

# *Low carbon cities*



*Centralized Training for Covenant of Mayors  
Supporters and Coordinators*

*10 March 2016, Zagreb*

**Giorgia Rambelli**

Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience

ICLEI Europe

# In the next 15 minutes...

- About low carbon cities
- The vision
- The challenges
- The opportunities
- Be inspired!



# Working with communities on urban sustainability

## ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

- **International network that advances local sustainability.** Established in 1990 in New York by cities, for cities.
- **Members:** 1,200+ cities, towns, counties and their associations from 70 countries – **representing ±600 million people.**



# ICLEI Europe

## Focus on local sustainable development



- ICLEI Europe: Regional office based in **Freiburg**, dealing with 40+ countries in wider Europe (also supported by ICLEI **Brussels** office).
- We engage in:
  - conducting **advocacy** (global / European / national level),
  - running **campaigns** (e.g. GreenClimateCities programme),
  - coordinator and partner in **projects**,
  - offering **services** – including capacity building
- Covenant of Mayors Supporter – ICLEI Europe is a **unique European network**, linked to a global network, addressing standards, develops protocols and tools, offers advice to municipalities and their partners.



ICLEI Europe is proud to be a Covenant Supporter



# About low carbon cities

## What is a low carbon city?

A **low carbon city** recognizes its responsibility to act.

It pursues a step-by-step approach towards carbon neutrality, urban resilience and energy security, while supporting an active green economy and stable green infrastructure.

