

Collaboration as the engine of clean air delivery

How mayoral shared ambition and city collaboration is driving clean air solutions

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The C40 Cities network

Almost 600 million residents represented

920 million people living and working in the wider city influenced

AFRICA: ABIDJAN – ACCRA – ADDIS ABABA – CAPE TOWN – CASABLANCA – DAKAR – DAR ES SALAAM – DURBAN (ETHEKWINI) – EKURHULENI – FREETOWN – JOHANNESBURG – LAGOS – NAIROBI – TSHWANE | CENTRAL EAST ASIA: BEIJING – CHENGDU – DALIAN – FUZHOU GUANGZHOU – HANGZHOU – HONG KONG – NANJING – SHANGHAI – SHENZHEN – QINGDAO – WUHAN – ZHENJIANG | EAST, SOUTHEAST ASIA & OCEANIA: AUCKLAND – BANGKOK – HANOI – HO CHI MINH CITY – JAKARTA – KUALALUMPUR – MELBOURNE – QUEZON CITY
SEOUL – SINGAPORE – SYDNEY – TOKYO – YOKOHAMA | EUROPE: AMSTERDAM – ATHENS – BARCELONA – BERLIN – COPENHAGEN – HEIDELBERG – ISTANBUL – LISBON – LONDON – MADRID – MILAN – OSLO – PARIS – ROME – ROTTERDAM – STOCKHOLM – TEL AVIV – WARSAW
LATIN AMERICA: BOGOTÁ – BUENOS AIRES – CURITIBA – FORTALEZA – GUADALAJARA – LIMA – MEDELLÍN – MEXICO CITY – RIO DE JANEIRO – SALVADOR – SÃO PAULO – SANTIAGO – QUITO | NORTH AMERICA: AUSTIN – BOSTON – CHICAGO – HOUSTON – LOS ANGELES – MIAMI
MONTREAL – NEW ORLEANS – NEW YORK – PHILADELPHIA – PHOENIX – PORTLAND – SAN FRANCISCO – SEATTLE – TORONTO – VANCOUVER – WASHINGTON DC | SOUTH & WEST ASIA: AHMEDABAD – AMMAN – BENGALURU – CHENNAI – DELHI – DHAKA – DUBAI – KARACHI – MUMBAI

Why do cities matter?

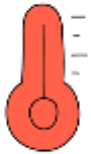
- Cities generate over 80% of the world's GDP, consume around 75% of the world's energy
- Local leaders wield significant influence over policy and investments in key sectors within city limits, including:
 - Monitoring and Data
 - Transportation and Urban Planning
 - Clean Buildings and Energy Access:
 - Waste Management
- Local governments are settings for increased public and stakeholder engagement
- City leaders can be important actors in



C40 mayors have set their goals for 2025-2030

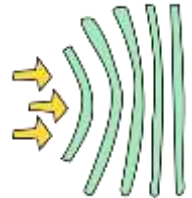
Mission 1

Help get the world to end its dependence on coal, oil and gas by halving fossil fuel use in cities



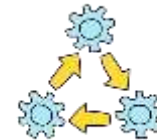
Mission 2


Increase resilience so cities and people are protected as they face the impacts of climate breakdown;



Mission 3

Ensure a transition to a clean, green world that is fair, inclusive and addresses the injustices of climate breakdown.





What are the C40 Accelerators?

The C40 accelerators are statements of political leadership by C40 mayors.

They are based on ambitious science-based mitigation and adaptation targets and allied to concrete delivery milestones.

C40 accelerators are a critical driving force for accelerating city climate action and give the most ambitious mayors and their cities the opportunity to show leadership both globally and locally.

Mark Fleuridor _ C40

C40 Accelerators

There are currently **14 C40 Accelerators** driving climate and clean air action:

C40 CLEAN AIR ACCELERATOR with over 50 signatories implementing priority clean air policies to meet WHO air Quality targets.



C40 GREEN AND HEALTHY STREETS ACCELERATOR where cities commit to implement clean air zones and electrify their public transportation.



C40 RENEWABLE ENERGY ACCELERATOR with cities committing to 100% renewable electricity and energy decarbonisation.



