



# REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

2022 | 2023



# IMPRINT

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# FOREWORD

**In 2022, the Russian attack on Ukraine was the defining political event not only in Europe but also worldwide. It caused energy prices to skyrocket and inflation to increase sharply, plunging many countries into an energy policy crisis. Above all, though, it made clear that dependence on fossil energies leads to environmental destruction and social upheaval, and also awakening very real security policy fears within Europe. Billions have since been invested in military technology for Ukraine and the development of renewable energies is also being accelerated as one possibility for greater energy independence. The urgent need for effective climate action certainly has not diminished – quite the contrary.**

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# 2022

**WAS THE HOTTEST  
YEAR IN THE LAST FIVE  
CENTURIES**

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2022 was the hottest year in the last five centuries. The European summer was marred by an unprecedented drought with above-average heat and countless record temperatures, coupled with below-average rainfall. Extremes were also experienced in other parts of the world, though, including a heatwave in India and extreme flooding in Pakistan. An increase in extreme climatic events has been predicted for a long time now, however the speed of the increase has even surprised many of the experts. During our board meeting in Modena (IT) at the end of June, we

witnessed first-hand the extreme temperatures that led the River Po to virtually run dry and are contributing to the salinisation of agricultural land by water from the Mediterranean.

The effects of the climate crisis also formed the focus of our annual conference held in Hesperange (LU) at the end of September. We were able to intensify the personal exchange with our members there and together sought solutions on how to better tap into local potential so as to strengthen municipal climate action.

2022 was also an important year for our indigenous partners. At the start of September, a small Climate Alliance delegation attended the COICA Congress in Lima (PER). Countless discussions took place and we were able to expand our support for renewable energy projects through member contributions. A small glimmer of hope for the rainforests of Amazonia came at the end of the year as former President Bolsonaro was voted out of office in Brazil. His policies exacerbated the conflicts with indigenous peoples and led to a dramatic increase in deforestation in the Amazon rainforest. The new president, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, who has now been sworn in for what will be his third term in office, has deemed the rainforest and climate action an important priority. A ministry for indigenous affairs has now been established for the first time; Climate Alliance has had the opportunity to exchange with its new minister, Sônia Guajajara, on numerous occasions in the past few years.



**As the presidents of Climate Alliance’s Executive Board, we are delighted with all of the new additions to our network in the past year. On behalf of the entire board, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all members as well as the employees in our offices in Frankfurt and Brussels and also in the various countries in which Climate Alliance is active for their outstanding commitment and excellent work.**



**TINE HEYSE**

President of Climate Alliance’s Executive Board  
| Mayor for Environment, Climate, Energy and  
North-South, City of Ghent (BE)



**ANDREAS WOLTER**

President of Climate Alliance’s  
Executive Board | Mayor, City of  
Cologne (DE)

# AN ALLIANCE FOR THE CLIMATE

# EUROPEAN MUNICIPALITIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

## TAKING LOCAL ACTION ON THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS

Climate Alliance member municipalities have been acting in partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples for the benefit of the global climate for more than 30 years now. With nearly 2,000 members spread across more than 25 European countries, Climate Alliance is the largest European city network dedicated to fair and comprehensive climate action. In answering the question of how mitigation of and adaptation to the climate crisis should be practised in our towns and cities, the network pairs local action with global responsibility.

### Together for ambitious municipal climate action

Each member municipality has passed a local resolution on membership with which it embraces the association's goals. These are:

- To strive for a 95 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 compared to 1990 levels, in line with the IPCC recommendations
- To implement effective and comprehensive climate action in accordance with Climate Alliance principles
- To promote climate justice together with indigenous peoples by supporting their rights, protecting biodiversity and abstaining from the use of unsustainably managed timber

1,939\*

MEMBERS FROM



\* AS OF END OF 2022  
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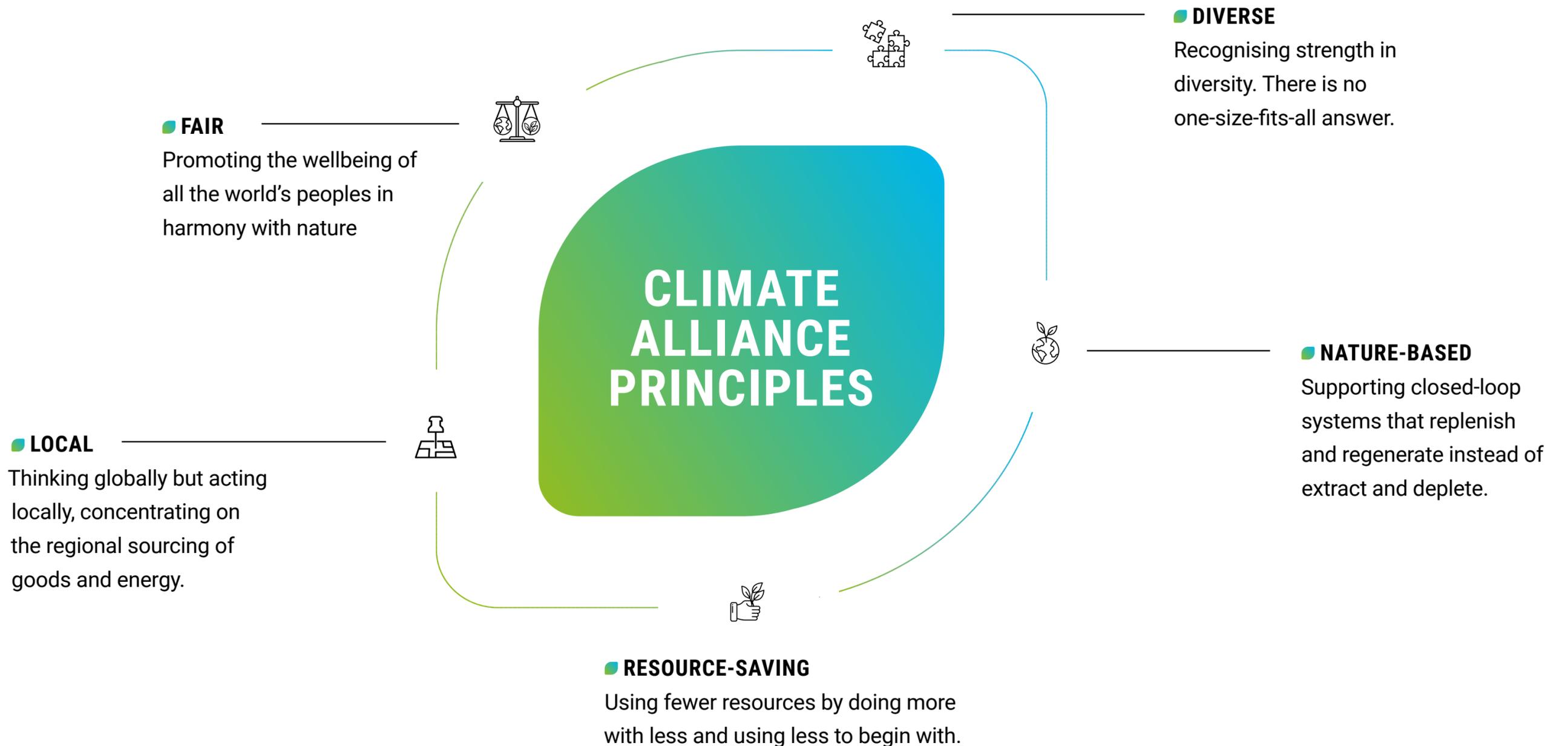
26  
EUROPEAN  
COUNTRIES

With the Climate Alliance Member Charter, member municipalities receive concrete recommendations for action – from climate neutrality to 100 percent renewable energies to the introduction of carbon pricing. The aim is to encourage ambitious climate action on the local level and drive a just transformation together.

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CLIMATE\\_ALLIANCE\\_CHARTER](https://bit.ly/climate_alliance_charter)

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE PRINCIPLES

Climate Alliance stands for a holistic approach to climate action that is guided by certain principles. These serve as both a compass and a filter for effective and sustainable climate action on the local level:



# STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Climate Alliance members come from across Europe and beyond! The network continued to grow in 2022:

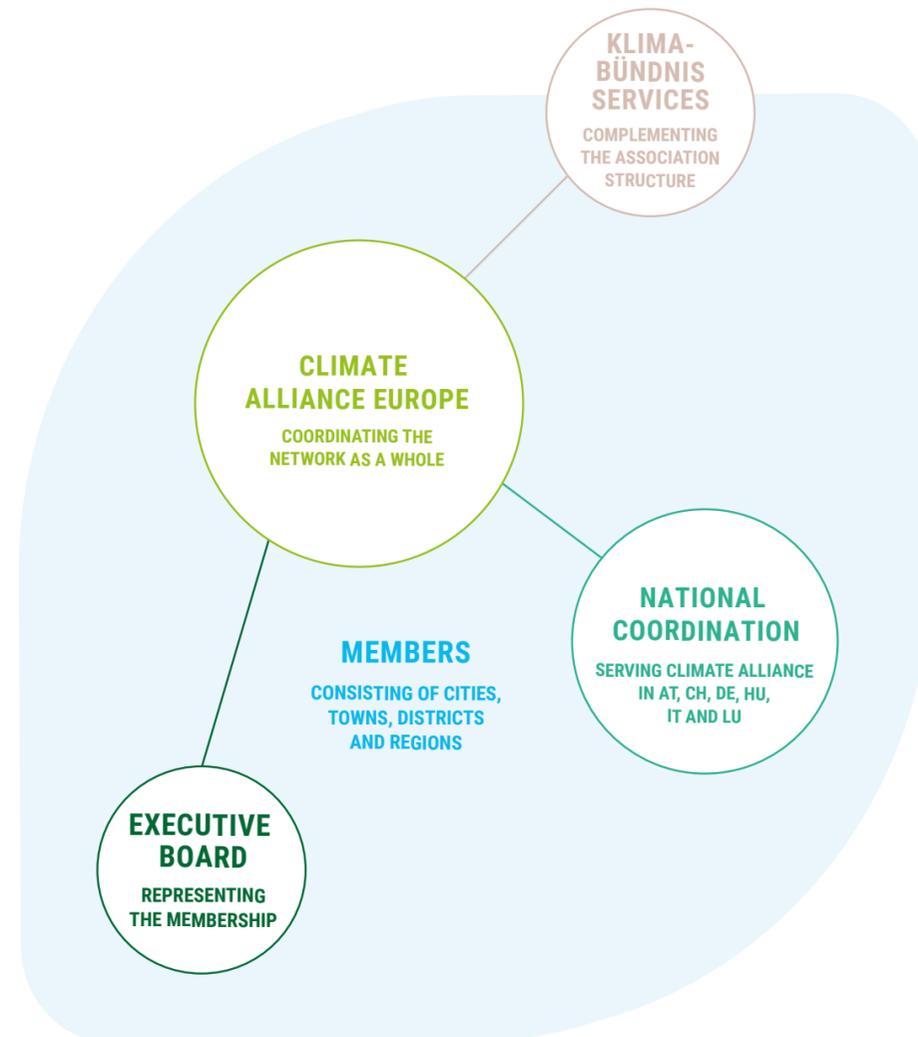
**1,939**  
MEMBERS

**27**  
COUNTRIES

|  |   |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| <p><b>49</b><br/>NEW MEMBERS<br/>JOINED OUR<br/>NETWORK...</p> | <p><b>DK</b><br/>AARHUS</p>   | <p><b>CH</b><br/>ITTIGEN<br/>ARBON</p> | <p><b>AT</b><br/>BAD MITTERNDORF</p>  | <p><b>DE</b><br/>EDEWECHT<br/>ERKELENZ<br/>FULDATAL<br/>HEILIGENHAUS<br/>LAER</p>          |   |
|  | <p><b>FR</b><br/>STRASSBURG<br/>NANCY</p>   | <p><b>IT</b><br/>AESS</p>              | <p><b>DE</b><br/>LANDAU<br/>NEUBRANDENBURG<br/>RÖMERBERG-DUDENHOFEN<br/>SPROCKHÖVEL</p> | <p><b>DE</b><br/>UELZEN<br/>BÖTZINGEN<br/>BURG<br/>HÖHENKIRCHEN-SIEGERSTBRUNN</p>          |   |
| <p>... IN<br/><b>2022</b></p>                                  | <p><b>PERU</b><br/>AUTONOMOUS<br/>TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT<br/>OF THE WAMPÍS NATION</p>  |  |   | <p><b>AT</b><br/>BÖHEIMKIRCHEN</p>   | <p><b>DE</b><br/>KAISERSLAUTERN<br/>KLEVE<br/>RASTEDE<br/>NEU-ULM<br/>PEISSENBERG</p> |
|  |   |  |   | <p><b>AT</b><br/>ATTERSEE<br/>AM ATTERSEE</p>  | <p><b>DE</b><br/>STRAUSBERG<br/>WIETMARSCHEN<br/>STRAUSBERG<br/>TELGTE</p>            |
|  |   |  | <p><b>AT</b><br/>LENZING</p>  | <p><b>DE</b><br/>AMT TREPTOWER TOLLESEWINKEL<br/>BAD BENTHEIM<br/>EMLICHHEIM</p>           |   |
|  |   |  |   | <p><b>DE</b><br/>HALTERN AM SEE<br/>KARLSFELD<br/>KREIS BERGSTRASSE</p>                    |   |
|  |   |  |   | <p><b>DE</b><br/>KREIS GRAFSCHAFT-BENTHEIM<br/>KREIS LUDWIGSBURG<br/>KREIS OSNABRÜCK</p>   |   |
|  |   |  |   | <p><b>DE</b><br/>KREIS SÜDLICHE WEINSTRASSE<br/>LENZING<br/>LORSCH<br/>LORSHEIM AM SEE</p> |   |
|  |   |  |   | <p><b>DE</b><br/>NECKARSULM<br/>NEUENHAUS<br/>OSTSTEINBEK<br/>SCHÜTTORF<br/>UELSSEN</p>    |   |

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-NETWORK](https://bit.ly/ca-network)

# NETWORK STRUCTURE



**Climate Alliance's members elect an executive board, responsible for the network's strategic direction, from among their ranks. The offices of Climate Alliance Europe manage the network at the European level and carry out numerous activities including projects and campaigns both for and with members across Europe. In Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Hungary, Italy and Switzerland, members are additionally supported by a national coordination office.**

## Klima-Bündnis Services

In 2022, Climate Alliance Europe prepared to establish a limited liability company as a complement to the existing association structure. The aim is to avert the risk of the association losing its non-profit status due to the increasing economic activities of successful campaigns such as CITY CYCLING and instruments such as the Klimaschutz-Planer (Climate Protection Planner). The establishment of a limited liability company will strengthen Climate Alliance and allow it to further develop offers for members while achieving greater independence from third-party funding in the long term. Climate Alliance members officially commissioned the Executive Board with the establishment of such a company during an extraordinary general assembly held in December 2022, breaking ground for Klima-Bündnis Services at the end of 2022. Klima-Bündnis Services can thus begin its work as of 2023.

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE EUROPE 2022 EXECUTIVE BOARD



**ANDREAS WOLTER | President**  
Mayor, Cologne, Germany



**TINE HEYSE | President**  
Mayor for Environment, Climate,  
Energy and North-South, Ghent



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Coordinator for Climate Change  
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Department for Building and  
Environment, Essen, Germany



**EVA SCHOBESBERGER | Board Member**  
City Councillor, Linz, Austria

# THE TEAM BEHIND CLIMATE ALLIANCE EUROPE

Climate Alliance Europe’s European Secretariat is based in two locations with the headquarters in Frankfurt am Main (DE) and a second office in Brussels (BE). The office in Frankfurt also serves as the national coordination office for Climate Alliance Germany.



\* Several employees work specifically on initiatives for Climate Alliance members in Germany.

# PEER LEARNING: SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND BENEFITING FROM ONE ANOTHER

**AESS Energy Agency (IT) shares expertise on one-stop-shops and energy-efficient retrofits through mentoring programme**

Exchange, learning from each other, inspiring each other – these are core values of a network. These ideas are also integral to Climate Alliance, which now connects almost 2,000 municipalities from across Europe. In 2022, the Climate Alliance team supported new member AESS (IT) in the framework of a six-month mentoring programme with Italy's Piedmont region.

Climate Alliance coordinated the mentoring programme via the EUROPA project, which aims to promote energy-efficient retrofits in residential buildings. With the programme, Climate Alliance matched EUROPA pilot regions with interested stakeholders so as to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills from mentors to the ment-

ees. Thematic focal points included energy efficient retrofits with performance guarantees and one-stop shops, or the bundling of key renovation services in one place. Together with other stakeholders, the Agency for Energy and Sustainable Development (AESS) was a mentee in a peer group for which the Italian region of Piedmont acted as a mentor.

Even before the programme started, AESS was already actively working on energy efficiency, retrofits and one-stop-shops. Nevertheless, the energy agency wanted to gain more competence and inspiration from colleagues. "We were eager to learn more. Much has been done in the last years in terms of retrofits in Modena, but there is



**“We were eager to learn more. Much has been done in the last years in terms of retrofits in Modena, but there is still a lot of room for improvement, especially in the private building sector.”**

LISA SENTIMENTI, PROJECT MANAGER AT AESS

still a lot of room for improvement, especially in the private building sector,” comments Lisa Sentimenti, project manager at AESS on the agency’s motivation for participating in the mentoring programme. AESS’s mentor, the Piedmont Region, is Italy’s largest region and places a focus on renewable energies, energy efficiency and energy certificates. With a regional one-stop-shop, the region offers homeowners and property managers a single point of contact with multidisciplinary expertise, including advice on energy efficiency as well as concrete technical and financial solutions.

The mentoring programme was designed to highlight just these experiences, including a wide range of activities such as educational events, video training modules and Q&A sessions as well as

dedicated networking opportunities and a 1.5-day visit to the mentors. AESS benefited greatly from the direct exchange with Piedmont, especially in the field of one-stop-shops. “For us, it was particularly interesting to learn more about the different business models related to sustainable one-stop-shops in Italy,” explains Lisa Sentimenti. “A key insight was thus confirmed. To tackle energy issues in an area, an integrated approach is absolutely crucial!” The impressions from Piedmont have thus also influenced AESS’s strategy. Combining funding opportunities with available sustainable energy tools and projects is critical to the success of a territorial strategy. “In concrete terms, this means that one-stop-shops should ideally address various topics, such as support for energy renovations as well as for the creation of renewable energy communities,” explains Lisa Sentimenti.

This insight is a great asset for the energy agency and AESS can also benefit from future cooperation with Piedmont. Even after the end of the mentoring programme, the peer group to which AESS belonged and the Piedmont Region plan to continue on as an informal network of one-stop-shops and to keep exchanging ideas – sustainable added value for all involved!

The example of AESS and the Piedmont Region shows just how fruitful and influential exchanges between local authorities can be. In this respect, networks and initiatives like EUROPA’s mentoring programme can serve as catalysts, connecting municipalities in a lasting way. These partnerships facilitate mutual learning and can be truly inspirational, with the power to support climate action efforts for all partners.

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**





# MAKING CONNECTIONS

# THE 2022 CLIMATE ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE | CAIC22

**Almost 400 people from over 30 countries attended CAIC22 either online or in person for three full days of compelling discussions, inspiring examples and exchanges with like-minded individuals.**

The event was organised in collaboration with Luxembourg's municipality of Hesperange and Climate Alliance Luxembourg. Under the overarching theme of 'Unlocking local potential – driving global transition', the network met in person in Hesperange (LU) and online from 28 to 30 September 2022 to discuss how municipalities can build bridges to local stakeholders and tap into local expertise.

The content of CAIC22 was multifaceted: in addition to panel discussions with representatives of the local and European levels and workshops on topics ranging from adaptation to CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring and from energy communities to climate justice, participants took part in motivational



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training sessions for local stakeholders, relaxed networking opportunities and Climate Alliance's annual General Assembly. The assembly began with an update from Ukraine, providing insights into the difficult situation on the ground and the implications for Ukrainian cities and towns.

Climate Alliance members then committed to mitigating energy poverty on the local level by 2050 by adopting a dedicated resolution on the topic. In doing so, they sent a clear message and demonstrated the leading role municipalities have play in the current energy crisis.



**“It’s important to be aware:  
I’m part of the system and  
therefore part of the solution!”**

**PROF. DR GERHARD REESE  
DURING HIS KEYNOTE SPEECH AT CAIC22  
ENTITLED ‘CHANGE YOURSELVES,  
NOT THE CLIMATE!’**



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Another highlight was the exclusive preview of the documentary ‘The Illusion of Abundance’ on CAIC22’s first evening. The screening gave participants insight into the work of the women defending their human rights in Brazil, Honduras and Peru.

The international conference will once again be the central meeting point for the Climate Alliance network in 2023, this time taking place in the City of Modena (IT).

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-CAIC22](https://bit.ly/ca-caic22)

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE WORKING GROUPS

**Whether buildings, climate adaptation, CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring or financing – with its dedicated working groups, Climate Alliance offers members another platform for exchange, networking and further education. Interested Climate Alliance members are invited to participate.**

## ■ Working group on adaptation

As the climate crisis continues, adaptation is becoming increasingly important. Climate Alliance established a working group on adaptation back in 2015 as a place for members to exchange ideas on the topic and learn from one another. In 2022, we once again shared the latest news on climate adaptation policy with working group participants, informing as well about exciting events and opportunities to get involved. Within the framework of CAIC22, the working group on adaptation joined forces with the working group on financing to discuss how urban climate adaptation can be financed and how potential investors can be found.

## ■ Working group on financing

Project financing is often one of the biggest hurdles in municipal climate action. The working group on financing addresses just this challenge and has been facilitating exchange among members since 2012 on topics such as tenders, funding programmes and innovative financing instruments. Last year, circular economy and the financing of adaptation measures topped the agenda during a workshop held jointly with the working group on adaptation.

### ■ Working group on CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring

In 2022, this working group once again focused on the topic of carbon pricing. Climate Alliance plans to launch an EU-funded project on this topic in 2023 together with the Dutch climate organisation Klimaatverbond Nederland and interested regions and municipalities. The group stands to learn much from its Dutch counterparts. During the working group meeting at CAIC22 in Luxembourg, a representative from Amsterdam spoke of the city's experiences with a fictitious carbon price to support carbon neutrality.

**“Thanks to the sustainable procurement policy [in the Netherlands], a municipality can [...] require companies to share details of their carbon footprint.”**

THIJS DE LA COURT,  
KLIMAATVERBOND NEDERLAND

### ■ Working group on buildings

The topics of energy-efficient buildings, sustainable renovations and the mobilisation of building owners for renovations have been discussed within the working group on buildings since the end of 2021. Climate Alliance informs working group members of relevant events and tools, and shares other helpful tips in its dedicated newsletters. During CAIC22, the working group exchanged on energy performance certificates as well as building standards that promote greater energy efficiency.

**“When I see an energy certificate, I want it to tell me how high the energy costs for the building are going to be.”**

JAN STEIGER,  
MANAGING DIRECTOR, PASSIVE HOUSE INSTITUTE

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-WORKING-GROUPS](https://bit.ly/ca-working-groups)

# SAVING ENERGY: MUNICIPALITIES IN CRISIS MODE

Climate Alliance members lead the way with ambitious energy savings measures

## Lüneburg (DE) focuses on energy efficiency and teamwork

In addition to several internal administrative cost-saving measures, the Hanseatic City is involving relevant stakeholders to tackle the energy crisis. The Lord Mayor, Claudia Kalisch, invited participants to a municipal conference at the end of August 2022 to develop solutions for two scenarios: sufficient energy with rising prices and rising prices with energy shortages. The approximately 250 ideas gathered were recorded in an interactive mind map, which the administration is currently evaluating as a basis for follow up. Through this exchange, the city's resilience could also be increased. "The actors now know who can do what and are intercon-

nected," comments Florian Beye. In addition, a central website will be set up to collect current information on the measures and key contacts.



