fora that mobilized large contingents of local leaders, including the 2008 local government sessions in Poznań, the 2009 Local Government Climate Lounge in Copenhagen, the 2013 Cities Day in Warsaw and the 2015 Cities & Regions Pavilion in Paris.

The decisions related to local and subnational governments adopted at COP16 in 2010, COP19 in 2013 and COP21 in 2015 also marked concrete achievements in the recognition, engagement and empowerment of local and subnational governments.

¹ See <http://www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap> and Annex 1 for further information.

2010 - Launch of the Mexico City Pact



2011 - Launch of the Durban Adaptation Charter



2.2 ADP Process: dialogue with UNFCCC negotiators

At the 2011 COP in Durban, nations decided to begin the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, commonly known as ADP. This new process aimed to build a new climate regime to be adopted in 2015, reinstate the process that stalled at the 2009 COP in Copenhagen and mandate that nations focus on raising pre-2020 ambition. ICLEI welcomed the ADP decision as a sign that the time had come to engage local and subnational governments, which was in fact the case. ADP could, in effect, stand for **A**ccelerated **D**ialogue with **P**arties with respect to local and subnational governments.

ICLEI submitted, in February 2012, key suggestions to UNFCCC to drive the active engagement of local and subnational governments from the beginning of the ADP process. Between May 2012 and June 2015, a total of 46 speakers from 21 countries, equally balanced between the developed and developing world, participated at ADP events. This included 30 participants representing a city or a region, many of whom were political leaders.

Several concrete outcomes of the ADP process have benefited local and subnational governments, including the first workshop on local governments in 2013 in Warsaw, the Cities and Subnational Forum in June 2014 and the Technical Examination Process on Urban Environment in 2014 and 2015. Through these fora, examples of local action were shared with national governments, helping progress dialogue on options for climate action and cooperation among all levels of government – the latter of which is referred to as vertical integration.

2.3 2014 United Nations Climate Summit: an era of partnerships

The 2014 United Nations Climate Summit hosted by United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon led to a remarkable evolution in the concept of partnerships among all stakeholders. This was further strengthened by the positive mood spread by the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat Executive Secretary, Christiana Figueres, who strongly supported a partnership-driven approach.

The appointment of Michael R. Bloomberg as the United Nations Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, and the constructive spirit among global networks of local and subnational governments, opened up new opportunities. These resulted, for example, in new global initiatives such as the Compact of Mayors and Compact of States and Regions, which demonstrate and strengthen the collective impact of local and subnational climate action.

The launch of the Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) Platform by the UNFCCC at COP 20 in Lima provided additional visibility and recognition to the diversity of commitments and actions taken by stakeholders other than national governments.

Finally, the Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA) established an inclusive process that engages all actors in mobilizing short and long term action to support the climate regime. It played a catalytic role for the endorsement of national governments of long term action and became a core element of the new global climate regime.

2013 - Adoption of Nantes Declaration



2014 - Press Conference at the launch of the Compact of Mayors



3 Local and subnational governments at COP21 in Paris

The success achieved by local and subnational governments at COP21 stems first and foremost from the recognition and engagement accorded to them in the Paris Agreement. At the same

time, COP21 was a milestone in the level of active engagement by local and subnational government leaders, who maintained a strong presence in every important sphere of activity.

Overview of local and subnational governments at COP21

Core Events outside the Negotiation Zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Summit for Local Leaders on 4 December 2015 at Paris City Hall: over 600 leaders, 1,000 participants, declaration • Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 from 1-11 December 2015: 120 events, nearly 2,000 participants, over 200 local leaders and over 120 Transformative Actions Program (TAP) projects featured.
Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency in the Negotiation Zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily LGMA Briefings, consultations on key positions in the negotiations, position statements through the ADP as well as opening, high level and closing plenary presentations • More than 25 events in the official UNFCCC program as well as at the pavilions of nations and international organizations • UNFCCC-led events, including Subnationals Leading the Way and Momentum for Change: Urban Poor
Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliverables of 12 Thematic Sessions, including the 5-Year Vision of Cities and Regions, Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, E-Mobility Declaration • Local and subnational leaders at the High Level Action Day on 5 December
Other Strategic Events in Paris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate by UNESCO, launch of the Guiding Principles for City Climate Action Planning by UN-Habitat
Special Events and Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICLEI Declaration to Ministers at COP21, C40 Forum, UCLG Council, Compact-Covenant Collaboration, C40 Cities Awards, cities and regions contributing to global funds – e.g. City of Paris and Brussels Capital Region to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Quebec to the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and others, Paris Pledge for Action

