

City-Business Climate Alliance

Accelerating Climate Action Through City-Business Collaboration



Open Call for Expression of Interest 2019-2020

Expression of Interest Form

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST PROCESS

The selection of cities to participate in the first cohort of the City-Business Climate Alliance (CBCA) in 2020 will follow a 2-stage process:

26 November 2019	Expression of Interest (EOI) process open to cities
24 January 2020	Stage 1: deadline to submit EOI form
Early February 2020	Stage 2: interviews with shortlisted cities
End February 2020	Selected cities notified and required to provide Letter of Intent from Mayor
End March 2020	Deadline to submit Letter of Intent and programme kick-off with Cohort 1 cities

Cities must be a C40 member city or a city that reports through CDP in order to be eligible for consideration.

Interested cities are asked to complete the Expression of Interest form below and to send an electronic copy to info@city-businessclimatealliance.org. The application form is only available in English. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any Expression of Interest received after the deadline.

All cities submitting their Expression of Interest will be contacted with an update of the status of their application in early February.

Cities selected to be part of Cohort 1 will be asked to provide a Letter of Intent (LoI) signed by the Mayor (or equivalent), or the highest municipal authority available, by **end March 2020**. The letter should state the Mayor's (or equivalent) intention to work with the Alliance partners on a two- to three-year plan to develop and establish a sustainable city-business partnership on climate in their City.

Effort will be placed into providing support to Cohort 1 cities in their local language, but support may be delivered in English.

All questions related to this Expression of Interest process should be directed to info@city-businessclimatealliance.org.

All information provided as part of this Expression of Interest Form is confidential

INTRODUCTION

The science is telling us we have to act urgently to significantly reduce emissions to 45% by 2030 and achieve net zero by 2050 if we are to successfully adapt to climate change¹. In response, cities are stepping up their action, declaring climate emergencies and reinforcing this with net zero carbon commitments. But cities are also shaped and financed by the private sector, whose contribution is essential for them to reach their climate goals.

For example, a city cannot simply retrofit its building stock without addressing the commercial and private sector; or, a city's transition of its vehicle fleet to electric will have a limited effect without corporate fleets also making the shift. Dialogue with the private sector can provide cities with powerful insights and help inform and strengthen climate actions a city may be planning. It may also be a vehicle for joint advocacy and projects to address systemic barriers limiting cities and businesses from accelerating the implementation of climate action.

The City-Business Climate Alliance is a global two-tier network of cities and businesses designed to create systemic change through data-driven, joint climate action. On a local level, the Initiative will facilitate the implementation of a blueprint to create local city-business partnerships maximising the assets of each actor, and develop and scale transformative climate projects. On a global level, it will connect local partnerships to a network providing peer-to-peer support and opportunities to collaborate with climate-engaged global businesses for joint advocacy and action.

Given the different urban- and business-related contexts in which cities and the private sector operate, there is no single, 'one size fits all' model for building a city-business partnership on climate. However, a number of principles will apply to all city-business partnerships formed as part of the Alliance: they will have to be non-commercial spaces based on transparency and data; they will have to be financially sustainable over time, and generate systemic transformations in the way the city collaborates with businesses; and they will have to create new markets, building a pipeline of projects that address the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to the impacts of climate change and deliver on the wider social, environmental and economic benefits of climate action.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Alliance Partners (C40, CDP and WBCSD)

The Alliance partners will support Cohort 1 cities in developing a two- to three-year plan to design and implement a sustainable city-business partnership on climate through a data-driven framework. Cohort 1 cities will gain access to the Alliance partners' global network of experts and advisors, including peer city officials who have successfully developed city-business partnerships on climate.

The role of the City

City governments are expected to commit to ongoing engagement to co-create and promote the Initiative within their City as necessary. This includes: identifying stakeholders within the City's administration and local business community, being a liaison between City departments and Alliance partners, facilitating the collection of information, providing feedback on methodology and deliverables and advising when deliverables have been satisfactorily completed.

¹ IPCC's [Summary for Policymakers](#) Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5 °CCH

The City-Business Climate Alliance is a joint initiative of [C40 Cities](#), [CDP](#) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development ([WBCSD](#)).

In 2020, the Initiative's scope will include the following for each Cohort 1 city:

- Assessment of climate goals and identification of business partnership opportunities through a data-driven approach.
- Identification and mapping of areas, sectors and sub-sectors in which the City does not have direct control over the sources of emissions, or needs to strengthen resilience, and where collaboration with private sector stakeholders has greater potential to drive impact.
- Engagement of potential partners - i.e. local business community and other private sector stakeholders - to determine the synergies and stakeholders' value and strength.
- Development of governance model and working principles at both strategic (political) and technical (operational) levels.
- Design of modalities for collaboration, co-creation of projects and monitoring and evaluation.
- Development of a financially sustainable model to ensure the partnership has long-lasting impact.
- Participation in the global network for cities to learn from each other, collaborate with global businesses, and showcase their leadership in accelerating climate action through city-business collaboration.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Alliance partners will prioritise support to Expressions of Interest with the highest likelihood of generating systemic transformations in the way a City collaborates with business to accelerate projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to the impacts of climate change and delivering on the wider social, environmental and economic benefits of climate action.