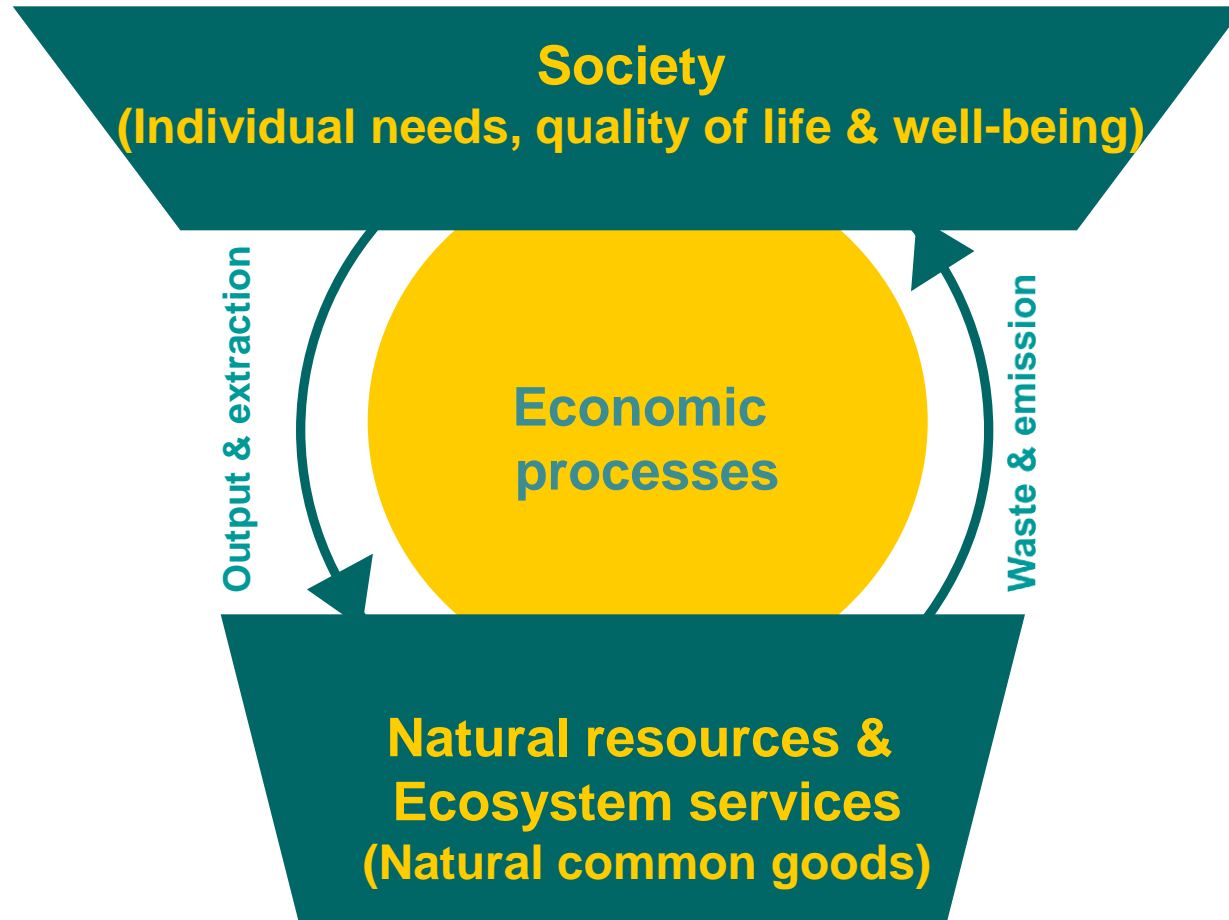


Beyond reduction of emissions



Beyond low carbon technologies

# From low carbon to sustainable

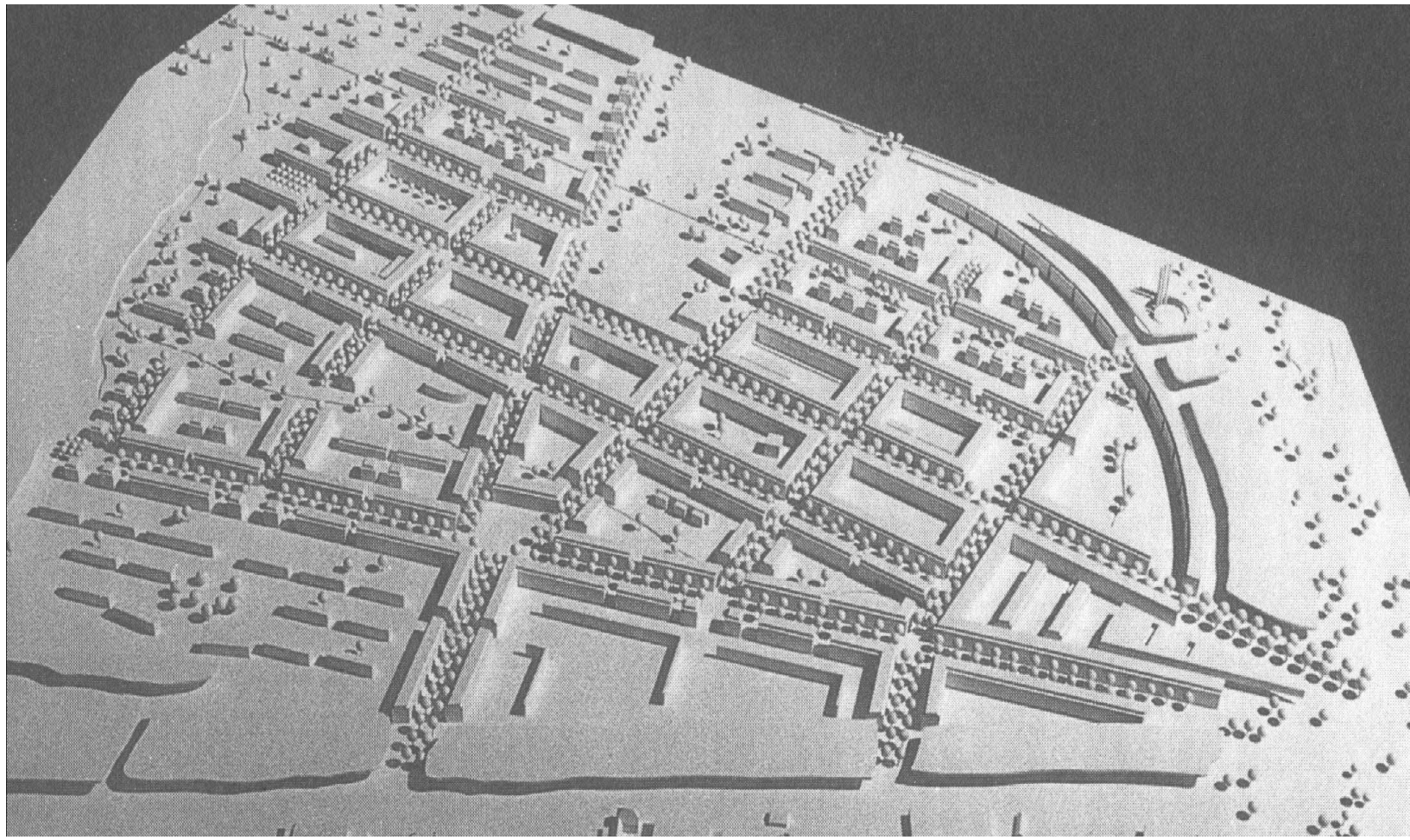


inclusive

smart

efficient

# What does this vision of low carbon transition include?



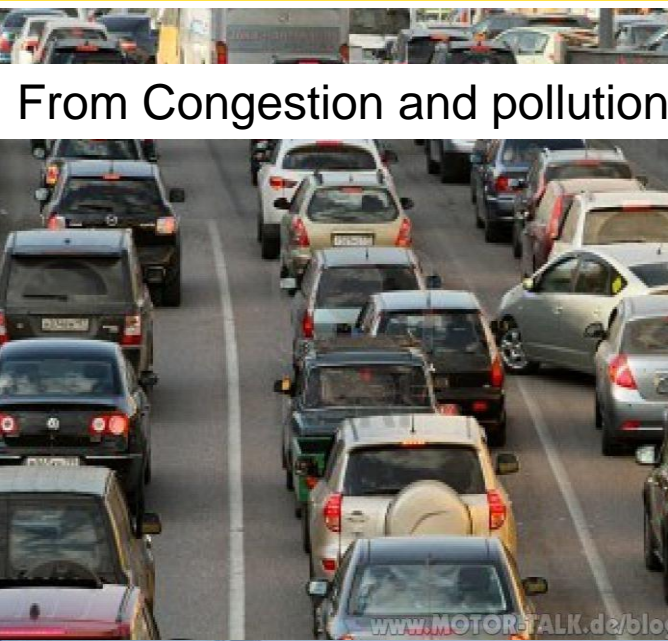


# From air pollution to

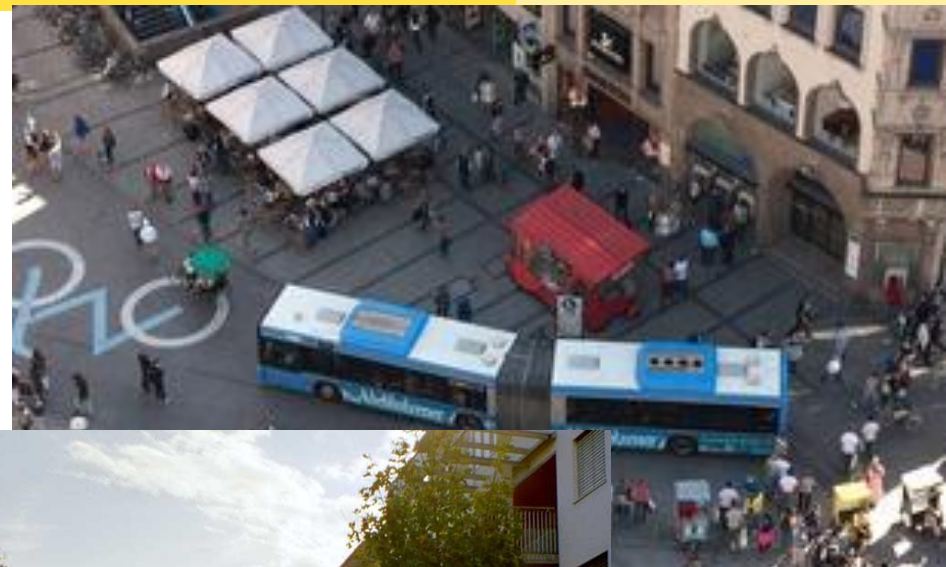


clean energies and clean air

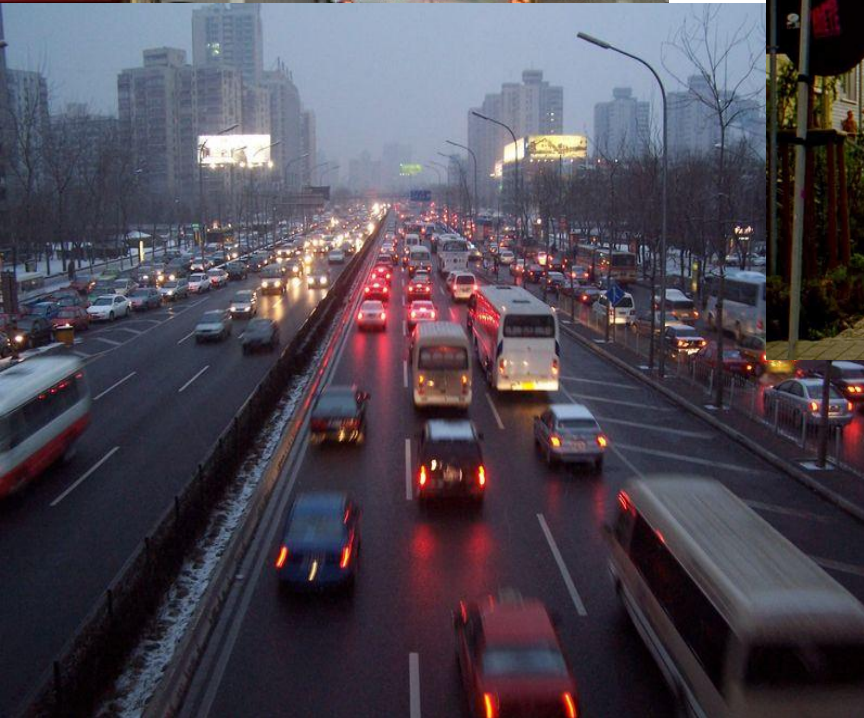




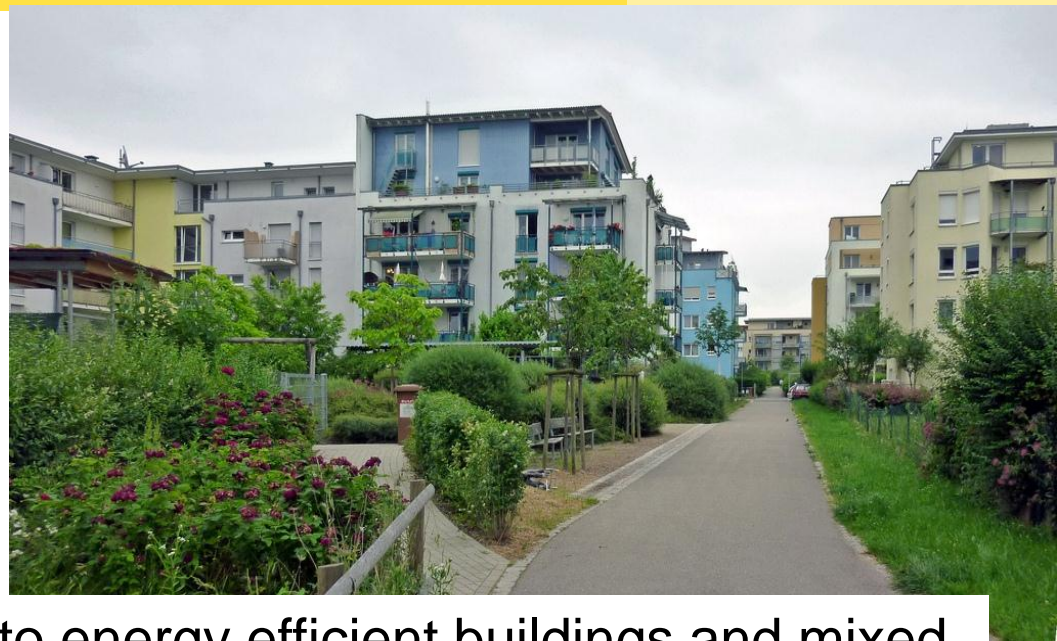
From Congestion and pollution



To efficient, clean and healthy mobility and transport services



From housing industry



to energy efficient buildings and mixed development





From grey infrastructure only



to a mix with quality green infrastructure



and ecosystem services



# Why is low-emission urban development needed?



- Job creation
- Attract new investment and technical capacity
- Reduce costs (especially energy costs)
- Improve efficiency
- Create cleaner, healthier places to live while meeting service delivery aims
- City branding and profiling at national & international level- be a leader
- Prepare for national legislation & funding
- Leapfrog old, dirty technologies
- Build new local partnerships and dialogues

