

## UNFCCC GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION PORTAL SYNTHESIS REPORT – INFORMATION AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2022

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### I. BACKGROUND

1. The UNFCCC [Global Climate Action Portal](https://climateaction.unfccc.int/)<sup>1</sup> (GCAP, formerly NAZCA) recognizes and showcases the climate actions from individual non-Party stakeholders, international cooperative initiatives and governmental actors. It is the home for recognizing non-Party stakeholder climate action within the intergovernmental process and is acknowledged in the decision adopting the Paris Agreement<sup>2</sup>, and other subsequent decisions.
2. The portal has evolved since Paris to provide a clearer and more comprehensive insight into global climate action that recognizes and tracks climate actions of non-Party stakeholder and international cooperative initiatives to support the intergovernmental process. At COP 26, the Glasgow Climate Pact<sup>3</sup> welcomed the changes to the portal to track and inform the credibility of non-Party stakeholders and initiatives.
3. GCAP is a unique collaboration between the UNFCCC Climate Change and data partners<sup>4</sup>, supported by members of the climate data and analysis community.<sup>5</sup> The portal leverages the expertise of its partners to provide climate action information from cities, regions, companies, organizations, investors and international cooperative initiatives.
4. The voluntary disclosures made by non-Party stakeholders to the portal's data partners form the primary source of information from individual actors. Information from international cooperative initiatives is collected through surveys conducted in coordination with the data partners.
5. This informal document presents an overview of the current information on the portal to help guide and inform how GCAP can support the Global Stocktake regarding the state of climate action undertaken by non-Party stakeholders, particularly in respect to question 29 of the revised non-paper by the chairs of the SBI.<sup>6</sup>

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### II. WHAT CLIMATE ACTIONS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN BY NON-PARTY STAKEHOLDERS

#### *Overview*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://climateaction.unfccc.int/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://unfccc.int/documents/9097>

<sup>3</sup> <https://unfccc.int/documents/310475>

<sup>4</sup> Including CDP, ICLEI, Climate Bonds Initiative, the UN Environment's Climate Initiatives Platform, Global Covenant of Mayors and The Climate Group

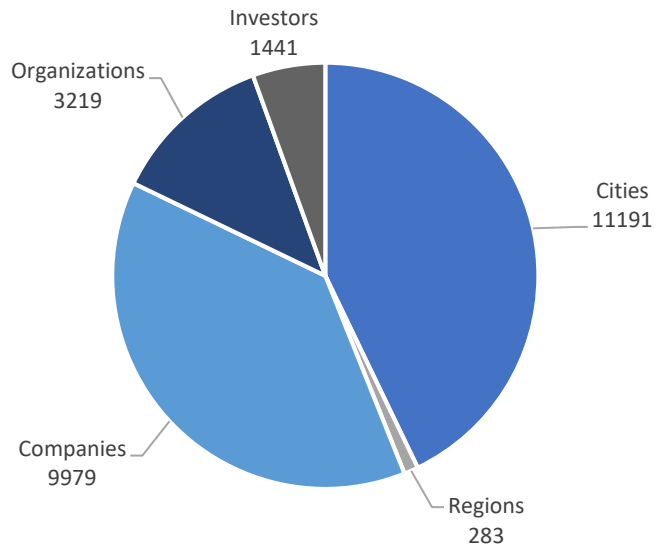
<sup>5</sup> <https://camda.global/>

<sup>6</sup> [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/REV\\_Non-paper\\_on\\_Preparing\\_for\\_GST1\\_forSBs\\_15Sept.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/REV_Non-paper_on_Preparing_for_GST1_forSBs_15Sept.pdf)

6. As of 28 February 2022, GCAP recognizes the climate actions of over 26,000 stakeholders, including 11,191 cities, 283 sub-national regions, 9,979 companies, 1,441 investors and 3,219 organizations (Figure 1).

**Figure 1:**

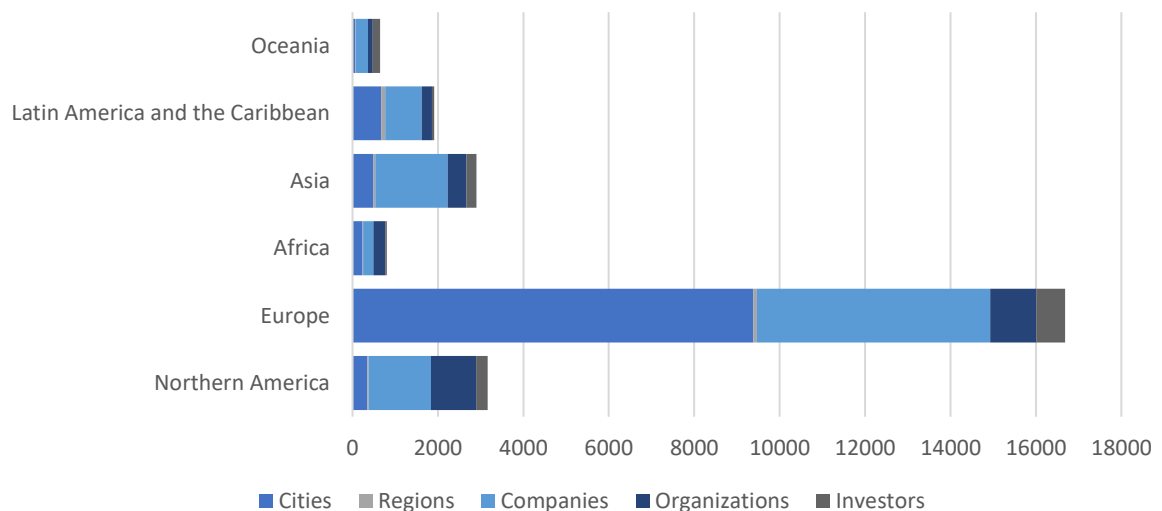
Distribution of non-Party stakeholders by actor type



7. Non-Party stakeholders recognized in GCAP are located or headquartered in 167 different countries across 6 world regions. As illustrated in Figure 2, 16,687 (68%) are located or headquartered in Europe; 3,164 (11%) in northern America; 2,901 (8%) in Asia; 1,910 (7%) in Latin America and the Caribbean; 802 (3%) in Africa and 649 (3%) in Oceania.

**Figure 2:**

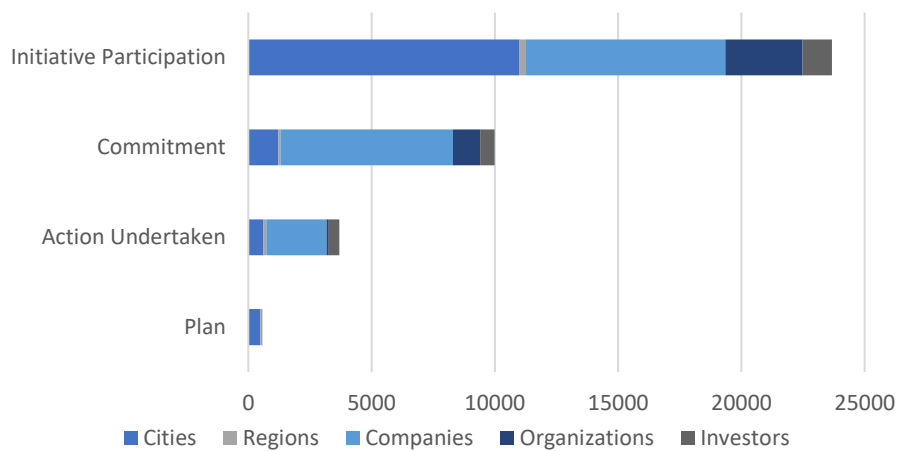
Distribution of non-Party stakeholders by world region



8. Climate actions recognized in GCAP comprise of four engagement types: participation by a stakeholder in one of the 151 international cooperative initiatives registered in in GCAP (23,670 non-Party stakeholders); reporting of a qualifying commitment through one of the portal’s data partners (9,991 stakeholders); publication of either a mitigation or adaptation climate action plan, reported through a data partner (573 cities and regions) and undertaking a climate action, again reported through a data partner (3,696 stakeholders).

**Figure 3:**

Non-Party stakeholders by engagement type



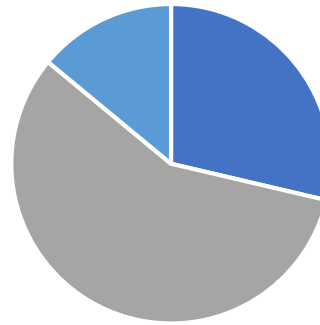
*International Cooperative Initiatives*

9. Out of the 151 international cooperative climate initiatives recognized in the portal, 21 report to be mainly focused on adaptation/resilience, 86 mainly mitigation and 43 equally mitigation and adaptation/resilience (Figure 4).

10. As described above, participation in an international cooperative climate initiative is the most frequently recognized climate action, undertaken by 23,670 non-Party stakeholders. In total 277 of these actors are engaged in an initiative that reports to be mainly focused on adaptation/resilience, 12,033 in initiatives focused mainly on mitigation and 11,358 focused equally on mitigation and adaptation/resilience (Figure 5).