Cities should consider the following evaluation criteria when developing their Expression of Interest

- Political commitment to working with the local business community and other private sector stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of climate action.
- Alignment of Climate Action Plans and climate targets with the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement.
- Level of resourcing and/or financing to be allocated to the local city-business partnership.
- Interest in contributing to knowledge dissemination activities and peer-to-peer exchange.
- Commitment to the financial sustainability of the Initiative.

All information provided as part of this Expression of Interest Form is confidential

Expression of Interest Form

Please include details of the person who will be the primary point of contact for the proposal

Contact Details	
City	
Contact person for proposal	
Department	
Position	
Telephone number	
Email address	
Other city departments involved in the project (include responsible persons)	

Please provide as much detail as possible in response to the following questions, so the evaluation team can make an informed assessment of your City's Expression of Interest.

Some of the questions in this Expression of Interest Form are part of **CDP's Cities 2019 Questionnaire**. If you would like the evaluation team to refer to your City's response in CDP and ICLEI's unified reporting system, please mark the appropriate box and use the open-ended box to provide any additional information relevant to your response.

Section 1 – CLIMATE ACTION PLAN AND PRIORITIES

1. Is your City developing or has your City developed a Climate Action Plan that will deliver change in line with the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement?

Please describe the status of your City's Climate Action Plan, including date of publishing or when it is expected to be published.

NB: A Climate Action Plan in line with the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement is as an integrated and inclusive plan that addresses the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to the impacts of climate change, deliver wider social, environmental and economic benefits and contribute to limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Use response from CDP's Cities 2019 Questionnaire

Max 200 words

2. Has your City publicly committed to city-wide or sectoral climate targets (e.g. through C40 Declarations) that will deliver change in line with the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement?

Please list any [C40 Declarations](#) your City has endorsed or any city-wide or other sectoral targets and commitments that your City may have that are relevant to this Expression of Interest:

Max 200 words

3. What are your City's climate action implementation priorities?

Please describe the mayoral priority areas, sectors or subsectors in terms of climate action implementation:

NB: Areas, sectors or sub-sectors may or may not overlap with the departmental organisation within your City's administration. Examples of sectors may include transportation, waste management, urban planning and development, etc. whereas a sub-sector is a category that is part of a sector such as public transportation or electric vehicles within the sector of transportation. An action area may group a number of sectors, e.g. adaptation.

Max 200 words

Section 2 – BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

4. How valuable would the support of the Initiative be in helping your City implement climate action?

Please describe how the dialogue with private sector stakeholders may unlock the implementation of climate action in your City:

Max 200 words

5. Which specific issues would you like to tackle in collaboration with business to accelerate the implementation of climate action in your City?

Please describe existing barriers to accelerating the implementation of climate action in your City and where you see immediate opportunities to engage with business to address them:

Max 200 words

6. Are there other players beyond business you could engage as you address these opportunities?

Please describe any other possible stakeholders beyond the private sector you would like to work with to accelerate the implementation of climate action in your City. Other stakeholders may include national government or other public organisations, academic institutions, international agencies and non-governmental organisations amongst others:

Max 200 words

7. Are there existing initiatives within the City administration that involve the local business community?

Please describe any relevant existing or planned initiatives or projects in your City working with private sector stakeholders and their focus areas. If such initiatives are not focused on climate, please explain if there are any opportunities to build on their work to accelerate the implementation of climate action in your City. Feel free to elaborate on success stories and on the challenges and barriers to working with private sector stakeholders in your City:

Use response from CDP's Cities 2019 Questionnaire

Max 200 words

Section 3 – CITY GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT AND COMMITMENT

8. Is the Mayor or another member of your City government’s leadership committed to working with the local business community and other private sector stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of climate action?

Please describe the commitment from the City leadership. If no, please describe your strategy to engage the Mayor or City leadership:

NB: Please note that cities selected to be part of Cohort 1 are required to provide a Letter of Intent (LoI) signed by the Mayor or the highest municipal authority available stating their intention to work with the Alliance partners on a two- to three-year plan to develop and establish a sustainable city-business partnership on climate in their City.

Max 200 words

9. In terms of time commitment from city staff, what level of resourcing would your City be able to devote to this Initiative?

Please describe any staff time (FTE ratio) or resources that could be allocated to this Initiative in your team and other departments within your City as well as your strategy to ensure the local partnership is resourced on the city side over time:

Max 200 words

10. Does your City currently have the financial means to invest in the development of a local city-business partnership on climate?

Please describe any potential funding sources from the City administration - or from other stakeholders that may be interested in supporting your City’s efforts to work in collaboration with the private sector - that could be allocated to the development and running of a local city-business partnership:

Max 200 words

11. Would your City be interested in disseminating the knowledge learned and helping other cities in your region or country develop similar partnerships?

Please state whether your City would be interested in taking part in peer-to-peer and knowledge sharing activities, such as webinars, workshops, case studies and reports, with the goal of accelerating the pace and scale of city-business joint climate action beyond your City boundaries:

Yes

No

12. Some of the activities conducted as part of this Initiative may require national and international travel. Would your City need financial assistance for this?

Please state whether your City, or relevant department, would need financial assistance for any city staff travel that may be required as part of this Initiative:

Max 200 words

Section 4 – OTHER

13. Is there any additional information you would like to share as part of this Expression of Interest?

Please describe any specificities, needs, constraints and/or opportunities in your City that should be considered by the evaluation team:

Max 200 words

Thank you for completing this Expression of Interest Form.