



Climate Alliance



Climate Alliance

Annual Report and Planning
2014 | 2015

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District court Frankfurt am Main (Germany), Registry number VR 10149; VAT ID No. 04525079904; President: Joachim Lorenz

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25 YEARS OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE

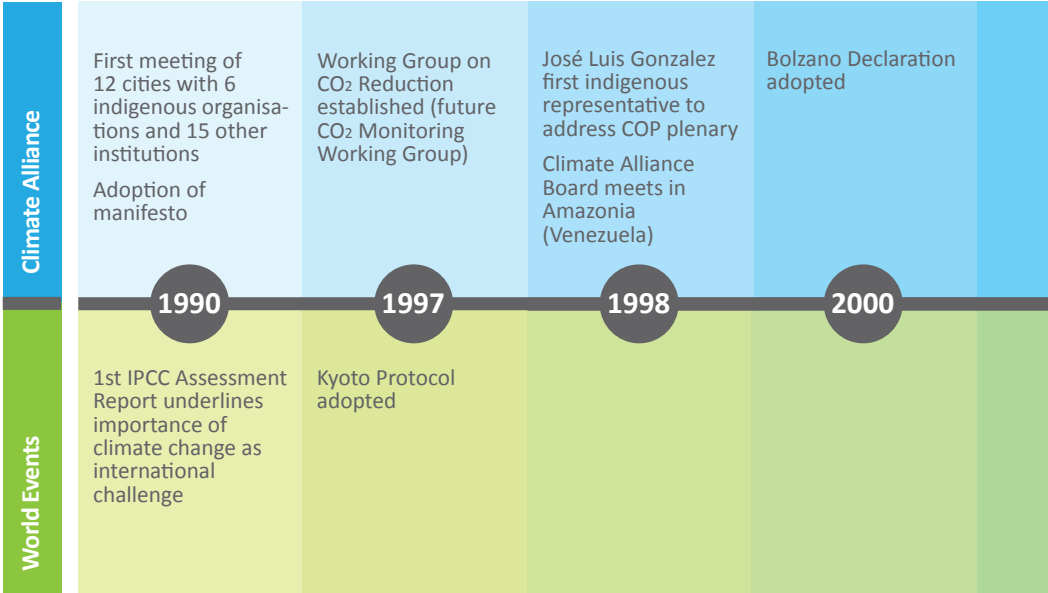


Twenty-five years of Climate Alliance – a one of a kind success story of a European network of municipalities set apart by its focus on climate change’s global dimension via a partnership with the indigenous peoples of Amazonia. From its beginnings mostly in Germany, Austria and Italy, Climate Alliance today counts over 1,700 member municipalities in 24 European countries stretching from the Atlantic coast with municipalities such as Cascais (PT) to as far east as Dolyna (UA). The Alliance’s diverse membership includes communities in Abruzzo (IT) or Vorarlberg (AT) with a few hundred residents alongside those like Berlin (DE) or the Province of Barcelona (ES) with millions.

I have had the pleasure of serving in the Climate Alliance Executive Board since 2000, a point at which ambitious Climate Alliance goals as they stand today were set out in the Bolzano declaration and a time at which the Alliance prioritised work with national and European political bodies. It was at this point, too, that climate efforts first took their place in the day to day operations of municipal politics.

Since then, Climate Alliance has been represented at the annual UN Climate Change Conferences, presenting the goals, efforts and successes of its member municipalities and encouraging negotiating partners to take on their own

1996
Climate Alliance
membership reaches 500

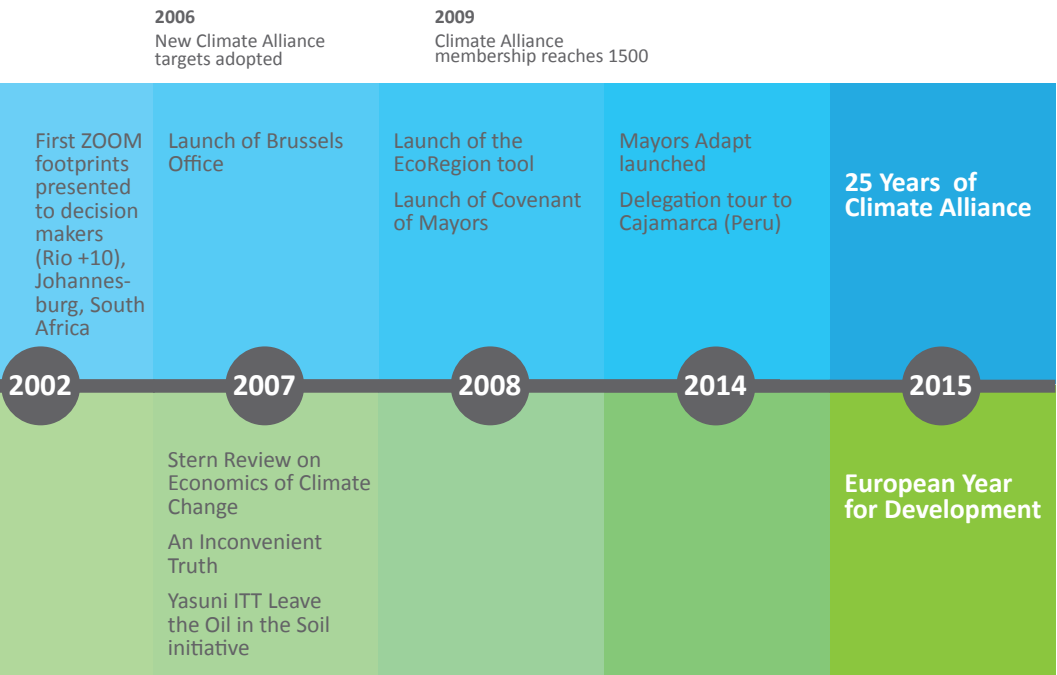


ambitious targets. Last year’s conference in Lima was a particularly unique opportunity for our indigenous partners to present facts about forest degradation as well as their tools for sustainable rainforest protection to governmental and non-governmental institutions.

In 2006, a study was commissioned on the reachability of Climate Alliance goals. The result: for active municipalities, the halving of CO₂ emissions by 2030 is feasible. On this basis came the scientifically backed suggestion for a reformulation of Climate Alliance’s goals, adopted thereafter by the General Assembly.

The following year stood worldwide as the beginning of a new era in climate efforts. Inconvenient truths such as peak oil and visible signs of climate change sped up local authorities’ appreciation of the challenge at hand. Climate Alliance founded its Brussels Office and has been a direct contact for EU institutions ever since. A tangible result was the EU’s Covenant of Mayors, an initiative very much formed by Climate Alliance in conjunction with other networks. Municipalities became more active than ever before and local activities finally received both attention and financial support from regions, nations and the EU.

Today, sustainable energy and climate protection on the local level are fortunately no longer foreign concepts. The pursuit of these themes is, however, littered with hurdles in terms of municipal budgets and jobs. Instituting successful climate policy while going about business as usual has thus been a major Climate Alliance



topic over the last years. In pushing for more sustainable consumption patterns, we have much to learn from our indigenous partners and their alternative economies. Current Climate Alliance projects related to overconsumption and the European Year of Development, as well as the associated offers for member municipalities, are of great significance in this sense.

Municipalities will continue to be pillars of climate protection and Climate Alliance members are catalysts for local planning of climate efforts, questions of sustainable urban development, awareness raising and resident involvement, as well as for opening up new spheres of activity. I wish Climate Alliance members continued success and thank them for both their commitment and their dedication to our common goal.



Joachim Lorenz

President of Climate Alliance

AN ALLIANCE FOR THE CLIMATE

The towns and cities of the Climate Alliance form a unique network that not only recognises the need for global climate action, but embeds it in municipal planning. Each member municipality has passed a local resolution committing itself to local action on the basis of key commitments:

- to reducing CO₂ emissions by 10% every five years and to halve per capita emissions by 2030 (from a 1990 baseline)
- protecting tropical rainforests, by, for example, avoiding the use of tropical timber and supporting the initiatives of the indigenous partners

Over the last quarter century, the Climate Alliance has become a powerful community for climate change mitigation. Since its beginnings in 1990, more than 1,700 cities, municipalities and districts in 25 European countries have joined the Climate Alliance along with a variety of regional governments, NGOs and other like-minded organisations. In 2014, Great Britain (Oxford) and Croatia (Daruvar and Križevci) were represented for the first time among the Climate Alliance membership.

Executive Board

The members of the Climate Alliance Executive Board are elected by the members for two-year terms. The current board consists of 11 members from 8 European countries as well as from Ecuador, representing the Coordinating Body for the Indigenous Peoples' Organisations of the Amazon Basin (COICA). In conjunction with the European Secretariat and the Brussels Office, the Executive Board members define Climate Alliance's priorities and its strategic orientation. Its members meet twice annually to discuss key Climate Alliance issues and regularly share their expectations and priorities with the European Secretariat, the Brussels Office and the National Coordinators. Executive Board members are also active year round as political spokespersons for the network, representing Climate Alliance at various high-level meetings and events.

Joachim Lorenz, Climate Alliance board member since 2000 and President since 2007 as well as Karl-Ludwig Schibel, board member since Climate Alliance's founding in 1990 and National Coordinator for Italy, will be giving up their seats on the board in 2015. Climate Alliance thanks them for their tireless service and continued commitment.



Joachim Lorenz

President, Permanent City Councillor for Health and Environment, City of Munich, Germany



Jorge Furagaro

Vice-President, Coordinator for Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity of the COICA in Quito, Ecuador



Holger Matthäus

Treasurer, Senator for Buildings and Environment, City of Rostock, Germany



Tine Heyse

Councillor of the City of Ghent, Belgium



Karin Hungerbühler

City of St. Gallen, Switzerland



Julie Laernoës

Vice President of Nantes Métropole, France



Rainer Handlfinger

Mayor of Ober-Grafendorf, Austria



Joan Puigdollers I Fargas

Councillor of Environment at Barcelona City Council, Deputy President of Natural Spaces and Environment at Barcelona Provincial Council, Spain



Karl-Ludwig Schibel

Città di Castello, Italy



Eva Schobesberger

City Councillor of Linz, Austria

European Secretariat and Brussels Office

As of December 2014, Climate Alliance employed a total of 31 people sharing 24.7 full-time positions at the European Secretariat in Frankfurt, Germany and its lobbying and policy office in Brussels, Belgium, both under the direction of Climate Alliance Executive Director Thomas Brose. A number of volunteers and temporary staff also support Climate Alliance activities.