**"The consequences of the Ukraine war with rising prices in many areas cannot be solved by the city administration alone. It is important to involve civil society and to find solutions for our Hanseatic city in close cooperation with all relevant actors."**

**FLORIAN BEYE,  
PERSONAL ASSISTANT IN THE OFFICE  
OF THE LORD MAYOR OF LÜNEBURG**

### **Cologne (DE) raises awareness amongst citizens and administrators**

As in many cities, the City of Cologne has also put together a package of measures to counter the energy crisis. In addition to regulations on room temperatures and street lighting, the city has also stopped the continuous illumination of representative buildings such as the Cologne Cathedral. To support these measures, Cologne is involving both the city's own administrative staff and its citizens. Together with its energy company, RheinEnergie, the city is planning a campaign to better communicate energy savings tips to consumers. Cologne is also working with municipal staff, in particular, the maintenance supervisors of the administrative buildings, who are to be trained and act as multipliers. In addition to the implementation of further measures, the city plans to establish a crisis team in order to be able to react quickly and at short notice to the energy crisis throughout the autumn and winter months.



FELDKIRCH

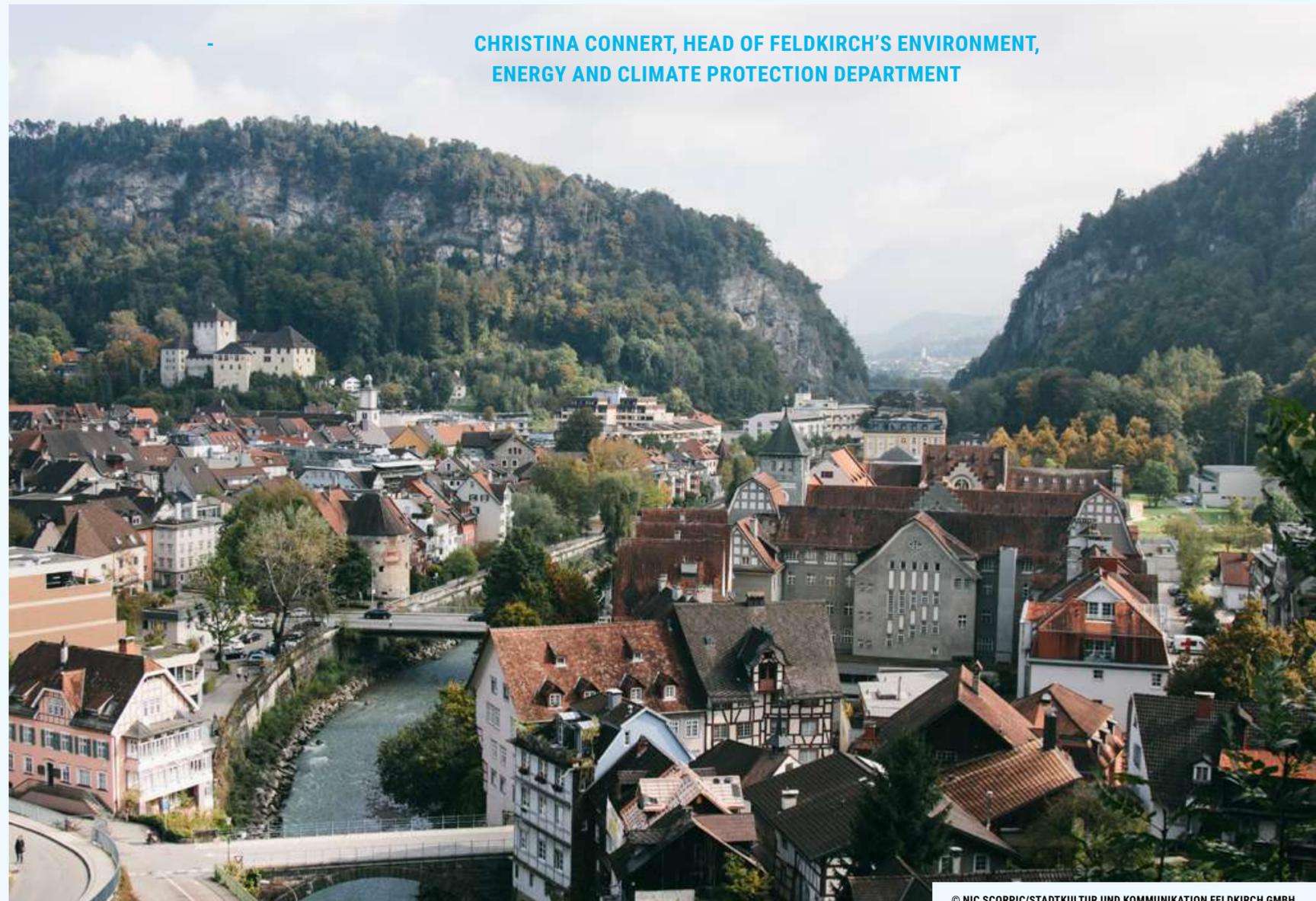
## Feldkirch (AT) uses its own reporting platform and raises awareness

The 30,000 inhabitant city in Vorarlberg has taken a whole range of energy savings measures including the reduction of room temperatures, the inspection of all ventilation systems and minimised lighting for the holidays. Another important component of Feldkirch’s energy savings strategy is to involve city employees and raise their awareness of energy savings at the workplace. With the help of an informational campaign in the staff newspaper and an internal city survey that gathers staff needs and suggestions, the administration wants to educate and convince employees of the measures taken. In order to further involve the citizens of Feldkirch, the city’s own reporting platform, “Schau auf Feldkirch”, is also being used.

**Lüneburg, Cologne and Feldkirch are just three of the countless examples of municipalities undertaking energy savings measures within the Climate Alliance network. Cities and towns from across Europe are proving once again how important the local level is in times of crisis.**

**“Through the local media, citizens are being called upon to submit their own ideas for saving energy on the platform. The first reports have already been received and are being actively integrated into the city’s further plans.”**

**CHRISTINA CONNERT, HEAD OF FELDKIRCH’S ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND CLIMATE PROTECTION DEPARTMENT**



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# ADVOCATING FOR THE LOCAL LEVEL



# THE ENERGY CRISIS

**2022 was unlike any other year in recent European history. As if the Covid pandemic of the previous years had not caused enough hardships, an unexpected war on the Union's borders caused energy prices to soar even further, prompting the need for swift action at all levels – from the European down to the municipal.**

In European policy terms, the energy crisis gave European Commission President Von der Leyen the occasion to 're-power' the EU with a plan to save more energy, produce more of it in a sustainable way and diversify supplies so that the EU could work quickly towards energy independence from Russia. Climate Alliance welcomed these plans, especially the support for energy communities to produce decentralised renewable energy and the focus on energy savings, for example through deep building renovations, so as to alleviate energy poverty – topics that lie at the heart of our work. Flanking our efforts on energy poverty on the local level, Climate Alliance members further strengthened their commitment through the adoption of a resolution on energy poverty alleviation at the Climate Alliance International Conference in Hesperange (LU).

Throughout 2022, Climate Alliance took a stand on several European policy issues, signing open

letters on more ambitious and binding targets in the Energy Efficiency (EED) and Renewable Energy (RED) Directives and on a bold and robust Social Climate fund that ensures a just transition and focuses on social measures for vulnerable groups. We also supported a position statement on strengthening the proposed EU regulation on deforestation products.

Climate Alliance took a leading role at the Climate Chance Summit held in member city Nantes (FR) in March 2022. The conference, which united many non-state actors, was held in parallel to an official EU climate summit at same location. With no less than nine contributions across both events, Climate Alliance staff and mayors stressed the needs of the municipal level and offered their expertise. Our workshops on the environmental and social benefits of deep renovation not only served as platforms for exchange, they also formed the basis for several

**“Europe is crucial to provide a framework and at the same time, the local level must be at the centre of concrete action.”**

**GLEN DISSAUX,  
MAYOR OF BREST  
MÉTROPOLE (FR)**



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# 16

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES  
WHICH WILL REAP SIGNIFICANT  
SUPPORT FOR THEIR PLANS  
TO GO 'CLIMATE-NEUTRAL' BY 2030**

policy recommendations on sustainable materials, approaches and financing that were later passed on to key figures in the EU institutions.

Other EU policy highlights such as two of Horizon Europe's 'Mission' programmes placed cities in the spotlight. Within the framework of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission, Climate Alliance continued to actively maintain a city twinning programme and contribute advi-

ce on sustainable climate finance. We applaud our 16 local authorities, selected from a pool of hundreds, which will reap significant support for their plans to go 'climate-neutral' by 2030 as a result of this programme.

READ MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-ADVOCACY](https://bit.ly/ca-advocacy)

# 2022 UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

**Towards the end of 2022, COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh dominated the international climate policy scene and Climate Alliance was on the ground as a part of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency with a small delegation to represent the network in a variety of events and activities – be it through official side events, with a dedicated Climate Alliance stand at the expo or at the country pavilions.**

One of the most tangible outcomes of COP27 was certainly the consensus on a Loss and Damage Fund. This fund, which developing countries have been championing for over 30 years, will provide much needed relief for the most vulnerable nations hit hard by climate impacts. Climate Alliance very much supports this renewed focus on a just and fair transition, yet it must not distract us from our work to mitigate global heating.

The importance of indigenous peoples and of cities and regions – both local actors with influence over key territory – was mentioned in the final declaration and fortunately, a first reference to tipping points was also made. As one such

tipping point may see the rainforests of the Amazon basin go from carbon sink to carbon source due to deforestation, our network's efforts to empower the indigenous peoples in protecting their forest territories are of the essence.

Nevertheless, the current top-down approach to climate policy is showing its limitations in moving from commitments to action. The fact that the resolution to hit peak emissions by 2025 was taken out of the final COP27 agreement, taking the 1.5 degree target ever further out of reach, is especially disturbing. The action of cities and regions will be necessary to help fill the gap.

**“The more urgent the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions becomes, the more important [...] binding municipal resolutions on our climate targets are than international recommendations.”**

**ANDREAS WOLTER,  
CLIMATE ALLIANCE PRESIDENT**



NO A LAS FALSAS SOLUCIONES CLIMATICAS  
EL GRITO DE LA AMAZONIA  
EN DEFENSA DE LA VIDA  
DEL TERRITORIO Y DEL AGUA

# THE COVENANT OF MAYORS – IN EUROPE AND BEYOND

Over the course of 2022, Climate Alliance continued to help steer the EU's Covenant of Mayors initiative. On the technical level, Climate Alliance has developed the inclusion of an energy poverty pillar for the European branch together with the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub whilst actively advocating for and contributing to the simplification of the Global initiative's Common Reporting Framework to alleviate the reporting burden for cities. We also focused on providing practical support to municipalities via the Covenant of Mayors throughout 2022 with a special emphasis on the cities and towns of Spain and Italy.

As a response to the energy crisis, Climate Alliance also helped shape and launch the Cities Energy Saving Sprint together with the European Commission and the Committee of the Regions. The campaign showcases how cities initially responded to and coped with gas shortages and higher energy costs. In terms of adaptation to the climate crisis' impacts and the need for expert advice, we also coordinated the European Commission's Policy Support Facility, aiming to boost municipal know-how on adaptation practices and spur the implementation of concrete measures by 2023.

Through the Covenant of Mayors' so-called political board, municipal representatives regularly engaged in direct and structured dialogue with high-level EU officials on the role of local authorities in EU climate policy – highlights in 2022 included talks with First Vice President

Frans Timmermans and European Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson. Our strong role in shaping the Covenant of Mayors continues to open doors, helping ensure EU policy frameworks are better suited to the local level and to promoting local action.

**“The Covenant of Mayors is empowering cities and citizens. It's probably one of best programmes for ecological, economic and social development and sustainability that the EU has ever produced.”**

JOÃO DINIS, MUNICIPALITY OF CASCAIS (PT)

READ MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-COM](https://bit.ly/ca-com)



# INVOLVING CITIZENS IN THE MOBILITY TRANSITION

**Freiburg (DE) celebrates success with the CITY CYCLING campaign**

Cycling plays an important role in the sustainable mobility transition. Municipalities in particular are called upon to promote and expand cycling. For the local level, however, it is not only about cycling infrastructure, but also about motivating citizens and initiating sustainable change. With

its participation in CITY CYCLING last year, the City of Freiburg showed how a city can successfully involve citizens in the mobility transition.