3.1 Core events outside the negotiation zone of COP21

The Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 was the main stage for local climate action at COP21. Co-hosted by Paris and Bristol, as European Green Capital 2015, and facilitated by ICLEI, the two-week Pavilion placed local climate action on center stage, offering an open forum for cities and regions to showcase their climate actions to over 2,000 participants. Partnership was at the heart of this Pavilion, including city-business cooperation, local-national government coordination and many other dimensions of effective climate action around the world.

The Pavilion featured more than 120 local and regional projects from the Transformative Actions Program (TAP) – each with the potential to accelerate climate change mitigation and/or adaptation, and many of them in search of finance. With its vast pool of climate projects, the Pavilion conveyed an important constant: local and subnational governments hold tremendous potential to act quickly and concretely whether or not nations achieved an international agreement. The role of the TAP, which made its global debut at the Pavilion, was – and continues to – address ways to improve capital flows to cities and regions in order to make this potential a reality.

Paris itself was also a stage for local leaders to demonstrate their commitment to climate action.



Leaders of ICLEI Members in the United States with ICLEI President and Mayor of Seoul Park Won Soon at the Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 at COP21 in Paris

The Climate Summit for Local Leaders in Paris City Hall, hosted by Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, and Michael Bloomberg, the United Nations Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, convened the largest ever gathering of mayors, local leaders and governors focused on climate change. The historic event empowered local and subnational governments to set more ambitious targets, demonstrated the collective power of local action and helped ensure the voices of local leaders were reflected in the climate negotiations.

“The crisis of global climate change is a problem that not only nations but all the cities of the world must solve together.”

– Park Won Soon, Mayor of Seoul and President of ICLEI

3.2 LGMA Constituency in the negotiation zone of COP21

Through the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency, leaders from cities and regions around the world advocated an ambitious agreement that forges a path for engaging local and subnational governments. Throughout COP21, the LGMA, with ICLEI as its longstanding focal point, ensured local and subnational governments were informed, active and visible. The LGMA regularly briefed local leaders on the status of the negotiations and opened doors for them to deliver position statements to national delegates involved in the negotiations. In their remarks, local leaders sent a unified message to remind delegates that local and subnational governments are critical to successful implementation of the Paris outcome.

Throughout COP21, local leaders also took part in thematic events that substantiated the scale and relevance of local climate action. Local leaders spoke at pavilions hosted by the European Union, China, United States and Germany and were central to the flagship Compact of Mayors and Covenant of Mayors events. Through these latter two engagements, cities respectively showed how their commitments can deliver half of the global urban potential greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions available by 2020 and exceed the 2020 mitigation ambitions of the European Union.

3.3 Lima-Paris Action Agenda

The Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA), a joint undertaking between the Peruvian and French COP presidencies, the United Nations Secretariat General and United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, established an inclusive process to engage all actors in mobilizing short and long term action.

During COP21, the LPAA organized a series of thematic programs highlighting global initiatives and commitments across a number of distinct areas. At the LPAA Cities and Subnationals Day, cities and regions launched a 5-Year Vision and framework for immediate action, with the intent to reduce emissions, enhance adaptation, build resilience, scale up financing and reinforce partnerships among all levels of government.

The LPAA thematic events also resulted in the launch of a number of efforts that engage cities and other actors in concerted climate efforts, including the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, the Paris Declaration on Electromobility and Climate Change, and Call to Action.

The LPAA thematic programs culminated in the High Level Action Day on 5 December 2015, which engaged a number of local and subnational government representatives in the proceedings, honoring their role in supporting the climate regime.

4 Key outcomes of the 2015 Paris Climate Package

The voices of local and subnational governments have, in fact, been heard. The Paris Climate Package, which includes both the Paris Agreement and the COP21 decisions on implementation, explicitly recognizes and engages local and subnational governments in climate action – a significant success for cities and regions around the world. The Paris Agreement, signed by 177 national leaders in April 2016, will enter into force as soon as at least 55 Parties accounting for 55 percent of global emissions ratify the Agreement through national processes.

