

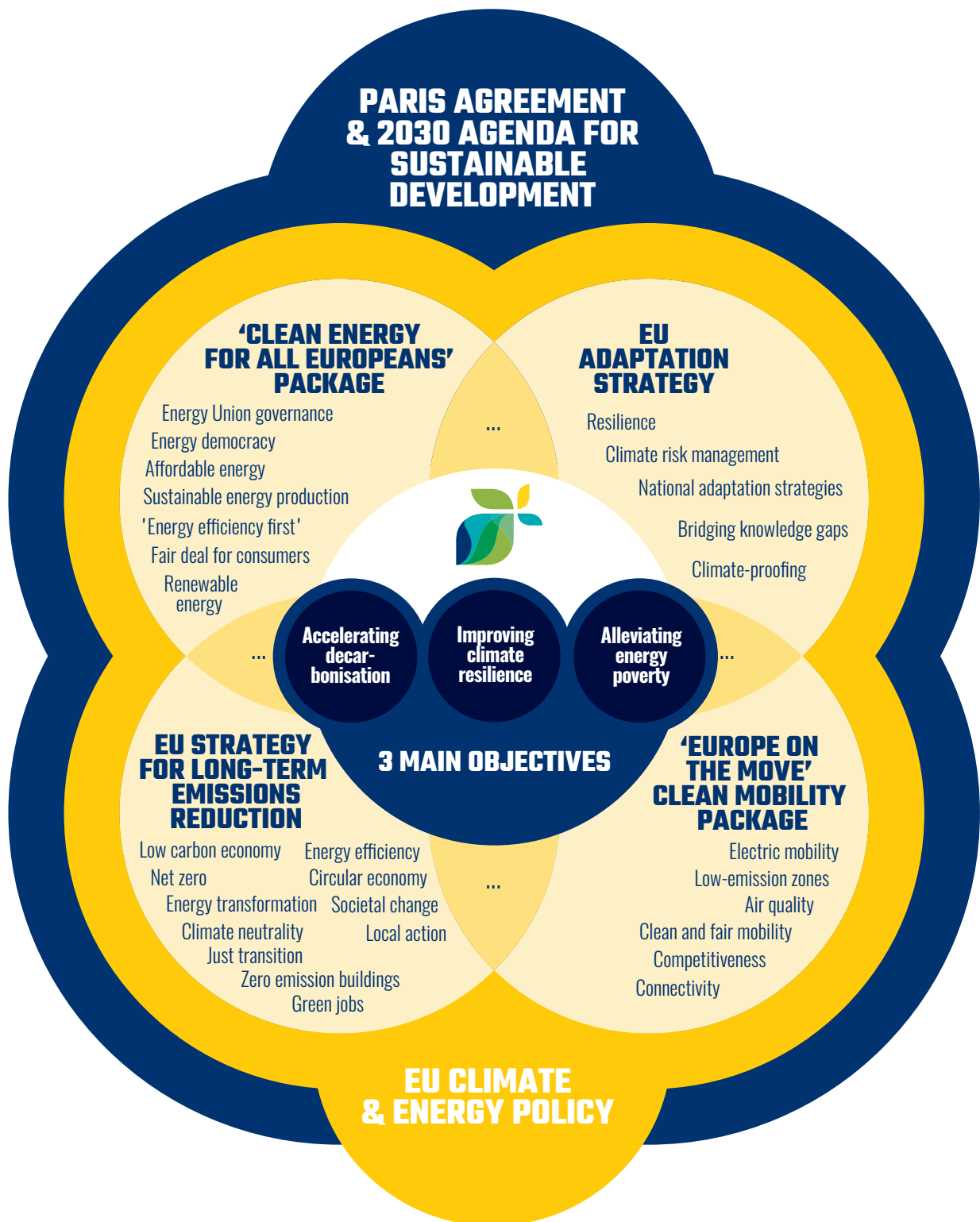


***Annual report*** [www.eumayors.eu](http://www.eumayors.eu)



**Covenant of Mayors**  
for Climate & Energy  
EUROPE

# Policy context



## In the spotlight

### Meeting between the Covenant of Mayors Board and high-level EU representatives, 10 October 2018, Brussels

On the occasion of a meeting with EU Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič and Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete, Mayor of Ghent Daniël Termont, Mayor of Sevilla Juan Espadas, and Director of the North-West Croatia Energy Agency Julije Domac shared the Covenant of Mayors Board's contribution to the EU climate long-term strategy. Mayor of Milton Keynes Peter Marland and Deputy-Mayor of Nijmegen (EU Green Capital 2018) Harriet Tiemens joined the members of the Covenant Board for the meeting.

