

Climate Alliance

Review and Outlook

2017 | 2018



Climate Alliance

Climate Alliance

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Climate Alliance

European municipalities in partnership
with indigenous peoples

Taking local action
on global climate change

climatealliance.org

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FOREWORD



The international climate process is far removed from the everyday operations of most cities and towns. The Paris Agreement, however, has brought the importance of the local level irrevocably to the fore. By stipulating that municipalities be involved in the development and implementation of national climate contributions, the accord gives them political recognition and a great deal of responsibility. The challenge now is to close the existing gap between necessary emission reductions and current national commitments. Anything less will make the two degree target untenable.

For years, the activities of Climate Alliance members have demonstrated the central role of the local level. Initiatives such as the Covenant of Mayors also make it clear that the Climate Alliance relies on cooperation at various political levels. Yet it wasn't only the role of the local level that was emphasised in Paris – the significance of indigenous peoples for climate protection was also highlighted. Climate Alliance members are also pioneers in this field, having committed themselves to protecting indigenous territories and

learning from indigenous ways of life. Since Paris, Climate Alliance has therefore been working with even greater international support for its goals – daunted neither by Trump nor by Brexit, convinced of the value of strong cohesion at the local level and across borders.

This report gives an impression of the diversity of efforts made in 2017 to move closer toward the great transformation we are all striving to achieve. These efforts range from the participation of Climate Alliance ambassadors at COP23 to delegation trips to Ecuador, the internationalisation of successful campaigns such as STADTRADELN (Municipalities in Brazil are now also participating!) to the adoption of resolutions in which Climate Alliance communities position themselves on current climate issues. In short, the following pages show how cities and towns are making the international climate process part of their day to day reality.

Enjoy the read!

- Thomas Brose, Climate Alliance Executive Director

“More than ever we need to work closer together in Europe to tackle climate change. Climate Alliance gives municipalities the opportunity to come together to create the sustainable world we need. Clean air and renewable energy are the way ahead for municipalities across Europe and beyond.”

- John Tanner, Climate Alliance Board Member and Councillor of the City of Oxford, United Kingdom



AN ALLIANCE FOR THE CLIMATE

European municipalities in partnership with indigenous peoples

Taking local action on global climate change

For the last 27 years, Climate Alliance member municipalities have been acting in partnership with indigenous peoples for the benefit of the global climate. Climate Alliance is the world's largest city network dedicated to climate action and climate justice. Our more than 1,700 members spread across Europe and beyond have committed themselves to tangible emissions targets and to pairing local action with global responsibility.

TARGETS

Each Climate Alliance municipality passes a local resolution to:

Reduce CO₂ emissions by **10% every 5 years**
– a halving of per capita emissions by 2030 from 1990 levels

Strive for a per capita emissions level of **2.5 tonnes CO₂**
equivalent through energy conservation, energy efficiency and the
use of renewable energy

Work towards **climate justice** in partnership with indigenous peoples by supporting their initiatives, raising awareness, and abstaining from the use of unsustainably managed tropical timber

PRINCIPLES

Not all efforts to save the climate are created equal. Climate Alliance communities stand behind climate action that is:

FAIR	Promoting the wellbeing of all the world's peoples in harmony with the natural world
NATURE-BASED	Supporting closed-loop systems that replenish and regenerate instead of extract and deplete
LOCAL	Thinking globally but acting locally, concentrating on the regional sourcing of goods and energy
RESOURCE-SAVING	Using fewer resources by doing more with less and using less to begin with
DIVERSE	Recognising strength in diversity and that there is no one-size-fits-all answer

MEMBERSHIP

Climate Alliance members come from across Europe and beyond...

1,716 members

1,654 municipalities

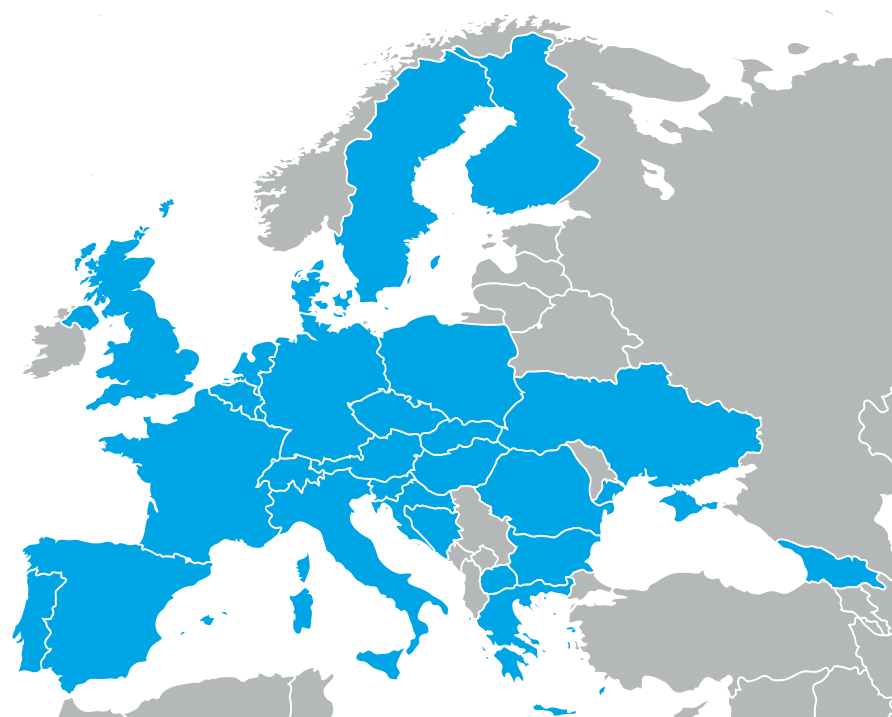
26 provinces and regions

35 NGOs and other organisations

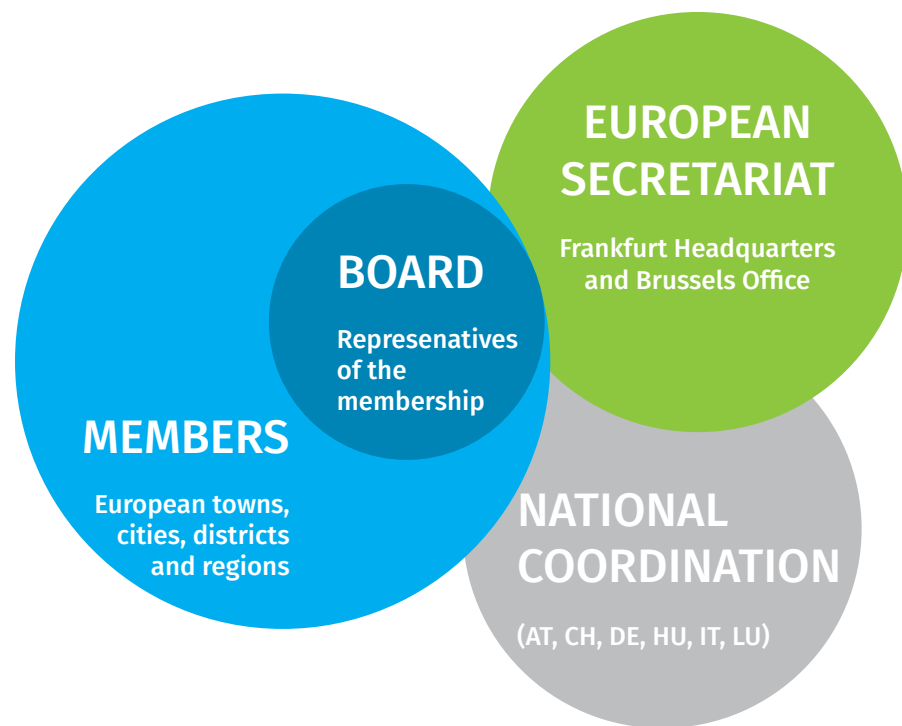
27 countries

In 2017 we welcomed 27 new members including the Municipality of Thermi – our first ever from Greece!

climatealliance.org/hc/municipalities/the-network



STRUCTURE



Climate Alliance's board is responsible for the strategic direction of the network – elected by the membership and from within the membership.

The European Secretariat carries out activities and manages the network internationally. A total of six National Coordination Offices support members in Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Hungary, Italy and Switzerland.



THE BOARD



Holger Matthäus | President
Senator for Buildings and Environment,
City of Rostock, Germany



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Mayor for Environment, Climate, Energy and North-South,
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Luxembourg



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Councillor for Sport, Youth, Environment, Energy Policy and
Civil Services, Civil Protection and Volunteering,
Municipality of Modena, Italy



Valenti Junyent Torras | Member of the Board
Deputy President of Natural Spaces and Environment at
Barcelona Provincial Council and Mayor of Manresa, Spain

THE TEAM IN 2017

European Secretariat

The European Secretariat is spread over two locations with the Climate Alliance Headquarters in Frankfurt and a further office in Brussels. The Frankfurt headquarters also provides a working space for the Climate Alliance's German national coordination.

Executive Director: Thomas Brose

In Frankfurt*, **39** staff **26.7** full-time positions

In Brussels **7** staff | **6.2** full-time positions

5 volunteers and interns throughout 2017

*Several of the staff working at the European Secretariat also work specifically on initiatives for Climate Alliance members in Germany.