The preamble of the Paris Agreement recognizes the need for stronger engagement with Non-Party Stakeholders, promising to involve local and subnational governments in actions on capacity building, adaptation and loss-and-damage.

The COP21 decision, also part of the Paris Climate Package, establishes a framework for action that begins now. Non-Party Stakeholders are explicitly mentioned in many paragraphs of the text, which means nations have detailed various processes

that immediately advance their engagement with Non-Party Stakeholders. This includes, notably, a work plan for subnational capacity building that spans from 2016 to 2020.

National governments have also recognized cities and regions in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), approximately half of which encourage and foresee action at the local and subnational levels. This figure is promising for the role of cities and regions as nations work toward achieving their climate commitments.

The NDCs are central to the Paris Agreement, as they define post-ratification climate actions nations will take to achieve a low-carbon and resilient future.

2015 - Local and subnational leaders at COP21 High Level Action Day (l-r) Parks Tau, Mayor of Johannesburg, South Africa; Abdoulaye Sene, former President of the Fatick Region, Senegal and President, Global Local Forum; Park Won Soon, Mayor, Seoul Republic of Korea and President, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability; Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor of California, USA



5 Accompanying the implementation of the Paris Climate Package through integrated transformation

The Paris Climate Package engages all levels of government in pursuing the 1.5-degree Celsius goal, and it is vital that local leaders capitalize on the existing global momentum. The Paris Agreement will unlock resources that can help cities and regions meet and exceed their climate goals. Resulting locally-driven implementation process can and should be systematic, based on a series of actions that build a strong framework for action.

The elements of implementation are the same at the national and local level. Local policies define the level of ambition, while robust capacity building and strategic partnerships enable defined actions to progress quickly and with an eye for innovation. Importantly, consistent and transparent performance evaluation and reporting give greater legitimacy to climate commitments.

To support local and subnational governments advance at this critical stage, ICLEI is providing a suite of resources that guide and enhance local systems thinking and improvement.

5.1 Ambitious climate action – policymaking at the local level

The first step is for local and subnational governments to define their mitigation and adaptation commitments, as nations have done through the NDCs. By making similarly transparent and trackable commitments, local leaders effectively create a system of **Locally** Determined Contribution that demonstrate their contributions to the Paris Agreement and motivate other actors to increase their goals. Establishing a **Locally** Determined Contribution is also the entry point to joining the Compact of Mayors and/or the Covenant of Mayors – to explore a connection to the NDCs.

Through these coalitions, local leaders help increase capital flows into cities, towns and regions by demonstrating the collective impact of local climate action through consistent and transparent reporting. By joining the Compact and/or Covenant, local leaders also benefit from technical support, enhanced visibility and common monitoring and reporting frameworks that are consistent with global standards. ICLEI therefore strongly supports these two leading global coalitions.

The European Commission launched the Covenant of Mayors for European cities in 2008, after the adoption of the 2020 European Union Climate Energy Package. This was to endorse and support

the efforts deployed by local authorities in the implementation of sustainable energy policies. The Covenant of Mayors has since mobilized cities and towns to develop action plans and direct investments towards climate change mitigation measures, and in 2015 it expanded to include adaptation.

Subsequently, in September 2014, at the United Nations Climate Summit, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and his Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, Michael R. Bloomberg launched the Compact of Mayors, under the leadership of three global city networks – C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, ICLEI and the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) – with support from UN-Habitat. Since its inception, the Compact has enabled cities of all sizes around the world to publically commit to deep greenhouse gas emission reductions, release their targets and plans on mitigation and adaptation and report on their progress through a standardized measurement system that is compatible with international practices.

It is envisaged that these two mechanisms will be the core link between local commitments and NDC processes.

Your next step:

- Sign onto the Covenant of Mayors and/or the Compact of Mayors
- Create and register your emissions reductions targets to create a Locally Determined Contribution

Representative of cities and subnational governments interacting at the UNFCCC



5.2 Ambitious climate action – capacity building at the local level

Committing to a Locally Determined Contribution is an important initial step in a broader undertaking. Local and subnational governments must also identify, access and develop the necessary resources to achieve their stated goals. This process is particularly effective when guided by a comprehensive framework that informs the full cycle of planning and implementation and links to resources that facilitate each step toward low-carbon and resilient development.

