

# COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS

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## THE CLIMATE GROUP

STATES & REGIONS

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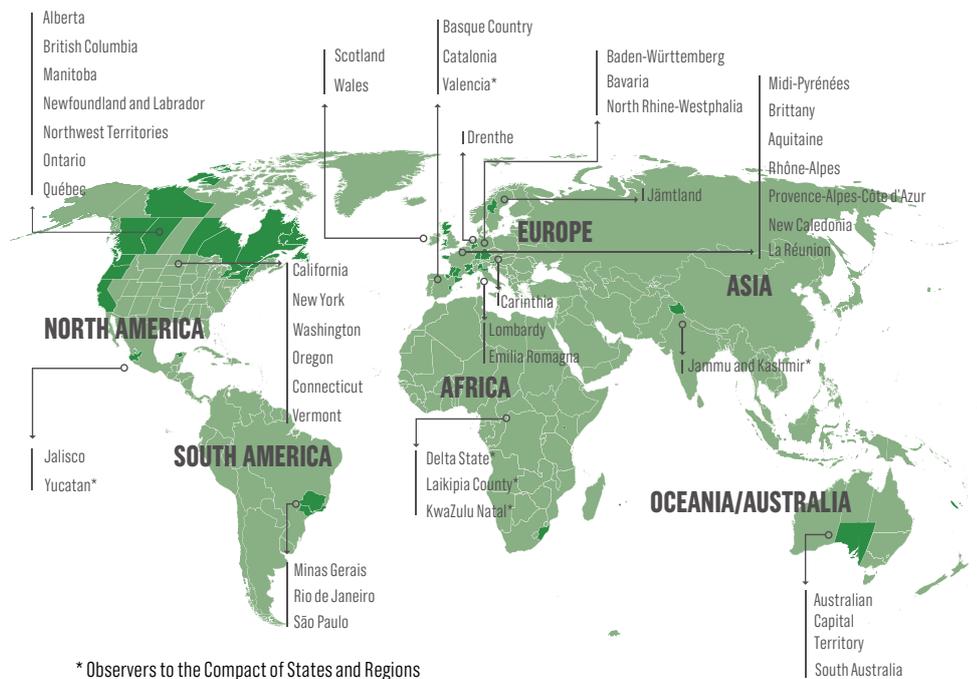
# REPORTING TO THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS

NEW REPORTING PERIOD: APRIL 4 – JULY 15 2016

As a critical part of the post-Paris agenda of action by Non-State Actors, we invite all states, provinces and regions around the world to join us and report to the Compact of States and Regions in 2016 and far beyond – to secure a smarter, cleaner, safer future for all.

The Compact of States and Regions is the first dedicated global reporting mechanism for states, provinces and regions to showcase and analyze their climate efforts. Through an annual assessment, the Compact provides a transparent, global picture of actions to tackle climate change – allowing state and regional governments to measure their emissions and set ambitious reduction goals.

The Compact of States and Regions already has the support of 44 governments together representing 325 million people and over US\$10.5 trillion in GDP – one eighth of the global economy.



LEAD BY EXAMPLE. JOIN THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS.

To find out more, please contact Jean-Charles Seghers, Compact of States and Regions Manager, The Climate Group. [JSeghers@theclimategroup.org](mailto:JSeghers@theclimategroup.org)

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THE COMPACT IS ISSUING AN IMPRESSIVE NEW REPORT HERE IN PARIS SUMMARIZING THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY 44 PIONEERING STATES AND REGIONS TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS.

- Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations, at COP21.

The first Compact of States and Regions [Disclosure Report](#) was released at the 21st Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21) in Paris, December 2015. For the first time, 44 governments, spanning 18 different countries across six continents reported their climate commitments and greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, further featured in a single, reliable and publicly available document.

### HOW TO JOIN THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS

State, provincial and regional governments can join or observe the Compact by publicly reporting on an annual basis.

To join the Compact, governments are required to report:

1. A public commitment\* to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
2. Region-wide greenhouse gas inventory data.

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

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

\*Includes targets that have already been adopted. This commitment includes the following target types: base year emissions goals, fixed-level goals, base year intensity goals, and baseline scenario goals. More information on these types of targets can be found in Chapter 2 of the GHG Protocol Mitigation Goal Standard report that provides guidance for designing national and sub-national mitigation goals, and a standardized approach for assessing and reporting progress toward goal achievement.

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### BENEFITS OF REPORTING TO THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS

Forward-thinking governments recognize that measurement, management and reporting of GHG emissions and climate change data is of growing importance. This is because measurement and reporting helps governments to better understand the risks and opportunities of climate change and increase the impact of climate actions, both within and beyond state borders.