Austria

In 2017, Climate Alliance Austria underwent a structural transformation. Once run by a variety of environmental and development organisations, it is now a member-driven association with an executive board of its own. Climate Alliance Austria exists alongside the regional associations of Climate Alliance Tirol and Climate Alliance Vorarlberg as well as dedicated offices serving Climate Alliance members in all other Austrian regions.

Board president: Rainer Handlfinger

Director: Markus Hafner-Auinger

66 staff | **38** full-time positions

14 volunteers and interns throughout 2017

klimabuendnis.at

Germany

The national coordination for German Climate Alliance members has its seat at the Climate Alliance headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany.

Coordinator: Dag Schulze

19 staff | **8.2** full-time positions*

*These numbers are a rough estimate of staff working specifically on initiatives for Climate Alliance members in Germany.

klimabuendnis.de

Hungary

Climate Alliance Hungary is an association managed by the Reflex Environmental Association. Its activities are carried out with member municipalities as well as a variety of organisations and experts.

President: Csaba Lajtmann

2 staff | **1** full-time position

eghajlatvedelmiszovetseg.hu

Italy

Climate Alliance Italy is the coordination body for Italian member municipalities while also organising the Italian Covenant of Mayors help desk and club.

President: Karl Ludwig Schiebel

4 staff | **3** full-time positions

climatealliance.it

Luxembourg

Climate Alliance in Luxembourg is managed by two NGOs: Mouvement Ecologique heads up environmental topics and Action Solidarité Tiers Monde (ASTM) leads efforts in the field of climate justice.

Coordinators: Paul Polfer and Dietmar Mirkes

8 staff | **5.8** full-time positions

klimabuendnis.lu

Switzerland

In Switzerland, the Climate Alliance National Coordination forms an official part of the Climate and Environment committee of the Association of Swiss Cities' Municipal Infrastructure section.

Coordinator: Anette Graupe

2 staff | on a voluntary basis

klimabuendnis.ch





OVERARCHING EVENTS

UN CLIMATE SUMMIT (COP23)

6 – 17 November 2017 in Bonn, Germany

14 COP23 Ambassadors represented the network

Efforts of **205,577** youngsters presented to UN Climate Secretariat Head Espinosa and the COP 23 President, Fijian Prime Minister Bainimarama

10 events held or supported by Climate Alliance

Over **300** delegates photographed with their messages for the future at the Climate Alliance stand

VIPs posing for a photo opportunity with Climate Alliance: Patricia Espinosa (UN Climate Secretariat Head), Barbara Hendricks (German Minister for the Environment), Karl-Heinz Lambertz (President of the EU Committee of the Regions), Henri, the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, and many more

climatealliance.org/events/climate-summits/cop23-bonn

CLIMATE ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

20 – 22 September 2017 in Essen, Germany

Motto: Transforming Our Municipalities – From Goals to Action

210 participants from **20** countries

11 in-situ sessions, **5** workshops, **1** project laboratory

Key topics: Financing, climate migrants, adaptation, fossil free, divestment, climate culture, smart metering, water management, fair lifestyles, sustainable mobility, geothermal energy, Paris Agreement, partnerships, emissions inventories, climate justice and transformation

climatealliance.org/events/international-conference/2017-conference

COMING UP IN 2018

In addition to the Climate Alliance Conference from 1 – 3 October in Barcelona, Spain and the COP24 from 3 – 14 December in Katowice, Poland, we are looking forward to the [Climate Star](#) Awards ceremony on 18 October in Schloss Grafenegg, Austria where we will honour inspiring examples of local climate action!

“Meeting Climate Alliance representatives is like a climate action rejuvenation process for me and is always an inspiration.”

- Angelika Gunkel, Officer of Energy and Climate Protection of the City of Hanau, Germany



NATIONALISING CLIMATE STRATEGIES

How the Paris Agreement Is Providing a Stronger Role for the Local Level

There has been a fundamental change of perspective since the days of the Kyoto Protocol. With the coming of the Paris Agreement in late 2015, internationally binding emissions reduction targets were replaced with national pledges made by each country in line with national capabilities.

Many agree that the success of Paris is due to this shift towards a nationalisation of climate goals and strategies. Yet these national goals, known in technical jargon as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), have their share of issues. Not binding under international law, the goals themselves and the plethora of paths towards them are completely up to each individual country. Whether they are to be achieved via actual energy savings or via offsets with the help of the international carbon market is a national decision. A major risk herein is that real reductions may actually be diluted at a time when they must be boosted: current commitments would allow for a warming of three to four degrees Celsius – a long way off from the Paris target of significantly less than two degrees.

The nationalisation of the climate process, however, also provides opportunities for the local level with the NDCs serving as a vital link between all levels of government. Now towns, cities and regions do not only have a theoretical obligation to participate in the drawing up of national plans, they have been given international legitimacy. This legitimacy is enshrined in the preamble to the Paris Agreement.

Under the Paris Agreement, countries will review and, importantly, step up their climate pledges on a five-year basis. By being a part of the process, helping shape national strategies and pushing for greater ambition, municipalities can make an active contribution to national plans. The Paris Agreement presents an exceptional opportunity for much needed cooperation between the local, national and international levels of government.

TOOLS AND METHODS

Each Climate Alliance member has made a pledge to reduce CO₂ emissions by ten percent every five years. With such a pledge comes a responsibility to track progress. Tools and methods to help the local level do just that and have thus always formed a pillar of Climate Alliance's work.

Currently, more than 2,000 municipalities in six countries make use of Climate Alliance methodologies to calculate their CO₂ emissions.

climatealliance.org/nc/activities/tools-and-methods

POSITION PAPER ON CO₂ MONITORING

The Climate Alliance approach to local level CO₂ inventories

This paper outlines key Climate Alliance positions as well as guiding principles for Climate Alliance members on tracking emissions:

Estimate emissions associated with final energy consumption

Monitor emissions arising within municipal boundaries in accordance with the territorial principle

Include emissions from the entire supply chain with a lifecycle assessment approach



Support common guiding principles that allow for diverse approaches

Push for greater recognition of local contributions

bit.ly/PositionPaper_CO2-Monitoring

CO₂ MONITORING AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD LEVEL

Recommendations for the development of neighbourhood energy concepts; via Climate Active Neighbourhoods

Some Climate Alliance members have experience with CO₂ monitoring at the neighbourhood level but until now, there have been no clear guidelines, uniform procedures or tailored instruments available to local authorities. Climate Alliance is thus developing recommendations for district level monitoring which are being tested by three pilot municipalities.

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, all eyes will be on the 24th Climate Summit in Poland where Climate Alliance will highlight the contributions its members are making to emissions reductions and stress the importance of emissions inventories that fit the realities of the local level. In addition to our work on neighbourhood-level CO₂ monitoring, we will also begin to update and enhance the *Climate Compass*. The tool lends itself to municipalities just starting out with their climate action planning, focussing on local activities and comprehensive climate action.

“There is ample experience with CO₂ monitoring on the municipal level, but specifically focussing on neighbourhoods is a newer approach that provides a very useful perspective. Climate Alliance’s work in this field is thus extremely valuable.”

- Jan Schwarz, Climate Protection Planner Communications Manager



EU POLICY

The Climate Alliance European Secretariat was hard at work throughout 2017 to ensure that the needs of cities and towns across Europe are reflected in EU policy discussions.. Here are some of the main topics we covered.

ENERGY UNION GOVERNANCE

In 2017, Climate Alliance board members met with members of parliament to debate the Clean Energy for All Europeans package as well as the role of financing for the local level in its implementation. We helped develop and disseminate a [joint statement](#) on localising the energy transition and undertook advocacy work on the renewable energy directive, with a special focus on supporting the development of local energy cooperatives.

FINANCING LOCAL ACTION

Climate Alliance's work with other city networks led to the development of a [joint statement](#) on strengthening the role of the local level to accelerate the clean energy transition, released during the EU Sustainable Energy Week in June. Our [earlier work](#) in the field contributed significantly to [Eurostat's 2017 revision of guidance](#) for public authorities on accounting rules for energy performance contracts. The European Committee of the Regions also developed an [official opinion](#) and report on climate finance to which we contributed greatly.

ADAPTATION

Our work on adaptation to climate change was highlighted at the EU level, in particular through our cooperation with the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the body representing regional and local authorities in European policy. Climate Alliance helped draft the CoR's [official opinion on the EU's Adaptation Strategy](#), thus ensuring member's voices are heard in EU policies on the topic.

WORK WITH COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

In 2017, Climate Alliance signed an [action plan](#) with the European Committee of the Regions to further intensify collaboration on accelerating the energy transition and fighting climate change at all levels of government. Together we will work to shape international and European climate policies and provide opportunities for exchange between local governments and European decisionmakers.

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, Europe's post 2020 budget will be debated and agreed. The results will directly impact financing for energy network and clean mobility programmes, research and development, as well as other key areas of spending. The European Secretariat will thus be working intensely with other civil society actors on advocacy work in the lead up to budget finalisation, pushing for increased funding to support climate action as well as for an end to fossil fuel subsidies.

The European Commission is also expected to publish a new roadmap for climate and energy targets towards 2050. We have already signed a joint letter urging the EU Commission to make the process as open and transparent as possible.

The Clean Energy for all Europeans legislation package will also be debated and finalised further into 2018. Climate Alliance will continue to push for the integration of local and regional authorities in the development of new mandatory national energy and climate plans.