Work includes providing assistance to members as well as the creation of member offerings through a wide array of projects, initiatives and campaigns in the fields of municipal climate action, CO₂ monitoring tools, renewables, forestry and timber, indigenous peoples and EU policy, just to name a few. Additional work goes into management of the Covenant of Mayors and Mayors Adapt initiatives, lobbying on the EU level, as well as communication, press and public relations work.

National Coordination Offices

Climate Alliance National Coordination Offices help provide local guidance to members in their regions while allowing for more direct political and strategic involvement of the Climate Alliance at national levels. Currently, National Coordinators are active in a total of six countries including Germany, which is covered by the European Secretariat in Frankfurt. The European Secretariat and the National Coordinators meet twice a year, often in conjunction with the meetings of the Executive Board.

Climate Alliance Austria – Klimabündnis Österreich

www.klimabuendnis.at

Climate Alliance Hungary – Magyarországi Éghajlatvédelmi Szövetség

www.eghajlatvedelmiszovetseg.hu

Climate Alliance Italy – Alleanza per il Clima

www.climatealliance.it

Climate Alliance Luxembourg – Alliance pour le Climat Luxembourg

www.klimabuendnis.lu

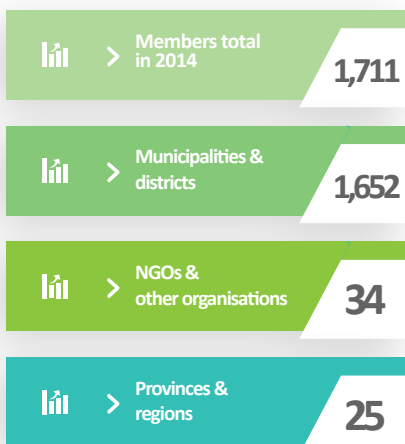
Climate Alliance Switzerland – Klimabündnis-Städte Schweiz (KBSS)

www.klimabuendnis.ch

CONTACT US!

Contacts available on climatealliance.org

CLIMATE ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP



2014 MEMBERSHIP FACTS

Climate Alliance membership covered 53 million inhabitants in 25 different countries

20 new members joined the community – up 12% from 2013

“THE LIFE-SUSTAINING ENVELOPE OF THE EARTH COULD BE CATAPULTED BACK TO THE DINOSAUR AGE AS A RESULT OF OUR USE OF FOSSIL FUELS – AND THIS WITH THE VERY INTENSE AND UNPREDICTABLE CONSEQUENCES OF A CHANGE IN CLIMATE. FOR OVER 20 YEARS, THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE HAS OFFERED OVER 1,700 CITIES AND TOWNS THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE. THROUGH SHARED EXPERIENCE, THE AVAILABLE COURSES OF ACTION TO PROTECT OUR CLIMATE AND ADAPT TO UNAVOIDABLE CHANGES SUDDENLY MULTIPLY! AN ABSOLUTE MUST FOR FUTURE-ORIENTED URBAN DEVELOPMENT.”

Holger Matthäus, Climate Alliance board member and Senator for Buildings and Environment, City of Rostock (DE)



DEVELOPING EUROPE

Developing Europe, the title of the 2015 International Climate Alliance Conference, highlights the importance of a new definition of development – development that is sustainable and that broadens the traditional, narrow focus on economic growth to include both ecological and social aspects. Almost 20 years ago, sustainable development was defined as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”¹ Yet Europe, which is considered ‘developed’ and which is lauded in the world arena for its sustainability policies, still has one of the largest ecological footprints in the world. How can the continuous flow of resources from the so-called developing countries to the developed ones be part of a sustainable development?

In light of oft-cited ‘common but differentiated responsibilities,’ Europe, as a main beneficiary of the current global infrastructure, must do its part to tackle global challenges head on. Is the current European development strategy really coherent with a sustainable future for all?

Development is understood as being directly related to living standards; as a process of change that directly affects peoples’ lives. While development may bring improvements, though, it is not always such a positive process. Instead of blindly believing that development is always good, we must question this paradigm and take responsibility! Where do we want to go and how to we want to live in the future?

2015 – The year to set the course!

In terms of development, 2015 has the potential to be a turning point during which the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is reached and negotiations for a post-2015 framework take place. It is the time to both look back, evaluating the progress made towards achievement of the MDGs, and look forward in defining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the decade to come. Now is also the moment to translate global strategy into local action and work together towards a positive global transition. To mark this turning point, the European Union has named 2015 the European Year for Development (EYD2015).

¹ Brundtland Definition from WCED 1987: Our common future

This first ever European Year dealing with the EU's global impacts provides an unparalleled opportunity to engage citizens and to showcase Europe's commitment to worldwide poverty eradication. Now is the moment to translate global strategy into local action and work together towards a positive global transition.

Often serving as the bridge between the national and European levels on the one side and individual citizens on the other, local authorities are well-positioned to instigate positive change in this regard. At the level of local administration, municipalities can make direct and sweeping changes in economic and social infrastructure as well as in urban planning and development. They are closest to the citizens and their needs, and can thus raise awareness for sustainable change processes among the general public. Local authorities are really centre stage when it comes to developing Europe in a sustainable way!

Climate Alliance's work is based on the recognition that the current develop-

ment trajectory, characterised by the overuse of natural resources globally, is having a detrimental impact on the environment and leading to dramatic social problems. In cooperation with its indigenous partners of the Amazon rainforest and its over 1,700 members, Climate Alliance is facing these global challenges and working on local solutions.

Countless Climate Alliance members are already developing Europe through their work in local climate protection projects, their support of a sustainable transition movement or their partnerships with indigenous peoples in which they support activities such as solar lamps.

We stand united in the knowledge that effective climate protection can only be achieved if we also curb resource consumption in Europe. To highlight our commitment over the last 25 years and stress 2015 as a turning point for sustainable development, the Climate Alliance General Assembly will vote in spring 2015 on a resolution dedicated to the EYD2015.



Villagers on the Marañon River, Peru
Photo © Jacob Held

ENERGY SECURITY

For the last 25 years, Climate Alliance has championed the efficient use and sustainable production of energy for all, thus contributing to the 'developing of Europe'. Climate Alliance members, with the ambitious Climate Alliance emissions reductions commitments as their goal, are taking action on EU objectives calling for a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 (indeed, Climate Alliance members are pressing the EU to take even more responsibility, calling for a 40% total share of renewables and 40% increase in energy efficiency by 2030). By concentrating on energy efficiency measures paired with increasingly renewable-based energy supplies, these local authorities are also ensuring a secure supply of energy for their citizens.

Energy security is of increasing relevance in Europe due to recent geopolitical turmoil. In response to the crisis in Ukraine, the EU Commission launched its Energy Security Strategy in 2014. The strategy acknowledges the importance of the Covenant of Mayors, urging Member States to "speed up measures to achieve the 2020 energy efficiency target, focusing on heating and insulation in particular in buildings and industry, notably through accelerated implementation of the SEAPs submitted by municipalities participating in the Covenant of Mayors."

It was the first time that the Commission put local actors and decentralisa-

tion of the energy system at centre stage, but it will certainly not be the last. The local level has become the driving force for energy security. The way in which the topic is viewed has also broadened: energy security is no longer limited to the building of new infrastructure to keep up with increasing demand, but now is beginning to include the reduction of demand through increased energy efficiency and the production of energy from locally-based, renewable sources. As such, energy security has become a responsibility shared by everyone, citizens included. Local governments can play an essential role in moderating energy consumption and using local energy resources to satisfy local energy demand.

The EU is the world's largest energy importer. An incredible 53% of its energy is brought in from abroad to the tune of around €400 billion annually. This fact may make Europe vulnerable, but it also pushes Europe to lead by example in pursuing energy security through increased energy efficiency and more decentralised energy production on the basis of local renewable sources. Empowering local actors to follow this path brings added value. Local action can boost local economies, create new jobs and increase competitiveness, all while helping to mitigate climate change.



Photo ©Daniel Pfund via Flickr

FROM LIMA TO PARIS

The UN Climate Change Conference held in Lima, Peru, in December 2014 was to prepare the foundation for a post-Kyoto pact to be agreed in Paris at the end of 2015. Unfortunately, agreement was found by enhancing the flexibility of each country's emissions reduction commitments. Unlike the binding reduction goals set in the Kyoto Protocol, in the new agreement, each country is to set its own goals in line with its national capabilities (the so-called INDCs or Intended Nationally Determined Contributions).

All countries willing to do so can thus submit their voluntary commitment to the UN Climate Secretariat by the end of March 2015, justifying why they believe their goals to be fair and ambitious in "light of the national circumstances." A less binding agreement could hardly be possible. The mechanisms controlling how and whether these goals are achieved are also to be applied with great flexibility. With a generous deadline that lays far in the future, the time frame for the entire process has shifted: the ratification process is to be completed in 2020. Many years of high emissions will therefore pass before the process even begins. In light of the increasingly urgent warnings from scientists on the observed effects of the climate changes and their impacts (see, for example, the IPCC's Fifth Assessment

Report), this delay signifies an existential threat for millions that do not have the resources to protect themselves from rising seas or increasingly frequent extreme weather events. The political will for concrete action seems sadly almost in-existent, due in part to the cheap fossil fuels flooding the markets.

The market will set things right

The importance of political decisions is being downplayed in favour of market mechanisms, which are ever more touted as the answer to the problems we face. Since the conference in Lima, a new 'wonder' instrument has come on the scene in addition to emissions trading, the associated CDM instruments, and the REDD-Programme² for the reduction of deforestation. Biomass is to be used for electricity and heat production while CO₂ is to be 'stored' in geological formations. In this way, negative CO₂ balances can supposedly be attained. The new instrument, which primes the land for timber plantations and monocultures, has a name: Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS). The rights of indigenous peoples, whose territory stores almost half of all organic matter in the Amazon region and is critical for a variety of other social and ecological services, will only be put under further pressure with such instruments.

