

10º Congreso Nacional del Medio Ambiente (Conama 10)

ST-1. Acción local contra el cambio climático

Covenants of Mayors. A commitment towards Europe's energy and climate policy

Pedro Ballesteros

Comisión Europea





Covenant of Mayors



A commitment towards
Europe's energy and
climate policy





Mayors commit to...

Go beyond the objectives set by the EU for 2020, reducing the CO2 emissions in their respective territories by at least 20%, through the implementation of Sustainable **Energy Action Plans**



The Covenant of Mayors: unprecedented growth



1st Covenant of Mayors Ceremony /10 February 2009/

Hemicycle of the European Parliament, Brussels

370 cities





The Covenant of Mayors: unprecedented growth



2nd Covenant of Mayors Ceremony
/4 May 2010/

Hemicycle of the European Parliament, Brussels

1680 cities





3 main reasons why cities get involved



1. Energy is one of the few municipal fields where significant financial savings can be achieved...



3 main reasons why cities get involved



2. Lower energy bills for citizens, comfortable living conditions, pleasant environment, more jobs...



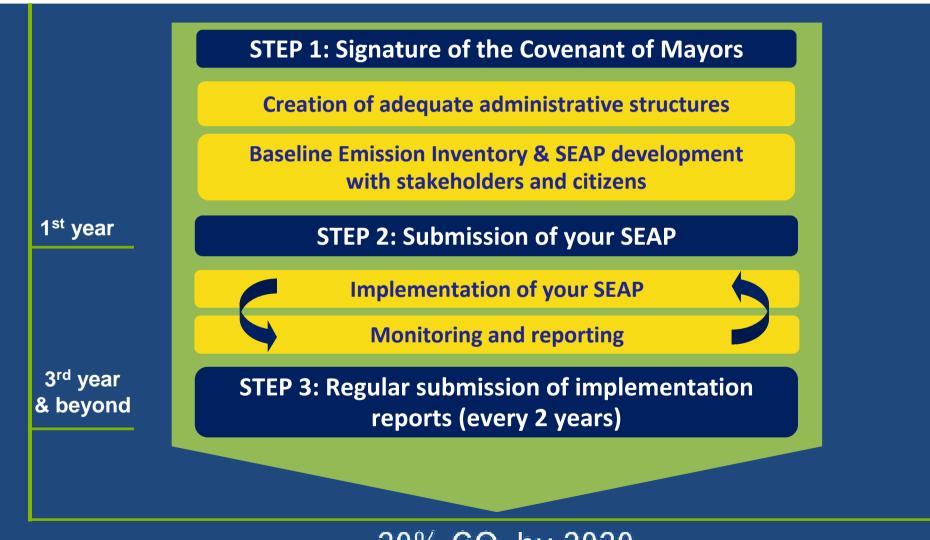
3 main reasons why cities get involved



3. The battle against climate change has to be fought at local level...



3 steps leading to the Covenant objective: - 20% CO2 by 2020



- 20% CO₂ by 2020



MOSAIC OF ACTIONS & SOLUTIONS

...contributing to the achievement of the Covenant objectives



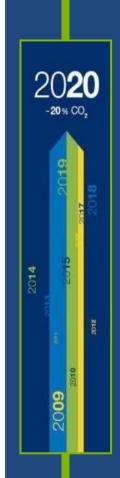


Communication with local stakeholders and citizens





The European institutions endorse the Covenant of Mayors....together







ENERGY

Support in the European legislation

What is new in the Lisbon Treaty?



TERRITORIAL COHESION



Support in the European legislation Energy Policy

- ✓ The EU Climate & Energy Package (December 2008)
 - -> Objectives 3 x 20 by 2020
- **✓** Energy Strategy 2011-2020
- ✓ Energy Efficiency Action Plan





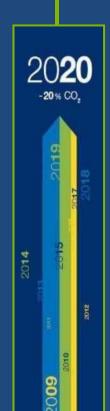
Support in the European legislation Cohesion Policy



- ✓ Amendment to ERDF regulation (May 2009)
- ✓ Up to 4% of the national ERDF allocation can go to energy efficiency and renewable energy in housing, potentially € 8 billion
- ✓ Member States define eligible categories of existing housing, to support social cohesion
- ✓ Amendment to Regulation on financial engineering (June 2010): increase use of innovative financial instruments for energy efficiency



Covenant of Mayors Office



- ✓ Promotes the initiative in the EU and beyond
- ✓ Provides administrative and technical support for Signatories



- ✓ Monitors the implementation by Signatories and Supporting Structures
- ✓ Facilitates exchange of experiences and networking
- ✓ Liaises with relevant EU initiatives and actors



Covenant events

✓ Thematic workshops





✓ Covenant of Mayors annual ceremonies



ww.eumayors.eu



Covenant Supporting Structures

1. Public administrations - national and regional public bodies, counties, provinces, agglomerations, mentor cities providing:



- ✓ strategic guidance
- √ financial support
- ✓ technical support

to municipalities lacking the skills and /or resources to fulfill the Covenant commitments, esp. the preparation and implementation of SEAP.