**Figure 4:**

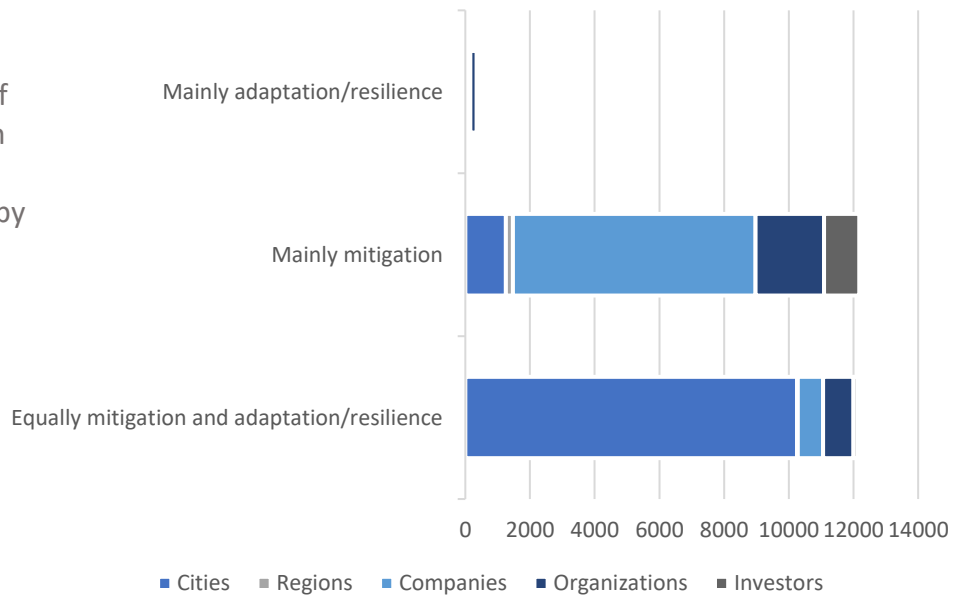
Distribution of international cooperative initiatives by climate focus



- Equally mitigation and adaptation/resilience
- Mainly mitigation
- Mainly adaptation/resilience

**Figure 5:**

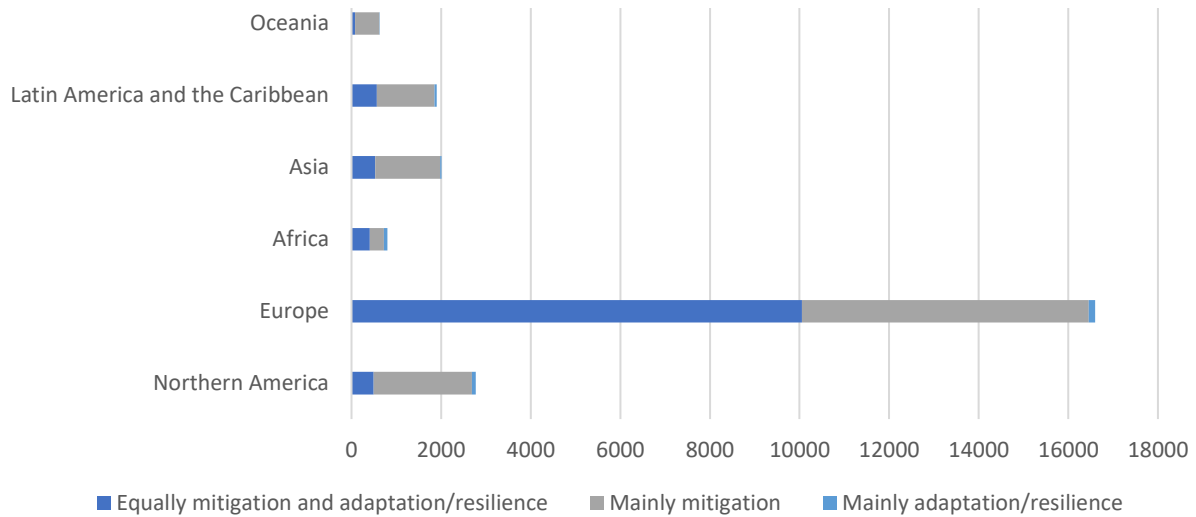
Distribution of participants in international cooperatives by climate focus



11. The distribution of non-Party stakeholders participating in an international cooperative initiative by world region is shown in Figure 6.

**Figure 6:**

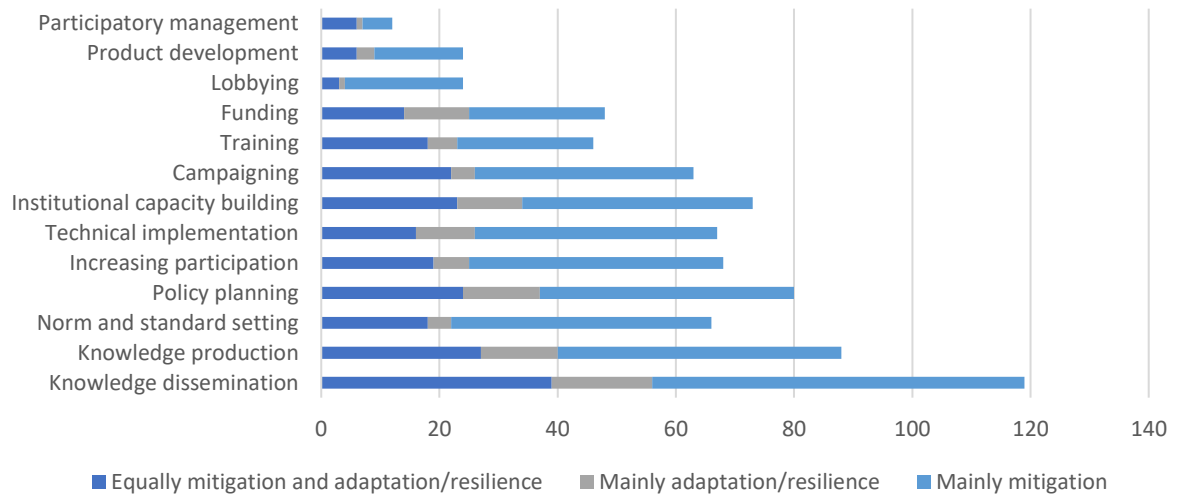
Distribution of participants in international cooperative initiative participants across world regions



12. Information collected from international cooperative initiatives includes the primary functions of the initiative. The three most commonly reported functions undertaken by the initiatives focused mainly on adaptation/resilience are knowledge dissemination (17 initiatives), knowledge production (13) and policy planning (13). These are the same for initiatives focused equally on mitigation and adaptation/resilience (knowledge dissemination: 17 initiatives; knowledge production: 13 initiatives; policy planning: 13 initiatives); however, initiatives focused mainly on mitigation differing slightly, with norm and standard setting replacing policy planning as the third most reported function (knowledge dissemination: 63 initiatives; knowledge production: 48 initiatives; norm and standard setting: 44 initiatives).
13. The initiatives recognized in GCAP are classified according to seven thematic areas of the Marrakech Partnership, together with the cross-cutting themes of Finance and Resilience. Energy is the most common thematic area, associated with 66 initiatives. The most common thematic area for initiatives mainly focused on adaptation/resilience is land use.
14. In addition to classification by thematic area initiatives recognized in GCAP are classified according to SDGs. Figure 9 shows how many of the 151 initiatives recognized in GCAP are associated with each of the SDGs. Not surprisingly SDG13, Climate Action, is the most frequently associated SDG, followed by SDG17, Partnerships to achieve the goals, and SDG7, Affordable and Clean Energy.