"...WE NOW HAVE EVIDENCE THAT WHERE THERE ARE STRONG RIGHTS, THERE ARE STANDING FORESTS. WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THE REGION'S CARBON LIES ON INDIGENOUS AND PROTECTED LANDS, IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF DECISION MAKERS TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE AND THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS FOREST PEOPLES."

Edwin Vásquez, President of COICA

Even if an agreement is reached in Paris, it can be assumed from current developments in the negotiations that it will not be enough to decisively curb climate change and keep to the political maximum of a two degree global temperature rise. Ambitious local commitments paired with action are thus essential in the fight against disastrous climate change.

² Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) is an incentive-based mechanism for reducing greenhouse gas emissions under negotiation by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2005.

EUROPEAN LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES LEAD THE WAY

The local level plays an increasingly important role in light of lacking commitments internationally. The efforts of municipalities to steer towards a carbon-free energy supply through the promotion of energy efficiency and renewable energy must thus be more strongly integrated into national and European strategies. During the Lima Conference, Climate Alliance organised a joint event with the Committee of the Regions on the importance of local action and multi-level governance in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This event highlighted the crucial role of local and regional authorities in reaching both international and European emissions reduction targets, focusing on frameworks that support local action, such as the Covenant of Mayors. Climate Alliance, as the largest European network in the municipal climate arena, remains a critical platform to facilitate this much needed change.

Beyond REDD: Indigenous strategies in forest protection

Forest protection, in addition to municipal action, is essential in the fight against climate change. In recognition of this, the UN created its REDD instrument for the promotion of emissions reductions via forest conservation. Many, however, remain sceptical as to whether REDD can secure the forest ecosystem, fearing that it will instead thwart actual emissions reductions through the promotion of cheap certificates. Indigenous peoples in particular have reason to worry that REDD may negatively impact their homelands. They have thus presented an alternative proposal called the Amazon Indigenous REDD+ (RIA). RIA offers a simple and low-cost instrument already contributing to the maintenance of carbon stock in forests by protecting indigenous territories through legal recognition. In cooperation with governmental and non-governmental institutions as well as indigenous representatives, Climate Alliance hosted a RIA side event in Lima. The link between local climate protection in Europe and support for indigenous organisations as a key contribution to the protection of tropical forests was presented to an international audience, receiving widespread attention.

FOREST CARBON IN AMAZONIA

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AND INVESTMENT IN INDIGENOUS AND PROTECTED AREAS IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURING THEIR CONTINUED CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CLIMATE STABILITY.

“FOREST CARBON IN AMAZONIA: THE UNRECOGNISED CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES AND PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS,” A REPORT CO-AUTHORED BY COICA AND PRESENTED IN LIMA, SHOWS THAT 55% OF CARBON STORED IN THE AMAZON IS IN PROTECTED INDIGENOUS AREAS, AND THAT NEARLY ONE-FIFTH OF THOSE TROPICAL FORESTS IS AT RISK OF EXPLOITATION BY MINING, LOGGING AND AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS. THE REPORT REVEALS THE UNPRECEDENTED AMOUNT OF CARBON STORED WITHIN THE NINE-NATION NETWORK OF AMAZONIAN INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES AND PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS.

EU POLICY

With a new European Parliament taking seat and the election of Jean-Claude Juncker as Commission President in July 2014 followed by the appointment of new commissioners in November 2014, things have been busy in Brussels. Still, the focus remains on energy in terms of the EU's 2030 goals. A push to form an 'Energy Union' as well as a well-deserved focus on financing, helped along by the Juncker plan, are among the topics on which Climate Alliance is weighing in, calling to place local authorities front and centre while making the views and needs of its members heard.

2030 framework on climate and energy policy

Backed by the 2014 Climate Alliance resolution on a sustainable energy future, Climate Alliance's work on the 2030 framework for climate and energy policy has continued to be a priority. With this resolution, Climate Alliance members delivered a strong message, calling for a halving of emissions by 2030 as compared to 1990 levels backed by a 40% renewable energy share and a 40% increase in energy efficiency.

This proposal has been widely disseminated to relevant policy contacts throughout the EU Commission and EU cabinets. Climate Alliance was invited

to showcase local examples of energy efficiency during an informal Council of Energy Ministers meeting in May 2014, where the 2014 resolution as well as a paper entitled "Competitive Europe: the local authority vision for 2030 climate and energy policies" was presented to Commissioner Oettinger and Greek Minister Yiannis Maniatis. Close cooperation with the Committee of the Regions (CoR) also ensured Climate Alliance views were included in the CoR report, "A policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030." Finally, board member Tine Heyse presented Climate Alliance calls as well as the resolution during the 2014 European Sustainable Energy Week at a high level debate on the 2030 framework organised by the CoR.

In a joint declaration entitled, "Local actions are key to European energy security," Climate Alliance and the other four networks running the Covenant of Mayors pledged strategic action to support their members in contributing to EU energy security. On request of the Commission's Directorate General for Energy, the networks organised an event on energy security, held in October 2014 in Brussels.

Energy Union

The so-called 'Energy Union' is currently a hot topic in Brussels – a construct that integrates a variety of policy areas into one cohesive strategy. Its five dimensions aim to foster greater energy security, sustainability and competitiveness:

- Energy security, solidarity and trust
- A fully integrated European energy market
- Energy efficiency as a moderator of demand
- Decarbonisation of the economy
- Research, innovation and competitiveness

Parallel to the EU's launching of its Energy Union paper in February 2015, Climate Alliance members Florence (IT) and Frankfurt (DE) presented Climate Alliance views during a mayor's roundtable on Smart Cities, hosted by EU Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič. This event, with some 20 local leaders from across Europe in attendance, will hopefully signal the start of a closer dialogue between the Commission and local authorities.

Climate Alliance will continue advocating for a bottom-up Energy Union based on the energy transition and the needs of citizens. This includes ensuring the continuation of the Covenant of Mayors and placing local authorities at the Energy Union's centre.

Climate and energy financing

In order to make the changes needed for the energy transition, appropriate financing is needed. Energy financing has recently gotten a boost via the Juncker proposal, which calls for the creation of a €315 billion investment plan for Europe and a European Fund for Strategic Investment in partnership with the European Investment Bank (EIB). Climate Alliance issued a letter to President Juncker and to the Permanent Representations highlighting the importance of putting local authorities and regions at the heart of the plan, which should be based on the exemplary actions at the local level. Climate Alliance believes municipalities must have an integral role in defining the new financing instrument based on the experiences of its members and has offered its willingness to act in the yet-to-be established investment advisory body.

"EUROPEAN CITIES ARE THE MOST AMBITIOUS WHEN IT COMES TO CLIMATE AND ENERGY. THE ENERGY UNION, THE COVENANT OF MAYORS, MAYORS ADAPT, SMART CITIES, THE JUNCKER INVESTMENT PLAN... ALL SHOW THAT EUROPE IS THE WORLD LEADER. WE NEED TO EXPORT THIS MODEL ACROSS THE WORLD BECAUSE GLOBAL WARMING IS A GLOBAL FIGHT. BY BECOMING 'ENERGY UNION AMBASSADORS' AT HOME AND ABROAD, EUROPEAN CITIES WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD THE FIGHT AGAINST GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE."

EU Commissioner Cañete at the Summit of Mayors of EU Capitals and Large Cities in Paris, March 2015

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is also revising its approach to supporting climate action. Climate Alliance has asked the EIB to provide an increased number of better suited financing instruments for local authorities. The current financing available is often too complex for smaller and medium-sized municipalities and must thus be better tailored to fit various municipal needs and sizes. As European funds are increasingly being distributed via the EIB's financial instruments, ensuring an adequate understanding of local needs is essential.

Spring 2015 will be key in setting the Horizon 2020 programme priorities for 2016 and 2017. With Pirita Lindholm of the Climate Alliance Brussels Office appointed to the Commission's Horizon 2020 advisory group on energy, Climate Alliance has a direct opportunity to shape EU financing priorities over the next years.

One key policy priority is energy efficiency, underlined in the recent Commission paper on the Energy Union, which stresses efficiency first. Yet, implementing energy efficiency measures and investing in energy efficiency is still a bottle neck in EU energy policy. According to a 2012 European Commission study, support for energy savings amounted to a meagre €9 billion, less than 8% of the €113 billion provided in the field of energy for the EU28. Buildings are responsible for 40% of total energy use and 36% of the EU's emissions. Promoting and implementing energy efficiency within the building stock, on the basis of solutions such as Passive House, for example, is therefore a key Climate Alliance objective. Climate Alliance is thus advocating for financing earmarked for energy efficiency investments by local authorities to be included in the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI).

"WE KNOW THAT MOST CO₂ EMISSIONS ARE LINKED TO ACTIVITIES AT CITY-LEVEL, BUT SO ARE THE SOLUTIONS. THAT IS WHY WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER AND WHY NETWORKS SUCH AS CLIMATE ALLIANCE ARE IMPORTANT. YOU FEEL SUPPORTED AS YOU KNOW OTHER CITIES ARE MAKING EFFORTS AS WELL, BECAUSE YOU ARE LEARNING FROM EACH AND BECAUSE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT LOCAL AUTHORITIES CAN INFLUENCE OTHER LEVELS OF POLICY SUCH AS THE NATIONAL, EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS."

Tine Heyse, Deputy Mayor of Ghent (BE)

FINANCING CLIMATE ACTION

Big ideas and idealistic goals amount to nothing without the proper financial backing. This is a common theme for local authorities when trying to implement climate action plans and is something Climate Alliance is taking seriously. Via the Climate Alliance Brussels Office, Climate Alliance lobbies for an increased number of financing opportunities that are better suited to the needs and realities of local authorities. The first of a new series of 'brokerage events' was started in late 2014, providing information on seven different European funding lines and facilitating the partner search for interested municipalities. Finally, the working group on financing as well as two new projects, CITYnvest and Citizenergy, both focusing on aspects of funding, complement Climate Alliance work in this area.

