

Press release
Bonn, 16 November 2017

The EU Covenant of Mayors and the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions join forces to scale up climate action

Two one-of-a-kind initiatives acting for climate solutions chose to officially join forces today on the occasion of COP23 Energy Day in Bonn.

The **EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy**, gathering over 7,600 signatory cities, and the **World Alliance for Efficient Solutions** launched by the Solar Impulse Foundation will strengthen bilateral cooperation in areas of common interest, notably in clean, smart, efficient and renewable energy technologies, related societal innovation and low carbon development.

The Covenant of Mayors Community and the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions will build strong synergies by identifying potential local contexts where innovative solutions to climate change challenges could be implemented. Together they will identify local and regional authorities willing to develop and implement technological innovations and pilot projects in order to boost equity and economic growth and mitigate the toll of climate change on communities world-wide, making a positive contribution towards cleaner, more sustainable and more liveable environments for citizens.

Eckart Würzner, Mayor of Heidelberg and Member of the Covenant Political Board, and Bertrand Piccard, Initiator and President of the Solar Impulse Foundation, signed the Memorandum of Understanding this morning at the COP23 in Bonn.



“All cities taking the lead on climate action are also economic leaders, by creating clean growth and jobs at local level. The Covenant of Mayors is not only an environmental program, but it also shifts our cities and the EU to become a global innovator. The cooperation with the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions will help us achieve our goals” - Eckart Würzner.

“Our collaboration with the Covenant of Mayors will allow cities that want to act quickly to have access to clean and profitable solutions that are ready to be implemented. I hope it will also encourage others to join the movement and adopt more ambitious energy policies and environmental targets” - Bertrand Piccard.

Contact

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About the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

The Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy brings together thousands of local and regional authorities voluntarily committed to implementing EU climate and energy objectives on their territory. Signatories pledge to reduce CO₂ emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and to adopt an integrated approach to tackling mitigation and adaptation to climate change.



The EU Covenant of Mayors is supported by the European Commission.

www.eumayors.eu

About the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions by the Solar Impulse Foundation

Following the success of the first solar flight around the world, the Solar Impulse Foundation has launched the second phase of its action: selecting 1000 solutions that can protect the environment in a profitable way, and bring them to decision makers to encourage them to adopt more ambitious environmental targets and energy policies. Through its main action, the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions, Bertrand Piccard wants to federate the actors of the field in clean technologies and shed light on existing efficient solutions to fast-track their implementation. A new innovative and pioneering adventure has begun to improve the quality of life on Earth.

<http://www.solarimpulse.com/world-alliance>