



# Covenant of Mayors

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## Covenant of Mayors - context



- First and most ambitious EC initiative targeting **directly** the **European cities** and their citizens to take the lead in fight against the global warming
- Consists of formal **justified commitment** by city councils, politically **endorsed** and **supported** by the EU institutions
- Should result in an effective **actions** built with a **bottom-up** approach
- Fight against climate change is a **top priority** for the EU = “20 by 2020”
- Climate change = global problem, but **solutions are** predominantly **LOCAL**
- Approach to mitigate climate change must be **holistic, integrated, long-term** and based on stakeholders and citizens **participation** – best managed at local level . Without actions and investments in cities, targets will be hardly met.
- Therefore, **cities** are becoming **leading actors** and should be supported by the EC in their effort.
- Covenant of Mayors was born with this context in mind



## Covenant of Mayors - evolution



- Covenant of Mayors was first mentioned in **EU EE AP**, approved in **2006**
- Initially focused on **pilot large cities** and **exchange of experience**
- **New approach**, open to **any committed European City** – consequence of successful strategy by the EU at global level, when negotiating the world emission reductions (EU as world example and leader).
- Covenant of Mayors was proposed on the same principles: unilateral commitment to achieve **quantitative objectives** through implementation of **clear measures**
- If positive reply by cities – the Covenant would be endorsed by the EU, considered as mainstream policy issue and **led by local governments** themselves
- Prior to formal launch – intensive **dialogue** with local actors
- Covenant launched only if min. **25 cities** would express interest to join
- By December 2007 – **96 cities** expressed interest to join
- Covenant **launched in January 2008**, at EUSEW by Com. Piebalgs
- Since mid-July 2008, Covenant is available in all EU languages
- Cities willing to join – **agreement in city councils** and inform Commission.



## Covenant of Mayors – 6 key elements

There are many similar important statements, declarations and agreements, but no one covers the **6 key elements together** – systematic approach

- Unilateralism (independence from other parties)
- Specificity (quantitative objectives and measures)
- Acceptance of scrutiny (public reports and termination)
- Involvement of other levels of government
- Contribution of variety of autonomous stakeholders (open process) based on market principles
- Systematic approach (covers political, technical, financial, promotional, networking and practical issues)



## Cities take the lead in the fight against climate change



### The Covenant Cities and Regions commit to:

- Go beyond EU policy objectives: reduce emissions by more than 20% by 2020
- Justify their commitment with a Sustainable Energy Action Plan
- Publicize periodic reports to show progress and results
- Encourage other cities to join
- Involve the citizens and other stakeholders

### Alliance for cooperation: European Cities – European Commission



## Cities take the lead in the fight against climate change



### The Commission commits to:

- Provide technical assistance and networking support
- Monitor implementation and results
- Provide political recognition and visibility directly to cities
- Negotiate the contribution of third parties
- Negotiate with territorial authorities their support for smaller cities
- Mobilize finance

### Alliance for cooperation: European Cities – European Commission





## Covenant of Mayors – as of 7/11

- **123** cities expressed interest to join
- **67** city councils signed the adhesion
  
- No. of Supporting structures under negotiation:
  - Union of the Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities
  - Ministry of Environment – Italy
  - ...
- Secretariat: Tender under evaluation
- Technical backup: JRC
- Benchmarks of Excellence: i.e. Cisco + Amsterdam
- Financial Facility: EIB



## Covenant of Mayors – next steps

- Secretariat operational – January 09
- Technical backup – November 08
- Financial facility – December 08/January 09
- Supporting structures – ready to go
- Benchmarks of excellence – ready to go
- Official ceremony with first covenant cities – during EUSEW 09, 10/2, a dedicated conference
- Signatories – 1 year to submit a SEAP  
2 years after SEAP – monitoring report
- Synergies with Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign, Managenergy and IEE II Programme
- Long-term policy initiative – no end date



## Covenant of Mayors

(to be sent to : TREN-COVENANT@ec.europa.eu)

