A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR AFRICAN CITIES
The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa

What is it about?

The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa is an initiative funded by the European Union to support Sub-Saharan cities in:

- Their fight against climate change through mayor’s voluntary commitment.
- The development and the implementation of a Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plan (SEA-CAP).
Increase the capacities of Sub-Saharan Africa cities to provide access to sufficient, sustainable, affordable and clean energy services to urban and peri-urban populations.
The Covenant of Mayors Office in Sub-Saharan African contributes:

- To strengthen the capacities of cities to ensure access to safe, sustainable and affordable energy services to their population.
- To build more inclusive, resilient and economical local authorities.
- To improve the technical and resource mobilization capacities of cities.
- To improve political ownership and best practice dissemination.
To improve the legal and institutional framework of local authorities as well as their technical and resource mobilization capacities.
What are the benefits for CoM SSA signatories?

- Have access to best practices and knowledge exchange activities.
- Obtain general information and technical support through the helpdesk office in Accra, Ghana.
- Participate in training sessions on climate and energy planning.
- Gain access to city-to-city cooperation mechanisms.
- Increase the visibility of local governments’ climate and energy actions.
TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES
Technical Support Activities

- Technical support to conduct energy profiling and risk and vulnerabilities assessment
- Training and workshops on the development and financing of a Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plan (SEA-CAP).
- Discussion forum and exchange of experiences
Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa

Advocacy and Networking Activities

- Inclusion of local policies in the preparation and implementation of national strategies related to energy and climate

  Participation to international conferences to promote the role of cities in climate action

  Mobilisation of civil society organizations in clean energy transition by engaging citizens’ initiatives
Any Sub-Saharan city can start the process to commit to the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa and become part of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, the largest coalition of cities committed to local climate and energy action by signing the Political commitment document (PCD).

THE COVENANT OF MAYORS FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY in Sub-Saharan Africa,
a Regional Covenant within the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy

We, the Mayors signing this Covenant, share a vision for a sustainable future - whatever the size and location of our municipality. This common vision drives our action to tackle interconnected challenges: climate change mitigation adaptation and access to sustainable energy. We are also aware that low emissions development is a challenge in this context in order to contribute to sustainable growth. We stand ready together to deliver concrete, long term measures that provide an environmentally, socially and economically stable environment for present and future generations. It is our collective responsibility to transition to a more sustainable, attractive, liveable, resilient and energy efficient communities.

WE, THE MAYORS, ACKNOWLEDGE THAT:

Climate change is already happening and is one of the greatest global and local challenges of our time, calling for immediate action and cooperation on adaptation, resilience, mitigation, low emissions development and access to sustainable energy between local, regional and national authorities from all over the world.

Local and regional authorities are key drivers in the fight against climate change. Local and regional authorities in all socio-economic situations and geographical locations stand at the forefront of reducing the vulnerability of their territory to the various impacts of climate change.

Local and regional authorities are willing to engage with national governments, financial institutions and private sector to encourage investment in the low-emission sustainable energy transition, hence ensuring universal access to sustainable and affordable energy services.

...the PCD is the core political document of CoM SSA developed through a bottom-up approach by the cities for cities...committing signatories to develop and implement their Climate and Energy Actions....
The Political Commitment Document must be discussed and agreed upon in the Municipal Council (or equivalent decision-making body);

An official resolution by the Council is needed to confirm cities decision to sign up to CoM SSA and to mandate the Mayor-or equivalent-to sign the CoM SSA adhesion form;

The copy of the Council decision and the signed adhesion form (original or copy) should be sent to CoM SSA Central Helpdesk via post or e-mail (helpdesk@comssa.org);

The signatory city will receive a confirmation message from the CoM SSA Central Helpdesk Office regarding next steps and timing (SEACAP preparation, submission and monitoring process);

The date of the Council decision will be considered as the date the city became CoM SSA signatory.
WHAT are the next steps after JOINING the COM SSA?

1) Baseline review
2) Strategic target setting & planning
3) Implementation, monitoring and reporting

Political commitment

Mitigation pathway
Adaptation pathway
Pathway for increasing access to energy

Documents
Actions
Progress Report

Define ambitions
Deliver practical actions
Review progress, readjust priorities

Year 0
Improving understanding
Best practice exchange and knowledge sharing between CoM SSA signatory cities
More than 100 cities have joined the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa.
Promote a synergy of actions in favor of cities
The Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa is a regional chapter of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.

The GCoM The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy formally brings together the European Union’s Covenant of Mayors and the Compact of Mayors, the world’s two primary initiatives supporting cities and local governments in their transition to a low emission and climate resilient economy.

By joining the initiative, cities become part of the broadest alliance of local governments committed to climate and energy leadership, gathering 7400 cities and local governments in the world.
The members of the consortium

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For more details:
Please contact the helpesk based in Accra, Ghana
helpdesk@comssa.org

Visit our website: www.comssa.org