“There is increasing recognition at both the EU and international levels that local authorities are integral to meeting global climate and energy goals. Our work will continue to raise that local voice and provide evidence from the ground up to support improved policymaking.”

- Andy Deacon, Climate Alliance Policy Coordinator



EU COVENANT OF MAYORS

Since its beginnings in 2008, Climate Alliance has been one of the main city networks responsible for running the Covenant of Mayors and related offices. As a result, Climate Alliance has been able to not only help shape this city movement, but to play a role in shaping EU climate and energy policies. The initiative contributes substantially to increased international recognition for the importance of the local level in climate action.

climatealliance.org/activities/covenant-of-mayors

2017 EU COVENANT COMMUNITY

Over **9,200** signatory cities – some 160 of which are Climate Alliance members

Over **1,000** signatories committed to adaptation

Over **250** million people living in Covenant of Mayors cities

Over **360** regions, associations and energy agencies

Over **5,900** action plans developed

Over **1,700** monitoring reports delivered

Over **5,000** good practice examples collected

2017 EU COVENANT ACTIVITIES

Political Board launched

1 needs assessment survey conducted

25 presentations made at events

10 capacity building workshops held

7 thematic webinars organised

EXPECTED ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE EU BY 2020*

*Rough estimates only – baselines can vary.

Average emissions reduction of **27%** (representing **31%** of the EU target!)

20% reduction in energy consumed

50% increase in local energy production

POLICY NOTE

The Political Board of the Covenant of Mayors in Europe, launched officially on 10 February 2017, is an important step for the Covenant. Its members will be in direct dialogue with the European institutions on how best to serve the needs and expectations of municipalities across Europe. Province of Barcelona President Mercè Conesa i Pagès proudly represents Climate Alliance in this new body which is composed of seven mayors and local elected representatives.

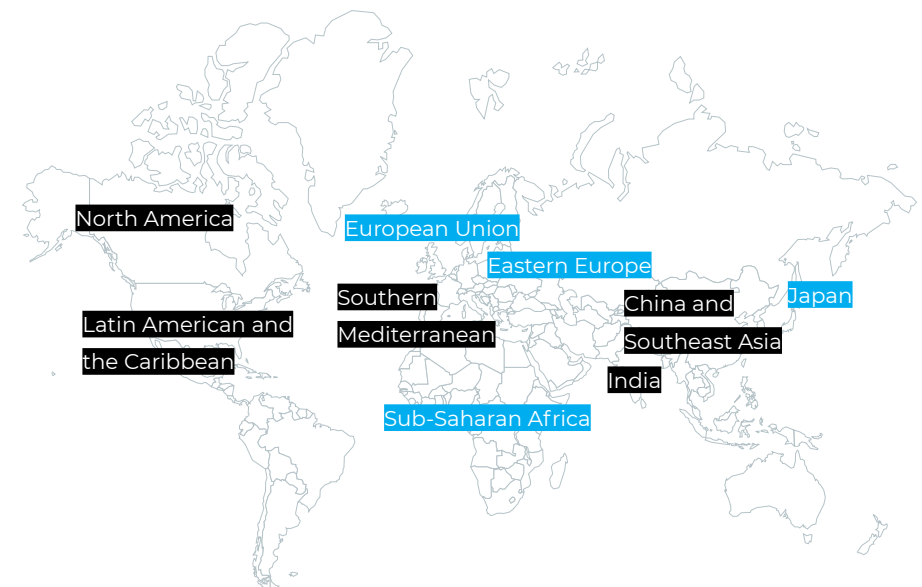
“I can speak from experience when I say that the cooperation between the Covenant signatories and their provinces and regions, but also the national and the EU levels in the pursuit of a common goal is one of the success factors of the Covenant.”

- Mercè Conesa i Pagès, President of Barcelona Province, Mayor of San Cugat del Vallés, Spain and Covenant of Mayors Political Board member



GLOBAL COVENANT OF MAYORS

While Climate Alliance had been working with municipalities in Eastern Europe via the Covenant of Mayors since 2011, it was announced in 2016 this wildly successful EU initiative would officially go global. We have been very much a part of this globalisation process and, in addition to the European Covenant, are part of the consortia managing the Covenant of Mayors in three further regions of the globe. Thus far, a total of nine regional and national Covenant offices have been set up.



Managing consortium member

Further offices

COVENANT IN EASTERN EUROPE

340 signatories in **6** countries

126 sustainable energy action plans submitted

Help desk in **2** locations coordinated by Climate Alliance

soglasheniemerov.eu

Partnerships:

Yokohama and Frankfurt

Koriyama and Essen

Ikoma and Ancona

iuc.eu/japan-en/home/

COVENANT IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

86 signatories

1 help desk set up in Accra, Ghana

comssa.org

COMING UP IN 2018

Climate Alliance will continue its active participation in the various technical groups of the Global Covenant of Mayors, helping to shape the implementation of this nascent global initiative. We will place a special focus on methodological recommendations regarding the calculation of CO₂ emissions for municipalities in various regions of the world. In 2018, these recommendations are due to be finalised and consultation on them will begin.

COVENANT IN JAPAN

7 signatories in 2017

Reporting methodology drafted

5 city to city partnerships established – **3** with Climate Alliance members

“The global climate process should integrate the contribution municipalities have made to climate protection over the last 30 years, both respecting the work already done and creating a basis for its further development.”

- Miguel Morcillo, Climate Alliance Global Covenant Coordinator

CO₂ MONITORING

The Method Behind the Numbers

What difference does it make how we monitor CO₂ as long it gets monitored? Delving just a bit deeper into the conversation, it soon becomes clear that the methodology behind the numbers is everything. If your data is poor, your numbers will mean little. If you are forced to report on data that you don't actually have, the results will be on even shakier footing.

The fact is that municipalities around the world have very different data sets available to them and must also deal with very different situations. Calculations of greenhouse gas emissions on the local level very much depend on the availability and quality of the data, which in turn also shape local approaches to CO₂ monitoring. Attempting to come up with a one-size-fits-all approach regardless of a municipality's particular situation will only result in numbers with little meaning. If we are to take climate change mitigation seriously, this is something we cannot afford.

Currently, there is a vigorous discussion underway on the contributions of regions and municipalities to national, and by extension, international climate goals under the Paris Agreement. The results of this discussion will determine the rules by which local and regional level emissions reporting is to feed into the international climate process. Climate Alliance is an important player in the debate with bodies such as the EU Commission and the UNFCCC on the future of CO₂ monitoring for municipalities the world over.

Climate Alliance has been working on the topic of local level CO₂ inventories since at least 1990, having gained much experience in tailoring methodologies and tools to the realities of cities and towns in very different situations. The local level, especially in Europe, has some 30 years of experience in the field. This rich body of experience must be respected and taken into account in the international discussion. Municipal contributions to CO₂ reductions must not only be integrated into national reporting, they must be integrated in a way that respects local realities.

FINANCING CLIMATE ACTION

Municipalities often have ambitious climate action plans but have trouble finding the funds to get them off the ground. Climate Alliance has thus placed a special emphasis on financing climate action over the last few years, with a focus on financing energy efficiency in public buildings.

WORKING GROUP ON FINANCING

Fostering exchange and finding solutions for financing climate action locally

Established in 2012, this working group helps members access information and build capacity for the financing of their climate action initiatives. In 2017 there were:

- 15** experts in **4** countries involved
- 3** newsletters issued
- 10** project ideas collected at **1** brokerage event
- 1** meeting held with **14** city representatives
- 3** policy events conducted

In store for 2018: A broadening of focus to also cover the financing of adaptation measures.



Are you a Climate Alliance member interested in financing topics? Join this working group, get involved and stay up-to-date!

financing@climatealliance.org

GUIDANCE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY FINANCING

Helping local authorities access funding for energy efficiency; via CITYNvest

In 2017, Climate Alliance issued guidance and recommendations on local energy efficiency financing in consultation with cities and towns across Europe. The aim of these publications was twofold: to improve policy frameworks for local authorities' climate and energy financing and to support local authorities in developing innovative financing solutions.

Over **100** local authorities consulted

Representatives of **15** EU institutions reached

26 case studies analysed

5 political recommendations made in **10** languages

1 guidance manual for local authorities released

cityinvest.eu/content/key-results

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY INVESTMENT FORUMS

SEI Forums – boosting large-scale investment in energy efficiency at the national level

SEI Forums bring together national, regional and local government officials, the finance sector and representatives of the construction supply chain to overcome barriers to financing energy efficiency. Meetings held across Europe are organised by Climate Alliance and partner organisations on behalf of the European Commission. In 2017 there were:

3 webinars with over **300** attendees held

10 forum events carried out with over **1,500** stakeholders

Outreach activities conducted in **8** countries

Events held in: France, Poland, Italy, the Czech Republic, Ireland, Spain, Denmark and Belgium... more to come in 2018!

bit.ly/SEI_Forums

FINANCING LOCAL CLIMATE OBJECTIVES

Developing financing solutions for the climate plans of municipalities across Flanders; via FALCO

4 local authorities in Flanders directly involved

Over **180** municipalities stand to benefit

3 key sectors: public buildings, private buildings and small and medium-sized businesses

17 million euros of investment planned

climatealliance.org/activities/projects/FALCO

POLICY NOTE

Climate Alliance's activities on financing are tied into policy at all levels – be it in the form of EU level representatives exchanging with the municipal level or the municipal level formulating recommendations for the EU. In 2017, policy recommendations on financing for energy efficiency were presented and discussed with key representatives of the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions. Activities via the Sustainable Energy Investment Forums also bring Climate Alliance in continuous exchange with Ministries and Ministers at national level.