ICLEI developed a practical method and a series of tools that serve this exact purpose, thus enabling ICLEI Members to build their capacity and enhance local systems.

GreenClimateCities program: The GCC program combines a flexible process methodology, associated tools and guidance as well as multidisciplinary expertise and peer exchanges to build capacity among local and subnational governments.

The GCC methodology is a key component of the overall GCC program. It enables local and subnational governments to define, adopt and embed a low-carbon or resilient development pathway regardless of how advanced they are in the process. It builds a cyclical approach to developing and continuously improving local systems, following a common three-phase process with nine associated steps:



Originally developed to focus on low emission development, ICLEI has expanded the GCC methodology to incorporate specific considerations for climate resilience. The methodology maintains the common phases and steps depicted above, with differentiated sub-steps that help lower emissions or enhance resilience.

The GCC methodology is a key connector between ICLEI's Low Carbon and Resilient City Agendas, the main entry points through which local leaders can work with ICLEI to strategize and implement their local climate commitments, addressing integrated climate action.

ICLEI Low Carbon City Agenda: This Agenda aims to achieve carbon neutrality, resilience and energy security in cities, towns and regions, which consequently stimulates an active green economy and supports stable green infrastructure. Through this Agenda, ICLEI works with local leaders to conform to global standards, report to national and global platforms, continuously improve performance and scale up their efforts. To this end, the ICLEI Low Carbon Agenda capacitates local and subnational governments through a combination of targeted capacity building services, resources and tools, technical and financial solutions, networking and advocacy.

ICLEI has actively utilized and enhanced these assets in the **Urban-LEDS** project, jointly implemented with UN-Habitat, supported by the European Union. Urban-LEDS, the flagship project under the Low Carbon City Agenda, supported the conceptualization of s Urban Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) in emerging economy countries, with support from European cities. The project has offered the GCC methodology to local governments in these countries, enabling them to integrate low carbon strategies into all sectors of urban planning and development.

The myriad tools and services available through the Low Carbon City Agenda complement the flagship Urban-LEDS project. Local and subnational governments can adhere to global standards by following the **GPC - the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories**, report climate actions to the **carbonn Climate Registry**, improve their performance across all sectors by accessing the **Solutions Gateway** and draw on a suite of other ICLEI assets that facilitate their goals.

ICLEI Resilient City Agenda: The Resilient Cities Agenda takes holistic, integrated approach to resilience that extends beyond climate adaptation. Through the ICLEI Resilient Cities Agenda, local and subnational governments build their capacity to assess risks and define resilience measures, which allows them to absorb and recover from any shock or stress while maintaining essential functions, structures and identity. To support local leaders in embedding appropriate strategies into local plans and processes, ICLEI provides networking



2013 - Ministerial-Mayoral session on Mitigation at COP Presidency Cities and Subnational Dialogue of COP19 Cities Day

and learning opportunities, tools, guidebooks and advocacy.

The Resilient Cities Agenda hosts the **Resilient Cities congress series**, the global platform on urban resilience and climate change adaptation. It is an essential point for the exchange of challenges, knowledge, innovation and good practices in creating more resilient cities. Each year, local leaders join a diversity of actors in Bonn, Germany and the Asia-Pacific to take stock on state of urban resilience.

Through the ICLEI Resilient City Agenda cities also have the opportunity to strengthen adaptation strategies through the policy-relevant evidence of climate impacts from **RAMSES**, systematize resilience in government operations using the **Pacific Islands Climate Resilience Toolkit**,

assess climate risks through the **ICLEI Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network Process** and draw on a broader range of programs, projects and tools that advance their resilience commitments. **The carbonn Climate Registry** also supports reporting of climate change adaptation and resilience progress by local and subnational governments.

Your next step:

- Sign up for a low-carbon or resilient development program offered by ICLEI for your region.
- Join ICLEI at the Resilient Cities congress series in Bonn, Germany or the Asia-Pacific.

ICLEI leaders committing to the Compact of Mayors at the ICLEI World Congress 2015 in Seoul, Republic of Korea



5.3 Accelerated climate action – city-business partnerships

To strengthen local climate action, local and subnational governments can and should seek implementation partners with complementary knowledge and resources. Collaborating with the business sector from the point of concept to delivery opens the door for technological solutions and private sector innovations to directly support strategic goals.