CITYnvest – Increasing Capacities in Cities for Innovative Financing in Energy Efficiency

Reducing energy consumption and eliminating useless waste are among the main goals of the EU and the future Energy Union. Our building stock, a major contributor to total energy use and emissions in the EU, is naturally in the spotlight. Local authorities play a key role in stimulating and facilitating large-scale renovations and improving the energy performance of buildings, but numerous challenges remain. Many don't have financial resources to support large-scale investments and have limited experience with alternative financial instruments. CITYnvest will bring all necessary stakeholders together to find workable financing solutions. The project, under the

WORKING GROUP ON FINANCING

THE FINANCING WORKING GROUP, LAUNCHED IN 2012, OFFERS MUNICIPALITIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE ON FINANCING AND LEARN ABOUT UPCOMING CALLS FOR PROPOSALS, FUNDING PROGRAMMES AND FINANCING INSTRUMENTS. BIENNIAL MEETINGS, NEWSLETTERS AND A BROKERAGE EVENT FACILITATE MATCH-MAKING FOR POTENTIAL EU PROJECTS. THE GROUP ALSO FOCUSES ON ADVOCACY FOR FUNDING BETTER TAILORED TO CLIMATE ALLIANCE MEMBERS, ENABLING DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH EU DECISION MAKERS ON FINANCIAL BOTTLENECKS AND FUNDING ACCESS. THE GROUP ALLOWS MEMBERS TO FEED THEIR EXAMPLES INTO CLIMATE ALLIANCE POLICY WORK. THE WORKING GROUP FURTHER SERVES AS AN ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE CITYNVEST PROJECT.

CONTACT US TO GET INVOLVED!

financing@climatealliance.org

coordination of Climate Alliance, will introduce innovative financing models in 3 pilot regions in Belgium (Liège), Bulgaria (Rhodope) and Spain (Murcia) and will conduct a wide-scale capacity building programme in 10 focus countries: Italy, Spain, Bulgaria, Belgium, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Austria and Slovakia. CITYnvest will be a source of expert knowledge on viable business models and provide step-by-step guidance for local authorities. Members of Climate Alliance with an interest in this topic will be able to get involved on a web-based platform, benefit from the resulting guidance materials and participate in numerous workshops and networking opportunities. CITYnvest will provide expertise on how to remove obstacles to innovative financing solutions while encouraging policy makers at all levels to include sustainable energy issues in the management of their public building stock.

Climate Alliance contact: Elise Steyaert
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Project duration: Feb 2015 – Jan 2018

Co-funder: Horizon 2020 (EU)

Citizenenergy

Climate change and energy security rank among Europe's greatest challenges. Renewable energies, available in abundance, are an important part of the answer but require a diverse array of production sites and distribution paths. Local authorities are already taking this message to heart and integrating renewables on the local level, either by allocating space for them, actually starting their own projects, or by encouraging their citizens to get involved and become an active part of the energy transition. Often, however, the difficulty with getting such projects off the ground on the local level is not lack of political will, but lack of appropriate funding. The same applies for citizens themselves, who often have the drive to start a project but not the financial backing.

Citizenenergy stands to change this. An online marketplace, Citizenenergy will bring together energy-aware citizens with attractive renewable energy projects across Europe. Once developed, the crowdfunding platform will allow individuals to support and invest in renewable projects while sharing in the benefits of producing clean energy. The Citizenenergy crowdfunding platform, which is due to be up and running in a pilot phase over the course of 2015, will function on a peer-to-peer basis: interested stakeholders will be able

to browse available projects and choose which projects to invest and support. One unique feature of Citizenergy will be its ability to function across national borders, aggregating various national crowdfunding platforms and thus enabling individuals to support projects in other countries. Citizenergy stands to give more people across Europe the opportunity to participate in the decentralised network of renewable energy and help shape Europe's energy future. Climate Alliance members interested in alternative funding tools for their renewable projects are encouraged to get in contact.

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Project duration: Mar 2014 – Feb 2017

Co-funder: IEE Programme (EU)

EUROPEAN MAYORS INITIATIVES

The Covenant of Mayors

With over 6,200 local authorities having signed since its beginnings in 2008, the European Union's Covenant of Mayors initiative reaches more than a third of the European population spread over 53 countries. Signatories voluntarily commit to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 through the implementation of a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP). An additional 165 regional authorities, known as coordinators, and close to 100 supporters comprising networks of local and regional authorities or associations, offer their support to signatory cities. Climate Alliance, one of five networks running the Covenant of Mayors Office, is at the helm of this initiative, supporting signatories in the implementation of their Action Plans.

The initiative has gained wide recognition, being referenced by The Economist in 2014 as one of the efforts with the greatest impact in the area of climate change mitigation. A close analysis of a sample of 3,500 Action Plans conducted by the European

Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) revealed estimated reductions equivalent to some 189 megatonnes of CO₂ – more than the current emissions of Belgium and Luxemburg combined. Such reductions would make up a staggering 15% of the EU's 2020 CO₂ reduction target. The local actions within the 3,500 Action Plans investigated are estimated to double local energy production, reducing final energy consumption by 20% in those cities.

In 2014, the Covenant Office, in cooperation with the JRC, launched a reporting framework through which municipalities may monitor progress on the implementation of their plans. This has been the result of an extend-

ed collaborative process with practitioners led by Climate Alliance and the JRC. As of April 2015, around 300 signatories had reported on the status of their SEAP implementation, with 13 Climate Alliance members being among the first to do so.³ As a result of these reports, over 1,000 examples of implemented actions were added to the Covenant of Mayors online best practice catalogue, Benchmarks of Excellence.

A new benchmarking concept for Covenant signatories is due to be rolled out in 2015. To aid in its development, Climate Alliance held a consultation with representatives from cities, provinces, regions, networks, energy agencies and universities in February 2015 to gather insight on how the new benchmarking concept should look. Their recommendations will steer further development. The Covenant of Mayors Office is also working on ways to bring the initiative closer to the various national frameworks. This strategy will start to be implemented in 2015 for several pilot countries. Climate Alliance will be in charge of enhancing capacities in Germany, Austria, Spain and the Nordic countries, and ensuring stronger links between the Covenant and national contexts. A renewed target for the Covenant of Mayors will

THE COVENANT GOES GLOBAL

CLIMATE ALLIANCE IS CURRENTLY EXPLORING THE IDEA OF TAKING THIS EUROPEAN INITIATIVE GLOBAL. A DEDICATED TASK FORCE COMPRISED OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE BOARD MEMBERS AND NATIONAL COORDINATORS IS CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITIES, DEVELOPING A CONCEPT FOR THE GLOBAL COVENANT AND WORKING TO FIND PARTNERS WORLDWIDE.

³ Zurich (CH), Rostock (DE), Busto Garolfo (IT), Aachen (DE), Fürstenfeldbruck (DE), Nuremberg (DE), Neumarkt in der Oberpfalz (DE), Lodi (IT), Isera (IT), Dusseldorf (DE), Munich (DE) and Judenburg (AT)

also be made known in 2015, keeping with the long term perspective of the initiative and linking to EU energy and climate policy targets of a 40% CO₂ reduction by 2030.

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eumayors.eu

Within Covenant East, Climate Alliance is helping to adapt methodological guidelines with the help of practitioners so that they better fit the situations faced by countries in the region. Early in 2015, the existing methodological guidelines will be revised by the JRC and Climate Alliance.

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Covenant East

Since 2011, the Covenant of Mayors East Offices located in Lviv (Ukraine), Tbilisi (Georgia) and Yerevan (Armenia) have provided administrative and technical assistance in the field of energy action planning to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. The movement is proving successful: as of October 2014, the initiative counted 165 Mayors from 11 countries throughout Eastern Europe, the Southern Caucasus and Central Asia. Of these 165 municipalities, 58 have already submitted their SEAP. In 2014, as a result of Covenant East's progress, the SUDEP funding programme was launched. Two Climate Alliance members, Sambir (Ukraine) and Dolyna (Ukraine), are among its beneficiaries.

"THE COVENANT OF MAYORS HAS ESTABLISHED A COMMON FRAMEWORK WHICH HAS HAD A MOBILISING EFFECT ON MUNICIPALITIES ACROSS THE PROVINCE. THIS HAS ALLOWED MUNICIPALITIES WITH VERY DIFFERENT CHARACTERISTICS TO ALL PLAY THEIR PART IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE. IN PARTICULAR, THE COVENANT HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING SMALL MUNICIPALITIES WITH LIMITED TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES."

Salvador Esteve, President of the Barcelona Provincial Council (ES)

Mayors Adapt

Mayors Adapt is a relatively new EU initiative engaging municipalities in adapting to the effects of climate change. Signatories commit to developing a comprehensive local adaptation strategy and/or integrating adaptation to climate change into relevant existing plans. The initiative aims to increase support for local activities, provide a platform for greater engagement and networking on the municipal level, and raise public awareness about adaptation to climate change.

Climate Alliance played an integral role in launching Mayors Adapt, having held consultations with local authorities and related networks on the initiative's design and goals. Since its launch in spring 2014, various outreach events have helped to spread the word. Climate Alliance and Climate Alliance Italy, for example, organised a workshop on the coordination of climate policy in September 2014. In October 2014, a signing ceremony honoured cities' commitment to the initiative, where many Climate Alliance members were present.⁴ Such events played a significant role in the exchange of best practice and experiences as well as the strengthening of the initiative, which now counts more than 120 signatories from 21 different countries.

WORKING GROUP ON ADAPTATION

CLIMATE ALLIANCE IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF ITS NEW WORKING GROUP ON ADAPTATION. THIS WORKING GROUP WILL BRING TOGETHER POLITICAL LEADERS AND CLIMATE EXPERTS FROM CLIMATE ALLIANCE MEMBERS TO HELP GENERATE AN ACCURATE PICTURE OF ADAPTATION CHALLENGES AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL. THE GROUP WILL EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR LOCAL PRACTITIONERS TO CONSIDER MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION IN AN INTEGRATED WAY WHILE BRAINSTORMING ON THE MOBILISATION OF MUCH NEEDED POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT. THE GROUP'S WORK WILL ALSO FEED INTO MAYORS ADAPT.