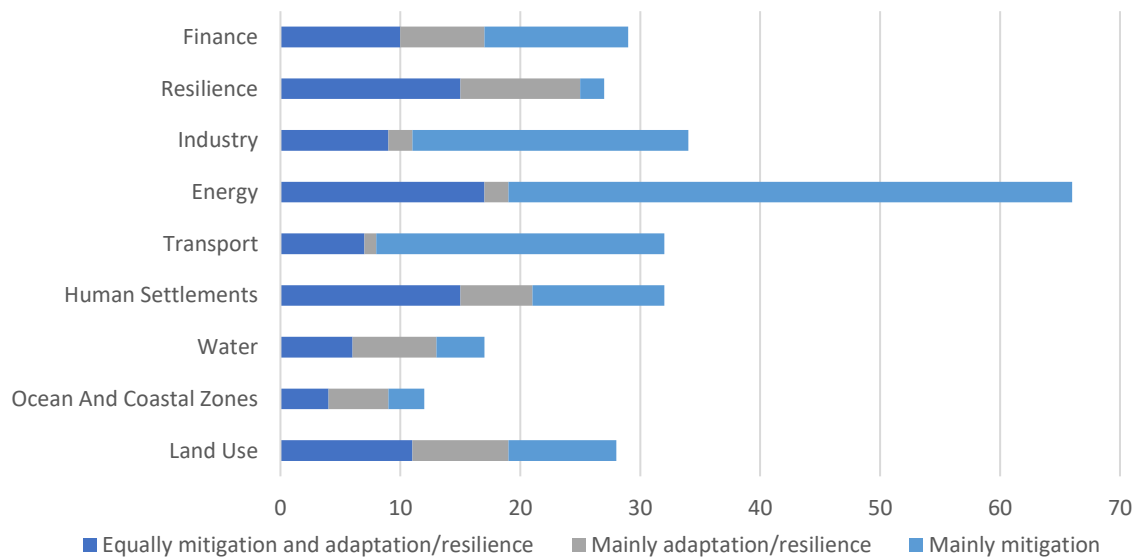
**Figure 7:**

Functions associated with international cooperative initiatives



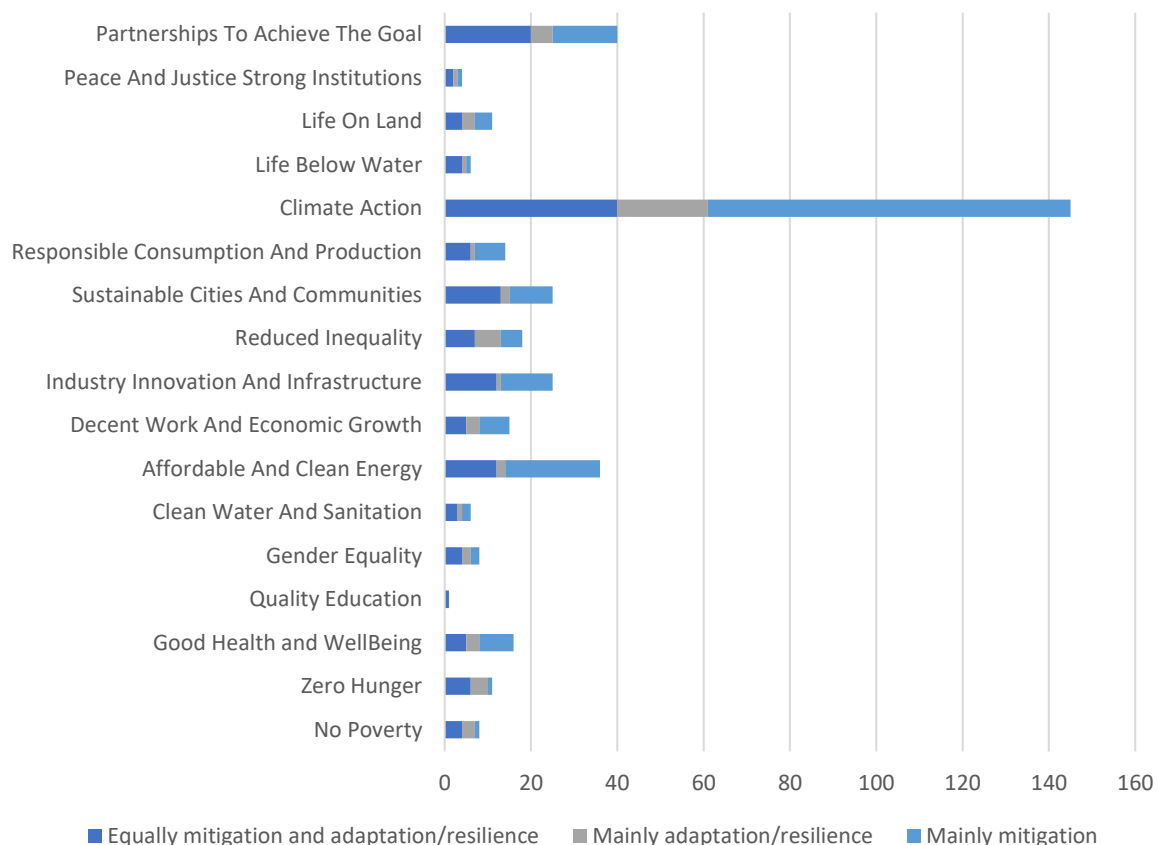
**Figure 8:**

Themes associated with international cooperative initiatives



**Figure 9:**

Sustainable Development Goals associated with international cooperative initiatives



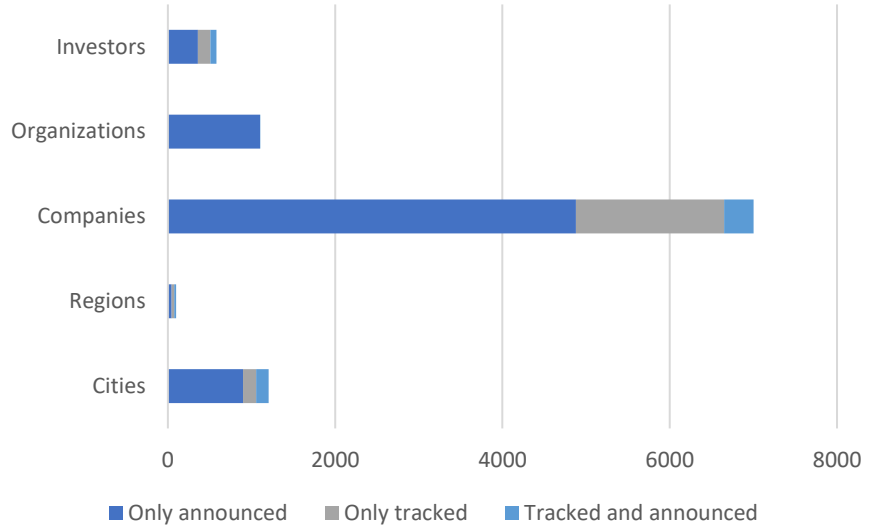
*Quantified emissions reduction commitments from individual actors*

15. GCAP recognizes the climate commitments that have been made by individual cities, regions, companies, organizations and investors, including the commitments and quantified targets they have set to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Nearly ten thousand (9,991) non-Party stakeholders (7,004 companies, 581 investors, 1,102 organizations, 98 regions and 1,206 cities) have at least one emissions reduction commitment registered in the portal.
16. The portal recognizes two different types of emission reduction commitments: those made through an annual disclosure to one of the portal data partners (referred to as tracked commitments) and the commitments associated with membership of the Race to Zero campaign (referred to as announced commitments), as shown in Figure 10.
17. 598 members of the Race to Zero (8% of the total members) are recognized as having at least one tracked emissions reduction commitment, reported in their annual disclosure to one of the portal's

data partners. Breaking down by the actor type, this represents 14% of cities, 31% of regions, 7% of companies and 17% of investors.

**Figure 10:**

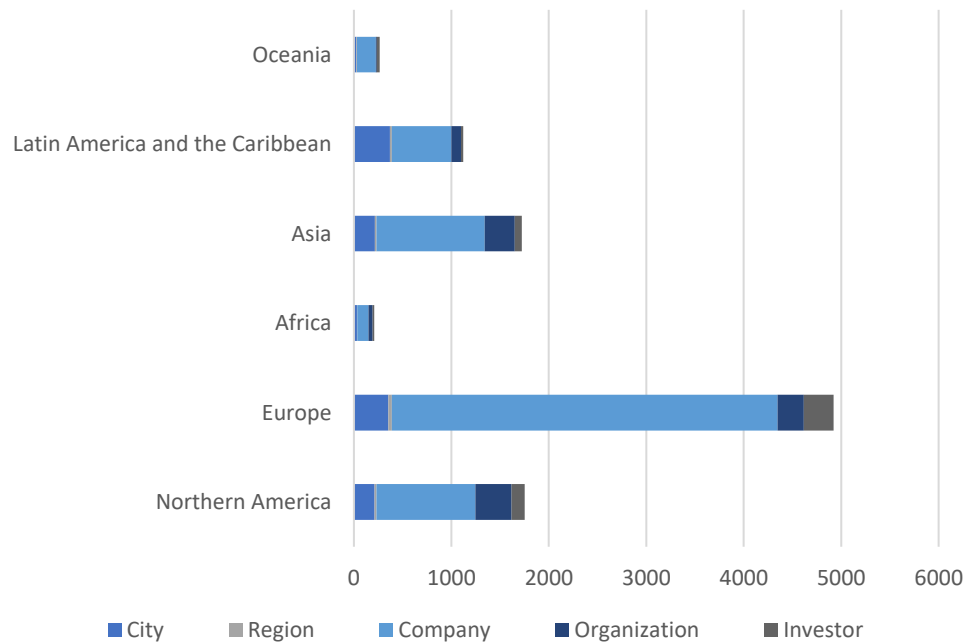
Number of non-Party Stakeholders with an emissions reduction commitment



18. Similar to initiative participation, most stakeholders are located or headquartered in Europe; followed by Northern America; Asia; Latin America and the Caribbean; Oceania and Africa (Figure 11).