Freiburg has long seen itself as a cycling city. In 2016, the city analysed the composition of urban traffic (modal split). Bicycle traffic made up a 34 percent share of the total – a high value when compared to the rest of Germany. Yet the city streets are full cars, especially at rush hour, meaning that potential to further increase cycling exists. This potential was the reason that the local sustainability team and the Sustainability Council, a body of urban stakeholders, decided to run the CITY CYCLING campaign for the first time in 2021.

The campaign was a great success with over 6,600 citizens participating. But how was the

city able to motivate so many to take part in CITY CYCLING right from the start? Freiburg relied on broad-based communication that was not carried out by the city administration alone. “A large network of businesses, civil society stakeholders and universities called for participation,” Peter Rinker clarifies. Target group-oriented communication also helped, with email communication in particular being an important component. “Posters, banners or social media only reached a fraction of the people. Targeted communication via email to various networks has brought the greatest success,” Peter Rinker explains further.

In addition to the effect of raising awareness, CITY CYCLING provides further benefits. Via the RADar! reporting platform, participants can report problems and hazards in the local infra-

**“Investments in the city’s infrastructure are of course important. But the change must also take place in people’s minds.”**

PETER RINKER, SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF FREIBURG





structure directly to their municipality and thus contribute to an improved cycling infrastructure. With the CITY CYCLING app, participating cyclists can also track their kilometres and provide valuable cycling data on the routes they have cycled. This information can then be fed into another Climate Alliance project, the RiDE (Radverkehr in Deutschland) platform. Following the campaign, cities and towns – for now only in Germany – can thus use RiDE to view the anonymised data of their municipality in the form of heat maps or traffic volume or speed maps and use this as a basis for their infrastructure planning. With answers to questions such as ‘how many cyclists are on the road and when?’ as well as ‘how smoothly do cyclists reach their destination?’, the processed data can contribute to a sustainable improvement of the cycling infrastructure and thus lead to more cycling.

Freiburg, too, makes use of this offer. Last year, 60 percent of the participants used the CITY CYCLING app – an extremely high rate. Rinkert explains that “the app is the easiest way to participate in the campaign and that’s exactly how

60%

OF FREIBURG  
PARTICIPANTS USED  
THE CITY CYCLING  
APP IN 2022

we communicated it in our advertising.” This simple approach seems to have worked in Freiburg. The city now has the data of over 4,000 citizens who cycle at its disposal. The city already has ideas about how to use this data and plans to make it freely accessible for all interested stakeholders on the city’s data portal.

With the implementation of the CITY CYCLING campaign, the City of Freiburg has shown how to motivate citizens to participate – playfully, with attractive offers, and with target group-oriented communication.

A man with glasses and a beard is shouting with his mouth wide open and his right hand raised, pointing upwards. He is wearing a black t-shirt and has a tattoo on his right forearm. The background is a blurred crowd of people at an outdoor event.

# RAISING AWARENESS

# CITY CYCLING CYCLING FOR A BETTER CLIMATE

Climate Alliance's CITY CYCLING campaign is a true success story. Since 2008, the campaign team has been motivating municipalities, citizens and local politicians to cycle and cover as many kilometres as possible by bike during a three-week period. The campaign continues to grow in popularity every year, encouraging more and more people to hop on their bikes – 2022 was no exception.

Shortly after the official campaign kick-off in Greifswald (DE) at the start of May, Rainer Fumpfei set off on his final tour through Germany as CITY CYCLING ambassador. For the last time in 12 years, he travelled from the far south to the north of Germany, covering around 2,000 kilometres to raise awareness for the campaign and promote cycling in municipalities and districts across the country.

Meanwhile, all other participants were busy pedalling as much as possible between May and September. They once again achieved some outstanding results:

- 
- Over **920,000 PEOPLE** from **5 COUNTRIES** participated in CITY CYCLING in 2022
  - With **180 MILLION KILOMETRES COVERED BY BIKE**, the emission of over 27,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> was avoided
  - A total of **2,557 MUNICIPALITIES** took part in the 2022 campaign
  - **654 MUNICIPALITIES** used the associated **RADAR!** reporting platform to involve their citizens in improving local cycling infrastructure
  - **6 FEDERAL STATES** in Germany participated in the accompanying **"SCHULRADELN" CYCLING CAMPAIGN FOR SCHOOLS** to show their support for more cycling among the younger generation and fewer parent taxis
-



The winning municipalities – those that covered the most kilometres during the 2022 campaign – were honoured at the end of November during a ceremony co-hosted by the German State of Saarland’s Ministry of the Environment, Climate, Mobility, Agriculture and Consumer Protection and the City of Saarbrücken.

**“People will only be convinced to cycle if they feel safe and can reach their destination quickly and flexibly. Many municipalities have realised that infrastructure is essential for this – now it’s time to put the necessary changes into practice.”**

**ANDRÉ MUNO,  
PROJECT LEAD, CITY CYCLING CAMPAIGN**

The CITY CYCLING campaign will run again in 2023 and municipalities worldwide are invited to take part. Climate Alliance members receive a discount on the participation fees.

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-CITY-CYCLING](https://bit.ly/ca-city-cycling)

# GREEN FOOTPRINTS KIDS ON THE MOVE FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Climate Alliance's Green Footprints campaign has been raising awareness for climate action among children through play for 20 years now. Together with their day care facilities or schools, children collect Green Footprints by using climate-friendly means of transport. The children's commitment is recognised every year at the UNFCCC's annual climate conference when the footprints are symbolically presented to the UN Climate Change Secretariat.

This tradition was continued in 2022. On 14 November, the Climate Alliance delegation presented a record number of Green Footprints to the new executive secretary of the UN Climate Change Secretariat, Simon Stiell, during COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh (EGY).

The Green Footprints campaign was once again a resounding success. More children participated and more footprints were collected than ever before in a single campaign year.

The campaign celebrates its anniversary in 2023. Children across Europe have now collected Green Footprints for climate action every year for the past 20 years. In this anniversary year, green footprints will once again be collected and with new resources in French, children from France can now also be inspired to join in.

- 
- A total of **236,281 CHILDREN FROM 1,626 SCHOOLS** took part in the 2022 campaign
  - The children came from **8 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES:**  
Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, North Macedonia and Sweden
  - Together they collected **3,019,901 GREEN FOOTPRINTS** for the climate
- 

**“Kids, you are our future. [...] As adults and as policymakers, we have a responsibility to you to leave this planet in a better state than we found it and to provide you with the opportunities that you deserve, that we have had and that some of us have squandered.”**

**SIMON STIELL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE SECRETARIAT  
DURING THE 2022 GREEN FOOTPRINTS CEREMONY**



Green Footprint Report

2022  
Green Footprints Campaign  
Kids on the Move for Climate

Wir wünschen uns plastikfreie Schulsachen Die Abschaffung von Klim-

Reine stinkenden Autos!  
mehr Spielplätze  
Wir Kinder wünschen uns mehr zum Platz spielen! gute Luft!

BOOM-K

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/GREEN-FOOTPRINTS](https://bit.ly/green-footprints)

# ENERGY CARAVAN

## HELPING MUNICIPALITIES MOTIVATE CITIZENS FOR ENERGY RETROFITS

With the Energy Caravan, Climate Alliance and its cooperation partner fesa e. V. are tackling a pressing issue, namely the energy retrofitting of the private building stock. The principle is simple and the success rate high: qualified energy consultants offer the residents of selected neighbourhoods free energy advice for their homes. Climate Alliance and fesa e. V. support participating municipalities in carrying out the campaign with knowledge transfer, enabling them to implement the campaign independently in the future.

**“In the current energy crisis, it has become even more important to promote energy efficiency on the local level. Independent of climate action, the Energy Caravan means that municipalities can provide citizens with important support in difficult times.”**

**JAN SCHWARZ, PROJECT LEAD, ENERGY CARAVAN CAMPAIGN**

In 2022, the Energy Caravan was presented at numerous events. In March, for example, the team attended the Climate Chance Summit in Nantes (FR) in addition to Climate Alliance’s international conference in Hesperange (LU) to present the Energy Caravan on the European level – and was met with great interest. In Luxembourg, the ball was set rolling with the handover of the campaign coordination to the Climate Alliance Luxembourg.

In Germany, the team has presented the Energy Caravan in more than 40 municipalities. Some of the municipalities addressed plan to implement the Energy Caravan in 2023; others are already preparing to implement it a second time after preliminary successes in 2022.

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**ON AVERAGE**  
**25%**  
**OF THE TARGET GROUP TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE MUNICIPAL ENERGY ADVICE SERVICE**

**ABOUT**  
**60%**  
**OF THESE IMPLEMENT THE MEASURES PROPOSED**

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- At the **END OF 2022**, Munich's first Energy Caravan was carried out as a pilot project in the Laim-Obermenzing district's Österreicher Viertel neighbourhood. After just a few weeks, 250 consultations had been held, the most in all energy caravans to date – this corresponds to a consultation rate of **WELL OVER 30%**! Further events for 2023 are in the planning stage
- Aachen (DE), Fürth (DE) and Neumünster (DE) will kick off their **1<sup>ST</sup>** energy caravans ever in 2023 while Rüsselsheim (DE) will begin its **2<sup>ND</sup>** and Freiburg (DE) its **6<sup>TH</sup>**
- In the district of Augsburg (DE), **3 MUNICIPALITIES** are preparing to implement the Energy Caravan in 2023 while Climate Alliance Luxembourg is also supporting **2 MUNICIPALITIES** in the country to carry out the campaign

Raising greater awareness for the Energy Caravan in Germany and beyond remains at the top of the agenda for 2023. Participating municipalities will also receive further support from the team while implementing the campaign with the aim of motivating even more citizens to implement energy-efficient retrofitting measures.



LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/ENERGY-CARAVAN](https://bit.ly/energy-caravan)

# WHAT CITIES CAN DO TO BEAT THE HEAT

**Worms (DE) focuses on participation, information campaigns and concrete support.**

How can we prepare urban spaces for extreme heat in the face of the climate crisis? Forecasts clearly indicate that temperatures will rise and that heat days as well as the stresses and strains that accompany them, especially for vulnerable groups, will increase. The City of Worms is taking action and breaking new ground with its own urban heat action plan. “As one of the heat hotspots in Germany, we knew we had to take action,” says Selma Mergner, climate action manager of the City of Worms of the city’s decision for a heat action plan. The plan had already been defined in Worms’ municipal concept for adapting to the climate crisis.