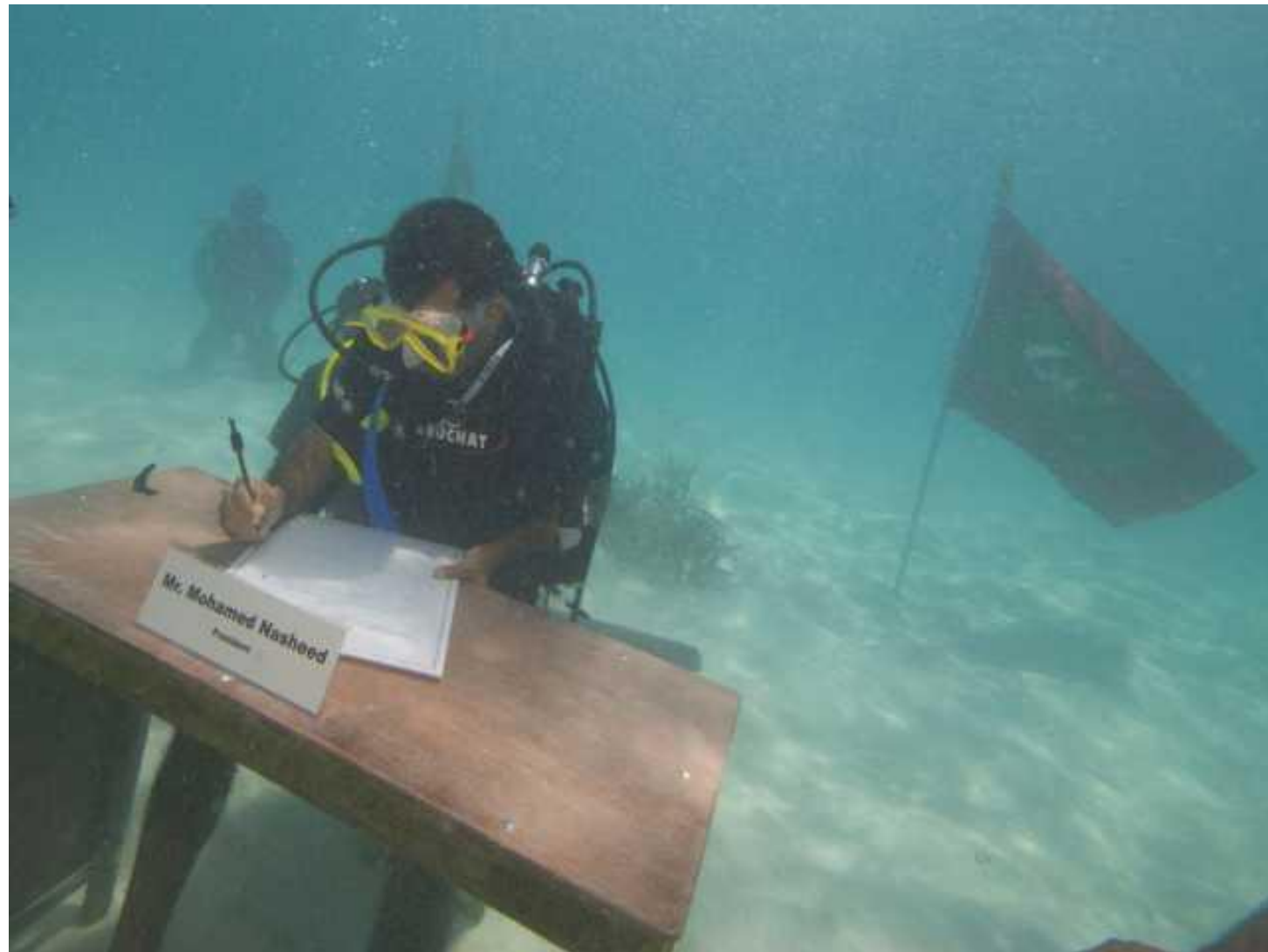


# Can we develop the city of tomorrow with the structures and systems from yesterday?



# Commitment and governance

# Changing governance models!





# Cities leading the way



## Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

Covenantofmayors.eu My Covenant

Home About Actions Participation Support Media

Search...

OK

English (en)

**211,638,122**  
*Inhabitants*

Heralded as the “world’s biggest urban climate and energy initiative” by Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete, the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy brings together thousands of local and regional authorities voluntarily committed to implementing EU climate and energy objectives on their territory.