**Figure 11:**

Non-Party Stakeholders with an emissions reduction commitment by world region

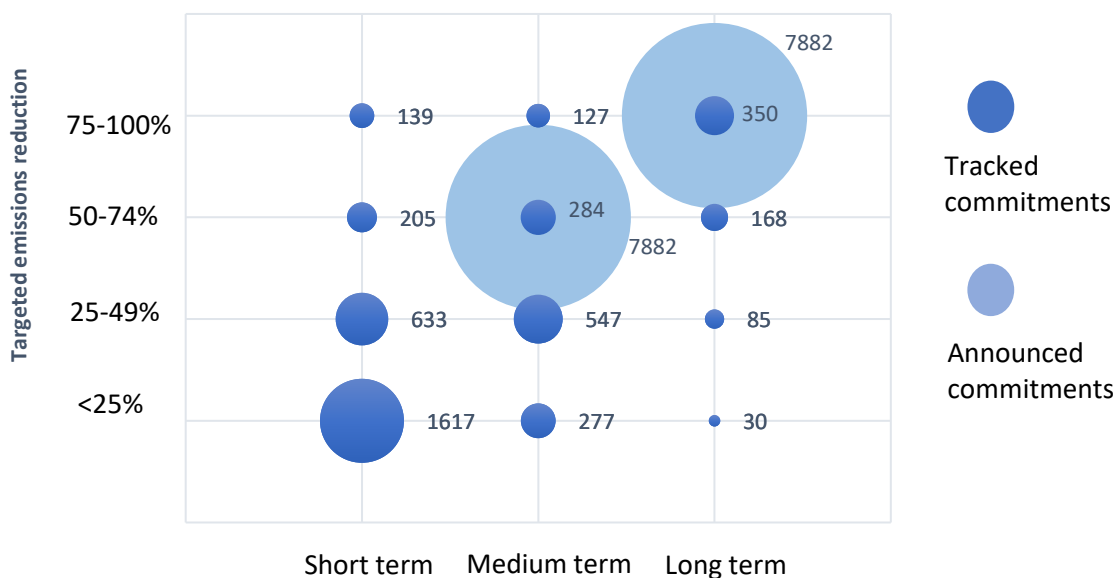




19. The emissions reduction commitments associated with all members of the Race to Zero campaign are reflected as an announced commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest and halve emissions by 2030. The timeframes and targeted reductions values associated with tracked commitments are defined by the individual stakeholders. Figure 12 provides an overview of the number of stakeholders with short, medium- and long-term commitment with a reduction value within a specific range.

**Figure 12:**

Number of non-Party stakeholders with an emissions reduction target within certain range and timeframe



20. Tracked commitments provide information beyond time frames and emissions reduction value, to include, where available, the scope of a commitment (direct or indirect emissions), whether it is approved by the Science Based Targets Initiative<sup>7</sup> (applicable to companies and investors only), the type of target (absolute, intensity, business as usual, fixed level), the coverage of the commitment (all or selected in scope emissions).

<sup>7</sup> <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/>

21. Of the companies with a tracked commitment 68% include a least one science-based target initiative approved commitment, with 6% of investors having a science-based target approved target. Through their annual disclosures to the portal’s data partners non-Party stakeholders are asked to provide information on their progress towards their commitments – which is provided in GCAP where available.

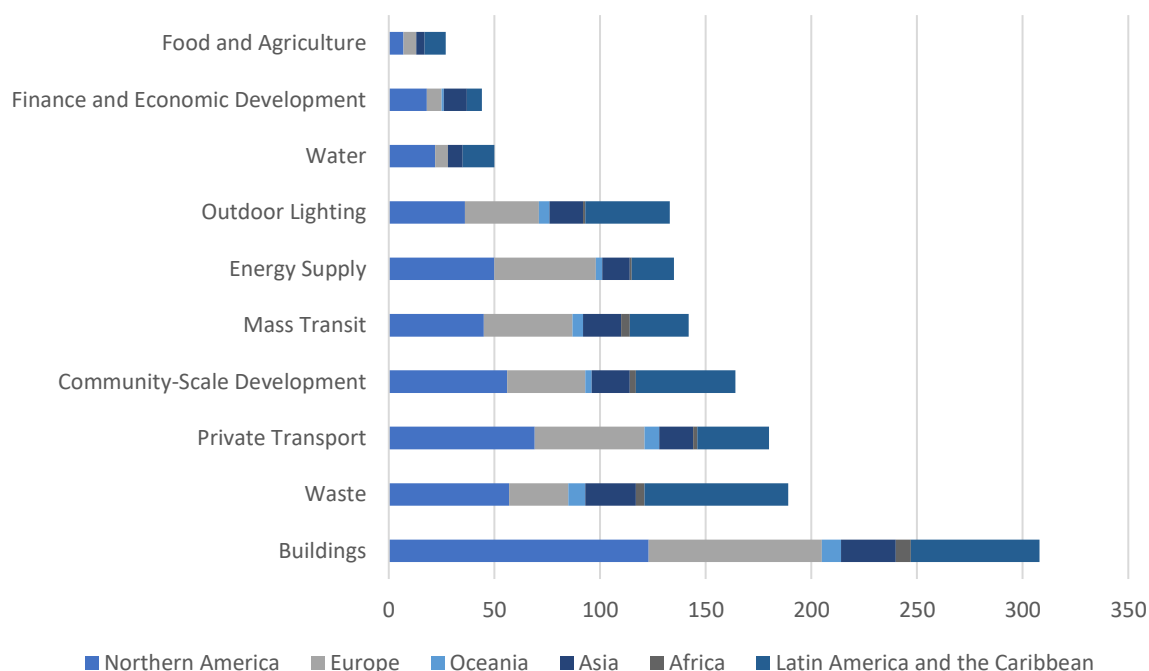
*Climate Actions undertaken by Individual non-Party stakeholders*

22. To provide an insight into the actions being undertaken by non-Party stakeholder to fulfil their emissions reduction commitments, GCAP includes information regarding the sectors and categories of action they are undertaking.

23. 449 cities are recognized for reporting mitigation actions undertaken, with Buildings representing the most frequently reported sector (308 cities); followed by Waste (189 cities) and Private Transport (180 cities). Within the Buildings sector the most commonly reported category of action was Energy efficiency/retrofit measures (200 cities) followed by On-site renewable energy generation (115 cities). Similarly, within the Waste sector the most commonly reported category of action was Recyclables and organics separation from other waste (81 cities) followed by Recycling or composting collections and/or facilities (78 cities).

**Figure 13:**

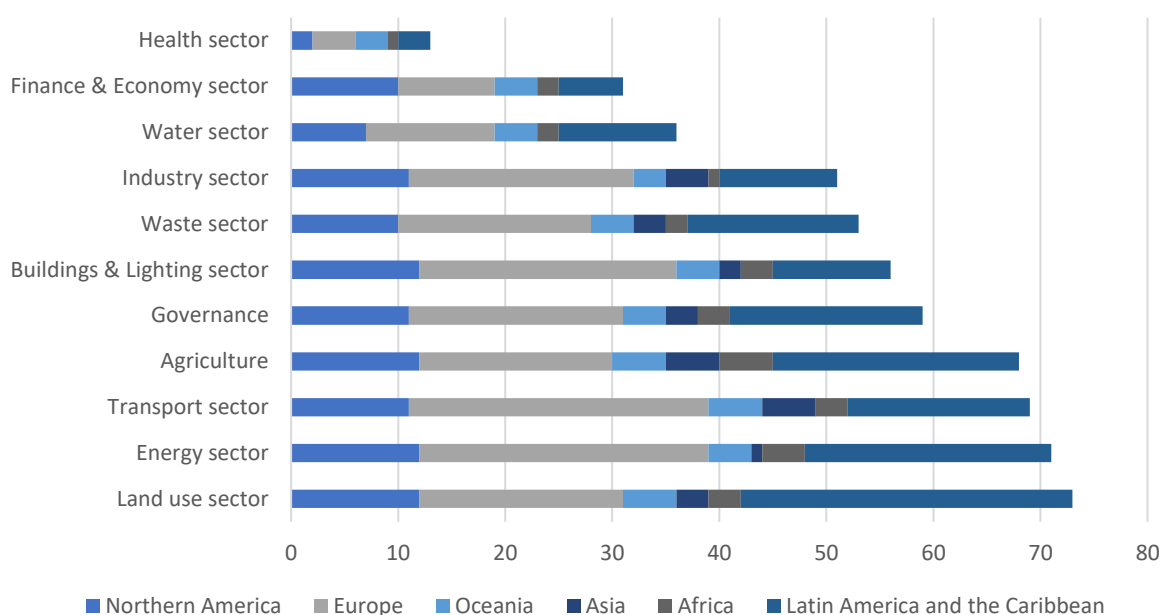
Sectors of mitigation action reported by cities



24. 101 regions are recognized in the portal for undertaking mitigation action, with Land use (73 regions), Energy (71 regions) and Transport (69 regions) representing the three most reported sectors. Within the Land use sector, the most commonly reported category of action was Promote conservation efforts for natural areas (69 regions) followed by Promote sustainable forest management (56 regions). Similarly, within the Energy sector the most commonly reported category of action was Install solar power (58 regions) followed by Install wind power (42 regions).

