

**SUBMISSION OF
ICLEI-LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY
ON OPTIONS AND WAYS FOR FURTHER INCREASING LEVEL OF
AMBITION FCCC/CP/2011/L.10, para.8**

28.02.2012

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability welcomes the decision of COP17 to establish an Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action and is pleased to present the below submission on options and ways for further increasing level of ambition pursuant to FCCC/CP/2011/L.19, para.8

- I. Role of Cities in Global Climate Mitigation
- II. Essential Priority: Urbanizing the climate agenda
- III. carbonn Cities Climate Registry: Local Response to Measurable, Reportable, Verifiable Global Climate Action
- IV. Ways for further increasing level of ambitions
- V. About ICLEI

Annexes (separate document)

Annex-I: Global Cities Covenant on Climate – the Mexico City Pact

Annex-II: 2011 Annual Report of carbonn Cities Climate Registry

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I. Role of Cities in Global Climate Mitigation

The importance of cities in climate policy stems from the simple reality that they house more than half of global population, two-thirds of world energy use and over 70% of global energy use emissions. In the next 40 years, human civilization is expected to build the same level of urban capacity that has been built over the last 4000 years.

Cities' pivotal role is underlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) scoping exercise for the Fifth Assessment Report, which identifies energy generation from fossil fuels for (residential and non-residential) buildings, vehicle use and industry as the main sources of direct emissions from cities. Main sources of indirect emissions come from the generation of electricity for different purposes. These direct and indirect sources of emissions interact with urban density, urban form and the use of transport, but also with urbanization through land-use changes (e.g. deforestation), industrial processes (e.g. cement construction), and waste production along consumption patterns and lifestyles. The resulting infrastructure assets (buildings, roads, energy and water networks) have very long life times and subsequently inform future lock-in (e.g. urban sprawl), despite ongoing technical optimization and changes in lifestyle. Cities and metropolitan regions have a tremendous potential in reducing or stabilizing greenhouse gas emissions, especially in rapidly growing and urbanizing countries, where the infrastructure and returns of the future are defined today.

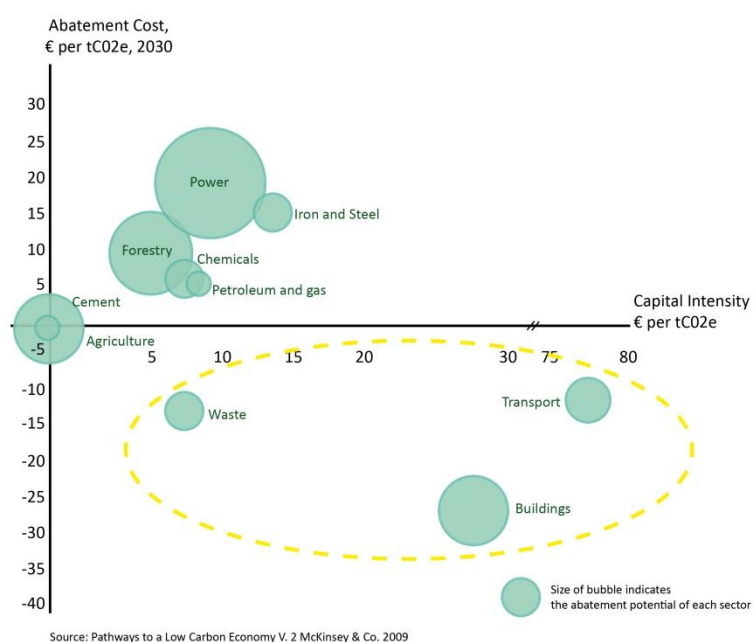


Fig.1 Pathways to Low Carbon Society, McKinsey , 2009

Our choices today in the way we design and construct urban centers will define whether cities will be a part of the problem or the solution of our climate challenges. Global goals on climate change will simply rely on the success of implementing low-carbon, climate-resilient, sustainable urban development patterns in both developed and developing countries.

II. Essential Priority: Urbanizing the climate agenda

Through a brief overview of the evolution of global climate action in the past two decades, it can be observed that the international climate regime has primarily focused on efforts of the national governments in the first phase, which is followed by an emphasis on project or corporate action through greater use of market mechanisms.