“If it wants to have an energy policy adapted to cities, the EU must ensure that all funds and all technical assistance actually respond to the needs of local governments.”

- Claude Turmes, Member of the EU Parliament Committee on Industry, Research and Energy





ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The climate is already changing. Cities' and towns' efforts to fight climate change must thus be complemented by efforts to make their territories more resilient to its effects including severe storms, floods, heat waves and droughts. Climate Alliance's work on the topic of adaptation helps members better prepare for the challenges ahead.

RESOLUTION: IMPLEMENTING ADAPTATION LOCALLY

Climate Alliance resolution adopted in Essen, Germany, on 21 September 2017

This special resolution on adaptation to climate change, the first ever to deal expressly with the topic of adaptation, has members show political leadership by:

Scaling up efforts to adapt to climate change

Raising awareness on the need for action on the local level

Strengthening understanding of locally climate risks and vulnerabilities

Incorporating adaptation solutions in local policy and planning

Developing a local adaptation plan and monitoring progress

Reinforcing partnerships with vulnerable communities

Welcoming immigrants fleeing from climate changes' impacts

climatealliance.org/about-us/the-association/resolutions

WORKING GROUP ON ADAPTATION

Fostering exchange and finding solutions for adapting to climate change locally

Founded in 2015, this working group brings together climate experts and political leaders. It provides an excellent opportunity for member exchange on topics ranging from technical issues such as greening building facades and funding adaptation measures to strategic European policy priorities on adaptation. The group's views were integral in the development of both the Climate Alliance resolution on adaptation and the Committee of the Regions opinion on EU Adaptation Strategy. In 2017 there were:

34 experts from **11** countries involved

4 newsletters issued

2 meetings held with **26** attendees

climatealliance.org/activities/working-groups/adaptation

Are you a Climate Alliance member interested in the topic of adaptation to climate change? Join this working group, get involved and stay up-to-date!

adaptation@climatealliance.org

POLICY NOTE

In addition to the preparation of a resolution passed by the Climate Alliance General Assembly in 2017, our work on adaptation to climate change was also showcased at the EU level via the Committee of the Regions (CoR), which represents regional and local authorities in European policy. Climate Alliance helped draft the CoR's official opinion on the EU's Adaptation Strategy, thus ensuring member's voices are heard in EU policies on the topic. As a follow up to this example of fruitful cooperation, Climate Alliance and CoR signed an agreement to intensify collaboration in the future.

COMING UP IN 2018

Climate Alliance is looking forward to continued cooperation with the Committee of the Regions and other key EU institutions into 2018 as well as lively input and exchange in the Working Group on Adaptation. The initiative known as Connecting Nature, launched in 2017, will start sharing relevant nature-based solutions that address the ecological, economic and social challenges faced by the local level.

"Political leaders should not argue about which is more important – climate change mitigation or adaptation to climate change. Both are equally significant, essential fields of action!"

- Hans-Joachim Kosubek, Mayor of the City of Worms, Germany



MUTUAL LEARNING

Learning from one another is a large part of what networks like Climate Alliance are all about. Mutual learning thus plays an important role in all of our activities. In 2017, two initiatives in particular investigated novel approaches in the field.

BUNDLING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACTION PLANS

Pooling solutions on a regional level for climate action; via PEACE_Alps

Facilitating learning amongst actors with a common goal drives progress. A series of workshops is encouraging exchange between stakeholders working with municipalities in the Alpine region to develop sustainable energy action plans.

20 stakeholders from **6** alpine countries participated in **2** workshops

6 focus topics in **3** key areas discussed

4 mutual learning methods tested

1 [video produced](#)

Focus topics and areas: Governance, planning, information, training, monitoring, incentives, buildings, energy planning and adaptation

alpine-space.eu/projects/peace_alps

WATER BEST PRACTICES PLATFORM

Social approaches to water challenges; Via POWER

Climate Alliance is helped launch a platform where members can show their best practice examples of how to tackle water challenges and communicate with their residents. In the first two months of the platform's existence there were:

4 digital water communities established

22 best practice examples posted from 8 cities

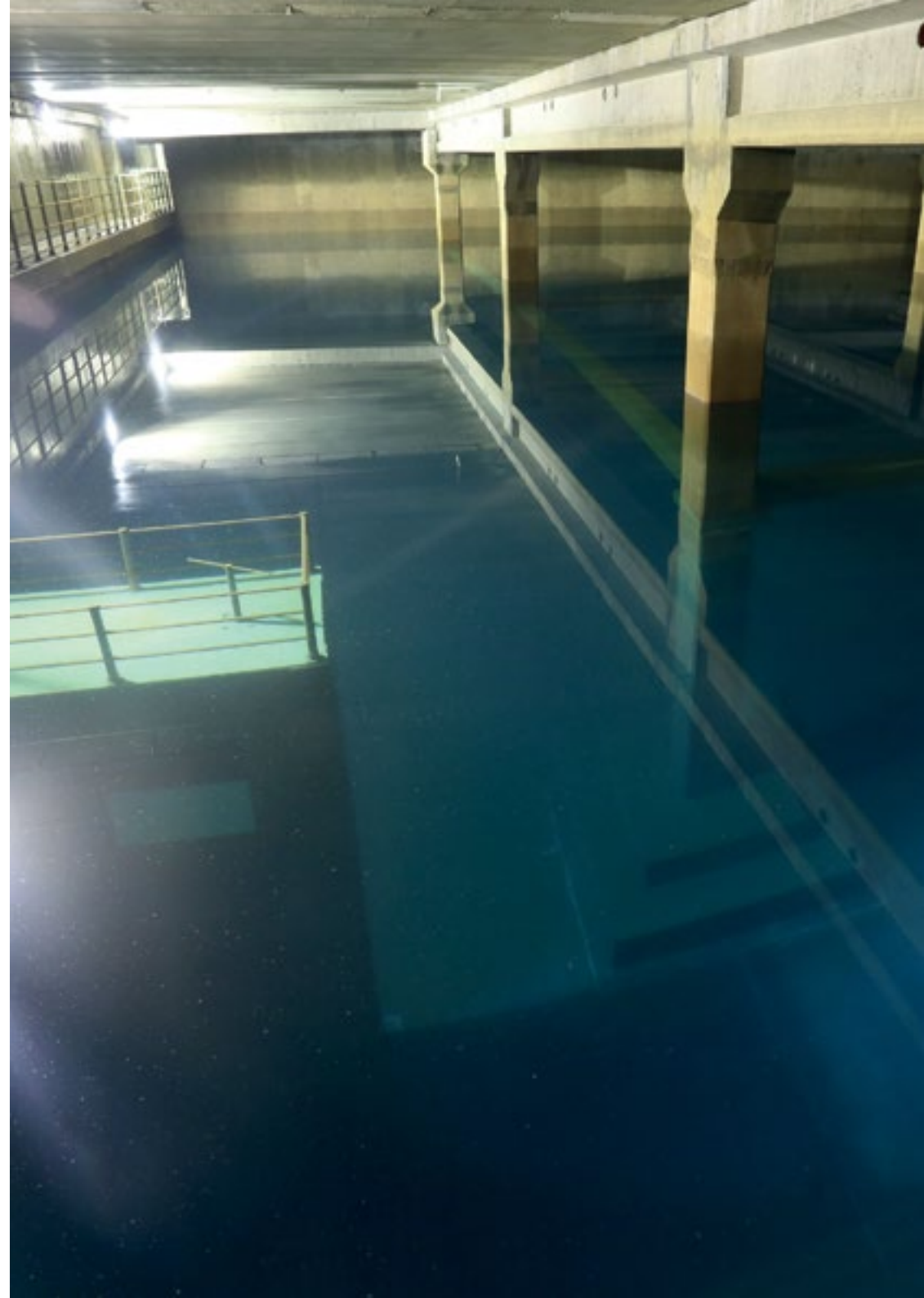
4 challenge areas addressed

Main water challenges: Flood risk, water scarcity, water quality and water conservation

bestpractices.power-h2020.eu

“Unless water management and water governance processes are significantly improved within a decade or so, cities are likely to face serious and prolonged water insecurity, pollution, floods and heat stress... Sharing best practices of cities by active city-to-city collaboration is the fastest way forward.”

- Prof. Kees van Leeuwen, KWR Watercycle Research Institute





ENERGY CONSUMPTION

Reducing the amount of energy we use and ensuring that what we do use comes from sustainable sources is central to any climate action strategy. A number of Climate Alliance activities in 2017 thus focussed on various aspects of the energy consumption challenge – be it raising awareness of untapped potentials, visualising energy use or promoting energy savings in buildings with neighbourhood initiatives.

VISUALISING ENERGY USE

Using meter data to understand consumption in public buildings; via EDI-Net

Climate Alliance helped create a dashboard and forum for energy use in public buildings making real-time consumption data understandable for experts and building users alike.

