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The Covenant of Mayors - Local sustainable energy planning

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- 75% of EU population lives in urban areas
- Urban areas represent 70% of primary energy demand of the EU
- Cities are part of the problem and part of the solution
- Cities and Regions: a huge potential for a sustainable energy use, with a positive impact on local economies
- Need of a new model of multi-level governance for the implementation of climate policies

The Covenant of Mayors (CoM)



Mayors commit to go beyond EU energy and climate objectives:

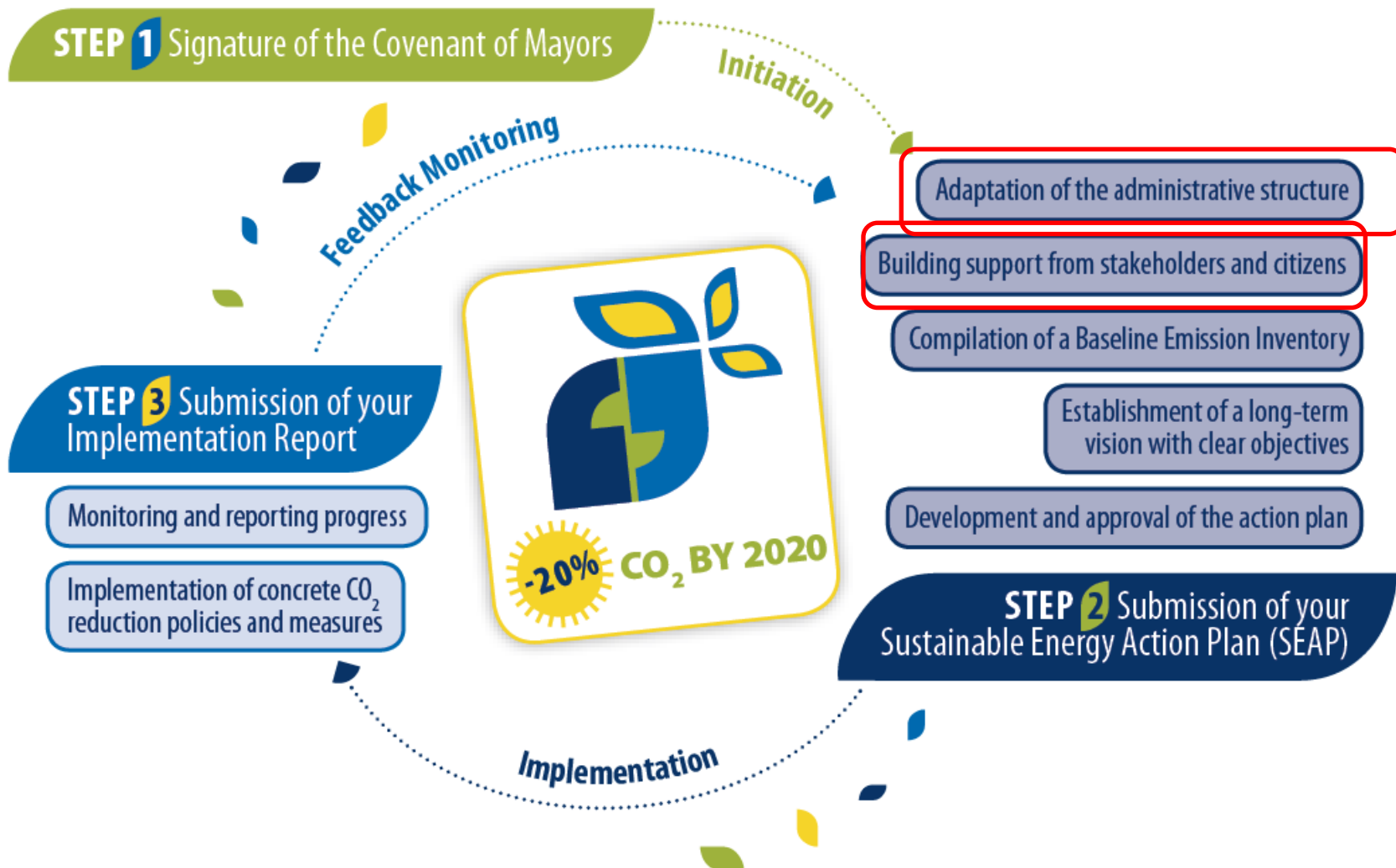
**at least 20% CO₂ reduction
in their respective territories by 2020**