However, the full potential of local and subnational action on climate mitigation has not been appropriately exploited in the first 20 years of international climate regime, simply due to the fact that neither the UNFCCC nor its Kyoto Protocol contain any vision for action at this level of government.

Throughout this time, local governments have responded to this reality by developing bottom-up and voluntary actions at the local, national, regional and global level. ICLEI's worldwide Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and Local Government Climate Roadmap can be considered as among milestones of this period. (Fig.2).

It must be acknowledged that the outcomes of COP17/CMP7 in Durban, S. Africa have been adopted at a time when the global economy and world population is going through substantial challenges and changes on many fronts.

The ICLEI press release dated 12 December 2011 assessed Durban outcomes as *"important to save our today, but too little and possibly too late to save our tomorrow."* There is indeed a dangerous gap between now and 2020 which is the most critical period to ensure a global transition to low-emission, climate-resilient development. Thus, it is now urgent and more necessary than ever to mobilize and support the ambitious climate actions of local governments who have been zooming past nations.

It is possible to observe significant and positive progress in many parts of the world in this regard as well. The Covenant of Mayors in Europe, pilot programs for low carbon urban development and provincial emissions trading schemes in China and S. Korea are important models of initiatives taken up by national or regional governments. Such approaches have the potential to support, replicate and scale-up innovative efforts of local and subnational governments such as Tokyo's Cap and Trade Program as the world's first emission trading scheme at the local level or regional initiatives in US, Canada and Brazil.

ICLEI encourages the global climate community to seize, this time, the opportunity to build upon the power, potential and ambitions of local climate action. Para.7 of the Cancun Outcomes where local and subnational governments are recognized as governmental stakeholders provides an opportunity for enhancing engagement of local governments.