By reporting to the Compact of States and Regions, governments:

- Feature in the annual Compact of States and Regions disclosure report
- Showcase climate ambition on the [UNFCCC NAZCA platform](#).
- Ensure their climate commitments are backed by reliable, publicly available data
- Demonstrate to companies, investors, other governments and the international community that they're leading on climate change
- Identify risks and cost saving opportunities through the process of reporting
- Optimize management of environmental information by gathering it in one location
- Benchmark climate actions with those of similar governments that have reported to the Compact

WITH A CHALLENGE AS SERIOUS AS CLIMATE CHANGE AND AN OPPORTUNITY AS GREAT AS GREEN GROWTH, I BELIEVE THERE IS A FUNDAMENTAL NEED FOR TRANSPARENCY AND PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW HOW THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND DIFFERENT SECTORS ARE DELIVERING. I AM THEREFORE DELIGHTED TO HAVE REPORTED ON OUR CARBON EMISSIONS, DEMONSTRATING OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS AS PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONTRIBUTION FROM SUB-NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS. - Carl Sargeant, Minister for Natural Resources, Welsh Government.

### PIONEERING STATES AND REGIONS

In less than one year, the Compact of States and Regions has become the global go-to platform for states, provinces and regions to measure and manage their emissions. At the end of 2015, 44 governments had reported to the Compact, representing more than 325 people, one eighth of the global economy (US\$10.5 trillion) and emissions savings equivalent to China's annual emissions by 2030. The targets disclosed by these governments will result in:

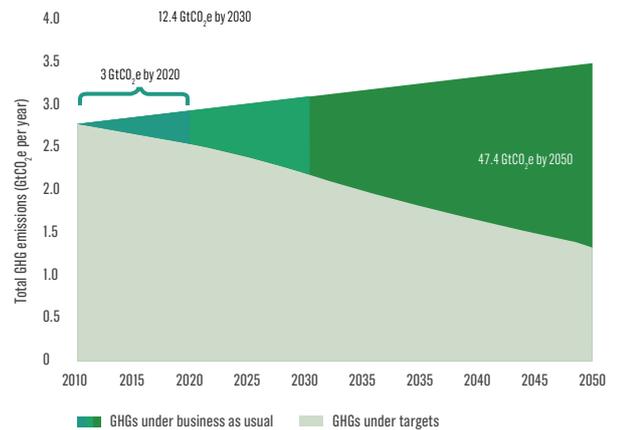
Annual savings of

- 0.6 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/ year in 2020
- 1.2 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/ year in 2030
- 2.2 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e/ year in 2050

Cumulative savings of

- 3 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2020
- 12.4 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030
- 47.4 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050

GHG emissions savings versus BAU (2010-2050)



The light green area represents the annual emissions of the reporting governments, both forecast and reported, which reduce toward 2050 based on their targets. The dark green areas represent the BAU scenario that is linked to state and regional population projections.

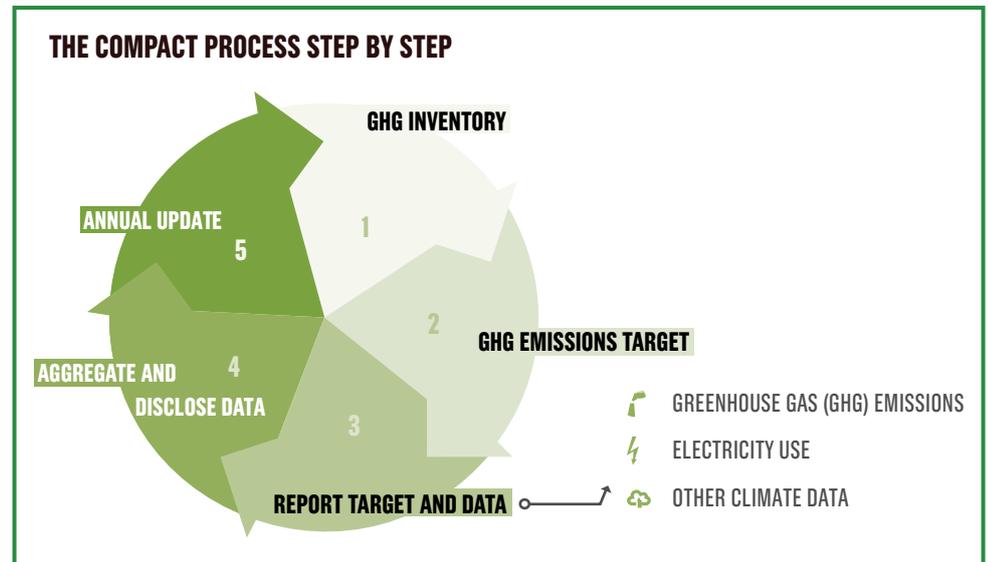
These projected GHG emissions savings were reflected in the first-ever [Disclosure Report](#), unveiled at COP21 in December 2015. The report also featured state and regional governments' climate measures, economic opportunities and adaptation actions that underpin their climate strategies. Toward the end of 2016, a second edition of the Disclosure Report will be released featuring all new reporting governments.



