Global Covenant of Mayors: 
Towards carbon neutral and inclusive cities

COP21 Side Event | 7 December, 15:00-16:30 | Room 1, Le Bourget

This side event is organised in the frame of UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC) within the negotiations venue. The main objective is to bring the perspectives from local actors to the international context and take a detailed look at cities leadership in tackling climate change. The event builds on the successful Covenant of Mayors model, a European Union initiative that gathers today more than 6,500 cities across 57 countries committed to a common and ambitious greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. The panel will explore how local climate action in the frame of a Global Covenant of Mayors could be up scaled, with a focus on climate finance and stakeholders’ involvement.

Programme

Moderator: Pirita Lindholm, Climate Alliance

15.00 Welcome and Keynote Address
Camille Gira, Secretary of State, Luxembourg European Union Council Presidency
Magda Aelvoet, Minister of State, President, Federal Council for Sustainable Development Belgium

15.20 Covenant of Mayors on climate and energy: local to global perspective
Screening: Integrated energy and climate action in the city of Ghent
Tine Heyse, Deputy Mayor of Ghent, Belgium
Josefa Errazuriz, Mayor of Providencia, Chile
Julie Laernoes, Vice-President of Nantes Metropole, France
A U.S. perspective on subnational climate change innovation, leadership, and governance, Dr John Byrne/Dr Job Taminiau, Center for Energy & Environmental Policy, University of Delaware, USA

15.55 Fostering global collaboration to support local climate action
Screening: Third party financing in the city of Flobecq
Financing local climate action: Lessons from Europe, Mathew Arndt, Head of Environment, Climate and Social Policy, European Investment Bank
Screening: Climate action in schools in the city of Schaerbeek
The role of the youth in local climate policies, Nicolas Tsurukawa, Belgian Youth Council

16.15 Closing statements
Marie-Christine Marghem, Belgian Federal Minister of Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development
Ellý Katrin Gudmundsdottir, Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Mayor of Reykjavík, Iceland
Daniele Violetti, Chief of Staff, UNFCCC

16.30 Networking Reception

#LocalAction2015
#COP21
#Paris2015