**Figure 14:**

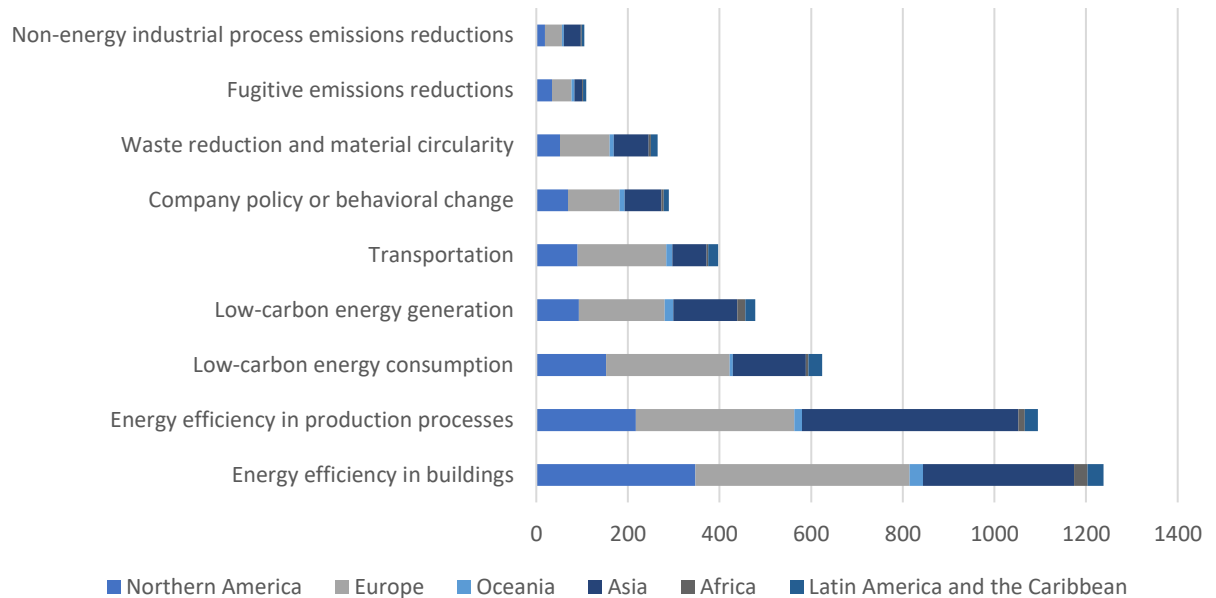
Sectors of mitigation action reported by regions



25. 2105 companies and 225 investors are recognized in the portal are undertaking a mitigation action, with Energy efficiency in buildings (1,238 actors); Energy efficiency in production processes (1,095 actors) and Low-carbon energy consumption (624 actors) representing the three most reported sectors. Within Energy efficiency in buildings sector the most commonly reported category of action was Lighting (824 actors) followed by Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) (482 actors). Similarly, within the Energy efficiency in production processes sector the most commonly reported category of action was Process optimization (551 actors) and Machine/equipment replacement (324 actors).

26. 1422 non-Party stakeholders are recognized as having issued green bonds, categorized in the portal as undertaking a financial action. This figure includes 63 cities, 23 regions, 918 companies, 94 organizations and 324 investors.

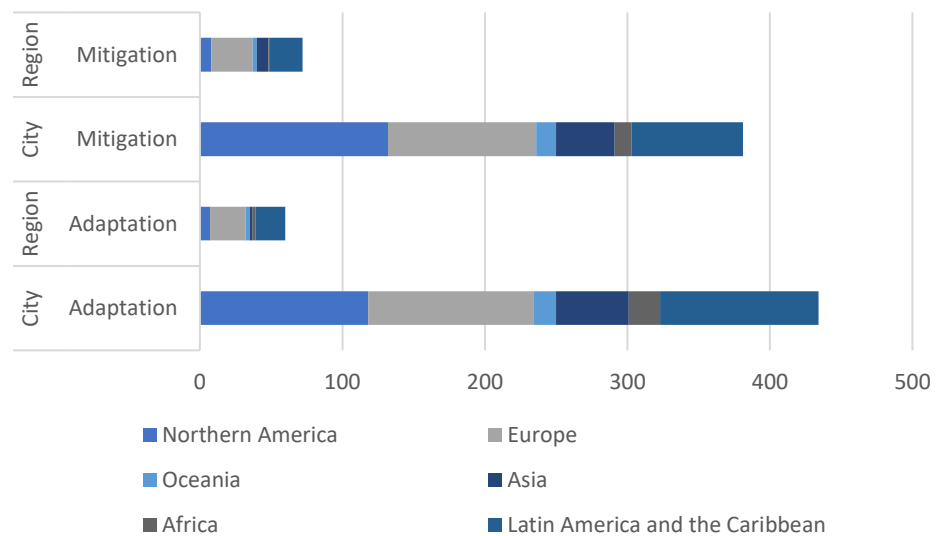
**Figure 15:**  
Sectors of mitigation action reported by companies and investors



*Climate Action Plans published by non-Party stakeholders*

27. The portal recognizes that 72 regions and 381 cities have published a mitigation plan, and 30 regions and 434 cities have published an adaptation plan (Figure 16).

**Figure 16:**  
Climate action plans

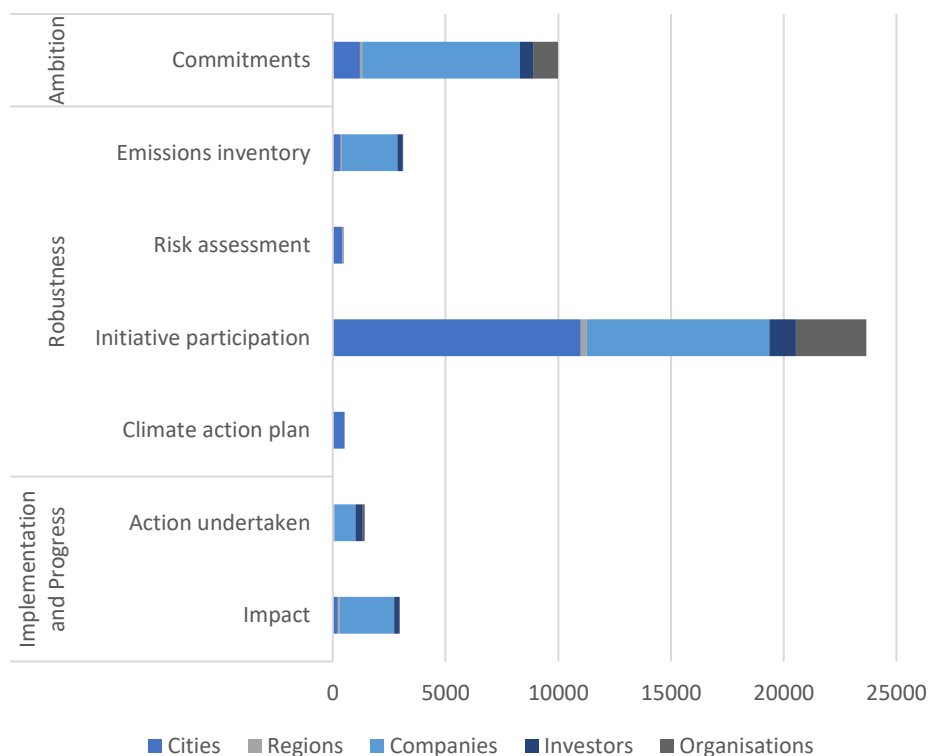


### III. PROGRESS FRAMEWORK, TRACKING AND IMPACT

28. To provide credibility and build trust, progress against voluntary commitments needs to be tracked and communicated. This not increases accountability and transparency but also recognizes success, allow stakeholders to learn what works, and guides further action.
29. GCAP provides an insight into the progress of individual stakeholders and international climate initiatives through the application of a progress framework developed in collaboration with the Camda<sup>8</sup> climate data and analysis community.
30. The framework incorporates metrics that encompass ambition, robustness and delivery/impact, that when viewed collectively (for example on the portal’s actor and initiative profile pages) illustrates the ambition, scope and implementation of an actor or initiatives climate actions. To address their different functions and roles, elements of the framework differ between individual actors and initiatives. The number of non-Party stakeholders and initiatives reporting elements of the framework is shown below for individual non-Party stakeholders (Figure 17) and international cooperative initiatives (Figure 18).

**Figure 17:**

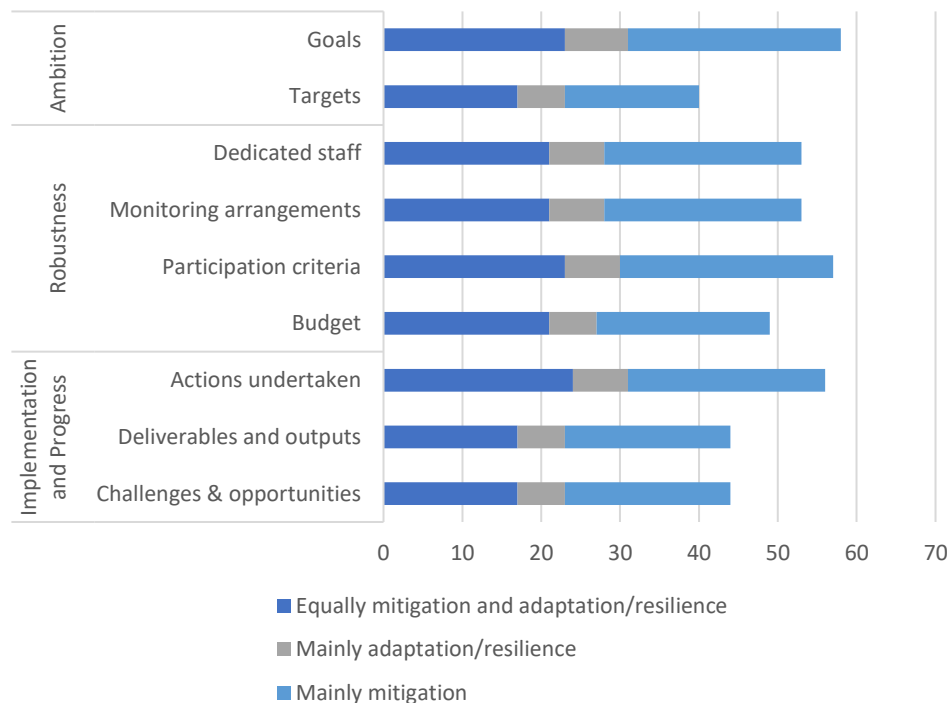
Individual non-Party stakeholder progress framework reporting