I, Alexander Uhlig, Mayor and Head of the Department II of the city of Pforzheim, Baden-Württemberg inform you that the City Council of Pforzheim decided at the meeting on 22.7.2008 to mandate me to sign up to the Covenant of Mayors, in full knowledge of all commitments, in particular:

- to go beyond the objectives set by the EU for 2020, reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in our respective territories by at least 20%;
- to submit a Sustainable Energy Action Plan including a baseline emission inventory which outlines how the objectives will be reached, within one year of the abovementioned date
- to submit an implementation report at least every second year following the submission of the Action Plan for evaluation, monitoring and verification purposes
- to organise Energy Days or City Covenant Days, in co-operation with the European Commission and with other stakeholders, allowing citizens to benefit directly from the opportunities and advantages offered by a more intelligent use of energy, and to regularly inform the local media on developments concerning the action plan;
- to attend and contribute to the annual EU Conference of Mayors for a Sustainable Energy Europe

Pforzheim, 9.8.2008

Alexander Uhlig  
Mayor and Head of the Department II of the City of Pforzheim

SEC-Tools final conference, Praha, 13. – 14. November 2008

## List of Cities whose City Councils have formally sign up to the Covenant



Cerisano (IT) - 23 April  
 Vila Nova de Gaia (PO) - 30 April  
 Torino (IT) – 23 May  
 Andora (IT) - 29 May  
 Puerto Lumbreras (ES) - 3 June  
 Borreda (ES) – 11 June  
 Mizil (RO) - 13 June  
 San Sebastián/Donostia (ES) - 20 June  
 Dunkerque (FR) - 1 July  
 Fogars de la Selva (ES) – 2 July  
 Parets del Vallès (ES) – 3 July  
 Oris (ES) – 4 July  
 Sant Père de Torelló (ES) - 7 July  
 Mataro (ES) – 8 July  
 Sant Pere de Torello (ES) – 8 July  
 Aguilar de Segarra (ES) – 9 July  
 Corbera de Llobregat (ES) – 9 July  
 Castellnou de Bages (ES) – 10 July  
 Cabrera de Mar (ES) – 11 July  
 Parets del Vallès (ES) – 14 July  
 Lasseo (AT) – 14 July  
 Mediona (ES) – 22 July  
 El Papiol (ES) – 23 July  
 Cerdanyola del Vallès (ES) – 25 July  
 Târgu Jiu (RO) – 28 July  
 Münster (DE) – 28 July  
 Heidelberg (DE) – 29 July  
 Les Franqueses del Vallès (ES) – 29 July  
 Torello (ES) – 29 July  
 Ullastrell (ES) – 29 July  
 Montmeló (ES) – 30 July  
 Badalona (ES) – 30 July  
 Sant Quirze de Besora (ES) – 31 July





## List of cities having expressed interest to join the Covenant

Sant Marti de Tous (ES) – 1 August  
 Calella (ES) – 1 August  
 Navas (ES) – 1 August  
 Giurgiu (RO) – 5 August  
 Granollers (ES) – 5 August  
 Cervello (ES) – 5 August  
 Pforzheim (DE) – 9 August  
 Slobozia (RO) – 11 August  
 Castelldefels (ES) – 12 August  
 Guarda (PO) – 27 August  
 Municipiu Aiud (RO) – 28 August  
 Avia (ES) – 28 August  
 Sant Just Desvern (ES) – 28 August  
 Bigues i Riells (ES) – 1 September  
 Sant Marti Sesgueioles (ES) – 3 September  
 Malgrat de Mar (ES) – 5 September  
 Sant Esteve Sesrovires (ES) – 8 September  
 Cardedeu (ES) – 10 September  
 Tiana (ES) – 12 September  
 Lyon (FR) – 15 September  
 Calders (ES) – 18 September  
 Munderfing (AT) – 22 September  
 Coulaines (FR) – 22 September  
 Laxenburg (AT) – 23 September  
 Grand Lyon (FR) – 24 September  
 Riga (LV) – 3 October  
 Manlleu (ES) – 10 October  
 Coventry (UK) – 13 October  
 Köln (DE) – 17 October  
 Agaleo (GR) – 20 October  
 Sant Cugat del Vallès (ES) – 20 October  
 Maiori (IT) – 21 October  
 Vic (ES) – 24 October  
 Freiburg (DE) - 28 October

