



## Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy Summary of Tools

Cities that have committed to the Global Covenant of Mayors have up to three years to meet a series of comprehensive climate mitigation and adaptation requirements, culminating in the development of climate action and adaptation plans. To help support cities through their journey to compliance, the Global Covenant of Mayors has been working to develop a full suite of standards, technical support and reporting tools. The components presented below will enable cities to meet requirements, better measure the impact of their actions, and publicly share their success to show the collective impact of cities on combatting climate change.

### **New Global Standard for Reporting City and Local Government's GHG Emissions Inventories**

The new global data standard is a harmonized protocol for local-scale GHG reporting and allows for tracking the contributions and impacts of cities and local governments in a transparent, quantifiable and meaningful way. Because the Global Covenant recognizes principles of transparency, consistency, and flexibility, this framework is designed to be consistent with national government reporting requirements and the UNFCCC, and adjustable to local circumstances. Inventory methods that cities have used to date vary significantly and creates an inconsistency that makes comparisons between cities difficult. This raises questions around data quality and limits the ability to aggregate local, subnational, and national government greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data. To allow for more credible and meaningful reporting, greater consistency in GHG accounting is required. It seeks to:

- Help cities develop a comprehensive and robust greenhouse gas inventory in order to support climate action planning.
- Help cities establish a base year emissions inventory, set reduction targets, and track their performance.
- Ensure consistent and transparent measurement and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions between cities, following internationally recognized greenhouse gas accounting and reporting principles.
- Enable city inventories to be aggregated at subnational and national levels.
- Demonstrate the important role that cities play in tackling climate change, and facilitate insight through benchmarking – and aggregation – of comparable data.

### **City Data Portal**

This tool is currently under development with our partners at WRI. The city data portal is a database containing city-level activity and emission factor data acquired from national datasets that Global Covenant cities can freely access and use to inform their emissions inventories. The ultimate goal is to enable cities to commit to greater climate action by empowering them with data. It will allow for greater comparison and benchmarking between cities—within and between countries—facing similar challenges. The first version of the portal is planned to launch ahead of the California Climate Action Summit in September 2018. We're focused on incorporating city data for the United States first, expanding to up to 20 countries by the end of 2019. Key features of the tool include:

- To engage and encourage national governments and other data owners to make available activity and emission factor data sets they hold that are needed by cities to complete their GHG inventories.
- To promote data standards and data improvement in the collection of national level data sets so that they are more relevant and useful for cities while still supporting national inventory efforts.
- To collect and modify this national data in an open data portal for cities to access necessary data sets that support their GHG inventory efforts and climate action planning.
- To ensure accuracy and confidence, the City Data Portal aligns with the global data standard.

## ClearPath Basic

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ClearPath Basic is a no-cost, online GHG inventory tool for local governments worldwide, made available to support the Global Covenant of Mayors. ClearPath provides city officials the ability to measure emissions and track progress over time. Key features of ClearPath include:

- **Collaboration:** ClearPath stores data in the cloud, allowing city officials to collaborate seamlessly with anyone in the city or with external partners.
- **Visualization Tools:** Users can observe trends in emissions data, track progress over time, and share results.
- **Reporting:** ClearPath is actively evolving to keep pace with reporting requirements, with recent updates to enable direct reporting to carbonn Climate Registry (cCR) with one click.
- **Protocol Compliance:** To ensure accuracy and confidence, ClearPath aligns with the GPC.

## CURB Tool: Climate Action for Urban Sustainability

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The CURB tool is a climate action and scenario planning application that helps cities prioritize more than 50 different low carbon actions and investments. This toolkit is designed to help cities explore the impacts of different interventions designed to reduce energy use, save money, and cut local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. CURB is analytically rigorous, user-friendly, and aligned with the GPC protocol. CURB can be used across both data-rich and data-scarce environments, as city officials have the flexibility to apply built-in city, national or regional proxy data or update the application to their own city-specific data. CURB has five modules, comprised of the following:

- **Setup:** City officials can enter basic data about the overall situation in the city and information regarding specific sectoral profiles. This information is then used repeatedly throughout CURB for calculating the impact of certain scenarios.
- **Inventory:** Converts the information provided in the setup module into estimates of which sectors create the greatest energy demand and GHG emissions and how this situation may change over time. It is in this module that city officials have the option to set future reduction performance targets against which progress can be measured.
- **Benchmarking:** Allows city officials to compare their city's performance vis-à-vis other cities across a variety of key indicators.
- **Action:** The heart of the application and the module focused on scenario modeling and assessments.
- **Results:** Outputs documenting the impact of selected actions/interventions on urban GHG emissions and local energy demand.

## Climate Risk Adaptation Framework Taxonomy (CRAFT)

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CRAFT is a standardized reporting framework that enables cities to perform robust and consistent reporting of local climate hazards and impacts, risk and vulnerability assessment, and adaptation planning and implementation as part of their compliance with the Global Covenant of Mayors. It is integrated into the CDP Cities and carbonn Climate Registry reporting platforms, allowing cities to share the status of their climate adaptation planning efforts. CRAFT is comprised of three modules:

- **Profiling the City:** Collects city data on general characteristics that influence city resilience and adaptation planning. This information can support shared learning and inform adaptation planning at the local level.
- **Understanding the Problem:** Asks the city to report on their vulnerability assessment process, the climate risk and vulnerability faced now and in the future, and the underlying factors within a city that can enhance or challenge a city's ability to adapt.
- **Planning, Responding, and Monitoring:** Inquiries into the climate adaptation planning process undertaken by cities and how cities evaluate the outcomes of their adaptation efforts. Cities provide information

adaptation planning efforts, adaptation goals and actions, and adaptation barriers and opportunities.

CRAFT builds on earlier work undertaken by Arup, with support from C40, to identify a structured articulation of the key climate hazards that cities are facing, known as the City Climate Hazard Taxonomy.

### **Global Covenant of Mayors e-Learning Environment**

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Built in conjunction with World Resources Institute, the self-paced virtual environment supports local leaders to help them better understand the key requirements for the Global Covenant as well as guide them through their respective city's journey towards achieving compliance. Through videos, interactive content, exercises, infographics, and maps, the tool steers cities through setting emissions reduction targets, building GPC-compliant inventories, identifying hazards and conducting risk assessments, as well as creating climate action and adaptation plans. The tool also builds an online community for cities through Q&A sessions with experts, offering them the collaboration and coordination they need to become fully compliant with the Global Covenant of Mayors.

### **Reporting Platforms and Link to Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) Platform**

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Under the Global Covenant, cities are allowed to report through two major reporting platforms, CDP Cities and Carbonn Climate Registry, eliminating the need for cities to report through multiple channels. The carbonn Climate Registry serves as the Global Covenant's central database, with an API in active development that will send real-time submissions from CDP Cities to the cCR. There is no deadline to report, and cities can update their information on an ongoing basis.