

DECLARATION OF THE MICHELIN CITIES IN FAVOR OF CLIMATE NEUTRALITY

Our planet cannot wait any longer. It is on the edge. We must act more decisively and with greater speed. We have been many years behind schedule since the first declarations in favor of the Climate like the Bruntland report on our common future or the Rio Summit in 1992. Since then, 30 years of many words, but few actions.

The Covid-19 pandemic can be a great opportunity to reverse this trend: A lot of cities in the world are involved in this fight against climate change looking for the climate neutrality in a different ways.

The aim of our network is to develop public and private partnerships as a driver for innovation in public policies based on the cooperation between our around 30 cities. The innovation, cooperation and audacity are completely necessary for get the goal of being climate neutral cities.

Our cities are in the forefront of the innovation, public services quality and economical competitiveness. This achievement is due to the work of all the local actors, many local corporations, the collaboration between public and private sector, and, especially, the commitment of citizens. This is the first message that we want to convey: to achieve climate neutral cities requires global the agreement, and shared goals by all society, companies, institutions and political agents.

In 2015 at COP 21 in Paris, 3,000 mayors of the planet signed our commitment not to increase the average temperature of the planet by more than 1.5°C in this century, and with it the promise of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our cities.

In our cities, we are committed in the fight against climate change. And the work begins to pay off.

But we cannot be complacent. Cities have a great responsibility. We occupy 3% of the planet's surface but according to UN Habitat data, we are responsible for about 70% of Co2 emissions and 80% of global energy consumption.

We still have a long way to go to be carbon neutral cities. For this reason, we want to actively involve in a common work to combat climate change. That is our next goal: to achieve climate neutrality for our cities by 2030.

To this end, the signatory cities undertake to act in the following areas related to the three main sources of emissions in cities, such as mobility, the economic and residential sectors:

- The stimulation of the growth of industrial production and clean manufacturing by promoting the renewable energy industry.
- The development of a new and enhanced public services, such as cleaning, waste treatment, urban lighting and the care of green infrastructures.
- The development of a tax environment and sustainable financing based on social and environmental responsibility.
- The revision of the transport systems and urban mobility in order to reduce the emissions from public and private transport. In particular by promoting the use of 0 emissions public transport and the use of bicycles and pedestrian trips.
- Work on the development of sustainable electricity generation systems.
- The implementation of clean, renewable energy sources with “0 emissions” in the city’s streets and buildings but also supporting this use in our industry and economic sectors.
- Urban refurbishment and rehabilitation with sustainability criteria, promoting the adaptation of the existing buildings.
- The development with the agriculture and forestry sector of new solutions for sustainable agricultural production which make it possible to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, developing agricultural practices which enhance the health of soils as well as promote sustainable forest exploitation.
- Encourage a sustainable and healthy food model, by support to km0 food production projects with low energy and water consumption as well as implementing initiatives to reduce food waste.
- Consolidate and build green infrastructures which make it possible to compensate the city’s ecological footprint.