Voicing the Covenant of Mayors Community's ambitions, all city representatives asked for more support to cities, notably in pushing Member States to show high ambitions in their National Energy and Climate Plans.



## EU voices

*“Action by cities and regions is a must to reach our climate and energy goals. That was the origin of the Covenant of Mayors success story ten years ago. Today their role in championing energy transition is enshrined not only in the Paris Agreement but also in European law, through the Governance Regulation, that calls for a multi-level dialogue to integrate local governments in the national energy and climate planning, not only implementation. We envisage to go further on this road with our*



*Long Term Decarbonisation Strategy, analysing the different scenarios possible until 2050.”*

**Miguel Arias Cañete** - European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy

## EU voices

*“We must empower all driving forces of our society to take bold steps towards a modern, decarbonised economy and improved quality of life for all. The European Energy Union creates a solid legal setting for ambitious local policies. I count on cities to continue forging ahead with climate and energy measures that visibly improve citizens' lives, to raise European ambitions and to inspire others beyond. The uptake and impact of the Global Covenant of Mayors, supported by the European Commission together with international partners, shows*



*how a city-led initiative on climate and energy can turn from an EU-wide to a global success.”*

**Maroš Šefčovič**, Vice-President of the European Commission for the Energy Union

# Facts and figures

## THE EUROPEAN COVENANT OF MAYORS COMMUNITY

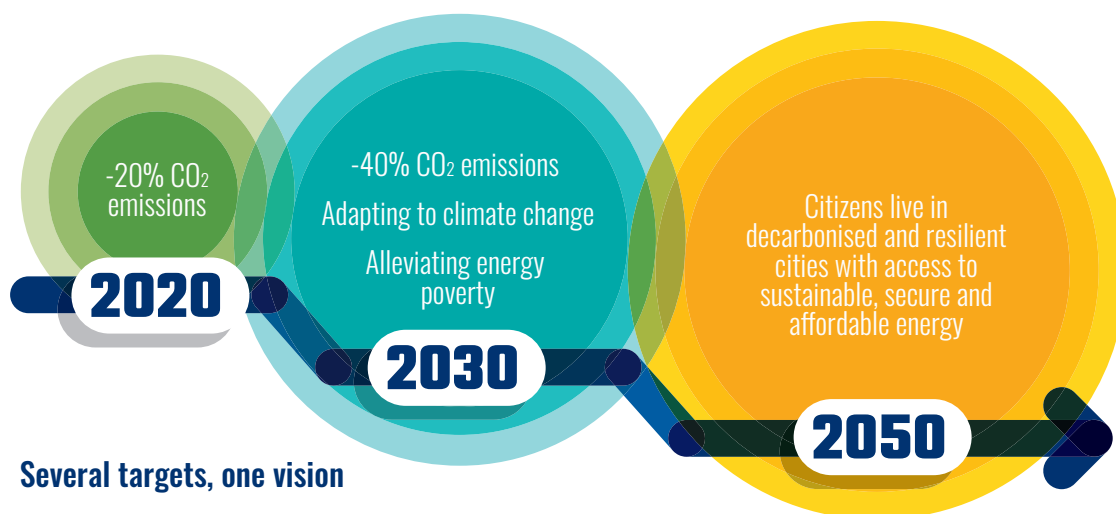
### AMBITIOUS CITIES



**8,800+**  
European cities committed



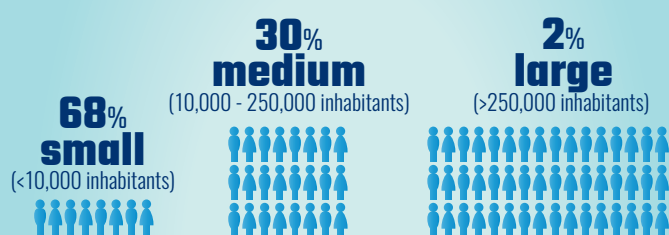
**230+**  
million inhabitants covered =  
almost half of the EU population



**Munster, Germany:**  
Aims at 100% renewables, 100% electromobility from renewables & tripling buildings renovation rate by 2050