CONTACT US TO GET INVOLVED!

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The future success of Mayors Adapt, much like the Covenant of Mayors, will depend on the active participation of stakeholders ready to put their resources and expertise at the service of

⁴ Munich (DE), Province of Barcelona (ES), Rostock (DE), Ghent (BE), Ober-Grafendorf (AT), San Benedetto del Tronto (IT), Worms (DE), Zwijndrecht (NL), Hasselt (BE), Città di Castello (IT) and Elmshorn (DE)

signatories. Such stakeholders, including national and regional authorities (coordinators) as well as associations and networks of local authorities (supporters), are critical to increasing the impact of the initiative. The Province of Barcelona (ES) has become the first Mayors Adapt Coordinator; several other Climate Alliance members and National Coordination Offices have also expressed their interest in getting involved.

Early in 2015, two further European networks joined the Mayors Adapt Office team, which is now made up of Climate Alliance, Eurocities, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) as well as the consultants Ecofys, Fresh Thoughts and Ifok. Reinforcing the helpdesk, now backed up by three new focal points for Spain, Italy and German-speaking countries, and consolidating concrete results through cooperation with relevant multipliers stand as key challenges for 2015. Climate Alliance will focus its energies on strengthening synergies

with the Covenant of Mayors, developing a robust reporting framework for participating cities based on the Covenant experience, and on continued adaptation of support to best meet cities' needs. Climate Alliance will additionally organise a number of events in various Member States with other city networks. A second Mayors Adapt signing ceremony is due to take place in October 2015 along with the Covenant signing ceremony. Climate Alliance's work in reinforcing links between Mayors Adapt and the Covenant of Mayors has found the support of many Climate Alliance members. To this end, a paper on the potential for such synergies has been submitted to the EU Commission Directorates General ENER and CLIMA.



CO₂ MONITORING

What is measured gets managed. In terms of climate protection, measurement makes abstract goals such as emissions reductions tangible and highlights progress. It is for this reason that Climate Alliance has viewed developing CO₂ monitoring methodologies and supporting member municipalities in their use as a top priority for many years. Climate Alliance continues to support its member municipalities in all methodological aspects relating to CO₂ monitoring and is currently working on further tools to facilitate municipal efforts in the field.

ECORegion

The ECORegion software, developed by Climate Alliance and Ecospeed, is currently used in a total of 914 municipalities, districts and regions throughout Germany, Italy and Luxembourg. In Luxembourg, more than 30% of all municipalities now use ECORegion to calculate their CO₂ emissions and the tool is recognised by the Environmental Ministry of Luxembourg as the official reporting instrument for emissions reductions as per Luxembourg's Climate Pact.

WORKING GROUP ON CO₂ MONITORING

THE WORKING GROUP ON CO₂ MONITORING EXCHANGES ON AND MAKES DECISIONS ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MUNICIPAL CO₂ MONITORING STANDARDS THROUGHOUT THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE AND BEYOND. IT ALSO WEIGHS IN ON THE COVENANT OF MAYORS METHODOLOGY AS WELL AS OTHER EUROPEAN PROCESSES. FOR 2015, KEY THEMES INCLUDE THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE'S NEW MONITORING TOOL, THE CLIMATE PROTECTION PLANNER.

CONTACT US TO JOIN THE DISCUSSION!

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Climate Protection Planner

While the number of ECORegion users in other countries continues to grow, Climate Alliance has decided to develop a new CO₂ monitoring tool due to irreconcilable differences with Ecospeed concerning the calculation methodology as well as the tool's further development, including the updating of key parameters and calculation data. A pilot phase for this new municipal energy and climate planning tool, the Climate Protection Planner, began with 14 German member municipalities in 2014. As of autumn 2015, this web-based tool's reach will be extended to 100 member municipalities in Germany, further preparing it for international dissemination.

In addition to CO₂ monitoring, the Climate Protection Planner can be used to determine reduction potentials and scenarios – characteristics that facilitate the development and implementation of municipal climate action concepts. Users transitioning from EcoRegion will be able to easily import all energy consumption data to the Climate Protection Planner tool. Development of the Climate Protection Planner is funded through April 2016 by the German Ministry for the

Environment (BMUB) as part of the German National Climate Protection Initiative.

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klimaschutz-planer.de (in German)

Climate Carbon Calculator

The Climate Carbon Calculator is a simple, excel-based tool for the calculation of CO₂ emissions at the municipal level in Ukraine and Georgia. Developed by Climate Alliance with the support of the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, it is now being used by seven Ukrainian municipalities to obtain a baseline emissions inventory within the scope of the Covenant of Mayors East.

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CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING

A long standing pillar of Climate Alliance's work has been that of supporting cities and towns in taking action against climate change locally, showing how local action can have positive influences far beyond municipal borders. Facilitating the planning of climate protection efforts and ensuring the exchange of best practice in the field is a large part of this work. To this end, Climate Alliance takes part in a variety of projects that centre on climate action planning and foster critical exchange between municipalities.

SEAP_Alps

In the field of municipal planning for climate mitigation and adaptation, learning from the experiences of others working in similar conditions can be extremely valuable. SEAP_Alps facilitates this by connecting municipalities in the Alpine region, with a focus on integrating adaptation to climate change into municipal Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs). The project, which promotes sustainable energy planning at the local level through the sharing of a common methodology among partners, is specifically geared towards local authorities interested in joining the Covenant of Mayors and thus ties in well with Climate Alliance's activities in the Covenant.

In the framework of SEAP_Alps, Climate Alliance leads the advanced training of project partners on a range of relevant topics in order to guarantee optimal support for the local implementation of an integrated approach. Climate Alliance also built a multilin-

gual online platform on local adaptation and mitigation strategies – a tool that is likely to assist municipalities far beyond the project. The project has supported more than 60 alpine municipalities in setting up local climate plans. The SEAP_Alps final conference, "Addressing climate change in alpine space municipalities," took place in March 2015.

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Project duration: Oct 2012 – May 2015

Co-funder: INTERREG Alpine Space Programme (EU)

seap-alps.eu

TANDEM

Climate change and the energy transition are high on the agenda of many German and French municipalities. TANDEM provides local authorities from both countries the unique opportunity to jointly drive positive change in local energy policy through exchange and the creation of climate action partnerships.

TANDEM was kicked off in Strasbourg by some 70 representatives from French and German municipalities and organisations. The event also served as the starting point for several joint projects, for example, between the twin cities of Ettlingen (DE) and Epernay (FR) as well as Essen (DE) and Grenoble (FR), and for the working group on Franco-German energy savings projects in schools.

Through the partnerships created and reinforced by TANDEM, Climate Alliance is supporting a vibrant exchange on success factors in the implementation of ambitious energy and climate strategies and encouraging a mutual transfer of expertise between municipalities. Climate Alliance supports the implementation of preliminary steps in cooperation projects and helps create solid foundations for long-term cooperation.

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Project duration: Apr 2014 – Dec 2016

Co-funder: German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and ADEME of France

seap-alps.eu

EC-LINK

Chinese cities are growing rapidly. By linking up with European cities on the topic of sustainable urbanisation, they and the global climate stand to benefit. EC-LINK seeks to assist Chinese cities in adopting energy and resource efficient solutions by facilitating the exchange of experiences with European municipalities. The project stands as a key pillar of EU-China Partnership on Sustainable Urbanisation, signed by the European Commission and the Chinese government in May 2012. By supporting new solutions to reduce the energy consumption of buildings in China, EC LINK directly contributes to the sustainable urban development of the world's most populous country.

City networking, knowledge-sharing and dissemination are at the core of EC-LINK. Underlying this will be a bilingual knowledge platform that will help municipal decision-makers to develop better solutions for their individual challenges. Climate Alliance has been involved in setting up this platform and is helping to fill it with best practice examples from across Europe; the result will not only help Chinese cities but bring added value to Climate Alliance member municipalities through the sharing of best practice.

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Project duration: Oct 2013 – Oct 2017

Co-funded by: DG DEVCO (EU)

sustainable energy action plans jointly and thereby save already stretched resources. Five experienced rural regions have teamed up with five 'learning' regions. Guidelines have been developed for rural communities based on their combined experiences and made available online.

Model regions each began with two measures, selected within the scope of the project. These measures are to be completed by the project's end in April 2015 with experiences fed back to the Covenant office, which is kept abreast of any difficulties that arise and provided with suggestions for improvements to the methodology.

The "Champions League for Renewable Energies," a competition for local authorities that started several years ago on a European level, was continued within the scope of this project and extended to include four more countries. Winners of the 2014 Champions League were honoured in Brussels during the European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW).

100% RES Communities

A growing number of small local authorities in rural areas are reaching toward an energy supply based completely on renewable sources. Unfortunately, these local authorities often lack the necessary expertise and capacity to pursue a systematic approach. The 100% RES Communities project supports them with a model action plan within the framework of the Covenant of Mayors, which allows them to develop and implement their

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Project duration: Apr 2012 – Apr 2015

Co-funded by: IEE Programme (EU)

100-res-communities.eu
res-league.eu

TURAS – Transitioning towards urban resilience and sustainability

TURAS is a research project that develops visions, feasible strategies, spatial scenarios and guidance to help cities address the urgent challenges of climate change adaptation, mitigation and natural resource shortages. The project brings together 11 local authorities, 9 leading academic institutions and 8 SMEs. It delves into themes such as green infrastructure, flood management, the revival of vacant spaces, locally-based economic models and urban sprawl patterns. Climate Alliance acts as a link to the municipal level by supporting local authority partners in disseminating project results to other local authorities.

With the knowledge gained in this project, a guideline on how to develop an integrated municipal transition strategy will be elaborated, due to be published in 2016. This outcome will benefit Climate Alliance members seeking to develop their own transition strategies. Dissemination of project results began with the “Resilient Cities” conference held in January 2015. A series of dissemination events across Europe is due to follow in 2015 and 2016.

