Climate Change
Mitigation and Adaptation

‘Mayors Adapt’ and ‘Covenant of Mayors’
as two guiding EU initiatives for local authorities

Lucie Blondel – Climate Alliance, Mayors Adapt & Covenant of Mayors offices
1. CoM and MA – similarities and differences
Mayors Adapt vs. Covenant of Mayors

Similarities and differences

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Covenant of Mayors</th>
<th>Mayors Adapt</th>
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<td><strong>Launch Date:</strong></td>
<td>January 2009</td>
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<td><strong>Managed by:</strong></td>
<td>European Commission – DG Energy</td>
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<td><strong>Targeted authorities:</strong></td>
<td>European local authorities regardless of size, stage of implementation of their climate policy.</td>
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→ Two initiatives designed by cities, for cities and benefitting from EU endorsement
# Mayors Adapt vs. Covenant of Mayors

## Similarities and differences

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<td><strong>Focus:</strong></td>
<td>Climate Change <strong>Mitigation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Signatories’ commitment:</strong></td>
<td>Meeting and even exceeding the European Union 20% CO\textsubscript{2} reduction objective by 2020.</td>
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<td><strong>Adhesion:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Voluntary political decision</strong> through official resolution by municipal council.</td>
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→ Initiatives **supporting local climate solutions**
→ Mayors Adapt as an additional, **complementary** commitment
## Mayors Adapt vs. Covenant of Mayors

### Step-by-Step Process

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<th><strong>Mayors Adapt</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1) Initiation and baseline review</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prepare a Baseline Emission Inventory</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2) Planning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Submit a Sustainable Energy Action Plan within 1 year following the formal signing</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3) Monitoring and reporting</strong></td>
<td><strong>Submit an Implementation Report (at least) every 2nd year</strong></td>
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→ Helping cities to tackle climate change in an *integrated* way!
Mayors Adapt vs. Covenant of Mayors
Support offered

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<td><strong>Visibility</strong> and communication on cities’ commitment, notably on the respective initiative website</td>
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<td><strong>Practical support</strong> in the form of a helpdesk for operational questions, information and engagement with the initiative</td>
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<td><strong>Networking and capacity building opportunities</strong> through regular events and online platform</td>
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<td><strong>Knowledge support</strong> through guidance materials and tools for cities</td>
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<td><strong>Synergies</strong> with relevant stakeholders &amp; other EU initiatives.</td>
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2. Focus on the Covenant of Mayors
Covenant of Mayors - key figures

... > 6,300 signatories,

... > 265 coordinators and supporters,

... 25 associated partners

... > 4,500 Sustainable Energy Action Plans adopted

... about 29% CO₂ emissions reduction commitment
Covenant of Mayors – Consolidated strategy

3rd operation phase – deep revision of the ‘intervention logic’:

- **Need-driven approach:** analysis of the most pressing needs of the CoM signatories in order to better match supply with demand and better response to cities’ expectations

- **National focuses:** identification of priority countries where more targeted activities will be organised, taking into account the national context and specificities

- **Deeper monitoring of the Covenant implementation and results on the ground** through a set of various key figures & indicators
Covenant of Mayors – Consolidated services

What does it mean in practice?

(Country-focused) capacity-building activities with a greater focus on practical aspects and financing issues – check the online calendar!

New capacity-building tools under development, incl. enriched e-learning modules, new resource repository and discussion forums

Revision of the Reporting Templates and associated online catalogues / best practice database, development of infographics

Publication of Reference Guides, incl. 1 on financing opportunities for cities, all downloadable from the online library

Closer collaboration with relevant initiatives and stakeholders (academia, energy agencies, experts)
3. Focus on the ‘Mayors Adapt’ initiative
Mayors Adapt – role of Climate Alliance

• Offering assistance and knowledge support through 3 Helpdesk focal points for Spain, Italy and German-speaking countries,

• Strengthening synergies with the Covenant of Mayors,

• Consolidating concrete results through cooperation with relevant multipliers,

• Consulting cities on the development of the initiative to make sure it best responds to cities’ needs,

• Developing a robust reporting framework for participating cities based on the Covenant experience.

The Mayors Adapt Office team is made up of Climate Alliance, Eurocities, CEMR as well as the consultants Ecofys, Fresh Thoughts and Ifok.
Mayors Adapt - Key figures

130 signatures from >20 different countries in total, comprising:

- **Mayors Adapt Signatories**, spanning large capitals to small municipalities (incl. Bologna, Madrid, Munich, Greater Manchester, Hannover, Vicenza...)

- One **Mayors Adapt Coordinator** (Province of Barcelona)

  ... more authorities / organisations signing up to take action on adaptation...

Mayors Adapt is open to local authorities “in the EU or neighbourhood territory”.
Mayors Adapt - First achievements

- Launch of the ‘Urban Adaptation Support Tool’ on the EEA’s Climate-Adapt platform, providing cities with easy access to expertise

- Development of City profile fact sheets, facilitating information sharing amongst members

- Organisation of the first Mayors Adapt Signature Ceremony in October 2014 in Brussels to celebrate the 1st signatories’ commitment

- Preparation of Case Studies detailing cities’ adaptation activities for others to learn from their leadership
Mayors Adapt – More to come

• **Annual Ceremonies**, honouring cities’ commitment

• Various **local outreach events** in different Member States, facilitating experience exchanges

• **City Twinning Programmes**, supporting peer-to-peer learning and building local capacities

• **Tools tailored for cities**, supporting their reporting and monitoring process

• **Cooperation** with relevant multipliers and similar initiatives
Thank you for your attention!

Climate Alliance:  
www.climatealliance.org

Covenant of Mayors:  
www.covenantofmayors.eu

Mayors Adapt:  
www.mayors-adapt.eu

More information:  
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