United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon being presented with an advance copy of the Compact of States and Regions Disclosure Report by Premier Jay Weatherill of South Australia, at COP21 in Paris.

## HOW THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS WORKS

Using aggregated data, the Compact showcases overall GHG reduction contributions made by state, provincial and regional governments around the world. Then each year, disclosure and assessment of progress toward those commitments will take place through GHG inventory data. 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 accelerate bottom-up climate action.



## HOW TO GET STARTED

1. Assess whether your government meets the Compact criteria (see “How to join the Compact of States and Regions”)
2. Indicate intent to join or observe the Compact of States and Regions. Email [Jean-Charles Seghers, Compact of States and Regions Manager at The Climate Group](mailto:JSeghers@theclimategroup.org) to participate in the 2016 reporting cycle. [JSeghers@theclimategroup.org](mailto:JSeghers@theclimategroup.org)
3. Upon receiving the reporting guidance and login details, complete and submit your climate data prior to the June 15, 2016 deadline. Technical support and guidance will be provided throughout the reporting process.
4. Feature in the annual Disclosure Report.

Upon signalling intention to join the Compact, Governments will be automatically invited to report via [CDP's states and regions platform](#), which is specifically designed for state and regional governments. The Compact also works with other reporting platforms such as the [carbonn Climate Registry \(cCR\)](#), and data reported via cCR will also be welcomed.

## OBSERVERS TO THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS

Governments without existing GHG reduction targets and inventories can “observe” the Compact by stating their intent to develop a GHG target and inventory within a two-year timeframe – and by **submitting existing data to a recognized reporting platform on an annual basis**, thereby building the capacity needed to eventually develop an inventory.

Governments who are unable to meet the two-year timeline, are still encouraged to report any data available through one of the reporting platforms.

### WHY BECOME AN OBSERVER?

For the first time in the COP process, the Paris Agreement explicitly recognizes that states, regions and other non-state actors have a crucial role in fighting climate change. Emissions measurement and management is crucial to deliver on the Paris promise. By becoming an observer to the Compact, governments take a decisive step in their commitment to be part of a global solution and join a group of governments setting transparent climate targets. Importantly, it allows governments to build capacity aimed at developing emissions inventories and ratcheting up climate ambition.

## LINKS BETWEEN THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS AND OTHER CLIMATE INITIATIVES

The Sub-national Global Climate Leadership Memorandum of Understanding or ‘**Under 2 MOU**’, originated from a partnership between the governments of California and Baden-Württemberg, both members of the [States & Regions Alliance](#). Central to the agreement is that all signatories agree to reduce their GHG emissions 80-95% below 1990 levels, or limit to 2 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent per capita by 2050. 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 report via the Compact.