New signatories now pledge to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and to adopt an integrated approach to tackling mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

[Read more](#)



# Real momentum can occur only when nations and cities collaborate.

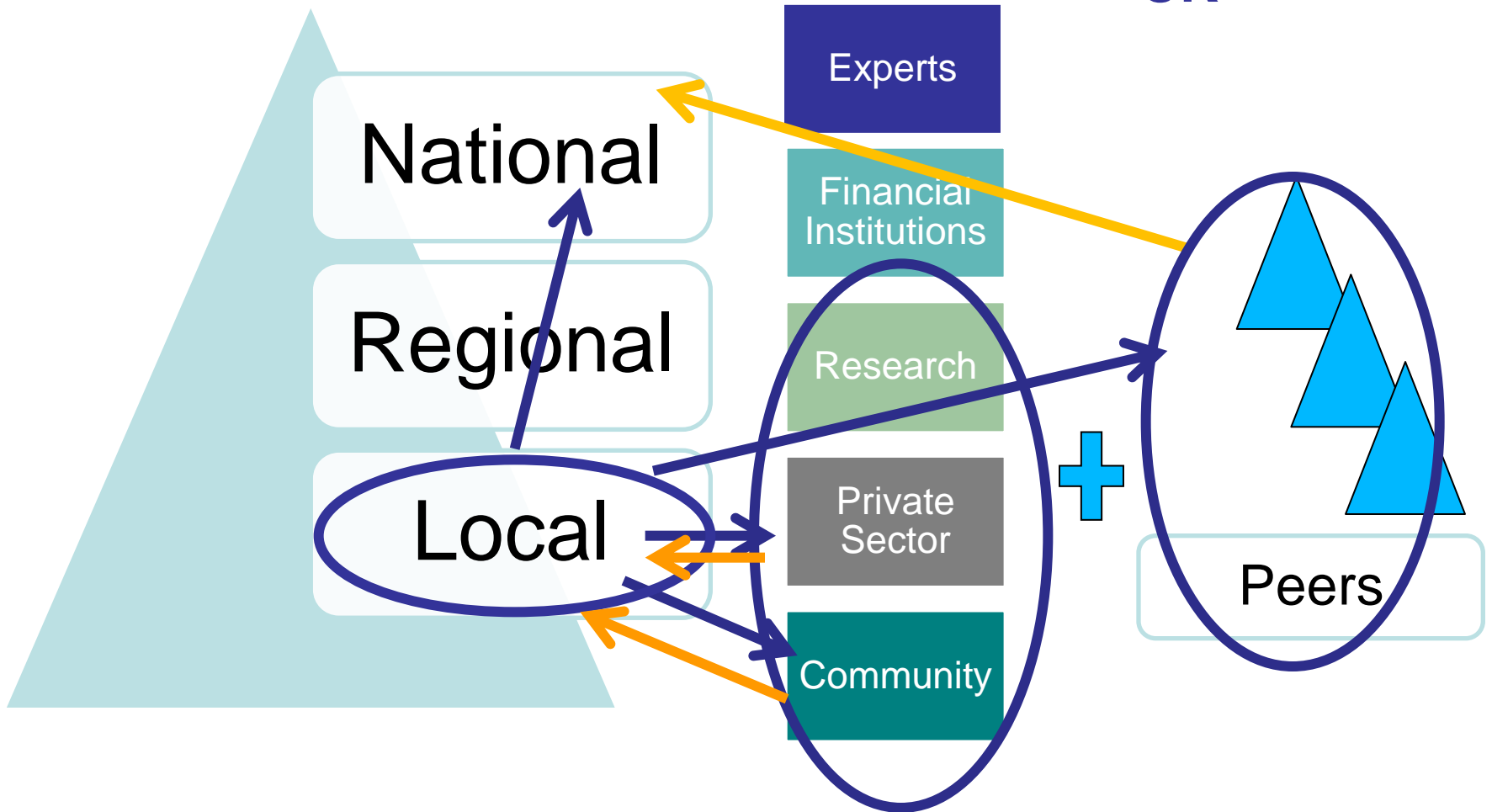
The Compact of Mayors is a global coalition of mayors and city officials committing to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, enhance resilience to climate change and track their progress publicly. It is an agreement by city networks – and then by their members – to fight climate change in a consistent and complimentary manner to national efforts.

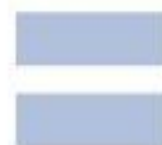


# Multi-level governance

Many possible combinations...

# Community energy in Bath, UK





Local and subnational governments

Development Agencies

Funding bodies and banks

National governments (multi-level  
cooperation)

Climate Action Reporting (Compact  
of Mayors, Carbons, ...)

TAP online platform

TAP Pavilion at COPs

# Inclusiveness

## Who is „City“?

- Fiction: City = Institution = Actor
- Reality:



# Expert Consultants, Government



Whose vision is it?



People, Stakeholders


## Key Factor: Partnership

- Industry
- Commerce
- Science
- Institutions
- NGOs
- Social Organisations
- ....



.... formal and informal  
.... but reliable, regular and continuous



A photograph showing four hands from different people reaching towards the center, each holding a piece of a puzzle. The puzzle pieces are interlocking and arranged in a circle. The colors of the pieces are orange, white, green, and red. The hands are positioned at the top-left, top-right, bottom-right, and bottom-left. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

Many actors have to put their pieces in the right place - good governance and management can make it work!