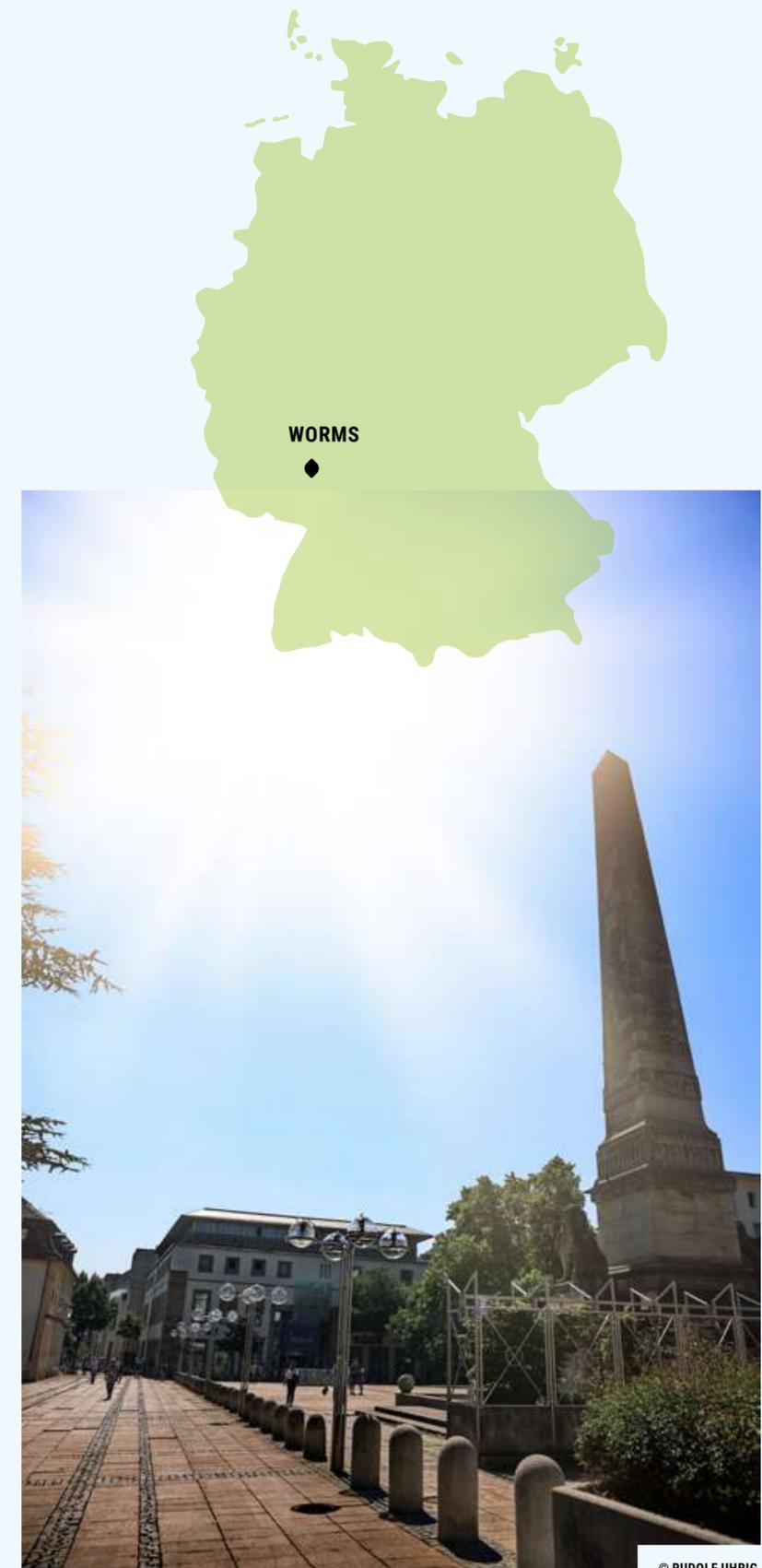
## **Climate change adaptation as a community task**

The plan focuses in particular on vulnerable groups such as the elderly, the sick and the young as well as those who work outside or are homeless. To ensure that the concepts are as practical and needs-oriented as possible, all local stakeholders in contact with these groups, from

municipal administrative staff to the fire brigade and from social associations to day care centre staff, were involved in the development of the heat action plan. A steering committee will also accompany the implementation and further development of the plan. The measures themselves were developed in a series of target group-specific workshops involving all local stakeholders. Together with Worms’ partner city, Metz (FR), the municipality has also identified urban heat islands and climate havens in cooperation with citizens as part of Climate Alliance’s TANDEM initiative.

**“Adaptation means maintaining liveable cities. This is exactly why we decided to have a heat action plan – to take preventive measures to protect the health of our population.”**

**SELMA MERGNER,  
CLIMATE ACTION MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WORMS**



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© RUDOLF UHRIG

**Hotspot maps for targeted measures**

Critical information on urban heat islands forms an important basis for the Worms Heat Action Plan. These hotspot maps show which areas are particularly at heat risk and thus help in making measures more targeted. Under the leadership of the Rhineland-Palatinate Competence Centre for Climate Change Impacts, these hotspots were combined with demographic data. The resulting hazard maps thus provide very precise information on where the danger is greatest in the event of a heat event. “Thanks to the maps, we are able to see exactly where it gets particularly hot and where vulnerable groups are at the same time, for example in kindergartens or care facilities. This is where we have to start with our measures,” emphasises Mergner. As soon as the heat action plan has been adopted by the city council, the maps will be made available to all citizens on the city’s homepage.

**Establishing support structures**

“Informing and raising awareness on climate change impacts is, of course, key. That’s why we offer training on health-related heat protection and have designed informational materials. With

our heat action plan, we also want to set up concrete structures to be able to provide rapid support during heat waves,” explains Mergner. In the case of Worms, support infrastructure includes measures such as a heat telephone or a shopping service on particularly hot days. With the heat phone, for example, registered citizens can be warned of heat waves and receive tips on how to protect themselves from the heat. With these steps, Worms plans to aid affected people, complementing the medium and long term measures of the action plan.

In the context of the project Hitze Sicher/Worms (Heat Safe/Worms), the city is being accompanied in its ambitious plans not only by Climate Alliance but also by scientific institutions. In the long term, the project also aims to make the concept transferable to other municipalities because one thing is clear: the consequences of the climate crisis will become increasingly noticeable with both the prevalence and intensity of heat waves on the rise. Cities are thus under pressure to prepare for the heat with suitable concepts and measures.



**ACTING  
ON THE LOCAL  
LEVEL**

# ENERGY POVERTY ADVICE HUB (EPAH)

## The leading EU initiative on local action against energy poverty

With the 2022 energy crisis, energy poverty in Europe has gotten even more attention. Climate Alliance has coordinated the leading EU initiative on the topic, EPAH, since 2021 with the vision of eradicating energy poverty and accelerating a just energy transition in municipalities.

EPAH began 2022 with a call for technical assistance to tackle energy poverty. The call promised municipalities tailored assistance from experts in developing measures to mitigate energy poverty on the local level. In June, EPAH published the first handbook in the series 'EPAH – A Guide to Understanding and Tackling Energy Poverty'. The publication presents the concept and introduces methodology for combatting energy poverty. The EPAH conference 'Moving Towards Energy Autonomy: How to guarantee social inclusion' brought relevant stakeholders to Zagreb (HR) that same month. There they discussed how to achieve a rapid energy transition and reduce energy poverty for all, including energy-poor and vulnerable consumers. EPAH

also updated the national indicators dashboard at the end of the year. This interactive database provides an overview of and background information on national energy poverty indicators across Europe.

In 2023, EPAH will facilitate a second round in the tender for technical assistance to help even more municipalities in Europe tackle energy poverty. The second manual in the EPAH series is also due to be published at the start of the year, this time on diagnosing energy poverty.

**“Today we have the awareness and the legal framework to combat energy poverty. The question is how we can do that. By bringing together the EU, national, local and regional levels.”**

**EERO AILIO, ADVISOR ON ENERGY TRANSITION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE AT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY**

- 
- **35 MUNICIPALITIES** from all over Europe, including **2 CLIMATE ALLIANCE MEMBERS**, were successful in their bid and will thus now receive direct support as part of the EPAH tender
  - **THE SECOND EPAH CONFERENCE** brought together around **100** EU representatives and policymakers as well as representatives from energy agencies, civil society and local governments
-



Energy Poverty  
Advisory Hub  
CONFERENCE

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-PROJECTS-EPAH](https://bit.ly/ca-projects-epah)

# INTERLACE

## Nature-based solutions for the restoration of urban ecosystems

Climate Alliance's INTERLACE project aims to make municipalities both in Europe and Latin America more liveable, resilient and inclusive.

In order to facilitate the exchange of good practices, Climate Alliance is collaborating with the Latin American city networks FLACMA and UNGL and the global city network UCLG to launch a community of municipal practitioners in the field of nature-based solutions (NBS): Cities Talk Nature. A series of digital workshops were held in 2022 as part of this project on a wide range of topics – from river restoration through to the challenges of financing nature-based solutions and engaging vulnerable groups. A first face-to-face Cities Talk Nature event took place in May with representatives from different Latin American countries. The outcome of the meeting was a report containing fascinating examples from Portoviejo (ECU), Granollers (ES) and Envigado (COL). In September, stakeholders met for the two-day Cities



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Talk Nature conference in Krakow (PL), where experts and local representatives exchanged on how nature-based solutions can be used to restore urban ecosystems.

A variety of events will also take place in 2023. Climate Alliance is particularly involved in the planning of an event due to take place in Chemnitz (DE) in May, developing an app-based learning tour together with the member city to introduce school classes to nature-based solutions.

- **MORE THAN 350 PEOPLE** attended the seven Cities Talk Nature events held in 2022
- **MORE THAN 20 MUNICIPALITIES** have signed the Cities Talk Nature letter to express their commitment to nature-based solutions

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-PROJECTS-INTERLACE](https://bit.ly/ca-projects-interlace)

# NETZEROCITIES

## Towards climate-neutral cities in Europe

Reducing emissions by 55 percent by 2030 and achieving climate neutrality by 2050 are the EU's medium and long-term climate goals, but the EU is supporting ambitious cities on their journey to reach climate neutrality already by 2030 with its Cities Mission. NetZeroCities links closely to this. As a member of the project consortium, Climate Alliance also supports the participating cities in implementing the mission's goals.

In early 2022, the first EU Cities Mission call for proposals was released. A total of 112 municipalities were selected to receive comprehensive technical, regulatory and financial advice. The European Commission officially presented these selected Mission Cities, which include 15 Climate Alliance members, at the start of April. In June, NetZeroCities and the European Commission then invited all Mission Cities to its launch event entitled 'Let's Go! Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Kick-off'. The aim was to facilitate an exchange between the cities and to present the NetZeroCities offers, such as the mission platform. In September, NetZeroCities launched a pilot programme. Cities from all over

Europe were invited to apply to become a pilot city and thus test and implement innovative approaches towards reducing emissions. Around 30 cities were selected to receive up to 1.5 million euros in grants.

From 2023, the cities selected for the pilot programme will be accompanied by the NetZeroCities consortium and supported via the mission platform. Another focus will be on a 'Twinning Programme' that aims to connect further cities with the pilots to share the experiences and knowledge resulting from the pilot programme.

- 
- A total of **377 CITIES FROM 27 EU COUNTRIES** responded to the first Cities Mission call for applications
  - The NetZeroCities pilot programme is providing grants totalling **32 MILLION EUROS** to support cities
- 

**“The energy transition is currently progressing throughout Europe. There is always a need for pioneers who set themselves even more ambitious goals though. These cities show us the way to a healthier future.”**

**URSULA VON DER LEYEN,  
EUROPEAN COMMISSION PRESIDENT**



LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-PROJECTS-NETZEROCITIES](https://bit.ly/ca-projects-netzerocities)



# TANDEM

## Franco-German exchange for local, sustainable transformation

Climate Alliance has been helping German and French municipalities since 2013 to accelerate their sustainable transformation on the municipal level by providing opportunities for a professional exchange and the formation of climate action partnerships.

In 2022, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) granted Climate Alliance an additional two years of funding for its TANDEM initiative with new focal points. A symbol of Franco-German friendship, TANDEM addresses issues that affect municipalities in both countries on their path to a sustainable transformation. Last year, the TANDEM team called for citizens to participate in Climate Alliance's successful CITY CYCLING campaign, whereby the French and German partner munic-

ipalities were encouraged to run the campaign in parallel. Partners PETR Sélestat Alsace Centrale (FR) and rural district Emmendingen (DE) managed to cover the most kilometres by bike. The campaign has also led to the formation of new partnerships, such as those between Büttelborn and Hœrdt or L'Isle Adam and Marbach am Neckar. Long established partner municipalities were also active last year, as shown when a delegation from Metz (FR) visited Worms (DE) to exchange on the topics of urban climate, heat and health. In Nuremberg (DE) and Nice (FR), the joint Escape Game 'The Last Chance' could finally be implemented in 2022, offering citizens the opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of 2050 and to attempt to prevent its collapse. The aim was to raise awareness on the effects of the climate crisis and to demonstrate measures possible on the individual level. The TANDEM team, consisting of Climate

Alliance and Energy Cities, again offered interested municipalities a variety of opportunities for professional exchange, both online and in person, on topics such as sufficiency in urban planning and sustainable food.

In its brochure 'Towards a climate partnership', the team provides concrete tips for partners to inspire further municipalities. The CITY CYCLING campaign will once again be offered as a Franco-German challenge for partner municipalities in 2023.



