

Compact of States and Regions

Briefing | July, 2015

Introduction

The Compact of States and Regions provides the first single, global account of greenhouse gas reduction targets made by state and regional governments. Announced at the UN Climate Summit in New York in 2014, the Compact is a partnership between The Climate Group, CDP, R20 and nrg4SD, and supported by the UN, Climate-KIC, Center for the New Energy Economy (CNEE) and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. The Compact will provide an annual assessment of the commitments and progress toward those commitments by state and regional governments around the world to support international climate governance processes.

To join the Compact¹, governments are required to:

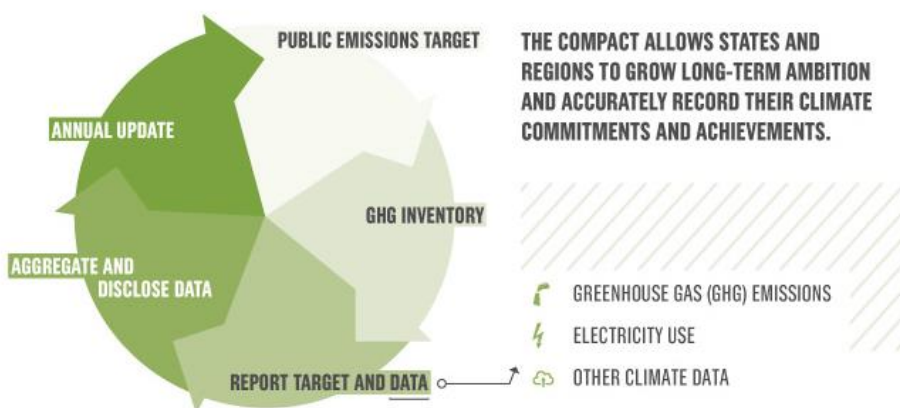
- 1) Make a public commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
- 2) Publicly report a standard set of greenhouse gas inventory data to Compact partners on an annual basis.

To become an observer to the Compact, governments are required to:

- 1) Make a public commitment to adopt a greenhouse gas emissions target within a two year period; and
- 2) Commit to report inventory data within a two-year period, while reporting existing data until that time.

The 2015 reporting deadline is August 28, 2015.

HOW THE COMPACT WORKS



¹ By default, governments join the Compact by submitting the required targets and inventory data as requested through a Compact's online reporting platform. The data provided will be used in the Compact disclosure report and be made available for the UNFCCC NAZCA portal (Non-state Actor Zone for Climate Action) to support national action for a global deal at COP 21 in Paris, 2015.

FOUNDING PARTNERS:

THE CLIMATE GROUP



SUPPORTING:

Pioneering States and Regions

So far 20 governments across 4 continents have submitted their emissions data to the Compact, representing 8.3 \$ trillion in GDP. These reporting governments currently represent about 1.81 GtCO₂e1, or 5%, of all global emissions, and with many more due to report over the summer, the potential emission savings through the Compact are set to be one of the most significant commitments presented ahead of COP21.

"We recognize that the challenge of climate change is also an opportunity for our state, and we want to ensure a prosperous, sustainable economy and future for our citizens. That is why we have reported our targets to the Compact of States and Regions; a platform that can now allow us to accurately and publicly report climate data against our own commitments." **Premier Jay Weatherill of South Australia**

Aims

Through the provision of a unified, standardized, annual assessment of sub-national climate targets and progress made towards these, the Compact aims to support the international climate negotiations by:

- providing a clear picture of the overall contribution made by state and regional governments;
- increasing the comparability of sub-national government efforts in different parts of the world;
- facilitating a greater level of collaboration and vertical integration of climate policies, and
- creating incentives for additional sub-national governments to set targets and measure emissions.

Reporting can help governments better understand the risks and opportunities of climate change and increase the impact of their actions, both within and beyond state borders.

The first Compact assessment of the sub-national targets and inventory data will be presented at the COP 21 in Paris in 2015.

How do the Compact of States & Regions and the Global Climate Leadership MOU relate?

The Compact and the [Under 2 MOU](#) are separate but complementary and coordinated initiatives. The Compact provides a mechanism for governments to measure and report progress against their emissions reductions commitments, while the MOU encourages subnational jurisdictions to join together to make ambitious emissions reduction commitments in advance of Paris. Participation in both the Compact and the MOU involves collecting data on emissions reduction targets; however, the Compact provides the annual reporting mechanism to help governments track progress, compare and measure the effectiveness of their strategies. Both the Compact and the MOU will be used to identify potential opportunities for intergovernmental collaboration.

Governments that join the Compact with ambitious long-term targets are a natural fit to sign the MOU, and governments that sign the MOU are encouraged to join the Compact.

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