ACCOUNTABILITY of local authorities, which take the lead in the fight against climate change

- Define a **Baseline Emission Inventory (BEI)**
- Prepare a **Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP)**
- Implement their **Action Plan and report periodically on progress**



The SEAP process: a holistic approach





Scientific-technical support to the development, implementation and monitoring of the CoM

- Research on existing methodologies and tools for the development of a SEAP
- Development of the guidebook “How to develop a (SEAP)” + its adaptation to CoM East and CoM South
- Continuous improvement of data collection process
- Evaluation of submitted SEAPs, with feedback to Covenant cities
- Development of a specific monitoring template & instructions for signatories
- Publication of two assessment reports on the CoM
- Publication of a report on the in-depth analysis of 25 SEAPs
- Capacity building (technical trainings for cities and regions)

Priority areas for action

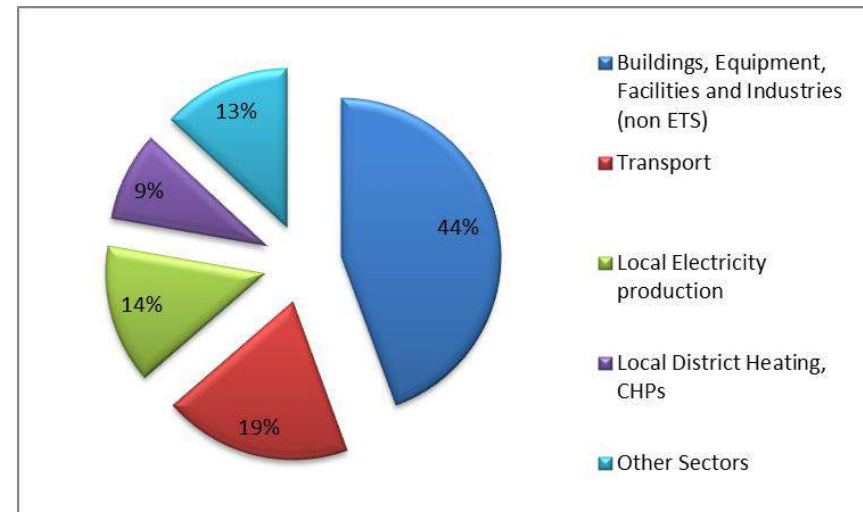


Measures in the field of EE and RES

The choice of sectors to tackle and of specific measures to implement is **entirely left to the responsibility of the Signatory, depending on:**

- **political mandate of the Mayor**
- **national framework (regulations, grants, incentives, etc.)**
- **size of the local authority (availability of human & financial resources, expertise, etc.)**

Breakdown of expected GHG emissions reduction by field of action in 2020





Strategic urban planning:

- **The SEAP can be an instrument to prevent rapid and uncontrolled city growth, by promoting mixed land use and encouraging not motorized mobility.**

Ex. Stockholm: efficient social planning, anticipating the increased demand for housing and transportation

Working with citizens and stakeholders:

- **The SEAP development and implementation requires coordination with citizens and other actors, consensus-building approaches, reduced duplication of efforts.**

Innovative governance structure via the Covenant Territorial Coordinators (CTC)

Regions and provinces acting as Covenant Territorial Coordinators (CTCs) to provide:

Technical and strategic **assistance** to municipalities lacking the necessary resources to prepare a SEAP