© CLIMATE ALLIANCE

- A total of **18** German and French partner municipalities participated in the CITY CYCLING campaign in 2022, cycling more than 2 million kilometres
- Around **40 REPRESENTATIVES** from German and French municipalities met during the TANDEM workshop in October organised in collaboration with the Deutsch-Französisches Zukunftswerk to exchange ideas on sufficiency in urban planning

LEARN MORE AT  
[BIT.LY/CA-PROJECTS-TANDEM](https://bit.ly/ca-projects-tandem)

# PROJECT DIVERSITY FOR MORE CLIMATE ACTION

Climate Alliance is involved in a variety of projects with and for its members. The following examples showcase the range of topics and activities.

## ENPOR

### Mitigating energy poverty in the private rented sector

In light of the energy crisis, the project team published a leaflet containing practical tips on how to save electricity and reduce heating costs. The first policy recommendations on tackling energy poverty in the private rented sector were also published. With the ENPOR Lunch Talks, the consortium again informed interested stakeholders about energy poverty and related topics in 2022.

## CROSSCERT

### Towards reliable, practical and people-centred European energy performance certificates for buildings

Climate Alliance is contributing to the success of the next generation of energy performance certificates (EPCs) through CrossCert. On route towards this goal, Climate Alliance is responsible for involving municipalities, for example through the CrossCert event held at the end of September entitled 'Energy-efficient buildings: Next generation energy performance certificates'.

## Renewable Energy Regions

### Matching the urban demand for renewable energy and the rural supply

Climate Alliance has led the consortium since 2018 with the aim of increasing the share of renewable energy by establishing supply and demand partnerships between urban areas and their rural surroundings in North West Europe. The official final conference for the project was held in Brest (FR) in May 2022. The team concluded the project by publishing a guide on how to establish renewable energy partnerships.

## ■ EUCF

### Supporting municipal access to financing for sustainable energy projects

The European City Facility (EUCF) promises hands-on expertise, capacity building and peer-to-peer support in addition to simplified financial support of **UP TO 60 THOUSAND EUROS PER MUNICIPALITY**. In 2022, Climate Alliance published an EUCF call for applications for the fourth and final time. More than 120 applications were submitted, of which 48 will be selected by the initiative to receive support to develop an investment concept for their sustainable energy project. Climate Alliance will also accompany the second phase of the EUCF and offer municipalities further opportunities for support within this framework from 2023 onwards.

## ■ SEIF II

### Boosting large-scale investments in energy efficiency on the national level

The Sustainable Energy Investment Forums (SEI Forums) are an initiative of the European Commission that aims to improve access to financing for energy efficiency projects. Through numerous events, the consortium facilitates a dialogue between the financial sector, public actors and other stakeholders such as representatives from SMEs and the energy services sector. In 2022, Climate Alliance organised several events for the initiative, including national round tables in Portugal and Estonia.

## ■ CINAMON

### Enhancing digital communication and analytical skills for climate action and monitoring

A resource repository and two e-learning courses for those responsible for climate action measures are to be established within this project. The team is pursuing the goal of developing competencies for digital climate action communication and monitoring. In 2022, Climate Alliance was involved in development of the first e-learning course and surveyed members on the use of digital communication tools in climate action for the resource repository.

## ■ CAN

### **Municipalities supporting energy-efficient building refurbishment in SMEs**

In this continuation of the EU-awarded Climate Active Neighbourhoods (CAN) project, the Climate Alliance-led project team is now focusing on small and medium-sized enterprises. The tried and tested approaches will be adapted to the needs of the new target group so that SMEs can reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and thus also support local climate goals.

## ■ EUROPA

### **Boosting deep energy retrofitting in residential buildings**

To encourage energy renovations, Climate Alliance coordinates the EUROPA mentoring programme. Interested municipalities were invited to apply in early 2022 to benefit from the mentors of the five EUROPA pilot regions and their experiences. Over a period of six months, around **30 PARTICIPANTS FROM EIGHT EUROPEAN COUNTRIES** learned from each other and exchanged ideas on the design of central contact points for deep renovation, known as one-stop shops, as well as the reduction of barriers to renovation.

## ■ outPHit

### **Deep retrofits made faster, cheaper and more reliable**

Climate Alliance supports the goal of encouraging renovations according to passive house principles in the EnerPHit standard – in particular using prefabricated components. Climate Alliance was able to incorporate the municipal perspective into the project last year through its working group on buildings and communicated the first project results, such as a planning aid for summer comfort.

# CITIES AND TOWNS FOR MORE CLIMATE JUSTICE

Radolfzell at Lake Constance (DE) approves financial support for indigenous peoples of Amazonia



**“Climate action is a major social challenge, and the municipalities do have a duty to act here – also on a global level. The city of Radolfzell is aware of its responsibility and wants to make its contribution.”**

**SIMON GRÖGER,  
RADOLFZELL'S LORD MAYOR**

From forest clearing by fire to illegal mining and threats to lives and livelihoods, the indigenous peoples of the Amazon region and their territories are exposed to numerous dangers. For more than 30 years, Climate Alliance has supported its indigenous partners and encouraged its members in Europe to promote climate justice at the

local level. The large district town of Radolfzell has taken action and is showing just how local support for indigenous peoples can look. “As Climate Alliance members, we are reinforcing our commitment to climate action. In order to expand our scope from a local to a global level, we have decided to financially support projects in

the Amazon region,” comments Sarah Wilm, Climate Protection Manager of the City of Radolfzell, on the motives behind the city’s decision. “Specifically, the city councillors decided in November 2021 to contribute one euro per inhabitant to work in the field of climate justice over the next four years,” Wilm explains further.

In total, this amounts to a generous donation of 31,216 euros annually. The sum goes directly into two of Climate Alliance’s funds for Amazonia: the Renewable Energy Fund and the Legal Aid Fund.

With the Energy Fund, Climate Alliance supports the energy strategy of COICA, the umbrella organisation of the indigenous peoples of Amazonia and a long-standing partner of the network. In order to enable a basic supply of electricity powered by renewables, COICA is working on solutions such as solar lamps or solar-powered boats. These approaches not only lead to cleaner but also to cheaper energy and can often be implemented locally by indigenous communities themselves. Some two thirds of Radolfzell’s support will flow into this fund from now on. Through



© CITY OF RADOLFZELL

**“The response was positive through and through and everyone was aware of its importance.”**

**SARAH WILM, CLIMATE PROTECTION MANAGER OF THE CITY OF RADOLFZELL**

the Climate Alliance Legal Aid Fund, on the other hand, the city supports the network’s indigenous partners with more than 10,000 euros per year to secure their basic rights with access to legal aid – especially in the fight for recognition of their rights to traditionally used lands. The fund, which finances lawyers’ fees and legal costs, has already helped gain acquittals for several indigenous representatives under threat.

“The response was positive through and through and everyone was aware of its importance,” reflects Sarah Wilm on the city council’s feedback. Nevertheless, there were concerns about how the project would fit into the budget. All parties, however, were firmly convinced by the project and thus agreed to implement the measure a year later, in 2022, making the corresponding funding available early on. The fundraising project was unanimously approved by the committee. The example of Radolfzell shows how cities and towns can take on climate responsibility and work with indigenous peoples for the protection



© CITY OF RADOLFZELL

of Amazonia. This reflects the basic idea of the Climate Alliance – to build bridges between indigenous communities and European municipalities in pursuit of climate justice for all.

A long aluminum boat with a solar canopy is on a wide river. The boat has a blue and white striped canopy and an outboard motor at the rear. Two people are visible on the boat. The background shows a dense forest along the riverbank under a cloudy sky.

# IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

# IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

**Climate justice is a central element of Climate Alliance's DNA. The network has been working in partnership with indigenous peoples in the Amazon region for more than 30 years now, supporting them in defending their rights and territories, offering concrete project support and strengthening their political involvement in international climate processes.**

## The situation in Amazonia

In 2022, the situation in the Amazon region remained tense for indigenous peoples. Illegal gold mining, a rise in drug violence, deforestation and forest fires set to make way for cattle grazing as well as the growing impact of the climate crisis increasingly threaten the lives of indigenous activists. At the same time, studies conducted in recent years have shown how important indigenous territories are for preservation of the rainforest and the Amazonian ecosystem.

The presidential election held in Brazil at the end of 2022 was a crucial one for the country's indigenous peoples. Not only have forest fires and deforestation in the Brazilian rainforest increased by around 53 percent since Bolsonaro took office, but urgent medical aid has been cut

drastically or abolished completely, threatening the survival of entire peoples. Bolsonaro's challenger, former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, ultimately won the election however – providing a ray of hope for Brazil and the whole of Amazonia, even if his past environmental record has not always been positive. Lula has announced the establishment of a new ministry for indigenous affairs, which will be headed by Sônia Guajajara as Brazil's first indigenous minister. In addition, the former National Indian Foundation (FUNAI), now renamed as the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples, and will be headed by Joênia Wapichana, the country's first indigenous federal deputy.

The protection of indigenous territories and support for indigenous peoples remain important priorities for Climate Alliance. In 2022,

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# 53%

**INCREASE IN FOREST FIRES AND DEFORESTATION IN THE BRAZILIAN RAINFOREST SINCE BOLSONARO TOOK OFFICE**

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**“This election is about democracy, human rights and serious environmental issues.”**

**JULIANA LINS, BRAZILIAN BIOLOGIST AND INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE PROTECTION FELLOW OF THE ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT FOUNDATION**

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**€31,000**

**CONTRIBUTED BY  
RADOLFZELL ANNUALLY  
TO CLIMATE ALLIANCE'S  
ENERGY AND LEGAL AID FUNDS  
FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS,  
CORRESPONDING TO**

**€1**

**PER INHABITANT**

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the network continued to support its indigenous partners and was involved in a number of different activities.

### **Building bridges between Europe and Amazonia**

Global partnerships between municipalities in Europe and indigenous peoples in Amazonia are one way to take responsibility. Such a partnership can provide insights into other realities and raise awareness for climate justice. The fortification of indigenous territories is also an important contribution to climate action. A number of Climate Alliance members have chosen this approach in the past year and intensified their partnerships or established new ones. In 2022, the City of Munich welcomed two delegates from the Asháninka people with whom the city has maintained a partnership for the last 25 years. During numerous events, the delegates shared insights into on the ground realities in the Amazon basin as well as the local effects of the climate crisis. The municipal climate partnership between Cologne and the Peruvian municipality of Yarinacocha in cooperation with the local indigenous population is also an inspiring one. Together, the municipalities supported two local projects in 2022: promoting solar energy

through the commissioning of e-vehicles, a solar charging station and a photovoltaic system as well as preserving biodiversity by setting up decentralised wastewater treatment plants.

### **Providing tangible support with Climate Alliance funds**

In addition to climate partnerships, Climate Alliance members have further opportunities to advocate more climate justice. Member municipalities can provide concrete financial assistance through Climate Alliance's funds. In this respect, the town of Radolfzell is setting an example by contributing a total of 31,000 euros (1 euro per inhabitant) annually to Climate Alliance's energy and legal aid funds for the next four years. With its energy fund, Climate Alliance supports COICA, the umbrella organisation of the indigenous peoples of Amazonia, with the development of a renewable energy strategy and also helps fund renewable energy projects such as introduction of solar boats in Ecuador and Peru. With its legal aid fund, Climate Alliance facilitates access to legal assistance, thus helping indigenous peoples secure their basic rights. In addition to direct support for the work of COICA's coordinator for climate change who is also a member of Climate Alliance's Executive



© KARA SOLAR

Board, around 25,000 euros from the energy fund was allocated to initiatives such as the expansion of solar boats project into Peru in cooperation with Kara Solar. At the request of FORMABIAP, an indigenous educational institution, a study was also funded in preparation for the switch to solar energy on campus. Contributions from member municipalities along with associated contributions of approx. 30,000 euros to the legal aid fund were used to provide important support for the work of indigenous women and the protection of indigenous territories.

### **Raising awareness for climate justice among European citizens**

Climate Alliance also makes offers such as the 'We are all witnesses – People in a changing climate' exhibition available to members for educational work in Europe. The exhibition gives the climate crisis a face and highlights a variety of personal stories, providing cities and towns with the opportunity to sensitise their citizens to the effects of the climate crisis and the importance of climate justice. The exhibition can

be set up flexibly and is now available as panels, posters or even digitally. Other exhibitions available on loan address the topics such as the overuse of resources and land grabbing. Member municipalities wishing to show the exhibitions in their own communities need only to cover the costs of shipping. Seven members took advantage of this opportunity throughout 2022.

