



## *Turning Climate Ambition into Action*

The Covenant of Mayors for the Mediterranean aims to organise and mobilise cities and local governments to contribute actively to a global climate solution. The initiative empowers local governments to implement climate and energy actions through policies and concrete local initiatives. Moreover, with CoM Med, cities increase their international visibility and the chance to collaborate with various regional, national, and global funding actors.

So far, about two hundred cities from more than ten countries representing twenty-eight million people have committed to CoM Med. Together, they create a much-needed momentum for change and guarantee a better future for their citizens. Day after day, additional cities are joining.

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

# The Covenant of Mayors for the Mediterranean

The Covenant of Mayors for the Mediterranean, CoM Med, is a Regional Covenant within the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. Funded by the European Union, CoM Med brings together Mediterranean local governments in their fight against climate change. CoM Med is a voluntary-based initiative that allows cities to define and meet ambitious and realistic emission reduction and climate action targets, that are set by themselves in line with the requirements of both the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM) and those of their National Determined Contributions (NDCs).

CoM Med was established and developed within the Clima-Med project to support local authorities in their quest to prepare and implement coherent Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plans (SEACAPs) in line with GCoM requirements.

CoM Med is a regional alliance of cities and local governments from South Mediterranean countries.

## CoM Med Objectives

**1** CoM Med enables cities, local governments, and the networks that support them to bridge the gap between climate ambition and action delivery. Backed by the European Commission, with the political support of the Special Envoy for Climate Action, the CoM Med alliance is collectively united around a commitment to accelerate and implement city climate actions, applying local approaches that are part of a global action.

**2** The CoM Med initiative supports participating local governments in setting ambitious climate reduction goals and taking concrete actions to meet those objectives. It promotes their voluntary fight against climate change and their move to a low-carbon economy. Increasingly, committed mayors and local governments across the Mediterranean are heeding the call to act with nations working towards the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.

**3** Focusing on those sectors where cities and local governments have the greatest influence, CoM Med supports ambitious, locally relevant solutions captured through strategic action plans with concrete targets that are registered, implemented, monitored and publicly available.

**4** In line with the Global Covenant of Mayors' goals, CoM Med emphasises the importance of climate change mitigation and adaptation, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increased access to sustainable energy.

## The evolution of the Covenant of Mayors for the Mediterranean, CoM Med

The European Commission extended the Covenant of Mayors to the European Neighbourhood South Region by launching the "Cleaner Energy-Saving Mediterranean Cities", CES-MED project. It supported cities in joining the Covenant of Mayors and committing to ambitious sustainable development policies, reflected in a 20% CO2 reduction by 2020.

**2012**

**2015** First Covenant of Mayors in the Mediterranean Signing Ceremony took place in Skhirat, Morocco.

The Clima-Med project establishes the Covenant of Mayors for the Mediterranean while promoting the preparation and implementation of Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plans (SEACAPs) aiming at ambitious CO2 reduction, in line with the national NDCs, by 2030.

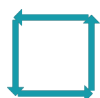
**2018**

**2021** Launching of CoM Med initiative and platform.

## Eleven reasons to join



Gain access to best practices and take part in knowledge exchanges while reinforcing planning capacities in the initiative's domains.



Enhanced cooperation and support from national and subnational authorities.



Increased international recognition and visibility for Mediterranean local authorities' climate and energy actions.



Opportunity to contribute to shaping their country's climate and energy policy.



Credible commitments through progress review and monitoring.



Better financial opportunities for their local climate and energy projects.



Innovative networking opportunities, exchanging experiences and building capacity through regular events, webinars or online discussions.



Practical support (helpdesk), guidance material and tools.



Quick access to "excellence know-how" and inspiring case studies.



Facilitated self-assessment and peer-to-peer exchange through a common monitoring and reporting template.



Flexible reference framework for action, adaptable to local needs.

## The CoM Med Community



**19**  
Countries



**+28.5m**  
inhabitants



**147**  
signatories, representing  
189 cities in the South  
Mediterranean, are  
committed to CoM Med.



**100**  
Sustainable Energy and  
Climate Action plans  
prepared .

## Step by step Commitment

To translate their political commitment into practical measures and projects, Covenant signatories commit to submit within two years following the date of the local council decision, a Baseline Emission Inventory (BEI) to track mitigation actions and a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (RVA). A complete Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plan (SEACAP) outlining the key actions the city plans to undertake must be submitted at the latest within three years following the local council decision.

**Step 1: Local authorities that want to participate in the Covenant of Mayors for the Mediterranean initiative should present a Political Commitment Document to the municipal council to facilitate the council's discussion and formal support.**

**Step 2: Once the council has adopted an official resolution, the city should send it by e-mail to the CoM Med and mandate the mayor or the council's representative to sign the Covenant adherence form.**

**Step 3: After signature, the city should complete the information online and upload the duly signed adherence form; take note of the following steps, outlined in a confirmation e-mail sent to the local authority council about guidance on the next steps for SEACAP preparation, submission, and monitoring.**

## CoM Med Support

CoM Med Helpdesk services provide Local Authorities across the region with information, advice and guidance in the overall registration process, support related to the adhesion to CoM Med, assistance to technical queries during the development and implementation of their SEACAPs and the renewal of their commitment.

Other services include:

- Help signatories with general or technical inquiries related to the Covenant of Mayors for the Mediterranean and its commitments.
- Build the signatories' capacities through providing guidance, templates, webinars, seminars, workshops, guidelines and other valuable documents.
- Support the implementation of the municipalities' communication and promotional activities.
- Facilitate networking activities within the Global Covenant of Mayors and the Covenant of Mayors' community.
- Liaise and coordinate with other EU and donors' initiatives and investigate opportunities for funding the development and implementation of the SEACAPs.
- Identify potential financial climate actions in the beneficiary countries.

## Helpdesk Assistance Offices

Rabat–Morocco:

Contact: [fzelghabi@climamed.eu](mailto:fzelghabi@climamed.eu)  
[helpdesk@com-med.org](mailto:helpdesk@com-med.org)

Beirut–Lebanon:

Contact: [mmardam@climamed.eu](mailto:mmardam@climamed.eu)  
[helpdesk@com-med.org](mailto:helpdesk@com-med.org)

A member of



[www.com-med.org](http://www.com-med.org)



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