Over **1,000** public buildings benchmarked

Over **300** public buildings registered on the dashboard

dashboard.edi-net.eu



NEAR SURFACE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

Raising awareness of the potential of a little-used renewable resource; via GRETA

1 award-winning [short film](#) published

1 [map of geothermal projects](#) created

alpine-space.eu/projects/greta/en/home

CLIMATE ACTIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Changing energy use paradigms from the bottom up

Throughout 2017, Climate Alliance worked with municipalities and local initiatives on a variety of ways to get residents motivated to save energy in their buildings.

More than **100** homes visited

About **50** investment decisions of home owners fostered

More than **15** neighborhood stakeholder meetings held

1,600 children and adults engaged in a roof campaign

110 homes retrofitted

nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/climate-active-neighbourhoods-can/

POLICY NOTE

Climate Active Neighbourhoods brings municipal climate policy even closer to the needs of residents. New forms of cooperation between municipalities and neighbourhood initiatives increase both energy savings and awareness for sustainable lifestyles. The result will be a series of new possibilities for municipalities and their residents to work together towards common goals.

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, guidelines on integrating near surface geothermal energy into energy planning will be elaborated, supported by new maps of geothermal potentials in the alpine region. Support for municipalities on climate protection at the neighbourhood level will also be published with a focus on bottom-up approaches to energy retrofits in disadvantaged areas. Finally, projects in the Alpine region that make use of low energy timber supply chains will be honoured with a new award.

“Cities must support local initiatives. Only together can we achieve the energy transition we so desperately need. In Essen, the support we received was so refreshingly unbureaucratic!”

- Susanne Wiegel, Transition Town Essen



CITY CYCLING

Since 2008, the CITY CYCLING campaign has been inviting local politicians and the public to cycle for their municipalities. Participating cities and towns choose 21 consecutive days between May and September to compete by covering as many kilometres as possible. At the season's end, Climate Alliance honours the most active local parliaments and local authorities!

The goal: To encourage people to use bicycles in their everyday lives and to highlight need for bicycle traffic planning in local parliaments.

The campaign has enjoyed success across Germany by the name of STADTRADELN and in Luxembourg under the name TOUR DE DUERF. In 2017, the campaign and its accompanying app RADAR! were both adapted to enable global participation. The first steps were also taken with participation by two municipalities in Brazil!

city-cycling.org

Climate Alliance Campaign

2017 NUMBERS

656 municipalities participated – **23%** more than in 2016

222,828 cyclists took part – **25%** more than in 2016

3,739 members of municipal parliaments cycled

42,060,296 km covered

Over **5,900** tonnes of CO₂ avoided

RADAR!

A reporting platform allowing residents to draw attention to problem areas along cycling routes and give positive feedback

Used by **265** municipalities in conjunction with CITY CYCLING

Used by **14** municipalities also independently of CITY CYCLING

Municipal staff alerted to a total of **3,939** issues

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, CITY CYCLING is set to break new records for participation and increase its reach internationally. The campaign homepage will be made more user-friendly and a new, free app is also currently in development.

city-cycling.org

“If you want to switch from the car to the bicycle, you need good infrastructure – safe, well-developed cycling paths, secure bicycle parking facilities at railway stations, charging stations for e-bikes and sometimes also a special incentive to choose the bicycle as your preferred means of transport. The competition with other cities via CITYCYCLING is perfectly suited for this.”

- Hauke Jagau, President of the Hannover Region, Germany





GREEN FOOTPRINTS

Since 2002, the Green Footprints campaign has been helping children across Europe learn about the impacts of their daily actions on the climate. During a one week period, children from schools and day-care centres collect green footprints for every sustainable trip via public transport, bike or foot as well as for other environmentally-friendly habits. These footprints are presented to the participants and politicians at the UNFCCC's annual Climate Conferences.

The goal: For kids to become role models for their parents and decisionmakers alike!

zoom-kidsforclimate.eu

Climate Alliance Campaign

2017 NUMBERS

205,577 children participated

Over **1,400** schools in **10** countries took part

2,325,161 Green Footprints collected

Participating children came from: Austria, Belarus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands and Sweden

“Many thanks for giving the parents some ‘new’ food for thought. They are starting to think about whether they should try to come to school more often without the car!”

- Feedback from the Bunte Wiese kindergarten in Bonn, Germany

zoom-kidsforclimate.eu

2017 FACTS

2017 marked the campaign's **15th** anniversary!

A record number of children took part

[Teaching guide](#) updated and available in 4 languages

The campaign caught the attention of the Fijian Prime Minister and President of the 23rd Climate Summit as well as the Head of the UN Climate Secretariat!

Main topics: Using public transport, going by bike or foot, saving energy, eating regional foods and choosing recycled paper

A GOOD LIFE IS SIMPLE

This awareness-raising campaign got off the ground in 2015. It gives the public and politicians a deeper understanding of global interdependencies by calling into question European overconsumption of natural resources and showing the way towards more responsible and globally fair consumption habits.

The goal: To show just how simple leading a more sustainable and fulfilled life in (over)developed Europe can be!

overdeveloped.eu



Climate Alliance Campaign

CAMPAIGN MATERIALS

16 posters with **8** motifs

1 spot

12 languages available

BETWEEN 2015 AND 2017

Shown by over **150** cities

Downloaded around **750** times

Available languages: Czech, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Luxembourgian, Portuguese, Romanian and Spanish.

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, A Good Life Is Simple will be expanded to include further motifs, topics and languages. Stay tuned!

“Why wait when we can shape our cities and towns now?”

– Silke Lunnebach, Climate Alliance Project Coordinator for Climate Justice

overdeveloped.eu





CLIMATE JUSTICE

Climate action and climate justice go hand in hand. By asking indigenous representatives for their perspectives on our global challenges, we come closer to answering the question of how a sustainable future and a good life for all can be made possible.

THE FUTURE WE WANT

On partnerships, common challenges and political recommendations; via The Future We Want

This three part report gives readers a glimpse of challenges faced by both indigenous and European communities while highlighting alternative perspectives and solutions. Political recommendations towards a good life for all of the world's peoples are made in the fields of energy, resources and investments.

4 [climate partnerships detailed](#)

3 [common challenges explained](#)

4 [indigenous alternatives illustrated](#)

48 [political recommendations made](#)

bit.ly/TheFutureWeWant_Report

RESOLUTION: TOWARDS A GOOD LIFE FOR ALL

Climate Alliance resolution adopted in Essen, Germany, on 21 September 2017

This special resolution recognising local and regional authorities as drivers of climate action and sustainability has members show leadership by:

Asserting the importance of global partnerships in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Supporting indigenous peoples in the recognition of their land rights

Supporting ambitious emissions reduction plans

Aiming for coherent policies on all political levels

Calling on the EU for more transparency and better access to information

Urging the abolition of subsidies that damage the environment and climate

Advocating the ratification of the ILO Convention No. 169 on indigenous rights in their countries

climatealliance.org/about-us/the-association/resolutions

DELEGATION TOURS

Bridging Europe and Amazonia, exploring common challenges and finding solutions; via The Future We Want

From 2015 to 2017, a variety of tours on both sides of the Atlantic facilitated exchange and promoted new perspectives on sustainability.