ICLEI fully recognizes the value in strengthening city-business relationships and provides several avenues to establish and nourish these connections for the benefit of sustainable urban development in the ICLEI network.

A survey of 59 cities in Asia, Europe and the Americas, carried out by ICLEI and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) revealed that more than three quarters of the respondents indicated that the business sector plays an important role in the sustainability process but that more work is needed to improve city-business engagement.

facilitation of city-business contacts and dialogue. Through CiBiX, ICLEI also hosts City-Business Workshops that provide a neutral platform for convening local governments and the private sector to identify context-specific solutions.

Metropolitan Solutions: For four consecutive years, ICLEI has brought local governments to Metropolitan Solutions to engage with private companies and solutions providers. Metropolitan Solutions 2016 is the platform through which ICLEI is hosting the first edition of its signature Smart CITIES 2.0 conference, which shifts the Smart Cities debate to focus on cities sustainability goals and needs rather than on supply-driven technology discussions. This is an important conversation for cities, as it will help them navigate the increasingly complex market of businesses offering smart solutions for low-carbon and resilient development.

Your next step:

- Connect with businesses through CiBiX. Contact city-business@iclei.org for more information.
- Attend the ICLEI Smart CITIES 2.0 conference. Contact smart.cities@iclei.org for more information.

CiBiX – The City-Business Collaboration

Accelerator: Reflecting the high demand from cities to collaborate with private sector partners, ICLEI has developed CiBiX to accelerate city-business collaboration for sustainable urban development. ICLEI acts as a bridging entity by providing matchmaking services and neutral

ICLEI at Metropolitan Solutions 2015 in Berlin, Germany



5.4 Accelerated climate action – climate finance

While city-business partnerships stimulate the innovative potential of climate action, climate finance is the linchpin to rapid and successful implementation. The Paris Agreement will unlock at least USD 100 billion per year to support implementation of national commitments, and it is essential that local and subnational governments access a substantial portion of this funding.

ICLEI insists on the development of new direct financing mechanisms that benefit of local and subnational governments by making funding more readily accessible, and has launched an innovative new program that directly supports this goal.

The ICLEI Declaration to the Ministers at COP21 called for national ministers to earmark at least USD 35 billion for adaptation via grant-based provisions for developing countries.

Transformative Actions Program: In 2015, ICLEI launched the TAP² in an effort to improve capital flows to local and subnational governments around the world. The TAP does so by contributing to the development of new financing mechanisms, helping to eliminate hurdles in access to climate finance and connecting cities, towns and regions with financing partners.

Each year, ICLEI invites local and subnational governments from around the world to submit their transformative climate actions. By participating in the TAP, cities showcase their projects through the TAP Platform, an online matchmaking resource for financiers and local

² See <http://www.tap-potential.org>.

³ See <http://www.citiesclimatefinance.org/>.

climate projects, as well as at the annual COP, which attracts national delegates, international donors and financing agencies from the public and private sector. Each year, an expert panel selects up to 100 of the most ambitious, crosscutting and inclusive projects to be presented at the climate negotiations.

The TAP was developed in synergy with members of the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA)³ – an initiative launched at the 2014 Climate Summit hosted by the United Nations Secretary General. The CCFLA is a coalition of over 40 members that have joined forces aim to catalyze and accelerate additional capital flows to cities, maximize investment in climate smart infrastructure and close the investment gap in urban areas over the next fifteen years.

During its first year, the TAP received more than 120 projects, submitted by 89 cities, towns and regions from 42 countries across the Global South and North. This response demonstrates the significant potential for local climate action as well as the need for substantial financial resources. A recent analysis by ICLEI showed that implementing the more than 120 TAP projects alone would require a total investment of at least USD 9 billion.

Your next step:

- Submit a project to TAP2016.