Aarhus (DK)  
 Abano Terme (IT)  
 Akmene (LT)  
 Alessandria (IT)  
 Amsterdam (NL)  
 Ancona (IT)  
 Antwerpen (BE)  
 Anyksciai (LT)  
 Beckerich (LU)  
 Belfast (UK)  
 Berlin (DE)  
 Bielsko Biala (PL)  
 Birmingham (UK)  
 Bonn (DE)  
 Brasov (RO)  
 Brussels Capital Region (BE)  
 Cascais (PO)  
 Città di Castello (IT)  
 Copenhague (DK)  
 Cork (IE)  
 Cosenza (IT) and 14 other municipalities in the Province  
 Delft (NL)  
 Den Haag (NL)  
 Dubrovnik (HR)  
 Egaleo (HE)  
 Eindhoven (NL)  
 Firenze (IT)  
 Frankfurt am Main (DE)  
 Garches (FR)  
 Gateshead (UK)  
 Genk (BE)  
 Genova (IT)  
 Gothenburg (SV)

Grenoble (FR)  
 Hamburg (DE)  
 Hannover (DE)  
 Hasselt (BE)  
 Helsinki (FI)  
 Hertogenbosch (NL)  
 Jekagpils (LV)  
 Jelgava (LV)  
 Joniskis (LT)  
 Jurmala (LV)  
 Kaiserslautern (DE)  
 Kaunas (LT)  
 Kiel (DE)  
 Kozani (HE)  
 La Bastidonne (FR)  
 Lamia (HE)  
 Lasseo (ÖS)  
 Leeds (UK)  
 Leicester (UK)  
 Lille (FR)  
 Lisboa (PO)  
 Ljubljana (SI)  
 Lodi (IT)  
 London (UK)  
 Madrid (ES)  
 Málaga (ES)  
 Malmö (SV)  
 Manchester (UK)  
 Milano (IT)  
 Milton Keynes (UK)  
 Marijampole (LT)  
 Modena (IT)  
 Moldava nad Bodvou (SK)  
 Mölndal (SV)  
 Montpellier (FR)





München (DE)  
 Murcia (ES)  
 Mustvee (ET)  
 Nantes (FR)  
 Nürnberg (DE)  
 Odense (DK)  
 Offenbach (DE)  
 Ostfildern (DE)  
 Pakruojis (LT)  
 Panevežys (LT)  
 Paris (FR)  
 Parkstad-Limburg (NL)  
 Parma (IT)  
 Patras (HE)  
 Porto (PO)  
 Ptolemaida (HE)  
 Pula (HR)  
 Radviliskis (LT)  
 Rakvere (ET)  
 Raseiniai (LT)  
 Rheine(DE)  
 Rijeka (HR)  
 Rivas-Vaciamadrid (ES)  
 Roma (IT)  
 Rotterdam (NL)  
 Sarajevo (BH)  
 Sheffield (UK)  
 Siauliai (LT)  
 Silale(LT)  
 Silute (LT)

Stavanger (NO)  
 Stockerau (ÖS)  
 Stockholm (SV)  
 Strovolos (CY)  
 Tallinn (ET)  
 Tampere (FI)  
 Terrassa (ES)  
 Tilburg (NL)  
 Trakai (LT)  
 Trento (IT)  
 Trikala (HE)  
 Tübingen (DE)  
 Unna (DE)  
 Utena (LT)  
 Valmiera (LV)  
 Vaxjo (SE)  
 Venezia (IT)  
 Ventspils (LV)  
 Vilnius (LT)  
 Vilkauskis (LT)  
 Waalwijk (NL)  
 Warsaw (PL)  
 Wien (ÖS)  
 Zagreb (HR)  
 Zurich (CH)



# Covenant of Mayors

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**[http://ec.europa.eu/energy/climate\\_actions/mayors/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/climate_actions/mayors/index_en.htm)**

**[www.managenergy.net](http://www.managenergy.net)**

**[www.sustenergy.org](http://www.sustenergy.org)**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ACTION!**