5 indigenous representatives acted as counsellors in Europe

1 women's delegation from Sarayaku, Ecuador hosted

21 European cities in **10** countries visited

10 representatives of European cities and **2** journalists visited Amazonia

EDUCATING ON CLIMATE JUSTICE

Materials on issues facing forests globally; via The Future We Want

More than **20** materials developed in **6** languages

4 exhibitions shown in **18** cities

overdeveloped.eu/en/education.html

POLICY NOTE

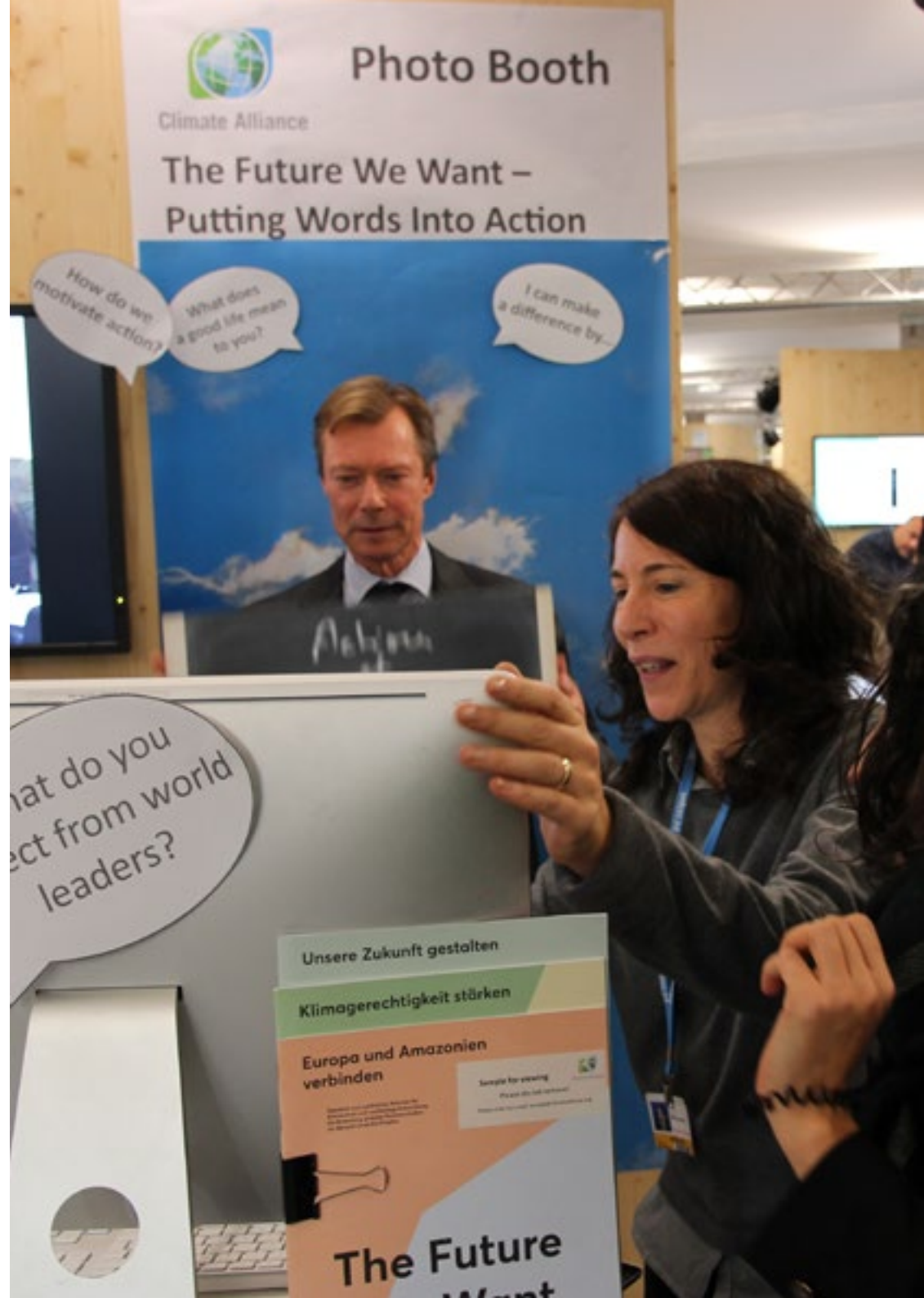
In addition to the resolution adopted by the Climate Alliance General Assembly, policy recommendations outlined in The Future We Want report for the local, national and European levels were presented to an international audience during the COP23 in Bonn. Finally, the ratification of ILO Convention No. 169 on indigenous rights was a resounding success in this field (see page 120).

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018 Climate Alliance will place a focus on questions of energy and development in connection with the topic of climate justice. The year will see updates to various exhibitions and educational materials as well as the development of an online tool for the public focusing on sustainable lifestyles.

“This delegation tour has prompted me, in my role as Environment Manager of the City of Luxembourg, to push even harder to make our society aware of its global responsibility while recognising that saving resources also helps improve quality of life.”

- Pierre Schmitt, Environment Manager of the City of Luxembourg, Luxembourg



FOREST DEFENDERS IN PERIL

The idea to establish the Climate Alliance was triggered some 25 years in part by the ongoing destruction of the rainforests in the Amazon region. Even then, it was just as much about the rainforest itself as it was about the people who had been forced to abandon their territories in the face of threats to both their livelihoods and their lives.

As soon as indigenous peoples began organising themselves politically and defending their rights, indigenous leaders started to come under threat. The 1988 assassination of Chico Mendes, a rubber tapper, environmentalist and fighter for social justice in

Brazil, caused an outcry the world over. The struggle for the (last) resources is now intensifying along with the pressure on rainforests and indigenous territories.

In 2017, Robert Guimaraes of Peru faced death threats and was forced to go into hiding as a result of agribusiness-based disputes. As the president of FECONAU, an indigenous organisation representing the peoples of the Ucayali region, he is a strong voice against palm oil companies that are illegally clear-cutting vast swaths of primary forest and encroaching on indigenous lands.

Guimaraes is but one of a long list of environmental and human rights activists fighting for their lives worldwide. Global Witness estimates that an average of four environmental defenders were killed per week throughout 2017. The Amazon Basin has proven to be particularly dangerous, as lucrative earnings from soy, palm oil, sugar cane and beef are providing large incentives for agribusiness to ignore both environmental regulations and human rights as they push ever farther into indigenous territories.

Climate Alliance's legal aid fund provides some backing for indigenous representatives in disputes over land titles and illegal resource extraction; in 2017, Robert Guimaraes also benefitted from the fund. Via partnerships and funding for indigenous initiatives, Climate Alliance members also provide necessary support. Together we must keep up the fight for climate justice.



INDIGENOUS COOPERATION

The Climate Alliance European Secretariat continually supports a variety of indigenous initiatives and programmes throughout Amazonia in the fight for both climate justice and indigenous rights. Here are a few of the main projects supported in 2017.

SOLAR LAMPS

Fostering exchange and finding solutions for adapting to climate change locally

Since 2004, Climate Alliance has supported the production solar lamps in Peru – for in indigenous peoples and by indigenous peoples. In 2017 an evaluation of the project was conducted:

28 indigenous communities in **3** areas interviewed

439 lamps in these areas distributed

High levels of satisfaction reported

Repair and distribution of lamps described as main challenge

Benefits include: Financial and energy savings; access to a sustainable light source; independence from fossil fuels; facilitation of studies for children; additional sources of income; increased safety during night-time activities

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

Enabling indigenous peoples to inform their peers of their rights to consultation

Indigenous peoples have the right to be consulted before any major infrastructure projects on their lands are carried out and before any change is made to the status of their lands. Despite this, they are often not aware of the extent of their rights and may be the victims of misinformation campaigns by those with vested interests. In 2017, indigenous groups in both Bolivia and Peru requested financial support from Climate Alliance to help inform their communities of their rights.

Inhabitants of **54** indigenous territories and **22** protected areas informed in the face of national infrastructure plans in Bolivia

20 dialogues held in **12** indigenous communities in response to State plans to establish a national park in the Alto Purus region of Peru

PARTNERING UP AGAINST CLIMATE INJUSTICE

Support for indigenous communities in Peru against the palm oil plague

In the Pucallpa region, indigenous communities are threatened above all by the massive and sometimes illegal expansion of palm oil plantations. Activities of the European Secretariat and the Climate Alliance City of Cologne are helping combat these injustices.

1 climate partnership established between the City of Cologne and the City of Yarinacocha in cooperation with the Association of the Indigenous Communities of the Ucayali and its tributaries (FECONAU)

Legal aid fund support provided to FECONAU President Robert Guimaraes in the face of death threats

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018 the Climate Alliance EU Secretariat will continue support the solar lamp project as well as other initiatives that help indigenous peoples practice climate protection while improving their quality of life. Support for indigenous across Amazonia in the protection of their territories will also remain an important pillar of our work. The conference of COICA, Climate Alliance's key partner representing the indigenous of the Amazon Basin, will be a main highlight in June 2018. The event will take place in Brazil and will place a focus on decentralised energy sources. A delegation from Climate Alliance will be in attendance along with indigenous delegations from nine countries throughout Amazonia.

"I am very grateful to the indigenous organisations for drawing attention to their current situation. In contrast to us, they are acutely aware of the connection between the destruction of the rainforest, climate change and the western way of life as a threat to their existence. They want to draw attention to the interrelationships around the world and, as those directly affected, are not willing to accept current developments implicitly."

- Andreas Wolter, Mayor of Cologne, Germany



IN AUSTRIA

Roughly one out of every two municipalities in Austria are Climate Alliance members, making the country a true stronghold of Climate Alliance membership. As of late 2017, there were 975 Climate Alliance members in Austria. Over 1,500 businesses and educational institutions support the Austrian network. Here are a few of the many activities that took place in the country throughout 2017.

SUSTAINABLE SOIL MANAGEMENT

via the Links4Soils project and the "Bodenbündnis" of Tirol

This initiative raises awareness on sustainable soil management and the importance of soil protection for climate protection.

4 pilot municipalities took part

13 experts held lectures

10 soil analysis site visits conducted

20 local authorities reached

In store for 2018: The next Links4Soils-Partnership meeting!

bit.ly/Links4SoilsWebsite

CYCLE FIT FOR THE CLIMATE (KLIMAFIT ZUM RADLHIT)

Motivating children across Lower Austria to make their way to school climate-friendly

9th campaign year

1,872 children participated

21,014 climate-friendly trips to school and back made

radlhit.at

CLIMATE EXHIBITIONS BY AND FOR KIDS

Two exhibitions helping children understand climate change

Climate Witnesses onsite

This project highlights the effects of climate change locally by asking children in the Carinthia region of Austria as well as in regions of Slovenia and Italy for their own examples. Over the next three years, the kids will create their own panels. The exhibition builds on the international [We Are All Witnesses](#) exhibition.

Cool kids for a good climate

This cross-border initiative teaches primary and elementary school kids in the regions of Salzburg, Austria and Bavaria, Germany about options for a sustainable lifestyle as well as about topics such as the greenhouse effect, mobility, energy resources, nutrition and the rainforest.

bit.ly/CoolKids_PrimaKlima

LIVE SMART – SAVING ENERGY WITH AND FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

Raising climate awareness amongst asylum seekers

With Live Smart, Climate Alliance is training a group of asylum seekers as environment and energy ambassadors and enabling them to help their peers.