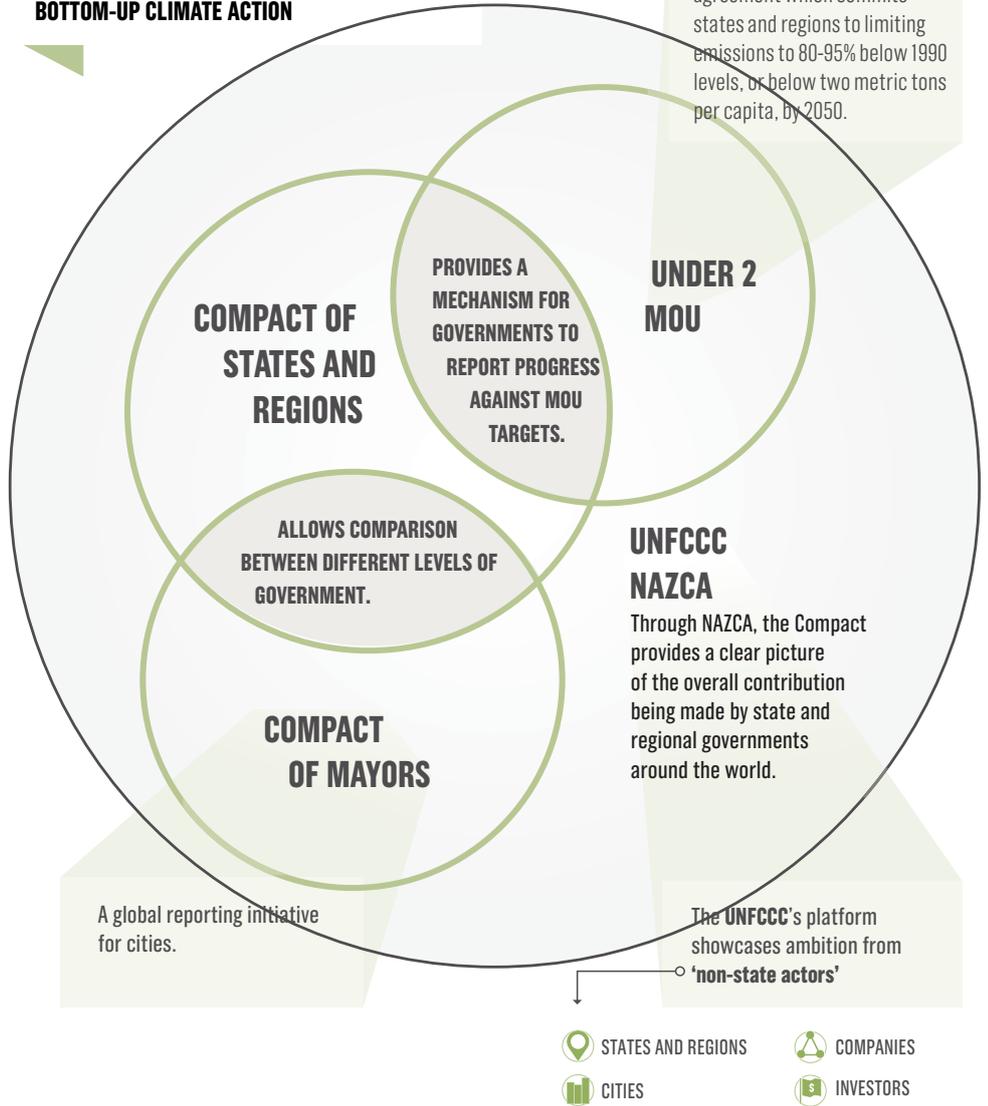
The **Compact of Mayors** is the world’s largest coalition of city leaders addressing climate change by pledging to reduce their GHG emissions, tracking their progress and preparing for the impacts of climate change. At Climate Week NYC 2015, the Compact of States and Regions and the Compact of Mayors announced a partnership to further incentivize cities, states and regions to commit to ambitious climate targets and regularly report on progress.

The **Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA)** was launched at the UN Climate Change Conference in Lima and registers commitments to action by companies, cities, sub-national regions and investors, to address climate change. The Compact of States and Regions shares the reported targets with the UNFCCC for inclusion in the NAZCA platform.

“ LEADERSHIP FROM STATE AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS IS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER. WE KNOW THE NATIONAL CLIMATE PLANS SUBMITTED AHEAD OF THE PARIS TALKS – THE INTENDED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (INDCS) – ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO LIMIT GLOBAL TEMPERATURE RISE TO BELOW TWO DEGREES CELSIUS. BUT STATES, PROVINCES AND REGIONS CAN SUPPORT THIS GLOBAL EFFORT BY RAISING OUR OWN LEVELS OF AMBITION. WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF CLIMATE LEADERSHIP FOR MANY YEARS, SETTING AMBITIOUS CLIMATE AND CLEAN ENERGY TARGETS, AND DEVELOPING NEW AND INNOVATIVE POLICY RESPONSES. IF WE ARE ALREADY HAVING THIS IMPACT WITH 44 REPORTING GOVERNMENTS, IMAGINE WHAT WE CAN DO WITH MORE.”

- Premier Jay Weatherill of South Australia.

THE COMPACT IS LINKING WITH OTHER SUB-NATIONAL INITIATIVES TO ACCELERATES BOTTOM-UP CLIMATE ACTION



JOIN US IN DRIVING A GLOBAL LOW CARBON ECONOMY

No one government can solve the climate challenge on its own. By sharing public information on targets and policy measures, governments reporting to the Compact of States and Regions are providing a sound foundation for climate governance as well as for improved emissions measurement and management.

By reporting to the Compact of States and Regions, governments are leading the way to a more transparent and collaborative approach to climate action. Together, we can ensure a prosperous, resilient, low carbon future for all.

Join us.

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