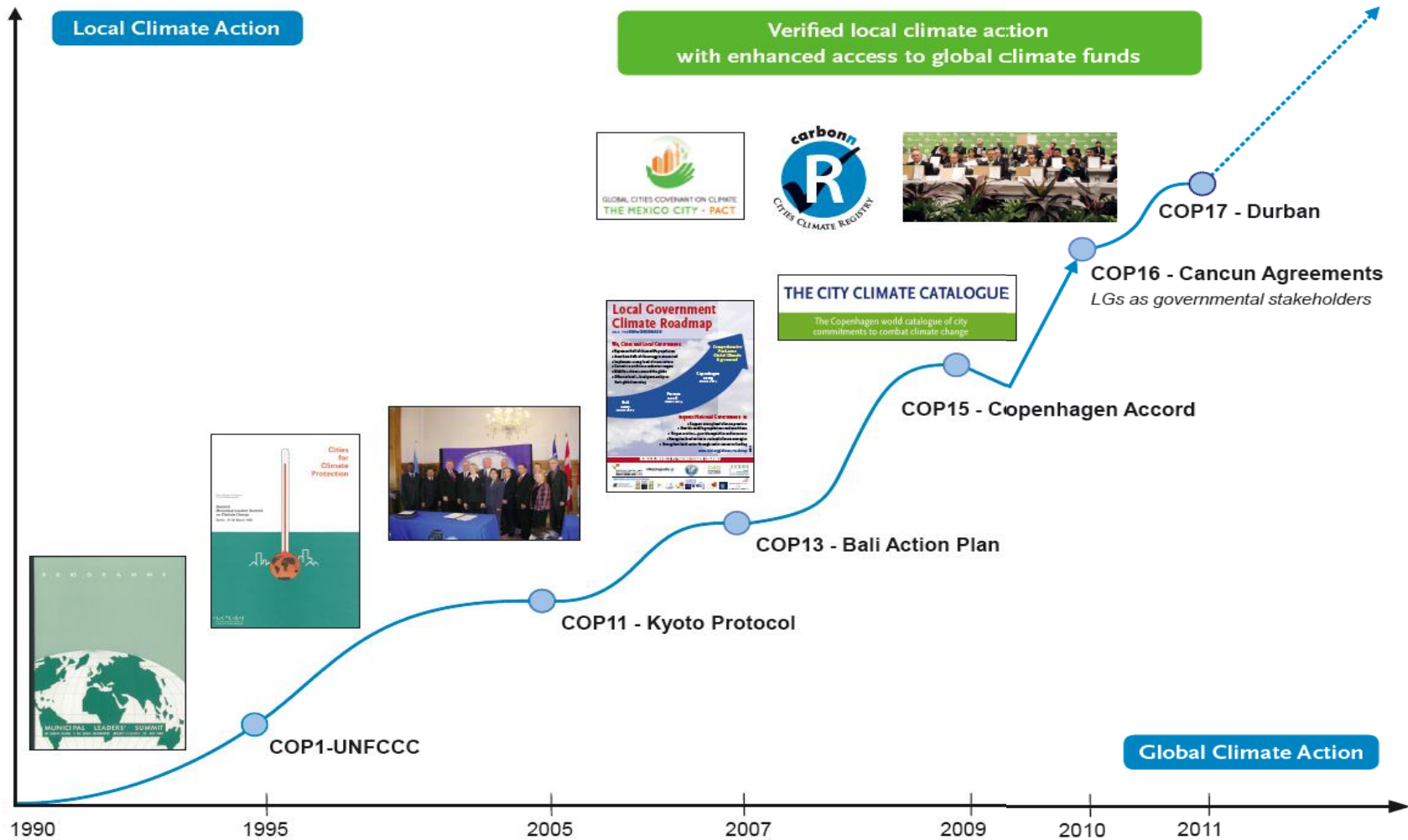


Fig.2 – Local climate action mirroring global efforts (carbonn Cities Climate Registry, 2011)

III. carbonn Cities Climate Registry: Local Response to Measurable, Reportable, Verifiable Global Climate Action

“The momentum to respond to climate change is steadily growing in all areas and at all levels of society, and the first carbonn Cities Climate Registry report is a good example of this. I am heartened by the fact that 51 cities and local authorities participated in this report, and that this effort has been undertaken with such commitment, energy and rigor. Many other cities and local and regional administrations can be inspired to take action and to report to the carbonn Cities Climate Registry. Just as importantly, national governments can be encouraged to take ever bigger and more ambitious steps to fight climate change.”

*Christiana Figueres,
UNFCCC Executive Secretary*

The Global Cities Covenant on Climate – the Mexico City Pact – launched in November 2010 and signed by over 200 local governments worldwide -- has created a political movement, moreover, political commitments to local climate action combined with global accountability. Article 4 of the Mexico City Pact laid the foundation to measure, report, and in the future, verify the greenhouse gas emissions inventories, energy and climate commitments and mitigation and adaptation actions and action plans of local governments worldwide.

The inaugural 2011 Annual Report of the carbonn Cities Climate Registry (cCCR) was presented to the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, the UN Climate Secretariat, and the global climate community, in particular to stakeholders engaged around the 17th Conference of Parties being held in Durban, South Africa from 28 November – 9 December 2011.

The 2011 Annual Report of the cCCR compiled the climate information of 51 cities from 19 countries, representing 83 million inhabitants that report 447 million t CO₂e/yr, 90 GHG inventories and 555 Actions. Key findings of cCCR demonstrate that cities and local governments:

- *express their willingness to quantify actions and achievements* (78% of cities have reported at least one GHG inventory)
- *have a significant role in controlling global GHG emissions* (with 447 mtCO₂e/yr, cCCR would be ranked in the Top25 List of UNFCCC, if all reporting cities were considered as one country)
- *have the capacity to help raise ambitions of global GHG reductions* (75% of community GHG reduction targets for 2020 exceed 1%/yr, higher than most national governments)
- *are mainly mobilizing their own resources but are looking for additional financing as well* (92% of implemented actions are financed locally)

