Low carbon cities

Centralized Training for Covenant of Mayors Supporters and Coordinators

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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.
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

Society
(Individual needs, quality of life & well-being)

Economic processes

Natural resources & Ecosystem services
(Natural common goods)

Output & extraction

Waste & emission

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!
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 CO₂ emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and to adopt an integrated approach to tackling mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
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
TAP
Transformative Actions Program

Mobilization of key actors

- Local and subnational governments
- Development Agencies
- Funding bodies and banks
- National governments (multi-level cooperation)

Visibilization of real and potential climate action

- Climate Action Reporting (Compact of Mayors, Carbonn, ...)
- TAP online platform
- TAP Pavilion at COPs

Raised Ambition & Accelerated Climate Action Implementation
Inclusiveness
Who is „City“?

- Fiction: City = Institution = Actor
- Reality:
  - 31 municipalities
  - 18 utilities
  - 165 Furniture stores
  - 125 Mineral oil vendors
  - 18 Internet Providers
  - 8 power plants
  - 3 millionen private households
  - 34 Bus/train operators
  - 178 construction companies
  - 383 Engineering firms
  - 4 millionen car owners
  - 277 trucking companies
  - 1 Provincial government
  - 178 construction companies
  - 8 power plants
  - 125 Mineral oil vendors
  - 18 Internet Providers
  - 3 millionen private households
  - 34 Bus/train operators
  - 383 Engineering firms
  - 4 millionen car owners
  - 277 trucking companies
  - 1 Provincial government

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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
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
- Ventilation
- Cool air generation
- District heating & cooling
- Public transport

Source: City of Freiburg

Integrated sustainable urban development
Integrated approaches!

GCC Europe – Phases and steps

I. Analyze

1. Commit & mobilize
2. Assess frameworks
3. Identify priorities

II. Act

4. Develop action plan
5. Prepare & approve
6. Implement policies & actions

III. Accelerate

7. Monitor
8. Evaluate & report
9. Enhance

3x3x3 STEP methodology for: analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting

Fully integrating mitigation and adaptation
Measurable Reportable Verifiable
From vision to implementation

Backcasting (Input)

Data → Indicators → Goals

Strategy → Plans → Actions

Forecasting (Output)

Vision → Today

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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.

Search NAZCA

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
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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