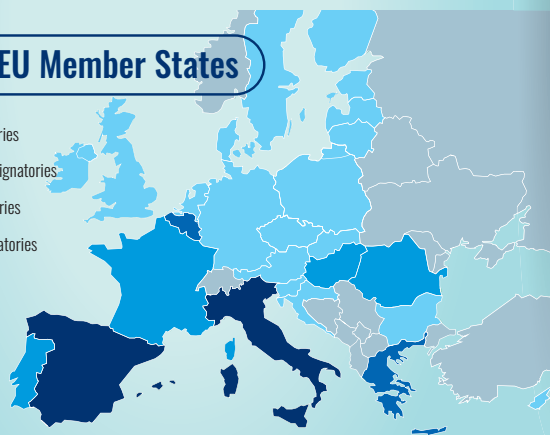
### AN INCLUSIVE MOVEMENT

Gathering local governments of all sizes



From all EU Member States

- <100 signatories
- 100-200 signatories
- >200 signatories
- >1,000 signatories



### DRAWING STRENGTH FROM DIVERSITY

**190+**  
national &  
sub-national  
entities



supporting Covenant signatories  
in turning their ambition into action

**Navarra Region, Spain:** Undertakes energy renovation of a deprived district to improve the quality of life of residents and reduce their heating and hot water costs

# TAKING ACTION

## PROTECTING CITIZENS FROM

(share of reported actions)



**36%**  
Extreme heat



**20%**  
Floods



**18%**  
Droughts



**14%**  
Extreme precipitation



**7%**  
Extreme cold



**5%**  
Forest fires

## BY INCREASING RESILIENCE IN



Land use planning



Transport



Buildings



Environment & Biodiversity



Agriculture & forestry



Energy



Health



Civil protection & Emergency



Tourism



Water



Waste

**1/10 European citizens** affected by energy poverty

**Brest, France:** Helps households who spend >10% of their income on energy bills reduce energy consumption through tailored solutions and awareness-raising

# DELIVERING RESULTS

**5,900+** Action Plans developed =

**233,000+**

actions reported to the EU Covenant Office



**232,000**  
mitigation actions



**1,340**  
adaptation actions



**Barcelona, Spain:** Awards grants to citizen projects to implement actions for greenhouse gas reduction and adaptation to climate change



**2,300+**

signatories already reporting progress

**23%**

**CO<sub>2</sub>-emission reduction** reached in 2017

**64%**

in heating and cooling

**23%**

in transport

**13%**

in electricity



**Sønderborg, Denmark:** Aims to cut emissions by half by 2020 & become carbon neutral by 2029



**>1/5** final energy consumption saved



**Monsano, Italy:** Implements LED public road lighting to increase energy efficiency and reduce emissions



**>47Twh** local energy production from **renewables**

=



**13** annual electricity needs of **million households** in Europe



Winner of the 2018 Covenant Cities in the Spotlight

# Best practices

## MONSANO Italy



MITIGATION



ENERGY EFFICIENCY



*Improving energy efficiency through transformation of the public lighting system*



3,300+ inhabitants



Covenant signatory since 2016

### FACTS AND FIGURES

- 70% reduction in energy consumption compared to baseline year
- CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction: 153 tons
- €950,000 Energy Performance Contract (€450,000 for bulb substitution + €500,000 for operation & management of the plant)

Monsano aims at decarbonising its public lighting and public buildings illumination. Through an Energy Service Company (ESCO), they replaced old light bulbs with LED. This single measure resulted in a 70% reduction in energy consumption. The town is also improving the energy efficiency of its indoor and outdoor lighting systems in schools, votive lamps, castle, municipal venues, etc. Since 2008 they have been covering all the electric needs with renewable energy, partly coming from public photovoltaic plants, and partly from purchased renewable certified electricity.

[More info on Monsano's website](#)

### EU voices



*The Covenant of Mayors is a European success story. It demonstrates that despite borders, despite national and political differences, cities and regions are cooperating, tackling climate change head-on and leading the change towards a low-carbon economy."*



**Karl-Heinz Lambertz**, President of the European Committee of the Regions

## SØNDERBORG Denmark



MITIGATION



ENERGY EFFICIENCY



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



*A market-driven platform for ZEROcarbon shop transition*



75,000+ inhabitants



Covenant signatory since 2012

### FACTS AND FIGURES

- 160 participating shops
- 20% of energy savings in shops in average, expected to reach 50% by 2029
- All shops expected to be ZEROcarbon shops by 2029

Sonderborg's ProjectZERO is a public-private partnership managing the city's energy transition. As part of the initiative, the ZEROshop concept addresses the energy consumption of 300 shops. When the programme kick-started in 2008, participating shops were given the objective to reduce their energy consumption by 10%. To do so, shops have switched to LED-lighting, installed sensors and controls, turned to green district heating, reused waste heat from own refrigeration and recycled heat back to the district heating network. Certified local electricians offer free energy consulting to the shops. Diplomas and labels, handed over by the mayor, give visibility to the participating shops. Many shop owners have now integrated the ZEROshop concept into their business model and communication strategy.