# TAKING GENUINE RESPONSIBILITY

**Local climate action and global responsibility mean that we must continue to prevent large-scale rainforest destruction in the future. Our most important allies in this regard are our indigenous partners in Amazonia itself. Together we can strengthen their rights and contribute to the protection of their territories – and thus of the rainforests.**

Climate Alliance is currently working on a new offer with COICA and its new member GTANW, the Autonomous Territorial Government of the Wampís. Climate Alliance's new climate fund aims to draw together all activities and projects that contribute to sustainable climate action and heightened climate justice. The climate fund will be available to all members and as well as other interested parties. Pooling resources will enable Climate Alliance to support projects and initiatives in the Amazon basin directly with minimal bureaucracy. The first such projects are to be launched with GTANW with the aim of not only working with families, elders and schools to restore degraded land, but also improving family gardens for basic food provision.

With this cooperation, Climate Alliance will offer its members an opportunity make a targeted contribution to rainforest protection and thus to take real responsibility that can be integrated into local climate action plans.



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LEARN MORE AT  
[CLIMATEALLIANCE.ORG/INDIGENOUS-PARTNERS](https://climatealliance.org/indigenous-partners)

# HOW URBAN AND RURAL AREAS CAN WORK TOGETHER TO PROMOTE RENEWABLES

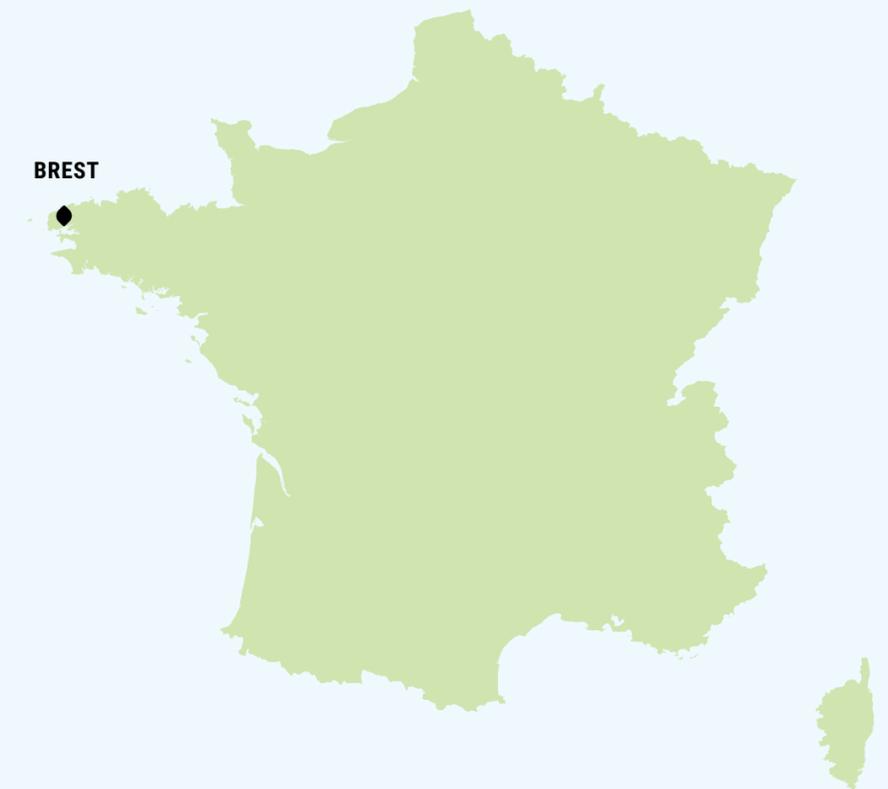
## Brest (FR) leads the way with an innovative urban-rural contract

It is no wonder that renewable energies are rising in popularity – they are absolutely essential in the long-term shift away from fossil fuels. In urban centres, however, the energy demand is high whereas the area available for renewable energies is scarce. Cities in particular are feeling the pressure to develop alternative energy sources and rural areas could hold the answer. This is precisely where the French City of Brest comes in as part of Climate Alliance's Renewable Energy Regions (RegEnergy) project.

With RegEnergy, Climate Alliance aims to expand the share of renewable energies by creating partnerships between cities and their surrounding rural areas. Brest is part of the project and is breaking new ground with an innovative urban-rural contract. In 2015, France introduced a programme to promote cooperation between cities and rural areas for the first time, implemented

through so-called reciprocity contracts. Just one year later, the Brest metropolitan region and the surrounding region of Central West Brittany (COB) became the first urban-rural partnership to officially sign such a contract. The aim of this partnership is to break down administrative barriers, establish joint work flows and make use of the strengths of both sides. "The treaty was born out of the political will to create strong relations between the two areas. Even before the conclusion of the agreement, there were isolated areas of cooperation between Brest and the COB region, for example in the health sector. Nevertheless, the joint design and signing of the treaty has brought us closer," comments Sylvie Mingant, Head of Energy in Brest Métropole.

In practice, the partnership is characterised by continuous, flexible dialogue. The focus is on sharing and developing common knowledge





about territories and local actors, understanding the challenges of both sides, and exchanging experiences, strategies and tools. Cooperation is accompanied by a monitoring committee that evaluates progress and identifies synergies. In addition to energy projects, the agreement also covers work in other fields such as economy, health and culture.

In terms of energy and the environment, the partnership already demonstrated concrete successes in its first years. The sustainably managed timber industry in COB, for example, has been expanded to promote wood-fired heating and

**“The heating network is scheduled to go online in September 2023 and should achieve a CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction of 2,500 tonnes in Brest. The timber to be used will be sourced mainly from the surrounding area.”**

**SYLVIE MINGANT,  
HEAD OF ENERGY IN BREST MÉTROPOLE**

heat network projects in Brest. The timber comes from the forests of the region and is the waste of the wood used in construction.

By participating in the RegEnergy project, both territories were able to further strengthen their relations and, in particular, expand the supply of renewables. For example, COB was able to draw on Brest's expertise in solar cadastres – the urban concept that has now been adapted to rural needs. In this way, COB was able to support its citizens in assessing their own potential for solar power. Throughout the country, solar technology is becoming increasingly relevant and municipalities are also becoming more aware of renewable energy projects.

The French City of Brest and the surrounding region of Central West Brittany (COB) show what urban-rural partnerships can achieve. By joining forces and using synergies, win-win partnerships are created – a success for both sides.





# NATIONAL COORDINATION

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE AUSTRIA

■ MANAGEMENT: ELKE KASTNER AND NORBERT RAINER

■ 68 EMPLOYEES

■ 34 FULL-TIME POSITIONS

**The Climate Alliance network in Austria is extensive and continued to grow in 2022. Beside 1,065 municipalities, a further 1,485 companies and 790 educational institutions throughout the country are also members. In Austria, seven regional associations support members in their respective areas and are united in one national coordinating body.**

The visit of two partners from South America was special highlight in 2022. Janete Figueredo Alvis of FOIRN, the umbrella organisation of indigenous organisations on the Rio Negro and Natalia Camps Pimenta of ISA, the Institute for Social Affairs and the Environment, were guests in Austria for three weeks and spoke about the successful partnership between Climate Alliance, FOIRN and ISA as well as the current situation in the Amazon region at meetings with political representatives and Climate Alliance events with municipalities, schools and businesses.



© CLIMATE ALLIANCE AUSTRIA

## In addition to the indigenous partnership, Climate Alliance Austria has advanced numerous other issues:

- 
- **197 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS** participated in the Austrian edition of the Green Footprints campaign last year, collecting a total of **261,268 FOOTPRINTS** by using means other than cars to travel to and from school
  - Climate Alliance Austria was involved in **2 WORKSHOPS** at the K3 Climate Congress with its climate escape box and the interactive event format 'Kulturwandel im Klimawandel'
  - **23 MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVES FROM 7 FEDERAL STATES** participated in the 1st hybrid course for urban climate protection officers
  - **533 MUNICIPALITIES, 168 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND 63 COMPANIES** from Austria took part in the European Mobility Week, ranking 1st among the 51 participating countries
  - In the federal state of Carinthia, Climate Alliance Austria created its 2nd podcast with a total of **11 EPISODES**, combining these with **6 MULTI-DAY WORKSHOPS**
  - **17 WOMEN** from Lower Austria were placed centre stage in the "gleich.wandeln" project on empowering women for climate action and the SDGs
  - **12,000 CHILDREN** experienced a touring climate exhibition displayed throughout Salzburg
  - In Styria, **4,800 PUPILS AND TEACHERS** visited the 'Klimaversum' exhibition in **11 LOCATIONS**
  - In **2022, 20 NEW BEE-FRIENDLY MUNICIPALITIES WERE ESTABLISHED**, bringing the total of municipalities committed to bee protection and biodiversity in Upper Austria to 80
  - Climate Alliance Tyrol welcomed its **100<sup>TH</sup> COMPANY** to the network in 2022
  - The online presentation series 'Klima-Chats im Klassenzimmer' (Climate Chats in the Classroom) for schoolchildren in years 6 to 13 raised awareness for topics such as rainforests, fake news, the UN Climate Change Conference and green events during **8 SESSIONS**
-



SIE FAHREN  
km/h



Climate Escape Box © CLIMATE ALLIANCE TYROL

**“Thanks to its strong regional roots, Climate Alliance coped very well with the Covid pandemic and adapted its offers for municipalities, educational institutions and companies to the new needs. This is shown by the many digital and hybrid event formats that are now available – from courses to podcasts and from chats to webinars.”**

**RAINER HANDLFINGER, BOARD TREASURER OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE EUROPE,  
BOARD PRESIDENT OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE AUSTRIA, MAYOR OF OBER-GRAFENDORF**

A lot is already in store for 2023. Climate Alliance Austria will celebrate 30 years of partnership with its partner organisation FOIRN. It will take this as an opportunity to look back on the successes and challenges of the last three decades and to make plans for future activities together. Municipalities in Austria can also look forward to a new analysis and planning tool for municipal climate action – the Climate Alliance Compass. Developed by Climate Alliance Europe, the tool has been adapted to the needs of Austrian municipalities and will be available to members of Climate Alliance Austria as of 2023.

LEARN MORE AT  
[KLIMABUENDNIS.AT](https://www.klimabuendnis.at)

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE GERMANY

COORDINATORS: SVENJA SCHUCHMANN AND JULIAN THOSS

23.5 EMPLOYEES

**Climate Alliance now supports over 600 members throughout Germany in their municipal climate action endeavours. The German national coordination advocates municipal interests politically and offers municipalities concrete support in the form of climate action instruments, projects and campaigns.**

## **Strengthening municipal climate action politically**

In its September 2022 position paper, Climate Alliance Germany called for climate change mitigation and adaptation to be deemed mandatory municipal tasks. The German national coordination developed its recommendations in cooperation with the national working group on policy and further German members.



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\* The number of people working at least part-time on German projects. Given that the European Secretariat also serves as the German national coordination office, an exact assignment of staff is only possible to a limited extent.

A great many other organisations also supported preparation of the recommendations including the association of towns and cities (Städtetag) of Baden-Württemberg, the WWF, Deutsche Umwelthilfe and Klima-Allianz Deutschland.

**“There’s no way around it: climate change mitigation and adaptation must be made mandatory municipal tasks! Cities and towns are obliged to actively prevent harm to the population, which today also includes climate change mitigation and adaptation measures that can only be implemented on the local level.”**

**ANDREAS WOLTER,  
PRESIDENT OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE  
AND MAYOR OF COLOGNE**

The German national coordination has incorporated the topic of ‘Anchoring climate change mitigation and adaptation as mandatory municipal tasks’ into various discussions with political decision-makers. On 24 November 2022, it also organised a parliamentary breakfast on the topic in the German Bundestag to which selected members of the Bundestag as well as civil society and municipal representatives were invited. A political evening event held on 3 November 2022 was also used to discuss possible mandatory municipal tasks together with national level politicians and the local level, this time with a view to municipal heat planning – a topic also discussed by the German working group on energy supply in 2022.