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Project duration: Nov 2011 – Oct 2016

Co-funder: FP7 Programme (EU)

turas-cities.org

Green ProcA – Green public procurement in action

Public procurement, when conducted sustainably, can make an important contribution to municipal climate action planning and greatly reduce emissions. Through green public procurement (GPP), goods, services and works with reduced environmental impacts throughout their life cycles are favoured. Green ProcA promotes GPP amongst public authorities, focussing primarily on signatories of the Covenant of Mayors and encouraging them to address green procurement in their Sustainable Energy Action Plans. The project also supports local authorities on the brink of becoming a Covenant signatory or those with other voluntary climate-related targets.



Green ProCA offers capacity building possibilities and networking activities through a variety of events for procurers while also directly supporting large beacon projects. Climate Alliance members will benefit from “Guidelines on procurement in SEAP development,” a procurement guide due to be released in summer 2015. National and European GPP Awards are to be presented in 2016.

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Project duration: Mar 2014 – Aug 2016

Co-funded by: IEE Programme (EU)

gpp-proca.eu

CLIMATE PROTECTION IN GERMANY

With national goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2020 as compared to 1990 levels and from 80 to 95% by 2050, Germany's climate goals are particularly ambitious and far outpace those of the EU. Germany is thus fertile ground for climate activities and Climate Alliance, via its German national coordination, is an active player in this field. Climate Alliance's German national coordination serves as a consultant for the "Climate Protection Action Programme 2020," making suggestions for how Germany can reach its extremely ambitious goals. Further advice on a national level comes from the Climate Alliance 2050 Energy Supply Working Group, which this year has also helped feed an international Climate Alliance resolution on Europe's energy future, presented at the 2015 General Assembly. The German Climate Alliance national coordination provides topic-specific input for a variety of national conferences such as the "100% Renewable Energy Region" event and is also active in the region surrounding Frankfurt (DE), where it is helping to create a regional energy concept.

2050 ENERGY SUPPLY WORKING GROUP

SINCE 2011, THE 2050 ENERGY SUPPLY WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN EXCHANGING ON MUNICIPAL ASPECTS OF THE GERMAN ENERGY TRANSITION, FOCUSING ON LONG-TERM STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL HEAT AND ENERGY SUPPLIES. RECENT KEY THEMES HAVE CENTRED ON RESTRUCTURING THE ENERGY MARKET AS WELL AS DEFINING AND FUNDING 'SMART CITIES.' THE WORKING GROUP WILL DRAFT AN INFORMATIONAL GUIDE ON THE SMART CITY APPROACH DURING THE COURSE OF 2015 AND HAS ALREADY BROUGHT OUT A POSITION PAPER ON A RESTRUCTURING OF THE ENERGY MARKET, IN LINE WITH THE GOALS OF THE ENERGY TRANSITION. THIS PAPER HAS BEEN FED INTO POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS AROUND THE GREEN BOOK ON ELECTRICITY MARKET DESIGN.

CONTACT US TO GET INVOLVED!

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Coaching II

Coaching II, a project running under German national coordination, aims to assist less experienced German municipalities in getting started with their climate protection planning. The project sees the further development of materials created in its predecessor project, including guidelines for climate protection in municipalities and benchmarking in municipal climate protection. Additionally, a Coach the Coach course will be developed and delivered in which some 60 municipal consultants or 'coaches' will be trained across Germany. Through these coaches, Coaching II will arm local authorities to pursue and administer more active climate protection policies while providing qualified and standardised support. The experience resulting from this project can benefit Climate Alliance members across Europe, helping them to get started with their own climate planning.

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Project duration: Nov 2014 – Oct 2017

Co-funded by: German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) as part of the German National Climate Protection Initiative

coaching-kommunaler-klimaschutz.de
(in German)

Large-Scale Kitchens on a Low Flame

With Large-Scale Kitchens on a Low Flame, Climate Alliance is breaking new ground and dedicating itself to climate protection in mass catering. Changing electricity suppliers, increasing the use of fresh, regional and seasonal produce and reducing the amount of meat used in menus are but a few of the ways in which canteens and cafeterias can lessen their environmental impacts. The project will share concrete suggestions in areas such as these with participating kitchens. An online tool will determine savings potentials while graphically showing each kitchen's progress and participants will receive ready-made campaign materials to support PR for their activities. With the goal of helping 100 large-scale kitchens in the Rhein-Main area surrounding Frankfurt to reduce their CO₂ emissions by 40%, the lessons learned from this regional project have the potential for far reaching effects. The project is ideal both for local authorities with their own canteens as well as for those with good connections to canteens

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Project duration: Jan 2015 – Dec 2016

Co-funded by: German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) as part of the German National Climate Protection Initiative

THE GERMAN 'NATIONAL CLIMATE PROTECTION INITIATIVE'

THROUGH THE NATIONAL CLIMATE PROTECTION INITIATIVE (NKI), THE GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (BMUB) HAS SUPPORTED A WIDE VARIETY OF PROJECTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS GERMANY-WIDE, INCLUDING CLIMATE ALLIANCE'S NEW CO₂ MONITORING TOOL, THE CLIMATE PROTECTION PLANNER (SEE THE CO₂ MONITORING SECTION FOR MORE INFORMATION).

THE FUTURE WE WANT

The members of Climate Alliance are striving for a better future by taking action against climate change in the here and now, fully aware that their local actions have global impacts. As climate change knows no borders, it is of the utmost importance that these European municipalities not only act locally, but support climate action in other parts of the world. Supporting the indigenous peoples of the Amazon rainforest in the preservation of their territories not only helps fight climate change, it contributes to global climate justice, bringing into play questions of equality, human rights, collective rights and historical responsibility.

We have long known that climate change is not merely an environmental issue – it is also a deeply social one, especially for those most vulnerable to the havoc it can wreak. Fighting climate change while overlooking our impacts on places like the Amazonian rainforest, one of the earth's largest carbon sinks, cannot work. At the same time, working to preserve this special ecosystem without taking into account the economic and social development of those who call it home, is a losing battle.

Human rights, good governance, fairness and development are inextricably intertwined with sustainability and action on climate change in such areas. Europe, as an industrialised area of the 'Global North' that has benefitted from infrastructure that has negatively impacted the 'Global South' over the last decades, has a special role to play in ensuring global climate justice.

While global goals and political will are essential in this light, municipalities have the power to affect concrete, positive changes through local-level action. Direct partnerships with indigenous peoples, the exchange of experiences between municipalities, local sustainability reporting, the procurement of fair and sustainable products in local administrations, municipal awareness-raising and the support of selected projects in the Amazon basin – all these are but a few of the ways in which many member municipalities are active in the field of climate justice. Sadly, there are many local authorities that lack the financial means and personnel resources to be active in this area. Through targeted projects and campaigns, Climate Alliance and its partners are supporting local authorities in the implementation of their local development agendas, implementing concrete action and raising public awareness.

Action for MDGs – Local authorities active for the Millennium Development Goals

The Millennium Development Goals or MDGs have formed the global framework for development policy commitments since the turn of the century. They express the most pressing milestones needed to overcome poverty – a lofty goal, which, unfortunately, will not be achieved by the 2015 deadline. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), due to be formulated by September 2015, form the new post-2015 development agenda, which will be based on universally applicable human rights and aim to achieve social and ecological justice.

Action for MDGs helps to embed global development goals locally and to better incorporate them into the work of local authorities. The project offers a broad range of tools for the political administrations and citizens alike. Climate Alliance members can benefit from direct support in the development, implementation and presentation of local development policy commitments and agendas as well as receive information on municipal development cooperation complete with from existing partnerships. Presentations, workshops and seminars, art events, competitions,

role plays, theatre performances and more to motivate their citizens to get involved. Local authorities are encouraged to contact Climate Alliance to take part!

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Project duration: Jan 2013 – Jan 2016

Co-funded by: EuropeAid
action-for-mdgs.eu

From Overconsumption to Solidarity

We know far too little about the ecological footprint we leave in other countries and the consequences this footprint has on people's lives. Adding to this misinformation is the media's often incongruous narrative about aspects of our daily lives that could reduce the size of this footprint and the uncertainty about how much time we have left to turn things around.

From Overconsumption to Solidarity is an awareness-raising project of eight European and eight civil society organisations. It aims to bolster European citizens' understanding of their responsibility for the social and

ecological impact of overconsumption on development in the Amazon basin and Sub-Saharan Africa. The project places a special focus on the problems faced by the Global South as a result of greenhouse gas emissions, the extraction of resources as well as deforestation and land-use change. The end-game: to encourage behavioural change that results in the more sustainable use of resources and the reduction of extreme hunger and poverty.

Central to the project are three exhibitions on climate change, land grabbing and resources. These exhibitions may be rented or printed by member municipalities and come with informational material, interactive online resources, and a range of activities such as trainings for decision makers and administrative staff as well as seminars, films and arts events. All three exhibitions are available in English, German and Czech; parts of these exhibitions have also been translated into Spanish and Hungarian. Local authorities are encouraged to contact Climate Alliance to take part.

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Project duration: Jan 2013 – Jan 2016

Co-funded by: EuropeAid
overconsumption.eu

EYD2015: The Future We Want

Climate Alliance's new project focuses on the European Year for Development 2015 (EYD2015) and serves to heighten citizens' awareness of development issues as well as promote active engagement with major development debates. The project will give citizens and politicians a deeper understanding of global interdependencies by calling into question European overconsumption of natural resources and showing the way toward more responsible and globally fair consumption habits.

Via the project, a Europe-wide awareness raising offensive will be deployed while three special visits will bring indigenous 'counsellors' to Europe, making use of their wisdom to evaluate pressing European challenges. The campaign offers PR materials as well as background information around the question, "How do you want to live in the future?" Climate Alliance members can take part in this Europe-wide campaign and join the 16 project partners from 10 European countries in provoking citizens to think about alternative lifestyles. As part of EYD2015, an art projection will also be shown as dusk falls in Brussels on 18 November 2015 on the promenade of the EU Parliament (Solidarność 1980 Esplanade). Don't miss this spectacular event!