# Integrated approaches

# Integrated sustainable urban development

Use of Solar Energy

Energy efficient construction

Economic use of space and land

Shadow islands

District heating & cooling

Rain water sinks

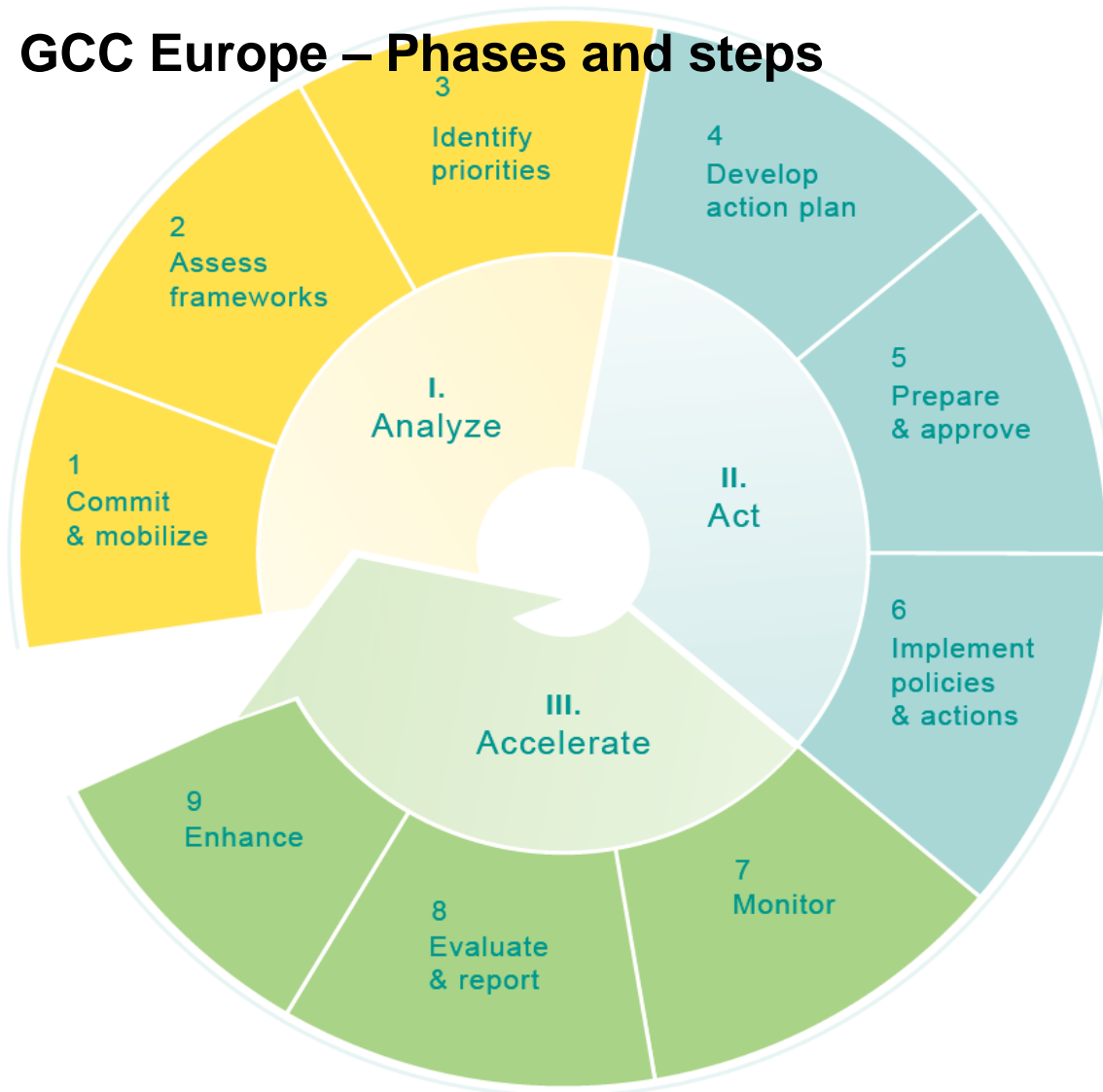
Ventilation  
Cool air generation

Public transport

Source: City of  
Freiburg

# Integrated approaches!

## GCC Europe – Phases and steps

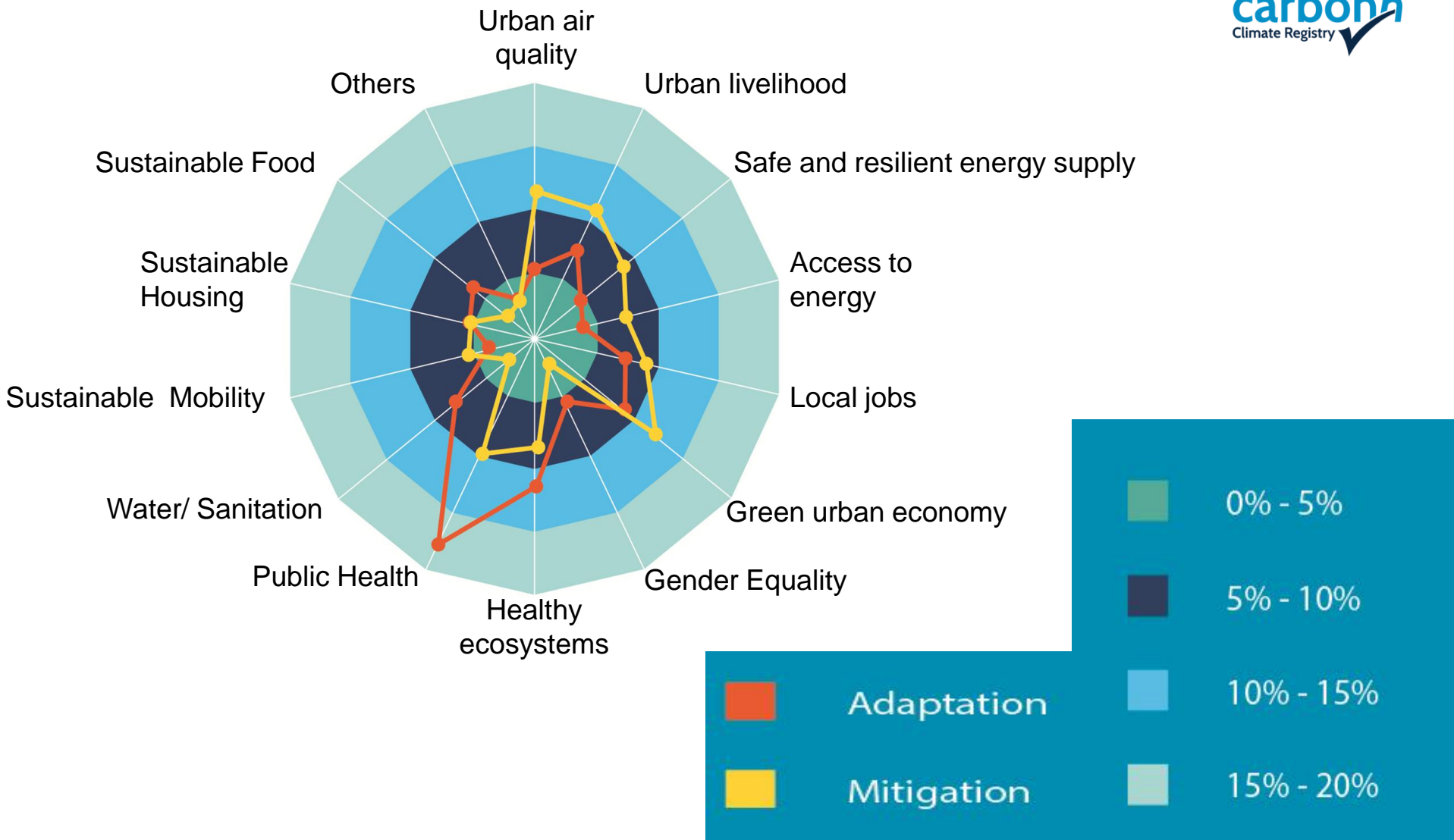


### 3x3x3 STEP methodology for :

analysis,  
planning,  
implementation,  
monitoring and  
reporting

**Fully integrating  
mitigation and  
adaptation**

# Creating added value



# Measurable Reportable Verifiable

# From vision to implementation

Backcasting (Input)



Data

