

HOW CAN MY CITY ENGAGE IN THE GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT?

In the lead up to the [Global Climate Action Summit](#) taking place in San Francisco from September 12-14, mayors globally are being invited to step up their climate action.

Cities around the world are already taking ambitious action to make the Paris Agreement a reality. The Global Climate Action Summit provides a chance for cities to showcase the progress they've made and to step up ambition with bold new actions.

The Global Climate Action Summit will demonstrate to the world that cities – along with businesses, investors, state and regional governments – are at the forefront of working towards a climate safe, healthy, prosperous world for all.

PARTICIPATE IN #STEPUP2018 – CITY CHALLENGES

Contact gcas@c40.org to register your interest in joining any of the challenges detailed below.

CROSS-CUTTING CHALLENGE: MAKE A PLAN FOR PARIS

- **Commit to developing an inclusive climate action plan by the end of 2020** that aligns with the highest goal of the Paris Agreement: to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by reaching net-zero by 2050 or earlier, and adapt to the impacts of climate change in a way which is equitable for all citizens. Visit C40's [Climate Action Planning Resource Centre](#) to learn more.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CHALLENGE – Taking action towards clean, healthy, and liveable communities that improve quality of life for all.

Cities around the world are taking action to green our streets, homes, offices, energy and resource use. By 2030, we know that nearly every trip taken, every building built and every power plant will need to be powered by clean energy.

City actions are being collected under the [One Planet Charter](#) which is designed to provide cities with a swift, yet achievable road map for bold and inclusive climate action. If adopted, they will ensure cities deliver their fair share of emissions reductions to keep global warming within the boundaries that scientists tell us is safe.

- **Join the Green & Healthy Streets (“Fossil Fuel Free Streets”) Declaration** where cities pledge to procure only zero-emission buses from 2025, make a major area of their city zero emission by 2030, and encourage a shift to walking, cycling, and public transport. Cities taking action to create fossil-fuel free streets are paving the way for a future in which the majority of citizens move around their cities by walking, cycling, and shared transport, resulting in less congestion, less pollution, quieter roads and cleaner air.
- **Join the “Net Zero Carbon Buildings” Declaration** by enacting regulations and/or planning policies to ensure new buildings operate at net zero carbon by 2030, with all buildings to follow by 2050. Cities can additionally commit to exclusively owning, occupying and developing assets that are net zero carbon in operation by 2030. All signatories are also encouraged to report on emissions beyond carbon (e.g., refrigerants). Building energy use accounts for over half of total city emissions on average, according to C40’s Deadline 2020 report. Decarbonizing buildings in cities is therefore one of the most fundamental things cities can do to help avoid dangerous climate change.
- **Join the “Advancing Towards Zero Waste” Declaration** by pledging to reduce the amount of waste generated by at least 15% per capita by 2030. Cities also pledge to reduce the amount of municipal solid waste disposed to landfill or incineration by at least 50% and increase the diversion rate away from landfill and incineration to at least 70% by 2030.
- **Pledging to deliver inclusive climate action that benefits all citizens equitably** by increasing action on community-led development and infrastructure projects that achieve major environmental, health, social and economic benefits, especially in low-income and vulnerable communities.

OTHER CITIES ACTIONS ACROSS SUMMIT CHALLENGE AREAS

- **Commit to 100% Renewable Electricity city-wide by 2035**, and 100% renewable energy (including electricity, heating and cooling, and transport) by 2050. Shifting towards 100% clean renewable energy is an essential building block in the transition to net zero emissions by 2050, and to create healthier and more equitable communities. For more information see the [Global 100% Renewable Energy Platform](#) or the Sierra Club's [Ready for 100 initiative](#) (for US cities)
- **Signing the Edmonton Declaration**, a bold call-to-action to the scientific, technology and innovation community to work collaboratively with cities and city organisations to deliver the research, data and technology cities need to meet their bold commitments to act. City signatories also call upon national and subnational governments to recognize the need for urgent action, to coordinate and integrate efforts, and to establish formal, science-based policy and decision-making processes. Learn more about the [Edmonton Declaration](#) at the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy website. Please contact GCoM at info@globalcovenantofmayors.org for more information.
- **Taking the Green Bond Pledge**, which encourages cities to issue, when possible, bonds for infrastructure as green bonds, as well as to establish a green bonds strategy aimed at financing infrastructure and capital projects that meet the challenges of climate change while making cities competitive, prosperous and economically productive. Green bonds are an instrumental mechanism to finance low carbon infrastructure in cities. Please see more information on the [Green Bond Pledge](#) website.
- **Becoming a part of the Powering Past Coal Alliance**, an informal alliance of nations, states, cities and organisations committed to moving the world from burning coal to cleaner power sources. Through the Alliance, cities can commit to powering city operations without coal and to supporting clean power through their policies and investments.

Coal-fired power plants produce almost 40% of global electricity, and coal-fired power generation emits twice as much CO₂ as gas per unit of electricity, making carbon pollution from coal a leading contributor to climate change. This Alliance is particularly relevant to cities where their grid electricity mix relies heavily on coal. Please see more information on the [UK government website](#). Please contact Mission 2020 at info@mission2020.global to register interest.

JOIN AN EVENT

Dozens of affiliated events, organized by a range of companies, NGOs and governments, will take place across the Bay Area throughout the week of the Summit.

Check the [GCAS website](#) for details.

SPEAK AT THE SUMMIT

The Summit will feature two plenaries and a range of high-level sessions focusing on specific themes. Mayors of cities making high-profile, notably ambitious climate action commitments may be invited by the Summit team to speak at one of the sessions.

SPREAD THE WORD

Help spread the word about the Summit, the need for increased climate ambition, and your commitment to address climate change. Follow the Summit [@GCAS2018](#) on Twitter and promote climate action and solutions using the [#GCAS2018](#) and [#StepUp2018](#) hashtags, and invite your peers to join you in stepping up climate action.

CONTACT: C40, gcas@c40.org
globalclimateactionsummit.org