C40 SUSTAINABLE WASTE SYSTEMS ACCELERATOR with cities committing to citywide collection and organic waste treatment.



C40 Clean Air Accelerator

Over 50 cities worldwide committed to:



Set ambitious targets and monitor air pollution



Implement policies to address the top causes of air pollution.

Collective Goal

Goal to save over 450,000 lives from air pollution across their cities by 2040

Impact

Achieved an average reduction of **6% in PM_{2.5}** and **11% in NO₂** levels since 2018 - **21,000+ lives saved** from air pollution.



C40 cities leading clean air action



Breathing clean air is not a luxury—it's a fundamental human right that should be accessible to everyone, everywhere. We recognise that air pollution is not just an environmental crisis—it is a public health emergency and a matter of justice.

C40 CO-CHAIRS
MAYOR OF FREETOWN, YVONNE AKI-SAWYERR
MAYOR OF LONDON, SADIQ KHAN



Air pollution is a critical issue that has garnered significant public attention. Addressing it requires consistent effort and broad cooperation because it affects every dimension of our lives—from health to the economy and society. Every sector must come together to address [the root causes] and support if we want to reduce pollution sustainably.

GOVERNOR OF BANGKOK, CHADCHART SITTIPUNT

Shared solutions and collaboration

Knowledge Sharing

Sharing knowledge and lessons between air quality practitioners to enable collaboration and the scaling of best practices

City Programs

Working directly with city staff to support policy implementation

Mayoral Leadership

Showcasing mayors and their world-leading commitments to delivering clean air

The **C40 Air Quality Network** is collaborative forum that convenes cities to share best practices for developing air quality solutions that align with public health, equity, and climate goals.

African Cities for Clean Air is another platform we provide to cities, aimed to empower African Mayors to tackle the health crisis caused by poor air quality.

The **Breathe Cities** initiative aligns with existing efforts and supports cities to accelerate actions to reduce air pollution and climate emissions by overcoming common challenges that cities face,



City Impact

Improved data collection

Clean Air Accelerator cities are scaling low cost sensor networks with 22 signatories increasing from 250 to 1,600 sensors for PM_{2.5} and from 49 to nearly 600 for NO₂ between 2019 and 2024

Clean Air Zones and electrified transport

With more than 13,500 zero-emission buses deployed across Green and Healthy Streets Accelerator signatory cities and 15 signatory cities with policies regulating high-polluting vehicles

Energy grid decarbonization

All 15 signatories of the renewable energy accelerator are increasing renewable energy deployment and use, with more than a third being 100% reliant on renewable energy sources for their municipal consumption

Sustainable waste management

All 14 signatories of the sustainable waste systems accelerator are working to tackle organic waste, with collective commitments projected to prevent one million tonnes of methane emissions annually





City leadership, collective ambition and shared solutions are more vital than ever to clean the air we breathe.

"Mayors are not waiting for others to act. Across the C40 network, we are proving that local leadership delivers real results, from cleaner air and healthier streets to fairer, stronger local economies. Twenty years after C40 was established, our cities are cutting emissions faster than national governments and showing that progress is possible."

Co-Chair of C40 Cities, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan

"I am committed to working closely alongside C40 mayors who are striving for the future we want for all and to protect the safety and health of our residents from the climate crisis."

Oh Se-hoon, Mayor of Seoul and Vice Chair of the C40 Steering Committee

"We continue learning from one another, spreading proven solutions from one place to the next and to the next. That kind of bottom-up progress takes on an even greater importance in countries with national governments that are dragging their feet on climate action"

Mike Bloomberg

"The basic principle that binds C40 cities together is that if you have done something good, you share it. If you see something good in another city, you copy it and adapt it to your own city's circumstances. The science-based results this model produces are real, endlessly reproducible, and measurable."

Mark watts, C40 Cities Executive Director

BAQ 2026
BETTER AIR QUALITY
CONFERENCE 11-13 MAR • BANGKOK



CLIMATE &
CLEAN AIR
COALITION



ESCAP
Eurasian Subcontinent



Thank you