<sup>8</sup> <https://camda.global/>

**Figure 18:**

International cooperative initiative progress framework reporting



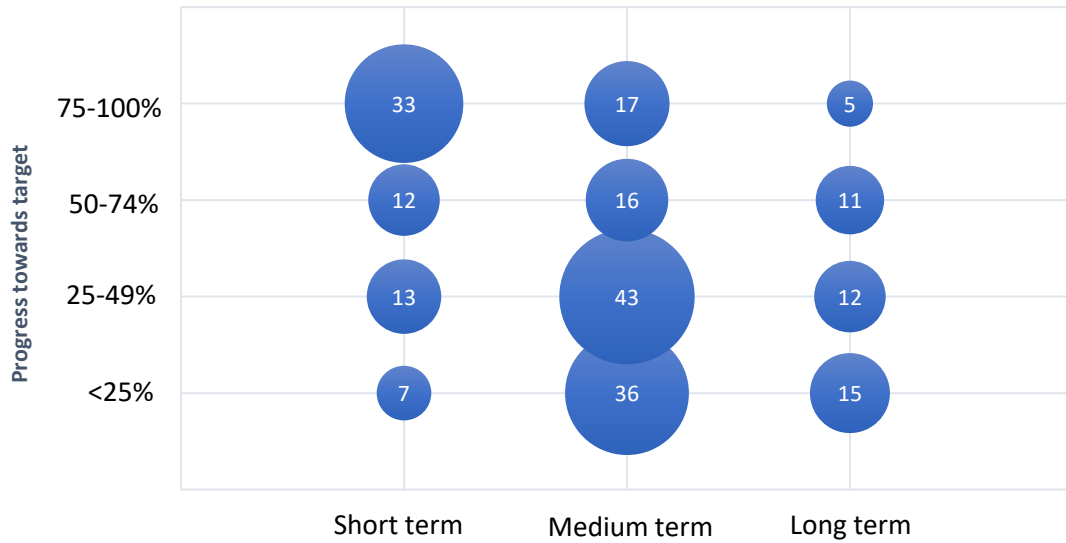
### Progress and Impact

31. In addition to providing information aligned with the progress framework reported by a non-Party stakeholder or international cooperative initiative, GCAP provides information on the progress made towards the individual targets and commitments to inform how they are following through on the commitments they have set.
32. Where available the progress of individual non-Party stakeholders is given as the percentage achieved toward a quantified target. Because of the non-standardized nature of emissions reduction targets any individual or collective assessment of progress should consider the accompanying information available in the portal regarding the nature of the commitment, including, varying reduction values, scopes, coverage, time frame and date the information was provided.
33. Considering only the targets that are reported to have been approved by the Science Based Targets initiative, Figure 19 shows the progress that individual companies and investors have reported against the quantified emissions reduction targets they have set to reduce their Scope 1 and 2 emissions.

34. Figure 20 shows the progress that cities have reported against the quantified emissions reduction targets they have set to reduce their city-wide emissions.

**Figure 19:**

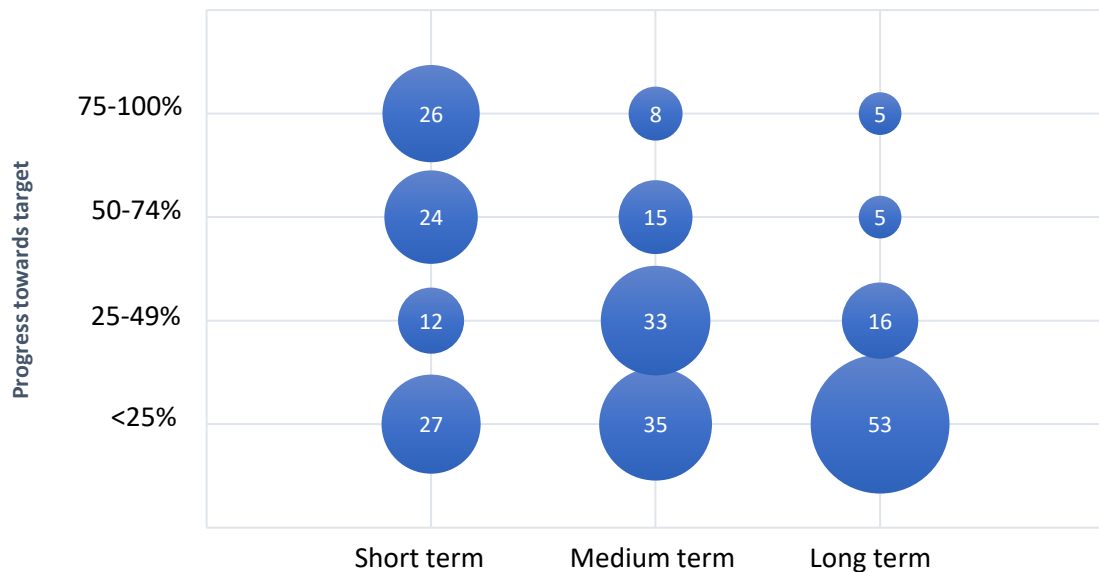
Number of companies and investors towards selected\* emission reduction targets (count of company and investors within circle)



\*Scope 1 and 2 targets, reported as approved by the Science Based Targets initiative

**Figure 20:**

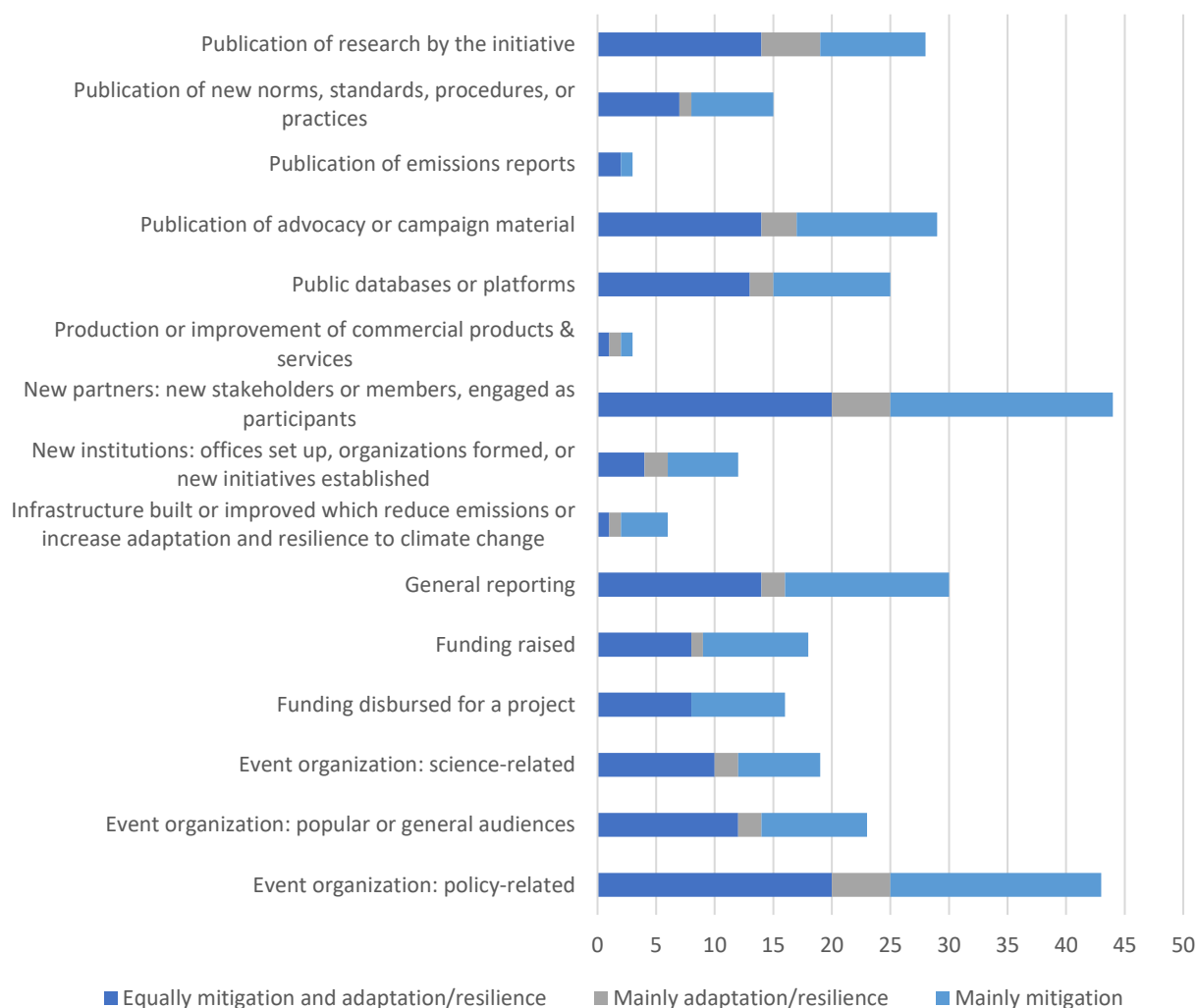
Progress reported by cities towards city-wide emission reduction targets (count of cities within circle)



35. International cooperative initiatives report the delivery of actions and outcomes that help them meet their goals and objectives. The Outputs reported by initiatives are shown in Figure 21

**Figure 21:**

Outputs reported by international cooperative initiatives



36. Beyond targets and commitments (elements of ambition) and enabling factors (robustness), GCAP provides an insight in terms of changes in emissions compared to a base year and previous inventories (impact).