#### **A renewable, local and citizen-oriented energy transition with Region-N**

Region-N is a Climate Alliance initiative that brings together committed regional stakeholders throughout Germany to transform our energy system. The goal? 100% renewable energies by 2030! The initiative organised numerous workshops, meetings and networking events, also actively participating in Climate Alliance’s political evenings. Within these for-

mats, participants exchanged experiences and best practices, above all on the topics of municipal heat planning, citizen participation and boosting use of solar and wind energy. Over 160 parties have expressed interest in Region-N to date. Climate Alliance members can join the initiative free of charge to further the energy transition in their region.

#### **Comprehensive municipal inventories with the Climate Protection Planner**

With the Klimaschutz-Planer (Climate Protection Planner), Climate Alliance has been offering a comprehensive web-based emissions accounting tool for municipalities since 2016. In 2022, the tool’s functions were further expanded. The new “Potentials and Scenarios” module allows technical potentials for climate action to be calculated in terms of savings, efficiency and possibilities for energy generation. The team regularly offers introductory workshops on use of the tool and trained some 100 users in 2022 alone. A total of 1,700 cities and towns actively used the Climate Protection Planner in 2022 including several municipalities in the region of East Belgium (BE), marking the first time the tool has been used outside Germany!

### **The ESG Cockpit for sustainability goal planning and measurement**

Since 2022, Climate Alliance has offered an additional accounting tool for local authorities, municipal enterprises and companies from the private sector: the ESG Cockpit. In addition to greenhouse gas accounting on the organisational level, the tool allows for comprehensive sustainability reporting and the planning of measures to achieve corresponding goals. It is also suitable for municipal administrations wanting to report on progress towards climate-neutrality. In 2022, Climate Alliance and the tool's operator, software provider akaryon, introduced the ESG Cockpit to 541 local authorities and institutions of the state administration of North Rhine-Westphalia with approximately 1,200 users. Climate Alliance is primarily responsible for the marketing, distribution, training and advisory services for the tool in Germany. In future, the ESG Cockpit will also be made available to local authorities as well as municipal and private companies in other EU countries.

### **Digital measurement of cycling in Germany via CITY CYCLING**

With the new RiDE platform, Climate Alliance has been cooperating with the Technical Uni-



versity in Dresden (TU Dresden) and the provider of software solutions flow.d since 2022 to offer German municipalities free insights into cycling data relevant to their infrastructure planning. Data collected during the CITY CYCLING campaign forms the basis of the analyses. Participants use an app to track the journeys they make by bike, which, in 2022, totalled more than 5.2 million. Participating municipalities can then use RiDE to evaluate this data and view it in various formats.

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE HUNGARY

● COORDINATOR: CSABA LAJTMANN

● 3 EMPLOYEES

● 3 PART-TIME POSITIONS

**In Hungary, the Reflex environmental association is responsible for the national coordination of Climate Alliance. Reflex is part of a nationwide network comprising numerous NGOs.**

For Climate Alliance Hungary, one highlight in 2022 was the successful national workshop on climate adaptation in municipalities. With the support of the Covenant of Mayors, Climate Alliance Hungary provided information on municipal management of green spaces, energy and rainwater as well as on water retention. The 2022 edition of the Green Footprints campaign was also a success in Hungary with more schools, children and teachers collecting Green Footprints last year than ever before. The national coordination was once again able to offer support to Hungarian municipalities through the European City Facility (EUCF).

So far, 15 Hungarian cities and towns have been able to take advantage of the financial support provided by the EUCF and thus further their local investment concepts for sustainable energy projects. In summer 2022, a grant allowed the Hungarian team to build a new, energy efficient straw bale building at the Reflex eco-centre together with university students. The building will serve as a community centre and accommodation in the future.

**“Everything and everyone can change. Which is why everyone should believe in change – because you never know which drop will make a full glass overflow and which drop will actually lead to lasting change.”**

LÁSZLÓ RADICS, MAYOR OF RÉPCESZEMERE AND BOARD MEMBER OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE HUNGARY





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In 2023, Climate Alliance Hungary will continue to advance the topics of energy poverty and climate adaptation through numerous projects. In addition, the national edition of the Climate Star award and the Green Footprints campaign are once again being planned in Hungary. In 2023, the national coordination will also organise the annual meeting of green NGOs in Hungary, bringing national stakeholders together.

- In 2022, the Green Footprints campaign took place in Hungary for the **10<sup>TH</sup> TIME** – with the participation of **22,017 CHILDREN AND 2,210 TEACHERS FROM 112 SCHOOLS**.
- Last year, the Hungarian coordination published **2 PUBLICATIONS** on nature-based solutions and offered a **4-DAY WORKSHOP ON THE TOPIC**

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE ITALY

● **PRESIDENT: KARL-LUDWIG SCHIBEL**

● **4 EMPLOYEES**

● **3 FULL-TIME POSITIONS**

**The Italian national coordination team has been supporting Climate Alliance members in Italy and providing opportunities for exchange for over 30 years now. The national coordination also manages the helpdesk for the Covenant of Mayors in Italy.**

In light of the war in Ukraine and the accompanying energy crisis, Climate Alliance Italy intensified its focus on mitigating energy poverty. Last year, the national coordination hosted 'Citizen Action Labs' together with the municipality of Città di Castello and the Caritas welfare association. These labs focused on vulnerable groups to help shape a fair energy transition for all. The outcome was a series of commitments and recommendations that were presented to regional and municipal institutions during a public meeting held on 1 December.

- Concrete recommendations to mitigate energy poverty were developed in a total of **3 CITIZEN ACTION LABS AND 1 PUBLIC EVENT**
- The Italian national coordination organised **100 MEETINGS** in 2022 – both online and offline
- Climate Alliance Italy kept **35,000 INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS** up to date on local climate action issues with a total of **5 NEWSLETTERS**



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**“One reaction to the feeling of helplessness in the face of this war is to step up efforts for a Europe in which we can live well without fossil fuels. This is above all a question of citizens actively engaging in a democratic process of energy transition as part of an ecological citizen identity.”**

**KARL-LUDWIG SCHIBEL,  
PRESIDENT OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE ITALY**

In 2022, Climate Alliance Italy was also able to welcome AESS, the agency for energy and sustainable development, as a new member. The Italian national coordination will organise the 2023 Climate Alliance International Conference together with the AESS, the City of Modena and Climate Alliance Europe. Other projects will also be pursued in 2023, including educational projects with students on the topics of the climate crisis and the UN Sustainable Development Goals as well as e-learning courses in the fields of climate action and measuring climate impact.

LEARN MORE AT  
[CLIMATEALLIANCE.IT](https://climatealliance.it)

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE LUXEMBOURG

■ COORDINATORS: PAUL POLFER, POL STRAUS, BIRGIT ENGEL AND CÉDRIC REICHEL

■ 9 EMPLOYEES

■ 6 FULL-TIME POSITIONS

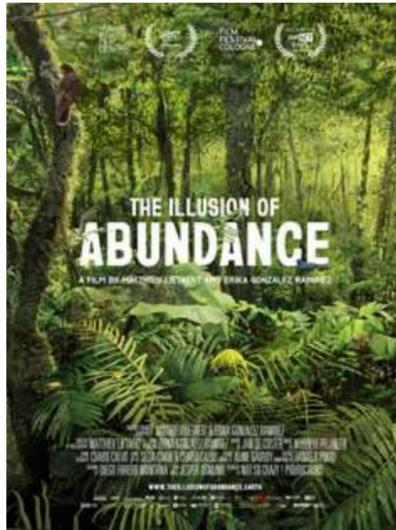
**Climate Alliance Luxembourg is coordinated by two NGOs: Mouvement Ecologique and Action Solidarité Tiers Monde (ASTM). Together, the organisations support Luxembourg’s member municipalities in their local climate action efforts.**

In addition to Climate Alliance’s international conference in Hesperange (LU), which Climate Alliance Luxembourg organised jointly with Climate Alliance Europe and the municipality, the adoption of the new Luxembourg Convention was another milestone for the national coordination. The new agreement between ASTM and Mouvement Ecologique with Luxembourg’s members was unanimously approved during their General Assembly in November. It contains the adjusted goals in line with the 2021 Climate Alliance Member Charter and sets a clear framework for the national coordi-

nation’s work with its members – a great success! As part of the ‘Sëcher um Vëlo’ or safe cycling to school campaign, Climate Alliance Luxembourg also supported a pilot project of the municipality of Strassen aimed at enabling children to walk to school safely. The Luxembourg edition of the CITY CYCLING campaign, known as the TOUR du DUERF, once again proved popular. In addition to the topic of mobility, Climate Alliance Luxembourg also focused on heat pumps and local heating networks with multiple seminars. The national coordination additionally supported the production of the



© A.C. STRASSEN



**“The success of the documentary ‘The Illusion of Abundance’ is no coincidence. The time of voluntary social measures and ecological greenwashing is over. People identify with the strong, authentic female protagonists of the film whose meticulous research and courageous raising of awareness for human rights violations and environmental damage is a plea for long overdue, legally regulated corporate responsibility.”**

**BIRGIT ENGEL, NATIONAL COORDINATOR  
OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE LUXEMBOURG AND  
COORDINATOR OF NORTH/SOUTH**

documentary, ‘The Illusion of Abundance’, which showcases the difficult and dangerous work of women defending their human rights in Peru, Brazil and Honduras. Shortly before COP27, the team also published a comprehensive report on loss and damage, which examined Luxembourg’s responsibility in terms of its financial contribution to the climate crisis. The conclusion? The budget provided is still far from a fair contribution!

Numerous projects are also in the pipeline for 2023. Climate Alliance Luxembourg plans to extend its safe cycling to school campaign to other municipalities and to implement the first Energy Caravan in Luxembourg. The national coordination also wishes to strengthen its political work by publishing a paper before local elections providing recommendations. It will continue to address the topic of climate justice, helping youth from Luxembourg and the Global South to learn more about the climate crisis, climate justice and environmental protection during a four-month digital exchange.

- A total of **1,007 PEOPLE FROM 74 MUNICIPALITIES AND REGIONS** participated in the 2022 TOUR du DUERF campaign
- More than **100 PEOPLE** attended each of the various online seminars offered by Climate Alliance Luxembourg
- **20 CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN 9 EU COUNTRIES** supported the tour of the documentary ‘The Illusion of Abundance’, which was viewed by **1,500 PEOPLE**.

LEARN MORE AT  
[KLIMABUENDNIS.LU](https://www.klimabuendnis.lu)

# CLIMATE ALLIANCE SWITZERLAND

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■ COORDINATOR: REBECCA KNOTH-LETSCH

■ 2 VOLUNTEERS

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**In Switzerland, Climate Alliance is represented by the Swiss association of municipal infrastructure (Schweizerischer Verband Kommunale Infrastruktur, SVKI), which supports Climate Alliance members in Switzerland in their local climate action endeavours. The Swiss members met a total of three times in 2022 to exchange ideas, share inspiration and discuss their local climate action strategies.**

**“Last year we were able to ascertain that the role played by the local level in Swiss climate action has continued to grow in importance. Many cities and towns are working on a more sustainable heat supply, above all by investing in local and district heating networks.”**

REBECCA KNOTH-LETSCH,  
NATIONAL COORDINATOR OF CLIMATE  
ALLIANCE SWITZERLAND AND DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR OF SVKI

The central task for the Swiss team in 2022 remained that of winning over cities and towns for its climate and energy charter. The charter is a commitment to active and effective climate action. Some of the points it contains also feature in Climate Alliance Europe’s Member Charter, adopted in 2021.

2022 also brought structural changes for the Swiss coordination office – or for the SVKI to be more precise: the entire team was renewed. The association is thus redefining its future role as the Swiss national coordination office. In 2023, the focus will remain on the exchange between Swiss municipalities in order to continue supporting them in their strategies for local climate action.

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- The national coordination supports a total of **18 MUNICIPALITIES**, representing around **15% OF THE TOTAL SWISS POPULATION**
  - In 2022, **11 NEW MUNICIPALITIES** signed the Climate and Energy Charter of Swiss Cities and Towns, bringing the **TOTAL NUMBER OF SIGNATORIES TO 68** by the end of 2022
- 

LEARN MORE AT  
[KLIMABUENDNIS.CH](https://www.klimabuendnis.ch)

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