19 climate and energy ambassadors from Afghanistan, Guinea, Iraq and Syria trained

25 energy workshops held in Farsi and Arabic

400 asylum seekers in **15** housing centres across Austria reached

Workshop materials in **4** languages produced

klimabuendnis.at/live-smart

CLIMATE FRIENDLY COOKING

Workshops for young families in the Styria region

10 workshops held

114 people participated

1 climate cookbook created

1 recipe competition organised

klimabuendnis.at/kochworkshops



CLIMATE CULTURE

Through events, ideas and tips, showing just how good and diverse climate-friendly lifestyles can be

- 1 platform of ideas created
- 1 calendar of sustainability events published
- 70 events made green

klimakultur.at

VOCES DEL RÍO ATRATO – FILM ON THE PLIGHT OF THE CHOCÓ PEOPLE

Upholding the Climate Alliance tradition of global climate partnerships, delegates from Austrian Vorarlberg journeyed to Colombia to hear about the experiences of the Chocó people first hand. A 15 minute film is a testimony to the situation along the Atrato River.

- 1 film produced
- 4 film showings
- 200 viewers reached

In store for 2018: Further viewings of the film, [Voces del Río Atrato](#).

POLICY NOTE

Throughout 2017 and in the years leading up to it, Climate Alliance Austria has been an active force in the consultation process on Austrian Development Policy, partnering with other national organisations and pushing for climate just policies as well as coherence in the sustainable development policy.

COMING UP IN 2018

Climate Alliance Austria is preparing to celebrate the 25th anniversary of its strong partnership with the indigenous peoples of the Rio Negro in Brazil. A delegation of municipal representatives will go to Brazil and also participate in the COICA Congress in June 2018. Later in the year, indigenous delegates will in turn visit Austria. Also coming up in 2018: The Climate Star Gala and National Austrian Climate Alliance Conference in Grafenegg.

“Climate Alliance has always been an international network of local actors. By founding a new association on the national level in Austria in parallel to the European Climate Alliance network, we can now work more effectively on both levels: addressing pressing needs for Climate Alliance members in Austria while maintaining the important connection to the international level. This makes us even stronger and together we will work even more purposefully on climate change and climate justice.”

- Markus Hafner-Auinger, Director of Climate Alliance Austria



IN GERMANY

As of late 2017 Climate Alliance in Germany counted 451 municipalities as members comprising a population of approximately 35.5 million people. An additional 38 districts with a total population of over 10 million as well as two federal states and 11 associated organisations complete the German membership. What follows is a glimpse of the projects Climate Alliance in Germany was taking on throughout 2017.

NEW EDITION: GUIDE TO MUNICIPAL CLIMATE ACTION

Helping municipalities achieve their climate protection goals

Climate Alliance in Germany worked hard throughout 2017 to update the latest edition of this popular guide, which is packed with ideas for and examples of climate measures:

9 courses of action within the municipal administrations

20 good practice examples in the field of energy

20 good practice examples in the field of transport

7 ideas for measures in fields such as waste, waste water, sufficiency and nutrition

leitfaden.kommunaler-klimaschutz.de

DISTRICTS TAKING THE LEAD

Empowering districts as multipliers for climate action

By mobilising, encouraging and consulting their communities, districts can effectively support local climate action. Climate Alliance is helping districts take advantage of this often untapped potential.

2 onsite consultations carried out for districts

1 new manual issued

1 district networking event held

2 training courses given

In store for 2018: More consultations, trainings and events

landkreise-in-fuehrung.de

CITYCYCLING IN GERMANY

Promoting cycling, climate protection and a better quality of life (also see [page 62](#))

618 municipalities registered

221,759 cyclists took part

3,735 members of municipal parliaments participated

41,893,760 km in total cycled

In store for 2018: A City Cycling app and the creation of cycling heat maps for selected pilot municipalities to assist in cycle traffic planning.

stadtradeln.de

CLIMATE CULTURE LAB

Tackling the cultural change aspect of climate action

1 platform with **280** users from **94** cities registered

5 workshops with **210** participants from **30** municipalities

29 project ideas developed

In store for 2018: 5 more workshops and 4 videos

Themes include: Mindfulness, navigation, organisation, collective intelligence and the power of ideas

climateculture-lab.de

VALUING NATURAL FORESTS

Informing on the importance of natural forests for climate and environmental protection; via the SpeicherWald project

2 municipal kick-offs held

1 brochure developed

In store for 2018: 4 more municipal kick-offs, painting workshops and dialogue events, a role play, a brochure for teens and a comic competition

speicherwald.de

CLIMATE PROTECTION PLANNER

Comprehensive climate action monitoring for German municipalities

Climate Alliance's Climate Protection Planner (Klimaschutz-Planer) is an emissions inventory and monitoring instrument complete with an integrated benchmarking system. Climate Alliance keeps this web-based instrument up to date with the latest statistics and factors for municipal use, but municipalities may also improve this data with their own local datasets where sensible. In 2017 there were:

330 municipalities using the tool

3 training courses given

4 data updates conducted

1 specialist exchange on the German national emissions inventory standard (BISKO) carried out

In store for 2018: Further trainings and tool optimisation.

climatealliance.org/activities/tools-and-methods/klimaschutz-planer

klimaschutz-planer.de



GETTING STARTED WITH MUNICIPAL CLIMATE PROTECTION

Training for less experienced municipalities to help get started with climate protection planning; via the Coaching project

- 1 [brochure developed](#)
- 3 [experience exchanges held for coaches](#)
- 3 [informational events put on for municipalities](#)
- 4 [training courses carried out](#)
- 60 [coaches trained](#)

In store for 2018: Expansion of the programme to districts

coaching-kommunaler-klimaschutz.de

POLICY NOTE

In 2017, work on the political level in Germany focussed on the evaluation of the participatory process leading to Germany's 2050 Climate Protection Plan. Climate Alliance also remained active as part of the National Action Alliance for Climate Protection (Aktionsbündnis Klimaschutz). At federal state level, Climate Alliance holds a seat on State of Rhine-land-Palatinate's Climate Protection Advisory Council as well as on the Advisory Board of the State of Baden-Württemberg's Climate Protection and Energy Agency Competence Centres.

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, Climate Alliance will continue its involvement in the National Action Alliance for Climate Protection (Aktionsbündnis Klimaschutz). A strategy working group consisting of German member municipalities will be established, which will feed into the German Climate Alliance Conference to be held in Kaiserslautern from 12 to 13 November. A number of new initiatives will be launched in 2018 on topics such as climate protection in public projects, divestment and reinvestment and "sustainability regions". Planning for a German-French energy event week complete with an idea competition will also get underway. Finally, Climate Alliance will begin offering emissions inventory services in Germany with the Climate Protection Planner for interested municipalities.

"Germany is often seen as a climate frontrunner but here there is also much work to be done. The strong international network that makes up Climate Alliance helps support cities and towns throughout Germany to be as ambitious as possible in their climate action planning."

- Dag Schulze, Coordinator of Climate Alliance in Germany



IN HUNGARY

In Hungary Climate Alliance counts seven municipalities and 13 NGOs as members. The activities of the Hungarian network in 2017 focused on both campaigns and online communication.

GREEN FOOTPRINTS

The Hungarian edition of the international Green Footprints Campaign (see [page 68](#))

From 9 to 13 October, children from across Hungary took part in this campaign, helping them to learn about the climate impacts of their daily actions.

7th [edition of the campaign in Hungary](#)

83 [schools involved](#) – **12** [more than in 2016!](#)

18,573 [children participated](#)

115,263 [footprints collected](#)

eghajlatvedelmiszovetseg.hu/index.php/mozdulj-a-klimaert

A GOOD LIFE IS SIMPLE

Hungary's participation in the international campaign by the same name (see [page 72](#))

Hungary's active role in the EU-wide The Future We Want project and corresponding campaign, A Good Life Is Simple, bore fruits for municipalities in 2017:

- 1 educational tool produced
- 2 brochures published
- 3 training sessions for multipliers carried out
- 1 visiting delegation of indigenous representatives welcomed
- 1 climate conference held

A total of 21 municipalities throughout Hungary ran the A Good Life Is Simple campaign between 2015 and 2017! Further work on the campaign is planned for 2018.

overdeveloped.eu

2017 CLIMATE STAR

Searching for Hungary's municipal climate heroes; Hungarian contribution to the international competition

Every two years, Climate Alliance Hungary organises its [Climate Star](#) competition for municipalities, which feeds into the international Climate Star competition.

2017 saw 20 submissions and five winners:



Szekszárd (33,000 inhabitants)

Kunsziget (1,200 inhabitants)

Őriszentpéter (1,200 inhabitants)

Egyházasköte (900 inhabitants)

The community of **Wekerle-telep**, Budapest

These winners will be entered to win in the international 2018 edition of the Climate Star – stay tuned!

bit.ly/ClimateStar_HU

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, Climate Alliance Hungary plans to join the Covenant of Mayors as a supporter, thus lending further assistance to Hungarian municipalities. Work will continue on both the international Green Footprints and A Good Life Is Simple campaigns, the latter in combination with other activities on the Sustainable Development Goals and climate justice. The Hungarian National Coordination plans to relaunch the World Tree national campaign on planting trees for sustainability in 2018 as well as expand upon two new campaigns: May the Forest Be with You on municipal forest management and Zero Waste Local Communities on municipal waste reduction.

POLICY NOTE

In 2017, Climate Alliance Hungary helped institute National Climate Platforms in all of Hungary's counties to guide the development of climate strategy on a regional level. Climate Alliance Hungary also founded the NGO Roundtable for Sustainable Development Goals. This roundtable disseminates information about the SDGs, monitors the implementation of targets in Hungary and facilitates structured dialogue between governmental and non-governmental organisations. Finally, in 2017, Climate Alliance Hungary succeeded in establishing a productive working relationship with the Head of Department of Climate Policy at the Ministry of National Development. This will hopefully continue to bear fruit in 2018 and beyond.