[More info on Bright Green Business website](#)



Winner of the 2018 Covenant Cities in the Spotlight

## BARCELONA Spain



MITIGATION



ADAPTATION



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



*Promoting citizens' initiatives and their role in the fight against climate change*

1.6 million inhabitants

Covenant signatory since 2008

### FACTS AND FIGURES

- 49 applications submitted, involving 142 organisations
- 11 citizens' projects selected
- €200,000 subsidy for the selected projects in 2018
- €1.2 million planned from until 2030, call for projects to be issued every 2 years

As part of its climate action plan, Barcelona has awarded 11 grants to citizen projects to combat climate change. In a novel way, this initiative promotes collaborative projects between the city administration and citizens. Their projects contribute to fulfilling Barcelona's commitments as regards climate change mitigation, adaptation to its unavoidable effects, and climate justice. The city also provides participating citizens with ongoing advice, monitoring and training.

[More info on Barcelona's website](#)

## BRATISLAVA Slovakia



ADAPTATION



FINANCING



*Encouraging households to help protect the city from pluvial floods*

422,000+ inhabitants

Covenant signatory since 2012

### FACTS AND FIGURES

- €50,000 subsidy in 2016
- €40,000 subsidy in 2017
- 40+ beneficiaries of the subsidy
- 50% of total project costs covered

Bratislava has set up measures to increase water retention in private areas to make the city more resilient against intense rainfalls. In 2016 the city created a subsidy for sustainable water management projects, such as water reservoirs, rainwater gardens, small green roofs, adjustment of pavements, use of permeable materials, etc. Only private organisations and households are eligible for the subsidy. It covers 50% of the total costs of installations, up to a maximum of €1,000 per application. In addition to the scheme, applicants also benefit from consultancy on their project's implementation and dissemination of outcomes provided by the city of Bratislava.

[More info on the Climate-ADAPT website](#)

### Local voices

*"In 2018, Barcelona Province is celebrating 10 years of support to the Covenant of Mayors initiative. Today, around 250 out of 311 municipalities in our area have joined the Covenant of Mayors. Taking climate action has become an integral part of our institution's strategy.*



*We are providing our municipalities with an integrated support approach that has three pillars: planning, implementation and dissemination."*

*Marc Castells, President of the Barcelona Province and member of the EU Covenant Political Board*

### Local voices



*"We are ready to go further in our actions to accelerate the energy transition and tackle climate change, in line with the Paris Agreement."*



*Eckart Würzner, Lord-Mayor of Heidelberg, Member of the EU Covenant Political Board*

## BREST METROPOLE France



ENERGY  
POVERTY



CITIZEN  
PARTICIPATION

©Emergence



*Engaging with citizens from deprived neighbourhoods to promote solutions to energy poverty*

 215,000+ inhabitants

 Covenant signatory since 2009

### FACTS AND FIGURES

- 150 energy visits to households between 2016 and 2018
- 118 kg CO<sub>2</sub>eq saved/household/year thanks to energy visits
- €138 saved/household/year (water + electricity) following energy visits
- 50 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq saved overall in 2 years

Brest Metropole is working with citizens who spend more than 10% of their income on energy bills to help them reduce their energy expenses. The local government is motivating inhabitants from four different neighbourhoods to become more aware of their energy consumption and cut it. Brest Metropole also engages with local partners and grassroot groups to organise activities such as DIY, repair cafés for energy appliances, quizzes or children's games. These activities help establish links with citizens and invite them to host a home energy visit during which they are informed about energy saving behaviours and given more efficient appliances.

*[More info on the Interreg NWE - CAN project website](#)*

### Local voices

 *As major actors in the energy transition, local authorities act closest to the citizens by associating all players on the territory to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement."*



*Célia Blauel, Deputy Mayor of Paris, Member of the EU Covenant Political Board*



# Activities of the EU Covenant of Mayors Office

## MOBILISING THE COMMUNITY, SHAPING THE INITIATIVE

1 Covenant of Mayors Ceremony celebrating the

**10th anniversary**

of the initiative with

**500+ participants,**

generating 26 press articles in European and national media

**20+ bilateral meetings** with

national partners (ministries, agencies, etc.)

**3 meetings**

between the European Covenant of Mayors Board and EU leaders and policy makers

### In the spotlight

#### Speed dating with innovators, 22 February 2018, Brussels

Organised in cooperation with Bertrand Piccard's Solar Impulse Foundation and the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions - WAES, this networking session was a side-event to the European Covenant of Mayors Ceremony.