Covenant Supporting Structures



- 2. Networks of local and regional authorities that commit to improve the Covenants' impact by:
- ✓ promoting the initiative
- ✓ liaising with their members
- √ facilitating exchange of experience
- ✓ defending common interest in the adequate fora.

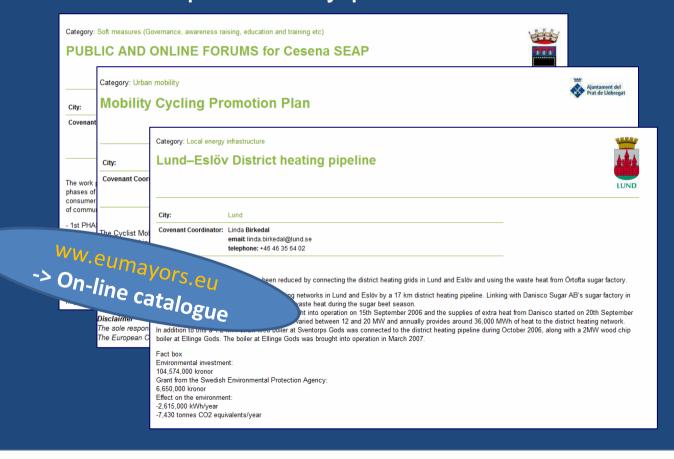






Benchmarks of Excellence

✓ Relevant examples of local initiatives which Covenant Signatories and Supporting Structures have realised in their territories and feel particularly proud of





How to finance the projects featured in the SEAP?

1. Implement projects that can be done with usual local partners, without needing any particular financial support -> In some cases, no investment projects can save up to 10% of energy costs!



2. Contact your bank or an ESCO (energy service company) or look for innovative financial mechanisms implemented by other cities -> Many projects can be self-financed (and if grants exist these partners will get help for you!)

3. Seek the most local resources - regional or State funds / programmes of which eligibility criteria and conditions are generally the simplest. -> These authorities also sometimes manage European Funds and in some Countries they run energy saving certificates or white certificates.



How to finance the projects featured in the SEAP?

4. Investigate the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund.



5. Check the European (international) financial institutions' offers (e.g. European Investment Bank), especially if your project is quite big and complex

6. Join the **European projects** and use money from the European programmes (Intelligent Energy Europe, URBACT, Interreg, etc.)



Cities' own and local financial resources





www.managenergy.net -> Workshops -> Presentations

Get inspiration from local authorities which employed innovative financial schemes to finance actions featured in their SEAPs





Financial support at EU level

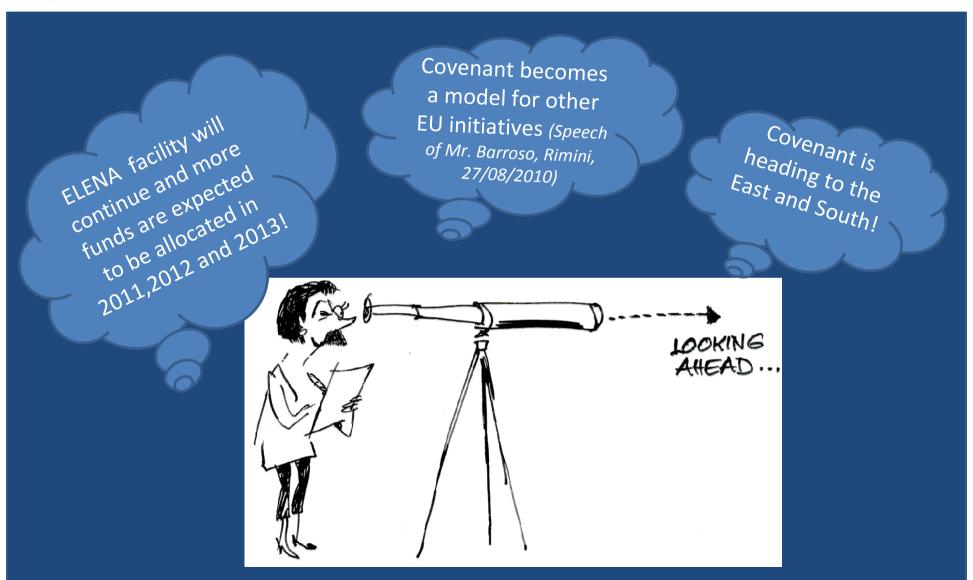
European funding mobilised

- ✓ ELENA (European Local ENergy Assistance facility)
- √The four J's (Jeremie, Jaspers, Jessica, Jasmine)
- ✓ Eco-innovation under CIP (Competitiveness and Innovation Programme)
- ✓ Marguerite
- ✓IFI facilities (mainly Member States)
- -Municipal finance facility
- -Municipal infrastructure facility
- -Energy efficiency finance facility
- -SME finance facility...



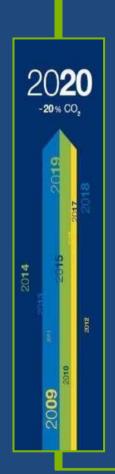


Future of the Covenant?





More information



Website: www.eumayors.eu

-> available in all EU official languages

Contacts:

- Covenant Helpdesk: info@eumayors.eu
- Supporting Structures: support@eumayors.eu