Indicators

Goals

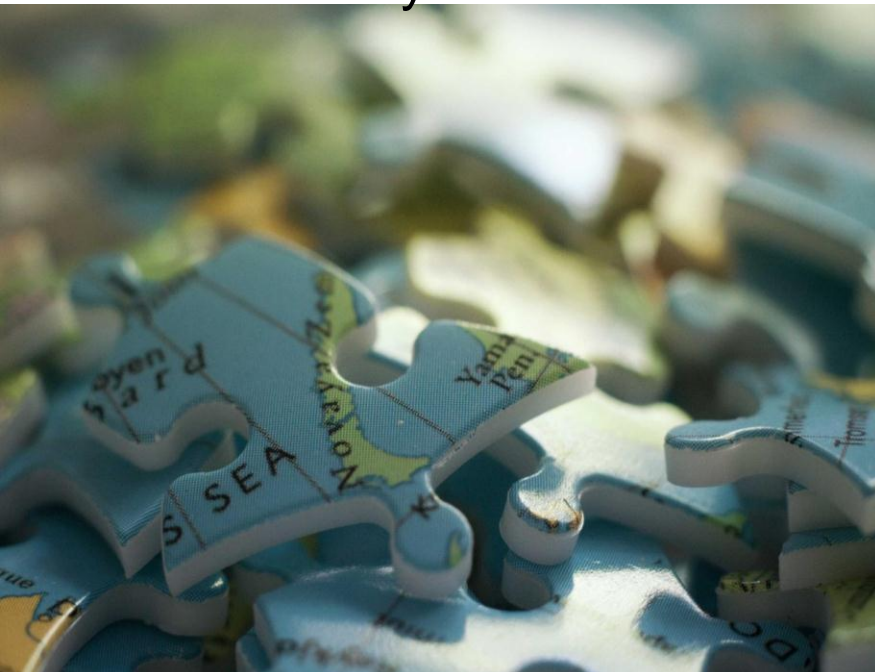
Strategy Plans Actions



Forecasting (Output)

Today

Vision



# Transparency and accountability



NAZCA registers commitments to climate action by companies, cities, subnational regions, and investors to address climate change.

Leading cooperative action on NAZCA are the Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA) transformational initiatives, which are accelerating ambition in 2015 and beyond. The LPAA encourages entities to take action now by joining these initiatives.

Both the LPAA and NAZCA were launched in Lima at COP20 and, together, will build momentum to support a universal climate agreement at COP21 in Paris this December.