No	City/Local Government Name	Country	Population	cCCR Reporting Elements					
				I. Reported GHG Emissions			II. # of Reported Commitments	III. # of Reported Actions and Action Plans	Signatory to the MXC Pact?
				Government Emissions (tCO ₂ e/yr)	Community Emissions (tCO ₂ e/yr)	Community per capita GHG Emissions (tCO ₂ e/cap.yr)			
1	Aguascalientes	Mexico	797.010	–	–	–	0	23	Yes
2	Aichi Prefecture	Japan	7.417.204	124.432	78.388.554	10,6	2	2	
3	Almada	Portugal	173.298	20.584	246.916	1,4	1	0	Yes
4	Amuwo Odofin Local Gov. Lagos State	Nigeria	1.500.000	–	–	–	1	1	
5	Bhubaneswar	India	837.737	11.436	971.473	1,2	0	3	
6	Bruxelles	Belgium	1.089.538	–	3.606.303	3,3	1	25	Yes
7	Buenos Aires	Argentina	2.890.151	789.664	14.837.048	5,1	0	35	Yes
8	Calgary	Canada	1.100.000	286.712	16.508.131	15,0	3	9	Yes
9	Cape Town	South Africa	3.700.000	219.672	19.949.346	5,4	6	7	Yes
10	City of Kawasaki	Japan	1.426.538	396.144	25.172.300	17,6	2	8	
11	City of Ligao	Philippines	108.109	–	–	–	0	17	Yes
12	City of Nagoya	Japan	2.266.249	682.583	15.989.000	7,1	2	5	Yes
13	City of North Little Rock	United States	62.304	13.383	1.098.747	16,7	1	17	Yes
14	City of North Vancouver	Canada	47.733	2.318	130.340	2,7	2	10	Yes
15	City of Paris	France	2.225.000	184.100	7.233.200	3,3	7	47	Yes
16	City of Richmond	Canada	188.100	–	–	–	1	0	
17	City of Sapporo	Japan	1.921.831	648.046	11.819.902	6,2	3	5	
18	City of Surrey	Canada	460.000	15.240	2.416.027	5,3	3	7	
19	City of Victoria	Canada	350.000	–	–	–	2	0	
20	Coimbatore	India	913.474	13.717	1.394.642	1,5	0	3	
21	Copenhagen	Denmark	528.208	97.000	2.510.035	4,8	1	7	Yes
22	Delta	Canada	100.000	7.102	917.329	9,2	2	25	Yes
23	District of West Vancouver	Canada	42.131	–	–	–	4	0	Yes
24	Durban	South Africa	3.500.000	1.074.884	21.094.816	6,0	2	50	Yes
25	Fujisawa City	Japan	413.685	–	2.896.773	7,0	1	2	Yes
26	Greater Vancouver Regional District	Canada	2.369.000	–	–	–	2	7	Yes
27	Hiroshima City	Japan	1.180.133	307.372	6.899.000	5,8	3	7	
28	Iida City	Japan	105.036	21.059	7.44.859	7,1	2	2	Yes
29	Itabashi city	Japan	535.759	24.168	1.947.457	3,6	2	9	Yes
30	Jeju Special Self-Governing Province	South Korea	600.000	–	–	–	1	25	Yes
31	Jerusalem	Israel	773.000	68.140	2.349.473	3,0	1	5	Yes
32	Kanagawa Prefectural Government	Japan	9.059.589	346.148	69.277.028	7,6	2	6	
33	Kitakyushu City	Japan	988.710	336.894	16.315.000	16,5	2	2	
34	Kumamoto City	Japan	723.111	199.547	4.245.000	5,9	4	5	
35	Kyoto City	Japan	1.473.656	394.000	6.185.000	4,2	3	5	Yes
36	Lautaro	Chile	35.236	–	–	–	3	8	Yes
37	Mexico City	Mexico	8.720.916	4.313.506	27.590.943	3,2	5	63	Yes
38	Nagpur	India	2.447.000	121.185	1.534.552	0,6	2	4	Yes
39	Nantes Metropole	France	580.000	–	2.076.210	3,6	1	7	Yes
40	Oeiras	Portugal	172.063	–	737.209	4,3	3	1	Yes
41	Okayama City	Japan	699.695	73.352	5.408.000	7,7	2	5	Yes
42	Palmerston North City Council	New Zealand	82.000	7.155	475.234	5,8	5	17	
43	Quezon City Government	Philippines	3.066.600	–	–	–	0	10	Yes
44	Quito Metropolitan District	Ecuador	2.239.191	–	17.892.303	8,0	1	9	Yes
45	Suwon City	South Korea	1.109.262	–	–	–	1	7	Yes
46	Sumida City	Japan	250.366	21.418	1.338.000	5,3	2	0	
47	Taipei	Chinese Taipei	2.618.772	–	15.960.500	6,1	1	19	Yes
48	The District of Maple Ridge	Canada	76.418	2.335	363.776	4,8	4	12	Yes
49	Tokyo Metropolitan Government	Japan	13.187.461	–	65.904.620	5,0	3	6	Yes
50	Ube City	Japan	173.953	45.345	6.068.863	34,9	3	3	
51	Yamanashi Prefectural Government	Japan	864.782	32.557	7.217.000	8,3	2	3	Yes
		TOTAL	83.232.840	10.901.198	446.509.609		107	555	