Financial support and opportunities to the municipalities for the **development and implementation** of their SEAP

Support and coordination to promote accession to the Covenant among municipalities in their territory

Italy, Spain & Belgium have the highest share of signatories under CTC due to their administrative structures

Country	No. of CoM Signatories	Population covered	No. of CTCs	% of signatories covered by a CTC	% of CoM population covered by a CTC
Spain	1,458	25,422,689	20	94%	70%
Belgium	104	4,603,160	3	68%	35%
Italy	2,731	33,663,567	74	66%	57%
Denmark	36	2,786,309	1	36%	24%
France	108	15,749,109	3	35%	16%
Netherlands	18	3,804,493	1	33%	43%
Portugal	92	4,581,891	4	32%	12%
United Kingdom	33	17,674,092	1	30%	22%
Greece	93	3,529,036	4	29%	30%
Germany	55	17,092,320	2	15%	7%
Romania	58	6,218,648	1	9%	4%

CTC	CoM-related activities
Province of Barcelona (ES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 200 signatories, 189 submitted SEAPs ✓ Technical support on inventories calculation and SEAP elaboration ✓ Financial support via ELENA technical assistance: 190 feasibility studies for energy efficiency in buildings, public lighting, renewable energies and legal studies (122.5 million euros of investments) ✓ Coordination of low cost actions: "Euronet 50/50" project on energy savings in school buildings
Province of Limburg (BE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 44 signatories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ 11 signatories <10 000 inhabitants ☐ 31 signatories from 10 000 to 50 000 inhabitants ✓ Scientific study to define the concept of climate neutrality ✓ Technical support in data collection for inventories and for actions' impact estimations ✓ "ESCOLIMBURG2020" project: partnership between the Province, an energy grid operator and a consultant. Aim: making the municipal and provincial buildings more energy-efficient and integrating renewable energy sources
Regione Abruzzo (IT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 305 signatories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ 278 signatories <10 000 inhabitants ✓ Support for the SEAP elaboration from 2007-2013 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Operational Programme ✓ 20.7 million euros from ERDF for implementing one action in each municipality: high demonstrative effect ✓ Partner of the project "Alterenergy" for municipalities <10 000 inhabitants. Aim: improving their capacity to plan and manage integrated actions of energy saving and the production of energy from renewable sources

An unprecedented success...

- 54 COUNTRIES
- 6 300 signatories
- 198 million citizens

Covenant EU

28 EU Member States + EEA Countries

Covenant East

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Covenant South

Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia

Covenant signatories leading by example

Amsterdam: all municipal **buildings to be climate neutral** by 2015

Torino: **tax credit for deeply renovated buildings**

Barcelona: implementation of **energy management system in municipal buildings**

Munich: **benchmarking of energy consumption** of municipal **buildings**

Sønderborg: development of **climate neutral energy solutions**

Ghent, Glasgow, Copenhagen, Bristol: **joint SEAP with air quality action plan**



- 1. Not only mitigation:** Voluntary commitments by signatory cities in the areas of:
 - **Mitigation** of climate change (low carbon cities)
 - **Adaptation** to climate change (resilient cities)
 - Access to **clean energy**All signatories would share the same long-term vision.
- 2. Different intermediary regional objectives:** Voluntary commitments to attain **mid-term objectives**, prioritised according to the political/economic situation.
- 3. Accountability:** Commitment to **draft and approve a publicly available Action Plan**, illustrating how cities intend to achieve the mid-term objectives.

Covenant of Mayors (EU and beyond)



Key success factors:

- **Integrated approach to local sustainable energy**
- **Coordination effort together with citizens and local stakeholders**
- **Strategic urban planning: promoting mixed land use and encouraging not motorized mobility**
- **Platform to test new governance models**

Barriers:

- **Scarcity of human and financial resources**
- **Lack of expertise**

Scalability of CoM approach to the regional level to be assessed

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