More >

## The Lima-Paris Action Agenda

### Cooperative initiatives

[Discover](#) [Participants](#) [Join](#)

**Search NAZCA**

See who's taking action

**Browse**

2,253 CITIES	150 REGIONS	2,078 COMPANIES	433 INVESTORS	235 CSOs
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**11,306** TOTAL COMMITMENTS

[Register your individual commitments](#)



# Challenges, opportunities and success factors

## Challenges for the transition

unsynchronised cycles of planning, decision-making & investment

traditional governance & management culture

lack of technical expertise and knowledge

lack of 'business cases' and examples

difficult access to financing

traditional investors and beneficiaries in the sector vs.  
new actors and beneficiaries

public procurement criteria

## Opportunities from the transition

improved awareness transparency and control on natural resources, climate change and sustainability

new infrastructure as a trigger for sustainable innovation and new markets

improved quality of the environment

social inclusion and economic opportunities

Contribution to a sustainable and resilient economy

creation of new opportunities for investments and profits

increased trust in governance

## Key factors for a successful transition

clear long-term goals and vision

a solid analysis of potentials and opportunities

consequent alignment of plans and investments with the goals and vision

a good regulatory framework and favourable market conditions for sustainable infrastructure

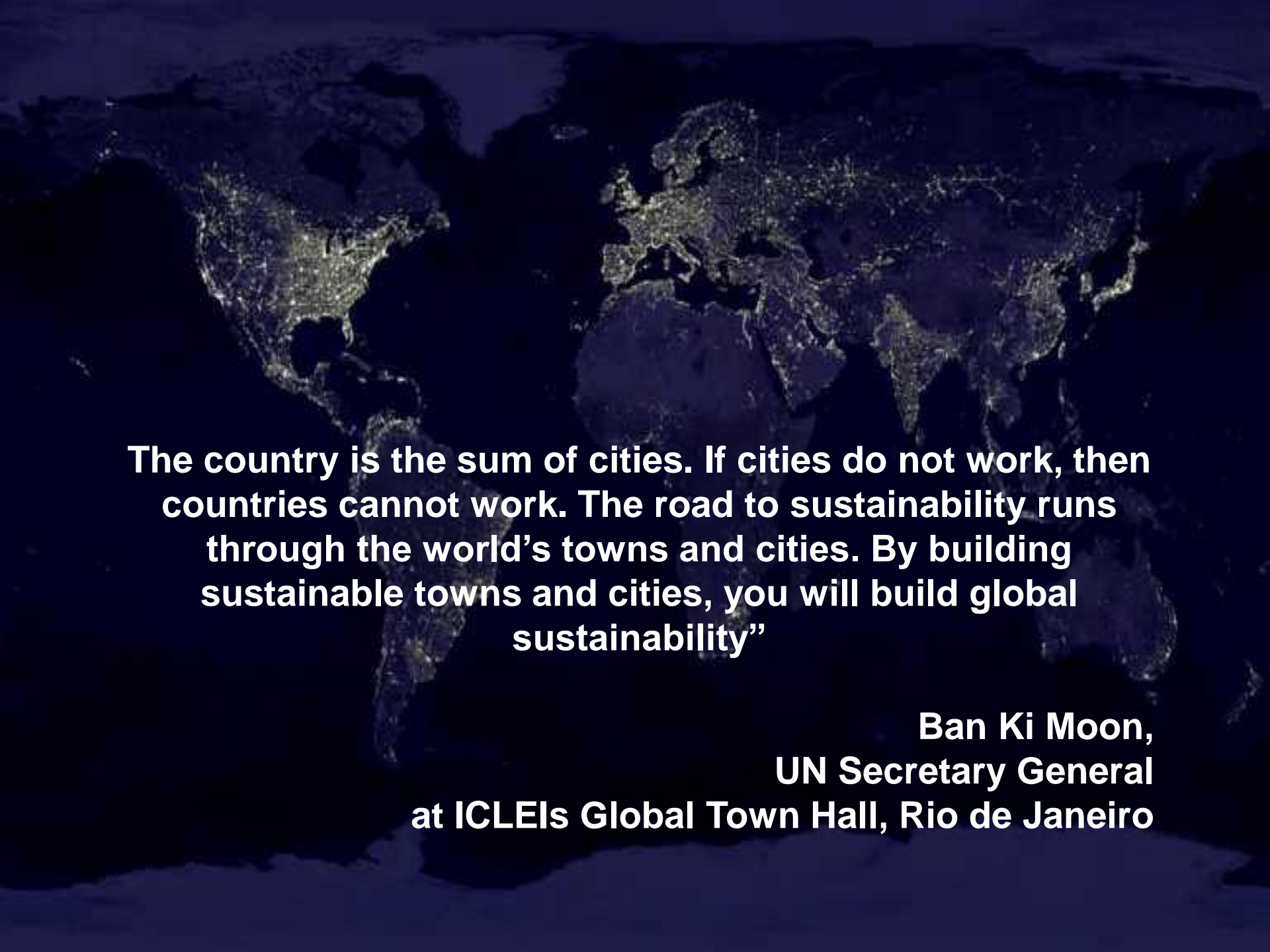
new infrastructure as a trigger for sustainable innovation and new markets

# Transformative Action: the potential for Europe



**8<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON  
SUSTAINABLE CITIES & TOWNS**

**BASQUE COUNTRY | BILBAO | 27 - 29 April 2016**

A world map at night, showing the outlines of continents and the glowing lights of cities and towns. The lights are concentrated in North America, Europe, and East Asia, with some smaller lights scattered across Africa and South America. The background is a dark, deep blue.

**The country is the sum of cities. If cities do not work, then countries cannot work. The road to sustainability runs through the world's towns and cities. By building sustainable towns and cities, you will build global sustainability"**

**Ban Ki Moon,  
UN Secretary General  
at ICLEIs Global Town Hall, Rio de Janeiro**

# To be continued...

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION!**

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