A TAP time session about to begin at the Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 at COP21 in Paris



5.5 Transparent climate action – performance evaluation and reporting

The Paris Agreement underscores the importance of measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) as a transparent and comparable mechanism that tracks the extent to which nations are meeting their respective obligations. MRV is equally important for local and subnational governments. Through regular, standardized reporting that is consistent with standards established by the global climate regime, cities can demonstrate the scale and impact of their efforts, leveraging this information to gain direct access to global climate funds. ICLEI therefore developed the carbonn Climate Registry as an accessible reporting platform for local and subnational governments.

carbonn Climate Registry: The cCR⁴ is a global online reporting platform that enables local and subnational governments to voluntarily, publicly and regularly report mitigation and adaptation commitments, emissions inventories as well as climate mitigation and adaptation actions in a manner that is consistent with global standards.

By reporting to the cCR, local and subnational governments indirectly advocate on their own behalf, as reported results are used as an advocacy tool in the climate negotiations. Most recently, ICLEI presented and distributed the five-year cCR

⁴ See <http://www.carbonn.org>.

overview report at COP21 to show that the more than 600 jurisdictions from 62 countries reporting to the cCR have committed to one gigaton of CO₂ equivalent emissions reductions by 2020.

The cCR is the official reporting platform of 15 initiatives, including the Compact of Mayors. It was the first data provider of local climate action data for NAZCA. This means that by reporting to the registry, local and subnational governments are directly feeding information into influential coalitions and systems that demonstrate the collective impact of local climate action.

Your next step:

- Report your climate actions on the carbonn Climate Registry.

5.6 Local action overview

The steps outlined above are essential steps that enable local and subnational governments to support the implementation of the Paris Climate Package. There are, nonetheless, additional actions cities can and should take in order to strengthen climate action while enhancing their overall sustainability. The following table provides a snapshot of actions linked to a number of climate-related action areas, designed to guide cities and regions in pursuing integrated action.

The Cities & Regions Pavilion – TAP2015 at COP21 in Paris



6 Outlook

Local and subnational governments came to Paris to show their commitment to climate action, and are now well-positioned to fast track implementation by taking immediate action. There are more than enough reasons to carry out that promise, including a host of local benefits.

There is also an abundance of resources available

that cities can leverage to advance on their commitments. While doing so, it is vital that they engage in efforts to enhance the visibility of their contributions. Through public commitments and transparent progress reporting, cities can prove they are advancing the goals of the Paris Agreement and direct attention to where additional resources are needed most.

Annex 1

From Bali 2007 to Paris 2015: advocacy achievements of local and subnational governments

Recognize	1	Local and subnational governments as “governmental stakeholders” – paragraph 7 of 1 Dec / CP16 in Cancun in 2010
	2	Role of cities and subnational authorities in raising pre2020 ambition –paragraph 5b of 1 Dec / CP19 in Warsaw in 2013
	3	Engaging with all levels of governments, as well as local, subnational and community level in capacity building, adaptation and loss and damage – Paris Agreement preamble paragraphs 15, 7.2, 11.2, 8.4.h + COP21 Decision on Non-Party Stakeholders
Engage	4	Ministerial-Mayoral Dialogues – COP16-2010-Cancun, COP19-2013-Warsaw and High Level Action Days – COP20-2014-Lima, COP21-2015-Paris
	5	ADP Workstream-2 Technical Examination Process on Urban Environment and Cities and Subnational Forum
	6	Compact of Mayors, Compact of States and Regions, Covenant of Mayors, Under2MoU etc.
	7	Increased number of organizations of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency (LGMA) and Special UNFCCC badges for their political leaders
	8	Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA) Declarations including 5-Year Vision and NAZCA Platform, including the carbonn Climate Registry as the first data partner
	9	Friends of Cities at the UNFCCC, increased number of local and subnational leaders in the national delegations of both Annex-I and Non-Annex-I Parties
	10	Workplan of Paris Committee on Capacity Building – paragraph 73 d / g of 1 Dec / CP21
	11	~ 50% of submitted INDCs in 2015 have a focus on action at local and subnational level
	12	Cities and regions contributing to global funds – City of Paris and Brussels Capital Region to GCF, Quebec to GEF-LDCF and others
Empower	13	New resources such as the GEF Integrated Action Programme on Sustainable Cities, Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA), Climate-KIC LoCaL program, UN Subnational Climate Action Hub
	14	Launch of the Transformative Actions Program (TAP)
	15	2030 SD Agenda; Sendai-Disaster, Addis Ababa-Finance, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including Goal 11



Family photo at the Climate Summit for Local Leaders in Paris City Hall in 2015