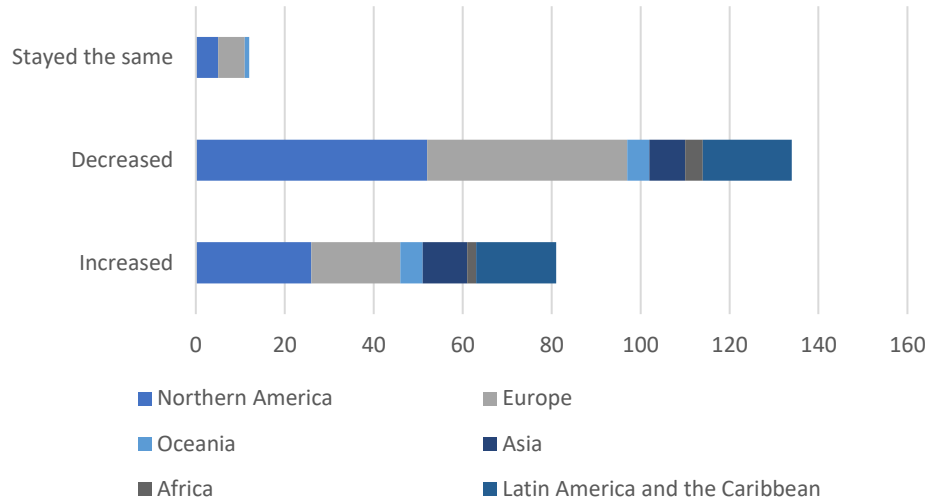
37. Where an increase has been reported compared to a previous inventory, GCAP publishes the explanation provided in the disclosure to one of the portal data partners.



38. Figure 22 shows 134 cities have reported a decrease in their emissions compared to a previous inventory; 12 have reported that emissions stayed the same and 81 reported an increase. The most frequently reported reason for increased emissions is increased energy/electricity consumption (Figure 23).

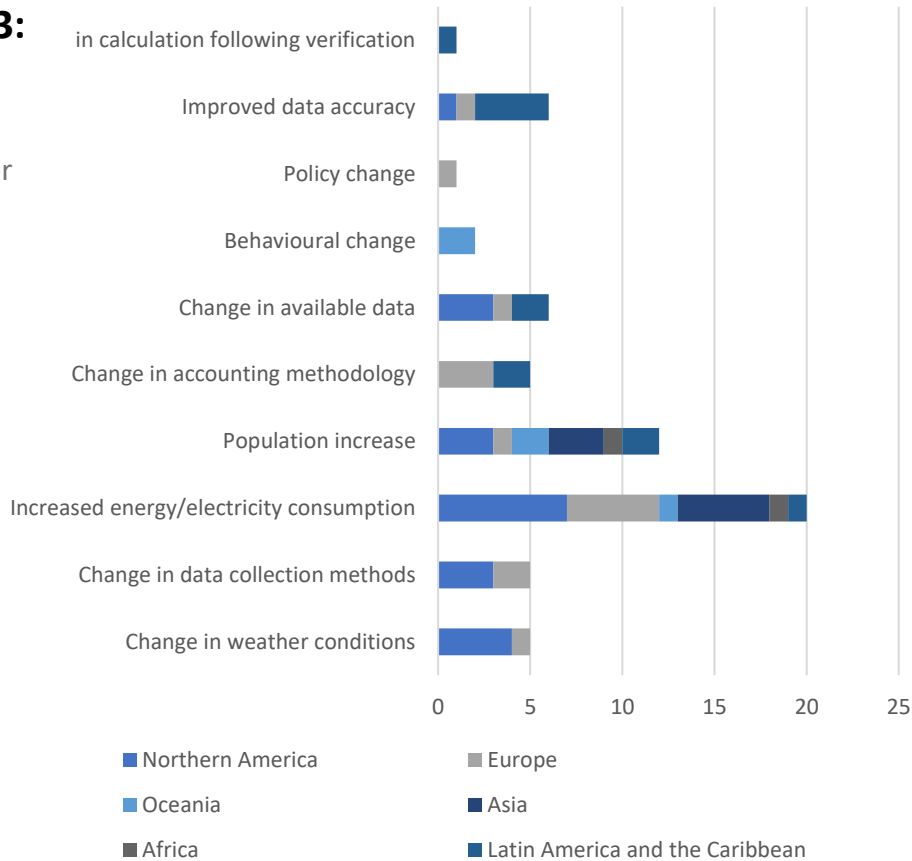
**Figure 22:**

Cities:  
 Changes in emissions since previous inventory



**Figure 23:**

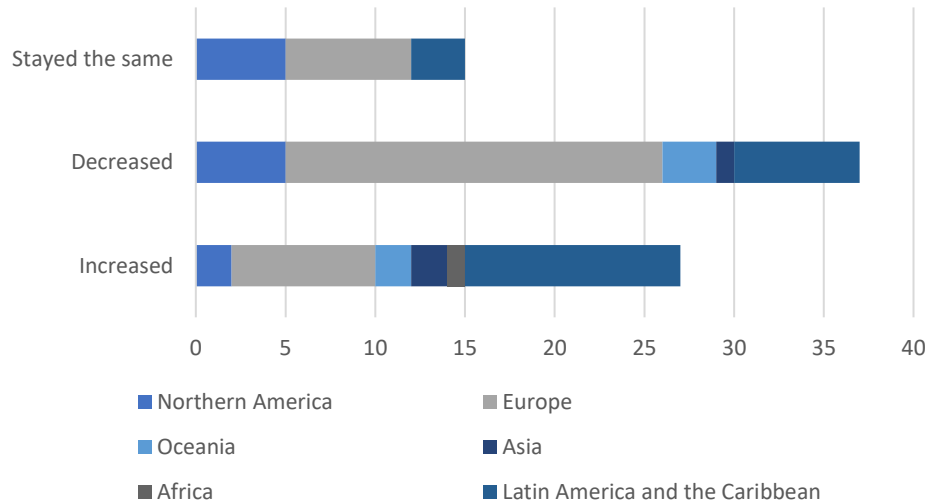
Cities:  
 Reasons provided for increased emissions



39. Figure 24 shows 37 regions have reported a decrease in their emissions compared to a previous inventory; 15 have reported that emissions stayed the same and 27 reported an increase. Like cities the most frequently reported reason for increased emissions is increased energy/electricity consumption (Figure 25).