“Globalisation may come with risks, but it also offers boundless possibilities. The chance for communities to collaborate across borders is one of these possibilities and it helps us learn about a wide variety of local examples of sustainability. Climate Alliance provides an excellent framework for this process.”

- Csaba Lajtmann, President of Climate Alliance Hungary



IN ITALY

Climate Alliance Italy coordinates approximately 124 Climate Alliance members including about 110 municipalities and a number of regions and provinces. Activities throughout 2017 were focussed on energy efficiency, sustainable development and adaptation to climate change.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Working with local governments to put efficiency first in public buildings; via the ENERJ and SUPPORT projects

In 2017, Climate Alliance Italy made the promotion of integrated policies and investment plans for energy efficiency public buildings a key theme. So far there have been:

11 regional analyses elaborated

33 good practices selected

98 public buildings energy audits conducted

3,000 stakeholders across Europe reached

2 brochures published

enerj.interreg-med.eu

interregeurope.eu/support

ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Maximising synergies between local and national energy and adaptation strategies

1 workshop held with **60** participants

1 map of national adaptation policies

6,000 national stakeholders reached

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Helping municipalities and residents localise the Sustainable Development Goals

In 2017, the Climate Alliance General Assembly passed A Good Life for All (see [page 76](#)) – a resolution recognising the local level as a driver of sustainable climate action. Climate Alliance Italy has actively supported members in adopting local resolutions on this basis while also taking the Sustainable Development Goals to local high school classes, getting students to think critically about what these goals mean on a local level.

local resolutions passed in **6** municipalities

150 students involved

climatealliance.it/chi-siamo/risoluzione-good-life

POLICY NOTE

Much of Climate Alliance's political activity and influence in Italy is derived through its role in the Covenant of Mayors. Throughout 2017, Climate Alliance Italy especially concentrated on local level policy by supporting members in the development of local plans for adaptation to climate change. One major triumph in this regard was Climate Alliance Italy's comparative overview of Covenant of Mayors steps for adaptation plans and relevant sections of the Italian National Adaptation Strategy as well as a mapping of other national documents. Climate Alliance Italy also worked actively with member municipalities to help them pass local resolutions on sustainable development.

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, Climate Alliance Italy will continue work on energy efficiency in public buildings as well as on localising the Sustainable Development Goals, with an exciting launch of the Italian version of the We Are All Witnesses exhibition due in autumn. The Covenant of Mayors will also remain an important pillar of Climate Alliance Italy's activities. On a political level, Climate Alliance will be following the elaboration of Italy's National Energy and Climate Plan as well as the National Strategy for Sustainable Development throughout 2018.

“Over the last decades, Climate Alliance has provided both a framework and precious guidance for local climate policy. This support can definitely be felt, for example, in my municipality, the City of Modena. Every action that we undertake has an environmental impact. Our city is trying to do its part – this requires the engagement of our people but is also vitally spurred on by acting and being heard as part of a strong network on both the national and European levels.”

- Giulio Guerzoni, Climate Alliance Board Member and Deputy Mayor for Environment of the City of Modena, Italy





IN LUXEMBOURG

The Climate Alliance community in Luxembourg is a vigorous and active one, counting some 40 members, equivalent to approximately 38 percent of all municipalities in the country. Here is a glimpse of what they were up to in 2017.

MUNICIPAL DELEGATION IN ECUADOR

In cooperation with the Climate Alliance European Secretariat and the The Future We Want project

Nothing beats first-hand experience. Sending municipal delegations into the rainforest to learn about the challenges faced indigenous peoples makes these issues tangible. The delegations return as multipliers within their communities and beyond here in Europe. In March 2017, municipal representatives from Luxembourg got the chance to exchange with the indigenous people of Sarayaku on both sides of the Atlantic.

9 municipal representatives, **3** Climate Alliance staff, **1** journalist and **1** cinematographer travelled into the Ecuadorian rainforest

5 indigenous representatives of Sarayaku hosted in Luxembourg

260 people attended **10** follow-up conferences reporting on the trip

200 viewers attended the showing of "The Song of the Flower" on the Sarayaku people's fight against Big Oil

1 [brochure on the living forest](#) published

bit.ly/2017EcuadorTrip

OP KANNERFÉISS DUERCH D'WELT 2017

Luxembourg's equivalent of the international Green Footprints Campaign (see [page 68](#))

The Green Footprints campaign allows children to serve as role models of sustainable mobility. This year, Luxembourg's kids broke previous participation records.

52,938 footprints gathered

More than **2,600** children from **164** classrooms involved

TOUR DU DUERF – SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Raising awareness on sustainable mobility

2 seminars held on sustainable mobility

Various film showings conducted

36 municipalities involved

731 cyclists participated

113,979 km cycled

In store for 2018: Further film showings and yet another successful year of Tour du Duerf, Luxembourg's version of the international City Cycling campaign (see [page 62](#))!

“HELP, WHERE IS MY TOILETTE PAPER?”

Workshops and exhibition for kids on climate change, the Amazon rainforest and indigenous lifestyles

These workshops help kids between the ages of nine and twelve understand complex connections between our actions and global consequences while showing them that they can make a difference.

Workshops in **3** municipalities held

237 children reached

2 new exhibits built

MY MUNICIPALITY IS ACTIVE FOR THE CLIMATE

Image campaign prior to municipal elections in October 2017 across Luxembourg

This campaign drove home what Climate Alliance membership means and how member municipalities in Luxembourg can get involved. All told, Climate Alliance Luxembourg created:

4 videos

4 TV spots

4 radio spots

4 motifs for printed posters

bit.ly/2017_LUCampaign

POLICY NOTE

One of Climate Alliance Luxembourg's main areas of focus in 2017 was its work with national level politicians to promote the ratification of the ILO 169 convention for the protection of indigenous rights – a continuation of five years of lobby work on the topic. Climate Alliance in Luxembourg also issued position papers and opinions throughout 2017 on matters of climate change mitigation policy.

COMING UP IN 2018

In 2018, Climate Alliance Luxembourg will place an emphasis on the topic of adapting to climate change through a variety of events and work on sustainable mobility will continue. Luxembourg has been involved in the international Good Life Is Simple campaign since its start (see [page 72](#)) and will continue these efforts as well its support of the Multinational Companies, Human and Environmental Rights campaign. Finally, Climate Alliance Luxembourg will help evaluate submissions for Luxembourg's 2018 edition of the Klimaconcours climate competition.

“The fruitful cooperation between municipalities and NGOs is a major success factor for Climate Alliance in Luxembourg.”

- Paul Polfer, Coordinator of Climate Alliance Luxembourg





IN SWITZERLAND

In Switzerland, approximately 15 percent of the total population lives in one of the 17 Swiss Climate Alliance municipalities. The Climate Alliance in Switzerland acts mainly as a platform for these municipalities to exchange on questions of climate, energy and the environment.

EXCHANGE ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL

Annual working meetings for municipal administrative staff

The Climate Alliance municipalities in Switzerland meet regularly on a number of topics. In 2017, a focus was placed on the local climate in cities; role models for a world of tomorrow; sharing, swapping and repairing; cost-effectiveness of district heating and CO₂ inventories.

4 meetings carried out

15 municipalities involved

In store for 2018: Further exchanges with an emphasis on smaller towns and new municipalities.

SUFFICIENCY IN MUNICIPALITIES

A two-year initiative to help communities promote sufficiency measures

From 2015 to 2017, Sufficiency in Municipalities looked into how the local level can support sufficiency ideas towards sustainable development.

2 conferences held

150 municipalities involved

1 sufficiency toolbox produced

POLICY NOTE

In Switzerland, Climate Alliance is embedded in national structures for the local level and is also partially tied into regional decisionmaking processes. This makes for a great opportunity to influence climate and energy policy, both on the political and administrative levels. In 2017, the national Energy Strategy for 2050 and the adaptation of national CO₂ regulations were main areas of focus. The former goes into effect in May 2018; the latter is a process that will continue throughout 2018. In these processes, Climate Alliance in Switzerland consistently pushes for greater ambition on the basis of energy savings and renewables.

COMING UP IN 2018

In the coming year, Climate Alliance in Switzerland plans to intensify its work with smaller towns throughout the country and show that Climate Alliance is a network for all cities and towns. Two conferences are planned for 2018 and 2019 as well as multiple meetings for municipal administrative staff will support this endeavour; these events will be open both to Swiss Climate Alliance members as well as to Swiss towns that have not yet joined the network.

“Climate protection should be explicitly placed on the municipal agenda in as many Swiss cities and towns as possible so that Switzerland can fulfill its obligations under the Paris Agreement. Being part of an international network in which Swiss municipal representatives see that they are not working on these topics in a vacuum is of great significance for success on both the local and national levels.”

- Daniel Lehmann, Staff Member of Climate Alliance Switzerland



Not yet a member?

Take the future of the global climate into your own hands
and join now!

Take advantage of tools and ready-made campaigns

Find partners in Europe and beyond

Raise your profile regionally and internationally

Get your messages conveyed to key decision makers

Be inspired by the experiences of others

Find out more on climatealliance.org

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