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Project duration: Dec 2014 – Dec 2017

Co-funded by: EuropeAid

facebook.com/EYD2015

BECOME A PROJECT PARTNER – DEAR CALL DEADLINE SPRING 2016

THE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION AND AWARENESS RAISING PROGRAMME (DEAR), FUNDED BY EUROPEAID, SUPPORTS PROJECTS THAT CHANGE ATTITUDES ON DEVELOPMENT ISSUES, PROVIDE CITIZENS WITH TOOLS TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE, AND MOBILISE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR ACTION AGAINST POVERTY. PROPOSALS WITH ACTIVITIES LEAD BY NON-STATE ACTORS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE EU AND ACCEDING COUNTRIES ARE PARTICULARLY WELL RECEIVED.

WANT TO BE PARTNER IN A NEW PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR THE NEXT CALL?

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Grupo Sal – Connecting Worlds

Since 2010, Climate Alliance has supported Grupo Sal's Concert for Amazonia medlies, which combine passionate music, images, personal testimonies and reflections surrounding the topic of what we can learn from indigenous peoples. Since its beginnings, over 60 concert readings have been held in Germany, Luxembourg and Austria, mostly in Climate Alliance member municipalities. The concert readings and medlies are a novel way to address climate protection, rainforest protection and alternative models of living while directly involving local actors.

In 2014, Grupo Sal expanded its portfolio in a new programme with economist Alberto Acosta, Ecuador's former Minister of Mining and Energy and 2014 Ecuadorian presidential candidate. Alberto Acosta was one of the key speakers at the 2012 Climate Alliance International Conference with his talk on the societal development concept of 'Buen Vivir.' In 2015, Climate Alliance is supporting concert readings with Alberto Acosta within the framework of EYD2015.

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grupo-sal.de (in German)

DELEGATION TOUR TO PERU

SOMETIMES SEEING IS BELIEVING. IN JUNE 2014, AS PART OF THE FROM OVERCONSUMPTION TO SOLIDARITY PROJECT, AN 11 DAY TOUR THROUGH PERU SHED LIGHT ON THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF UNSUSTAINABLE EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES SPURRED BY THE GLOBAL NORTH'S LUST FOR PRECIOUS METALS SUCH AS GOLD. PARTICIPANTS HEARD FIRST HAND REPORTS FROM AFFECTED PEOPLES LIKE MÁXIMA ACUÑA CHAUPE, AN INDIGENOUS FARMER FIGHTING AGAINST THE ENCROACHING MINING OPERATIONS ON A DAILY BASIS OR THE DOS DE MAYO KUKAMA COMMUNITY, WHICH REPORTED ON THE IMPACT OF OIL EXPLOITATION ON THEIR LANDS. THE 13 REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES, NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS, ACADEMIA, THE MEDIA, AND CIVIL SOCIETY FROM 8 COUNTRIES ACROSS EUROPE EXPRESSED THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES CALLING ON THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT TO REMEDY THE ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS THEY FACE DAILY.

SUPPORTING THE INDIGENOUS

The Amazonian rainforest has long been known as the lungs of our earth and for good reason – global climate protection, in the absence of this essential ecosystem, would be all but impossible. The members of Climate Alliance recognise the importance of this task. They also understand that the indigenous peoples that call this rainforest their home are the best equipped and most determined to protect it. In this spirit, Climate Alliance undertakes efforts to support its indigenous partners and encourages its members to do the same.

Supporting Ashiñwaka

For several years, Climate Alliance has supported Ashiñwaka, an indigenous women's organisation of the Ecuadorian rainforest, in its fight against oil exploitation in the territory of the Sapara. In autumn 2013, licenses for exploration in the territory of the Sapara were auctioned off. The community has already been contacted by companies, which have offered compensation. The situation is threatening to split the community, as some hope the oil will bring additional income and infrastructure to the region whereas others fear the negative impacts of oil exploration on their environment and livelihoods.

In late June 2014, the organisation organised a workshop attended by Climate Alliance in the Sapara community of Masaramu, near some of the areas auctioned. The workshop dealt with the impacts of climate change, development projects and oil production on the community. As a result, a dialogue

between community members opened up, as did lines of exchange with other communities. According to the most recent information, the community is now unanimously opposing the extraction of oil in their territory.

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City of Rostock and the Amakaeri region

Climate Alliance member Rostock (DE) has entered into a direct partnership with a municipal protected area known as Amakaeri, located directly in the centre of the Madre de Dios, a biodiversity hotspot within the Peruvian rainforest. Amakaeri, a region that

measures 400,000 hectares in size, has been responsibly administered by the indigenous Harkmbut people for hundreds of years. In recent years, however, the area's natural resources, which include gold, oil and wood, have attracted companies and are leading to devastating conflicts: estimates show that as of 2009, some 18,000 hectares of forest had been cleared and another 150,000 had been damaged. Mercury and other heavy metals used to obtain precious metals like gold have led to pollution in lakes, rivers and streams, severely impacting the health of the ecosystem and local population. With the support of the City of Rostock, the indigenous population in the Amakaeri is working to demarcate the borders of this protected area to halt the intrusion of lumber companies, gold seekers and settlers. Rostock is actively protecting the rainforest by supporting the protection of Amakaeri and its border areas as well as the oversight of social and environmental standards in the region.

YASunidos

In 2013, Ecuador offered to forever forgo oil exploitation in the Yasuní National Park in exchange for financial compensation valued at half of the revenue the oil it contains would have brought. This revolutionary story of the Yasuní National Park has gotten much

attention in recent years and is often upheld as an example for alternative development models. Despite the initiative's official end in August 2013, a group of environmental groups, indigenous organisations, unions and dedicated Ecuadorians refuse to give up. They call themselves the YASunidos.

In 2014, Climate Alliance launched an appeal to gather funds for the Yasuní, collecting some 20,000 from individuals and Climate Alliance member municipalities in support of the YASunidos group and their fight against oil drilling in the rainforest. The group also started a petition to hold a referendum that could save the Yasuní idea by popular vote; over 750,000 signatures were gathered, far more than the 585,000 necessary. In April 2014, the YASunidos handed the petition against oil exploitation to the Ecuadorian voting committee, the CNE. The committee, however, only deemed 359,761 of the some 750,000 signatures valid, citing various formal inconsistencies. Hopes for a referendum were thus dashed in spite of numerous accusations of intransparency. YASunidos is suing the government for fraud, which is in turn accusing the group of slander. The fight continues.

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Solar Partnerships

When it comes to working, playing or studying, light is often the limiting factor for those without electricity. Climate Alliance supports projects for the distribution of solar lamps in indigenous communities in Peru. The mobile battery-powered devices can provide 3 to 6 hours of light and be recharged via small solar modules or a charging station. The project in the northern Amazonian region of Peru aims to improve living conditions, boost environmental awareness and promote renewable energies while creating jobs, avoiding CO₂ emissions, and establishing contact between municipalities and schools in Europe and Amazonia.

Cooperation with FORMABIAP, a training programme for indigenous teachers in Iquitos, Peru that was part of the project from the beginning, has recommenced. Workshops for the assembly and repair of these solar lamps were set up in three Peruvian regions; over 200 lamps were distributed.

Climate Alliance members Magdeburg (DE) and Bühl (DE) regularly support the project, which is also co-financed through various donors.

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SHOWCASING ACTION

Climate Alliance represents the interests of its members on all political levels and makes sure their voice is heard. Cities and towns that join Climate Alliance raise their international profile and get the opportunity to see their achievements disseminated widely via a range of PR channels and social media, conferences and events.

Do good work and talk about it

Communication is a core Climate Alliance activity. The Alliance works to raise public awareness for environmental issues, providing much-needed information about policies and funding while showcasing what municipalities are doing on the ground. To this end, Climate Alliance relies on classical press and media work, is active on social media channels, and informs its members and stakeholders via its eClimail newsletter.

The Climate Alliance website continues to serve as the main communication tool on the international level and will soon be re-launched to further enhance visibility. Regular news pieces featured on the site range from the latest European policy issues to hands-on climate change mitigation activities on the local level and partnerships with indigenous communities.

As Climate Alliance acts as an official partner in a range of high profile initiatives and projects such as the Covenant of Mayors, the activities of its members often gain extra visibility through external websites. Climate Alliance examples and contributions, for instance the “Competitive Europe – Local authority vision on 2030 climate and energy policy,” received heightened attention and have been discussed widely on the European level.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

CLIMATE ALLIANCE IS PROUD TO SHOWCASE BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLES OF MEMBER COMMUNITIES VIA WWW.CLIMATEALLIANCE.ORG. THE COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS THE DIVERSITY OF ACTIVITIES WITHIN CLIMATE ALLIANCE, AND PLACES MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES IN THE SPOTLIGHT AS EXAMPLES TO FOLLOW, ALSO IN CLIMATE ALLIANCE LOBBY WORK AND EVENTS. DOES YOUR MUNICIPALITY HAVE BEST PRACTICE TO SHARE? CONTACT US AND MAKE IT KNOWN!

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2014 Climate Star

In October 2014, the Climate Star was awarded for the 6th year since 2002 to outstanding projects by cities, municipalities and regional networks from all over Europe. The awards ceremony in Perchtoldsdorf (AT) saw 14 local and regional authorities recognised. Winning projects were selected in four categories based on number of inhabitants. The award criteria took aspects such as sustainability, the likelihood of a multiplier effect, media coverage, innovation, and citizen involvement into account. With the Climate Star, Climate Alliance honours the commitment and achievements of European

cities, municipalities and regions in the fields of sustainable energy, mobility, consumption, urban and regional development and citizen involvement. The 14 winners of the 2014 competition stand alongside the 90 previously awarded projects since 2009.