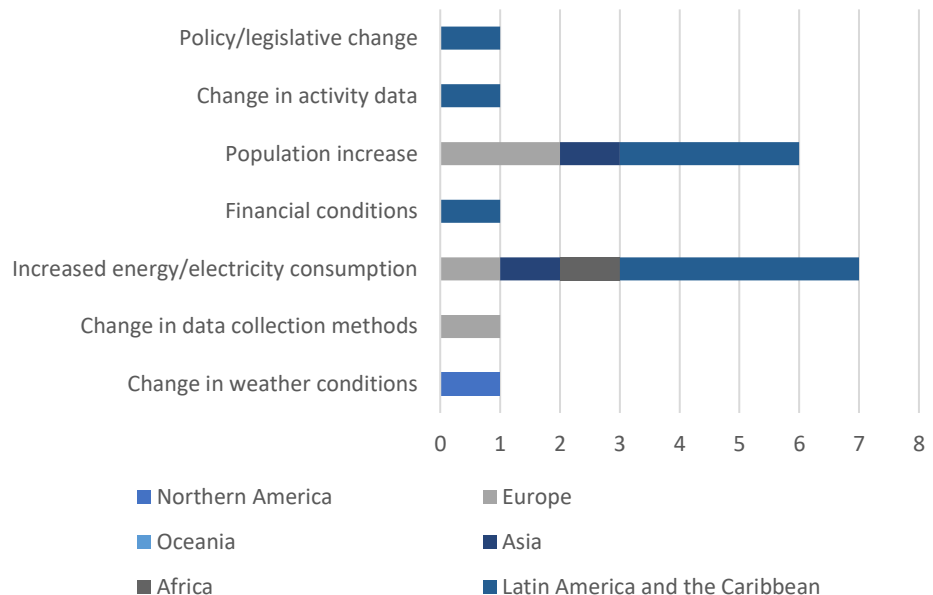
**Figure 24:**

Regions:  
 Changes in emissions since previous inventory



**Figure 25:**

Regions:  
 Reasons provided for increased emissions

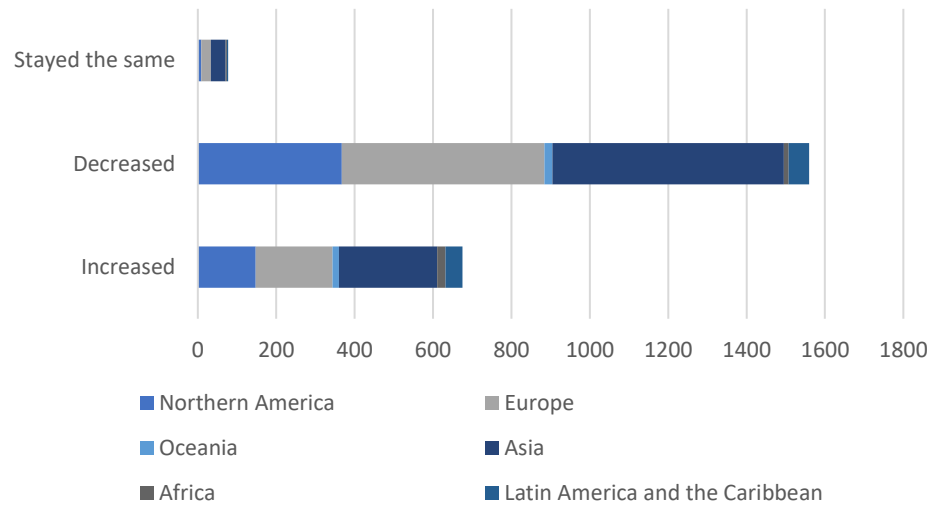


40. Figure 26 shows 1,560 companies have reported a decrease in their combined scope 1 and 2 emissions compared to a previous inventory; 77 have reported that emissions stayed the same

and 675 reported an increase. The most frequently reported reason for increased emissions is changes in the companies output (Figure 27).

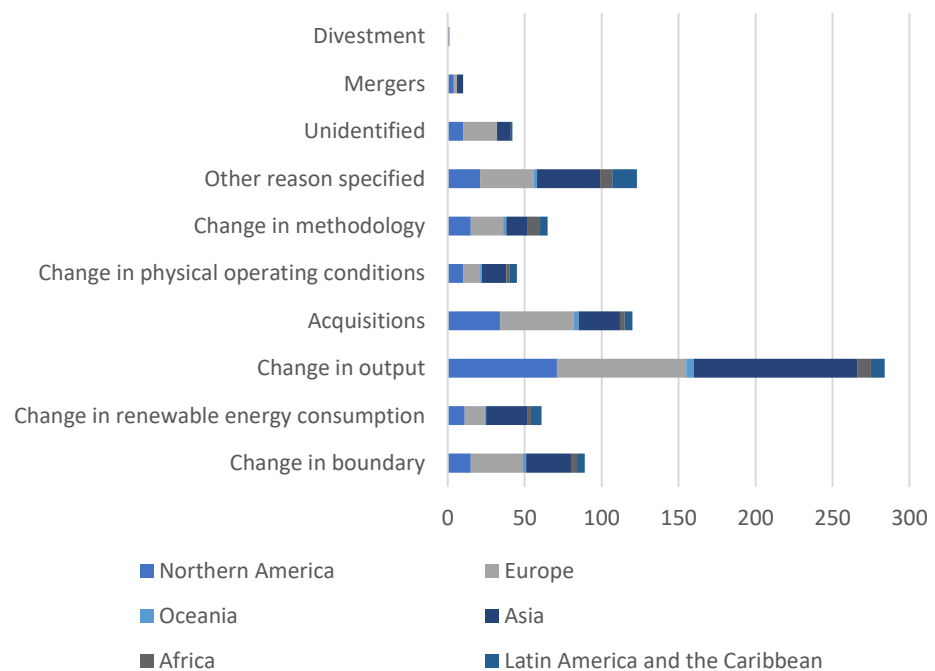
**Figure 26:**

Companies:  
Changes in  
emissions  
since previous  
inventory



**Figure 27:**

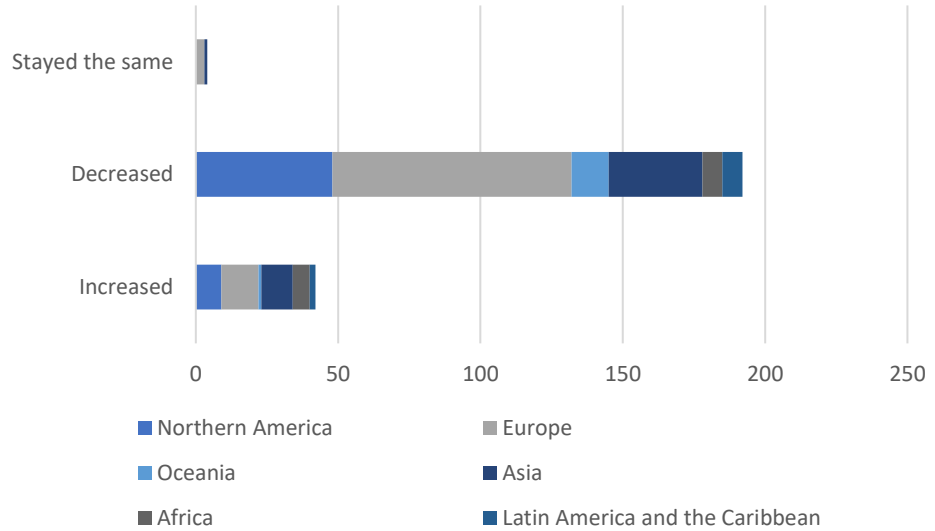
Reasons  
provided by  
companies for  
increased  
emissions



41. Figure 28 shows 192 investors have reported a decrease in their combined scope 1 and 2 emissions compared to their previous inventory; 4 have reported that emissions stayed the same and 42 reported an increase. The most frequently reported categorized reason for increased emissions is equally changes in the investor output and changes in methodology (Figure 29).

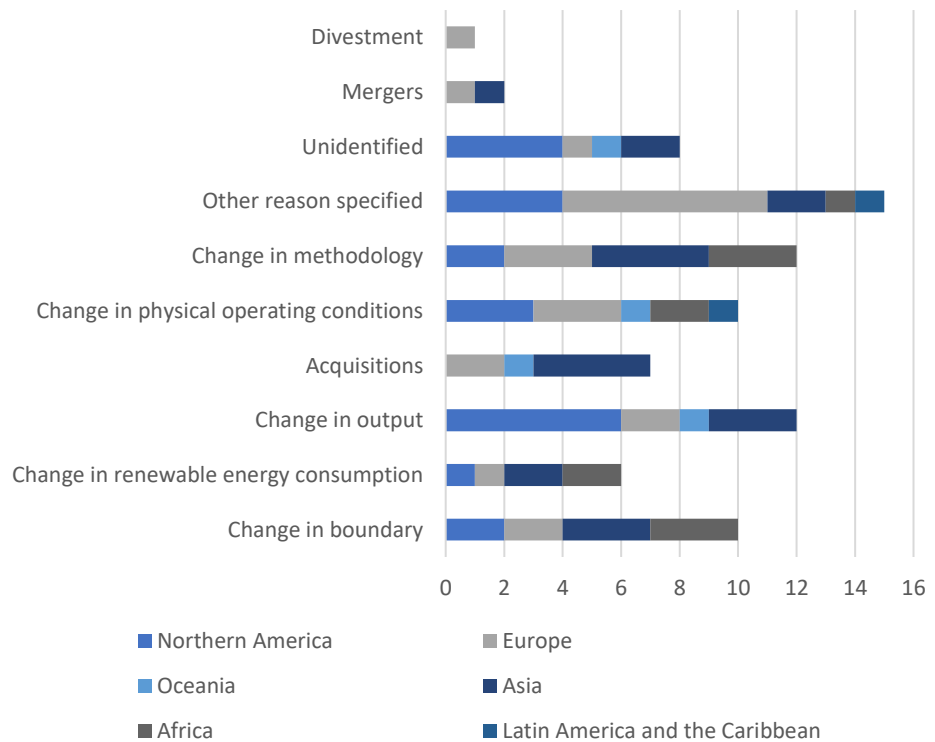
**Figure 28:**

Investors:  
 Changes in emissions compared to previous inventory



**Figure 29:**

Reasons provided by investors for increased emissions



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#### IV. GAPS, OPPORTUNITIES AND NEXT STEPS

42. The information contained in this report represents an insight into the information in GCAP focused on providing a consolidated overview of climate action undertaken by non-Party stakeholders.
43. As well as informing what is being recognized and what is being reported it also serves to highlight what is not sufficiently covered. Such gaps include; 1) progress information is not available for all non-Party stakeholder and international cooperative initiatives ; 2) information for individual stakeholders is based on the disclosures etc., made in 2020, which does not capture action and progress that has taken place since then; 3) information reported by international cooperatives initiatives is largely qualitative and therefore difficult to consolidate and showcase; 4) climate action on adaptation and finance is relatively limited compared to mitigation; 5) distribution of data of non-Party stakeholders is uneven among regions; 6) lack of common or standardized reporting approach and methodology; and 7) lack of common baselines on ambitions.
44. The UNFCCC secretariat will continue working with all stakeholders, including initiatives, data providers and the climate data community, to address these gaps and to improve the usefulness and impact of the portal as a tool to support the Global Stocktake.
45. This report will be periodically updated to incorporate the latest data, include measures taken to address the gaps mentioned above, and incorporate additional elements determined to be useful to the Global Stocktake.