Table.1 Overview of information provided by cCCR Reporting Cities *

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* All information is based on non-verified data provided by city officials. Please refer to Section VI. Notes for full explanation of data compilations

Table.1 Overview of information provided by cCCR Reporting Cities

IV. Ways for further increasing level of ambitions

In order to further increase level of ambition, ICLEI proposes national governments and global climate community to operationalize para.7 of the Cancun Outcomes (Dec.1/CP16) where local and subnational governments are recognized as governmental stakeholders by engaging local governments actively in the design and implementation of climate action at the local, subnational, national, regional and global level.

This can include, but is not limited to;

- Revision of national mitigation targets by taking into account ambitious reduction commitments of local governments worldwide;
- Benefit from the capacity and knowledge of local governments in preparation of GHG emissions inventories;
- Enhance mobilization of financial resources from subnational, national, regional and global climate funds to ambitious mitigation projects and programs of local governments, including setting up a thematic window of “sustainable urban development” in the Green Climate Fund;
- Revise and design the Clean Development Mechanism, Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions and Low Emission Development Strategies in a way that encourages ambitious low-carbon, climate-resilient urban development;
- Engage local governments more actively into the UNFCCC process, similar to the practices followed by the UN Convention Biological Diversity (UNCBD), in particular through its Decision X/22 and its annex The Plan of Action on Sub-National Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities on Biodiversity;
- Reflect and develop the concept of “governmental stakeholders” into the Rio+20 process within the scope of institutional framework on sustainable development;
- Encourage increased local government involvement, mobilize subnational, national, regional and global resources and recognize as appropriate global initiatives of local governments (i.e. The Global Cities Covenant on Climate - the Mexico City Pact and carbonn Cities Climate Registry) in order to ensure transparency, accountability and comparability of local climate action and enhance global MRV process.

V. About ICLEI

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is an international association of more than 1200 local governments as well as national and regional local government organizations who have made a commitment to sustainable development. ICLEI has Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council and coordinates local government representation in several UN processes related to Agenda 21, CSD and the Habitat Agenda. ICLEI is the only local government network with observer status at all three Rio Conventions (UNFCCC- climate change, UNCCD- desertification, UNCBD-biodiversity) as well as being an observer to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), International Standardization Organization (ISO) Technical Committee on GHG and the first local government network to partner with the Nairobi Work Programme of the UNFCCC on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

ICLEI was accredited at the UNFCCC Secretariat as an observer organization in 1995 and has been the focal point for Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency (LGMA) ever since. In parallel to the Conferences of the Parties, ICLEI hosted Municipal Leaders Summits on Climate Change in 1995, 1997 and 2005, lead the Local Government Climate Roadmap since 2007, organized Local Government Climate Sessions in 2007 and 2008, the Local Government Climate Lounge in 2009, supported the World Mayors Summit on Climate in Mexico City in 2010 and organized the Local Government Climate Forum in Durban in 2011 including the Durban Local Government Convention and Durban Adaptation Charter.

Throughout these processes, ICLEI has attracted thousands of local government delegations to the COP sessions, contributed to negotiations through submissions and interventions and facilitated effective involvement of the LGMA Constituency. The LGMA Constituency has steadily increased to a membership of 14 active organizations as of 2010.

ICLEI has pioneered the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign as the largest and longest-lasting global network of local climate action, developed dedicated software for accounting and reporting of local GHG emissions (i.e. Harmonized Emissions Analysis Tool – HEAT) and released International Local Government GHG Emissions Analysis Protocol (IEAP).

ICLEI convenes the Resilient Cities Congress as the World Forum on Cities and Adaptation and hosts the Secretariat of the World Mayors Council on Climate Change, as well as the Bonn Center for Local Climate Action and Reporting – carbonn that operates the Cities Climate Registry (cCCR).