



CITIES

Compact of States and Regions Action Statement

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Action Statement

Compact of States and Regions

The Compact of States and Regions represents a commitment by global state and regional government networks, including nrg4SD, R20 and The Climate Group, and CDP, to provide an annual assessment of the commitments (i.e. GHG reduction targets) and progress towards those commitments (i.e. GHG inventory data) made by state and regional governments around the world to support international climate governance processes.

The assessment will include two components that partners believe will provide increased clarity on the current contributions being made by global state and regional governments:

1. A single account of GHG reduction targets made by participating state and regional governments, and
2. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data for all participating governments, reported annually to the Compact in order to assess progress towards stated targets, and standardized in order to enable comparability across regions.

While the Compact will collect a standard set of GHG data, it will not endeavor to create a common methodology for collecting and reporting this data, instead recognizing the various methodologies currently being used by participating governments around the world.

Objective

These two components reflect the partners' shared belief that setting GHG reduction goals and measuring GHG emissions are pillars of a robust climate strategy, and should be aspired to by all state and regional governments, considering differing capabilities and circumstances across regions.

In light of this, it is the partners' intent that this unified, standardized, annual assessment will support the international climate negotiations by:

1. Providing a clear picture of the overall contribution being made by state and regional governments around the world, through aggregated global data,
2. Presenting an accurate evaluation of the progress that individual state and regional governments are making towards stated targets, through annually updated data,
3. Increasing the comparability of state and regional efforts in different parts of the world by publishing data in a standardized format,



4. Facilitating a greater level of collaboration and vertical integration of climate policies at the national, state and regional, and city levels, through alignment and partnership with the UN, the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency to the UNFCCC, and the Compact of Mayors, and
5. Creating incentives for additional state and regional governments to set targets and measure emissions, through the visibility, comparability, cooperation made possible by the Compact.

Government Participation

Following the announcement of the Compact at the UN Climate Summit on September 23, the partners will begin formally recruiting governments to “join” the Compact. For governments, joining the Compact will entail:

1. Adopting an absolute GHG reduction target (includes targets that have already been adopted), and
2. Committing to report a standard set of GHG data points to the Compact on an annual basis (includes data collected using existing methodologies)

Governments with existing GHG reduction targets and annually updated GHG inventories can “join” the Compact by submitting requested data points from existing inventories to the Compact partners on an annual basis, for inclusion in the assessment.

Governments without existing GHG reduction targets and inventories can “observe” the Compact by stating their intent to develop a GHG target and inventory within a two year timeframe, and by submitting existing data on an annual basis, thereby building the capacity needed to eventually develop an inventory.

The Compact is an open platform, welcoming participation from all state and regional governments, irrespective of their current or future association with the Compact partners.

Timeline

September 2014: Announcement of the Compact at the UN Climate Summit

October 2014: Partners begin recruiting governments to join the Compact

January 2015: Reporting process with participating governments begins

December 2015: Inaugural assessment presented at COP 21

Compact Partner Organizations

The Climate Group States & Regions Alliance

Founded in 2005 by a visionary group of global Governors and Premiers, The Climate Group States & Regions Alliance has since grown to a network of 27 state & regional government members and 41 regional government affiliates. Core member regions alone represent 11% of global GDP and approx. 2 Gigatons of GHG emissions.

The States & Regions Alliance is member government-driven with high-level political engagement and ownership. The States & Regions Alliance represents some of the most significant European and North American economies and some of the largest population centers in Africa, Asia and South America. All are leaders on climate policy in their respective regions.

The Climate Group has offices in London, Beijing, Delhi, Hong Kong and New York.

Nrg4SD

The Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development, nrg4SD is a non-profit international organization representing subnational governments and associations of subnational governments at global level. Established in 2002 at the World Summit of Johannesburg, today nrg4SD totals some 50 subnational governments from 30 countries and 7 associations of subnational governments.

nrg4SD campaigns internationally for the recognition of the role played by subnational governments in ensuring more effective sustainable development models. The network also focuses on Climate Change and Biodiversity, fostering the dissemination of members' innovative actions, and encouraging cooperation and partnership programmes for the exchange of best practices.

R20

The R20-Regions of Climate Action is a non-profit organization founded in 2010 by former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and other global leaders in cooperation with the United Nations. The R20 is a coalition of partners led by regional governments that work to promote and implement projects that are designed to produce local economic and environmental benefits in the form of reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions; strong local economies; improved public health; and new green jobs.

Through its large network of members and affiliate members (eg. the Assembly of European Regions), the R20 connects over 500 subnational and local governments around the world.

The R20 is a member of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency to the UNFCCC.

CDP

As a founding partner of the Compact of States and Regions, CDP brings over 10 years of environmental reporting expertise and is the lead organisation on data and reporting. CDP's states and regions platform will drive the data reporting for the Compact, allowing state and regional governments to benefit from reporting through CDP's established, global system.



The process of reporting information to CDP, and the insights the data brings, incentivizes companies and cities to measure, manage and reduce their impact on the environment and build greater resilience. By providing high quality information to the market we are changing the way businesses, investors and cities behave.

CDP is an international, not-for-profit organization providing the only global system for companies and cities to measure, disclose, manage and share vital environmental information. CDP works with market forces, including 767 institutional investors with assets of US\$92 trillion, to motivate companies to disclose their impacts on the environment and natural resources and take action to reduce them. CDP now holds the largest collection globally of primary climate change, water and forest risk commodities information and puts these insights at the heart of strategic business, investment and policy decisions.

Contact

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Partners

The Climate Group States & Regions Alliance

The Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD)

R20-Regions of Climate Action (R20)

Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)