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Co-funder: The Region of Lower Austria

Campaign start: 2002

climate-star.net

2014 CLIMATE STAR WINNERS

ENTRANTS WITH UP TO 10,000 INHABITANTS

Derekegyház (HU)
Hartberg (AT)
Krenglbach (AT)

ENTRANTS WITH UP TO 100,000 INHABITANTS

Baden (AT)
Hesperange (LU)
Ingelheim a.Rh. (DE)
Klosterneuburg (AT)
Tulln (AT)

ENTRANTS WITH OVER 100,000 INHABITANTS

Bielefeld (DE)
Budapest/3rd District Óbuda (HU)
Cascais (PT)
The Hague (NL)
Essen (DE)
Ghent (BE)

REGIONS AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Lake Constance Cities Assoc. (AT, CH, DE)
Dechantskirchen (AT)
Waldviertler Kernland Regions (AT)

“CLIMATE STAR MOTIVATES LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THEIR EVER MORE INVOLVED CITIZENS, THE EU AND ITS MEMBER STATES TO COMMIT MORE STRONGLY TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND CLIMATE ACTION AS WELL AS TO SET AMBITIOUS TARGETS.”

Joachim Lorenz, President of Climate Alliance

Repowermap

Repowermap is an interactive online map that promotes renewable energies and energy efficiency on the local level by highlighting concrete examples in everyone's neighbourhoods. Local authorities and their citizens are at the forefront of climate action – Repowermap makes their efforts and achievements visible.

Repowermap pinpoints inspiring examples, from solar arrays on a municipal roof spaces to highly efficient Passive House buildings. In so doing, this tool motivates individuals, companies and local authorities to look to these examples and to upload their own. Local authorities benefit from Repowermap as an easy-to-use opportunity to showcase their activities. The map raises public awareness about available technologies and existing facilities, and is spread by a broad network of organisations, regions, local authorities, companies and other stakeholders. The

map can be easily embedded in other websites, free of charge, and there is even a Repower app available for iOS and Android so that you can upload good examples and find them on the go. As of early 2015, nearly 60,000 installations across Europe were listed on the map. This is merely the beginning.

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Co-funder: The Intelligent Energy Europe-Programme

repowermap.org

The App: repowermap.org/app.php

LOCAL ACTION FILMS IN LUXEMBOURG

CLIMATE ALLIANCE LUXEMBOURG CREATED A SERIES OF SHORT VIDEOS SHOWING CONCRETE LOCAL PROJECTS AND ACTIONS WITHIN THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES OF LUXEMBOURG. INITIATIVES ON MOBILITY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLES AS WELL AS DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION ACTIVITIES AND CAMPAIGNS FOR PARTNER PROJECTS IN ECUADOR AND BURKINA FASO WERE HIGHLIGHTED.

klimabuendnis.lu (in French and Luxembourgish)

GETTING INVOLVED

Climate Alliance's campaigns give member municipalities the opportunity to engage themselves and their residents in light-hearted and sometimes provocative ways on very serious topics related to climate action. The campaigns are easy to implement and typically result in high participation numbers with striking results.

City Cycling

The CITY CYCLING campaign invites local politicians and citizens to cycle for their municipalities, thereby promoting cycling and advocating for climate action. Participating municipalities choose 21 consecutive days between May and September during which the campaign is to be implemented. At the end of the season, the kilometres covered are tallied and the top three municipalities in three different categories are awarded.

In 2014, nearly 300 municipalities participated in CITY CYCLING with more than 86,000 active cyclists covering over 16,000,000 kilometres, thus avoiding nearly 2,400 tons of CO₂ as compared to trips by car. Of these cyclists, 1,600 were members of local parliaments. Climate Alliance Luxembourg, participating for the first time, saw 22 municipalities taking part in their Tour du Duerf. CITY CYCLING has been gaining momentum over the years and is now also gaining in internationality, having even received the attention and formal endorsement of Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC.

This campaign is a unique way to promote climate-friendly mobility in that it reaches out directly to members of municipal parliaments, encouraging them to experience local cycle paths first hand. These politicians can then implement improvements based on their experiences, thus making it easier to travel by bicycle locally.

RADar! Reporting platform

Getting involved in CITY CYCLING is straightforward; the campaign offers municipalities a fully developed, tried and true concept. Many tools and materials in addition to a comprehensive IT infrastructure are available for a nominal participation fee. Participating municipalities in Germany can make use of RADar!, the first Germany-wide reporting platform for a better cycling infrastructure. RADar! allows cyclists to inform their local authorities via their mobile phones or PCs of places along cycling routes requiring attention. Municipalities are, in turn, able to use the tool as a complement to their own road checks and to set a focus on road improvement measures within the scope of their role as road maintenance authorities. Already very successful in Germany, RADar! will hopefully be available in further countries in the future.

CITY CYCLING harmonises the interests of road users with road safety, climate protection, and the promotion of cycling. Contact Climate Alliance to get involved!

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André Muno
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Funding body: Participation fee required. Funding for municipalities in Hesse (since 2013), Bavaria (since 2013) and Schleswig-Holstein (since 2014) has been available by state ministries.

Campaign start: 2008

stadtradeln.de (in German)
tourduduerf.lu (in German and French)
city-cycling.org (comming soon!)

initiatives often have common goals in the areas of improving the quality of life, reducing traffic, strengthening resilience, protecting the climate. Many projects promote new forms of consumption and social innovation. Through Transition Tours, such ideas and projects serve as springboards for cooperation, encouraging the development of forward-thinking municipal administrations that actively involve their citizens.

In this year-long project, Climate Alliance and Transition Netzwerk D/A/CH (the Transition Networks in Germany, Austria and Switzerland) worked hand in hand with six pilot municipalities across Germany: Berlin-Spandau, Bielefeld, Dresden, Eberswalde, Frankfurt am Main and Witzenhausen to implement transition tours. The project was recognised with the Werkstatt N label by the German Council for Sustainability and is an associated partner in the 2015 Science Year – City of the Future project of the German Federal Ministry of Science and Education (BMBF).

Transition Tours

Transition Tours is a campaign that showcases local initiatives and projects on the subject of sufficiency, circular economies and sustainable lifestyles. The tours, organised jointly by municipal governments and local actors, give interested citizens insight into how their city or town is transitioning towards more sustainable patterns. Perhaps more importantly, the tours encourage exchange and synergies between municipal governments and citizen initiatives. Municipal governments and citizen

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Co-funder: German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB)

Campaign duration: Sep 2013 – Oct 2014

stadtwandeln.de (in German)

ZOOM – Kids on the move for climate action!

ZOOM teaches children about the influences of their daily actions on the climate and encourages them to become role models for both their parents and climate politicians. During one week, children in participating classes collect so-called 'green footprints' for every sustainable trip completed via public transport, bike or foot as well as for other environmentally-friendly habits such as sustainable nutrition.

Its success is telling: in 2014, 180,000 children in 11 countries participated collecting a total of 2,177,902 green footprints. These footprints were presented to Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC during the 20th UN Climate Conference in Lima, Peru.

In 2015, ZOOM's kick-off comes during Luxemburg's National Climate Day in April and culminates in the presentation of the gathered footprints at the Climate Conference in December, where it is hoped that a new post-Kyoto agreement will be passed. As a tribute to the EU Year of Development, special focuses in 2015 will be the indigenous of the Amazon Basin and the responsible use of resources. Activities of participating municipalities and their schools are documented in detail on the campaign website.

Climate Alliance has prepared a material pack to support project implementation including lesson plans with concrete ideas and activities for children from preschool age up to 6th grade. Sticker albums and the symbolic 'Joint Climate Voyage around the One World' on climate issues as well as comprehensive worksheets and guidelines for implementation all help increase children's awareness of climate-friendly mobility and behavior. Contact Climate Alliance to get involved!

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Co-funding: Own funding

zoom-kidsforclimate.eu

kindermeilen.de (in German)

THE HUNGARIAN EXPERIENCE

THE HUNGARIAN CLIMATE ALLIANCE PARTICIPATED IN THE ZOOM CAMPAIGN FOR THE SECOND TIME IN 2014, REACHING SOME 10,200 CHILDREN. THE CAMPAIGN HAS INSPIRED THEM TO ESTABLISH A 'NETWORK OF CLIMATE SCHOOLS' FOR WHICH THEY CREATED A GUIDE ON ENVIRONMENTAL CURRICULA – 18 SCHOOLS ARE NOW MAKING THEIR OWN TAILORED ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES ON THIS BASIS.

European Year for Development

Climate Alliance is kicking off a Europe-wide campaign for the European Year for Development (EYD2015). Municipalities interested are encouraged to take part and get both themselves and their residents to take a critical look at how we want to live in the future and how we are going to get there. What does a 'good life' really mean?

The focus is on Europe's (over)development as well as our role and responsibility in fighting climate change, inequality and dependency. Raising awareness amongst decision makers at all levels and sensitising them to such topics is crucial to achieving strategic political decisions for sustainable development. Sustainable development, in all its dimensions (social, economic, ecological), has been identified as a key objective in the EU consultation process towards a post-2015 development framework. European local authorities

are responsible for these dimensions on a local level.

Various campaign materials and background information will be offered to interested municipalities as of May 2015. Get active and take part in the Climate Alliance EYD2015 campaign! As part of the EYD2015 campaign, indigenous counsellors for sustainable development will be making tours of Europe in three different visits with the first set for April 2015 in Luxembourg, Germany and Belgium.

Indigenous and local communities in the South have developed alternative strategies based on millenniums of knowledge on how to use natural resources in a sustainable way. Based on their experience, they will develop recommendations for citizens and political representatives on national and European levels.

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Funding body: EuropeAid

"MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES HAVE LONG RECOGNISED THE ROLE OF THE INDIGENOUS IN THE CLIMATE ALLIANCE AS WELL AS THEIR SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR PLANET. THEIR TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE TAKES ON A SPECIAL ROLE IN THE SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVES TO THE ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME. CLIMATE ALLIANCE HAS THUS BECOME A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ACTOR AND PROMOTER OF GLOBAL CLIMATE PROTECTION, RAINFOREST PROTECTION, AND SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION."

Silvia Hesse, City of Hanover (DE) –
Founding Climate Alliance member

Take the future of the global climate into your own hands and join the Climate Alliance!

- Get methodological support for climate and energy plans
- Build capacities locally with the right tools and training
- Enhance financing of local campaigns
- Help shape decisions on national and EU levels
- Establish partnerships with indigenous peoples of Amazonia

Find out more on climatealliance.org

European municipalities and Amazonian indigenous peoples – united for local climate action and rainforest protection

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Climate Alliance

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