During this session, representatives of local governments got the opportunity to meet 2 to 3 WAES clean tech innovators to discuss solutions in urban and inter-urban mobility, resource and energy efficiency into buildings, shelters and communities' infrastructures, and clean energy production.



### In the spotlight

#### Meeting of the Spanish Covenant Community, 2 October 2018, Barcelona

With the participation of the Spanish Environment Ministry, Covenant local governments, provinces and regions shared experience on climate and energy policies.

Attendees elected new representatives for the National Covenant Club who will be the voice of the Spanish Covenant of Mayors Community.

Another national meeting will be organised by the Region Andalusia in 2019 in Sevilla, with the aim to exchange about the situation of the movement in Spain, analysing positive improvements and obstacles faced.



## SHARING KNOWLEDGE, BUILDING CAPACITY

**10 capacity-  
building  
webinars**

in 3 different languages

**1,400+  
attendees**

at capacity-building and  
awareness-raising events  
and webinars

**3 experience-  
sharing  
leaflets**

(climate adaptation, financing,  
energy poverty)

**20  
capacity-  
building and  
awareness-  
raising  
events**

in 13 EU Member States

**11 case  
studies**

and best practice  
examples

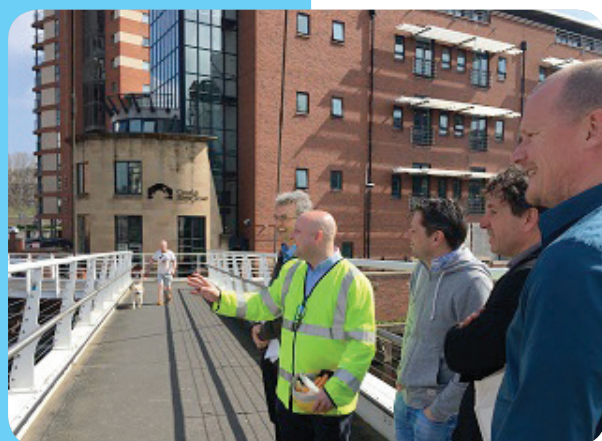
### In the spotlight

#### **Covenant twinning pairs Leeds-Breda and Vaasa-Ghent discuss common climate and energy challenges**

In Vaasa, the local government has a stake in the local alliance 'Energy Vaasa' (made up of 140 companies), and is cooperating with private enterprises to make its ambitious climate and energy targets – becoming carbon neutral by 2035 – become a reality. Likewise, Leeds' (UK) Climate Commission brings different stakeholders together from different parts of the city council, as well as local business interests, civil society organisations and the local university.

In April, the European Covenant of Mayors twinning programme allowed representatives from the Belgian Covenant city of Ghent to meet their counterparts in Vaasa, Finland.

On the same day, a delegation from the Dutch city of Breda was visiting Leeds, UK. The city delegates shared their insights in an open expression of the cross-border urban solidarity that is an essential factor in taking climate and energy action at local level.



## SUPPORT TAILORED TO CITIES

**3,100+**  
individual  
requests

by cities handled by  
the Helpdesk teams

**200+**  
experts  
consulted

on the development  
of the Covenant of  
Mayors reporting  
framework through  
dedicated meetings  
with stakeholders



**3 thematic  
coalitions**

set up on financing,  
adaptation and energy  
poverty

**7 local and  
regional authority  
pairs selected**

to share experience through the  
Covenant of Mayors twinning programme

**1 interactive guide  
on financing  
opportunities**

for local climate  
and energy actions  
available in over  
20 languages



## COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

**90 blog  
articles**  
posted

**11,400+**  
followers

2,400 new followers in  
2018 @eumayors



**3 cities  
awarded**

Covenant Cities  
in the Spotlight

**110,000+**  
visits

to [www.eumayors.eu](http://www.eumayors.eu)


 **Covenant of Mayors - Europe**  
@eumayors

Climate and Energy Commissioner  
@MAC\_europa announcing the 3 winners of  
the first edition of the Covenant City in the  
Spotlight award: congratulation to 🏆  
Monsano (IT) 🏆 @bcn\_ajuntament (ES) and  
🏆 Sønderborg (DK)!! The 3 cities won a trip  
to the next COP in Katowice 😊




## Join the Covenant of Mayors movement! #TogetherTowards2030

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**The EU Covenant of Mayors Office** is responsible for the overall coordination of the initiative in Europe. It is composed of networks of local and regional authorities: Energy Cities, Climate Alliance, CEMR, EUROCITIES, FEDARENE, & ICLEI Europe.

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**Covenant of Mayors**  
for Climate & Energy  
EUROPE

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CLIMATE & ENERGY