

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD

LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR
GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Climate Alliance



A STRONG ALLIANCE FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

Climate Alliance member municipalities have stood for a holistic approach to climate action, linking concrete local solutions with global responsibility since the city network was founded back in 1990.

The interplay between social, environmental and economic development is key to sustainable development. The over-use of natural resources globally is having a dramatic impact on the environment and leading to social problems. Only if the consumption of resources is reduced will we succeed in creating the conditions needed for effective climate protection and sustainable development.

Climate justice requires sustainable local solutions that enable a good life for all the world's people – be it in the cities and towns of Europe or our indigenous partners' territories in Amazonia.

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD

In September 2015, the United Nations agreed upon the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, comprising 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – an important step in the right direction! These goals apply universally and lay the foundations for sustainable development worldwide.

Despite all the justified criticism, the SDGs feature one important innovation as compared to previous aims: they represent a truly global approach for all stakeholders and no longer apply exclusively to the countries of the Global South. Industrialised nations in particular have a lot of catching up to do – especially when it comes to sustainable production and consumer behaviour. Based on the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities”, each country, municipality and individual must contribute and commit to achieving a sustainable and just future.

It will take political will and the commitment of civil society to implement this new universal agenda.

But what exactly does the 2030 Agenda mean for Climate Alliance municipalities? And how can these global goals be transferred to the local level?



FAIR, LOCAL, RESOURCE- SAVING, REGENERATIVE AND DIVERSE

These five principles characterise Climate Alliance's climate action activities and are also reflected in the UN's 2030 Agenda. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals link the principle of sustainability with economic, environmental and social development and also including the fields of peace and international cooperation.

OUR BASIC PRINCIPLES

FAIR

Climate protection must be fair and foster the well-being of all people, regardless of their culture, faith, gender, location or socioeconomic status in harmony with nature. Our actions must be

characterised by respect for other people, justice and partnership.

LOCAL

Business activities with a regional focus bring production closer to the consumers, rendering production processes more transparent and environmentally friendly. By creating a regional value chain, local stakeholders foster their region's innovative capabilities and resilience.

RESOURCE-SAVING

Using resources sparingly is a precondition for effective climate protection. The growing need for resources is also a primary cause of mounting pressure on the rain-

forests, which in turn exacerbates territorial and resource based conflicts with indigenous communities, small-scale farmers and settlers.

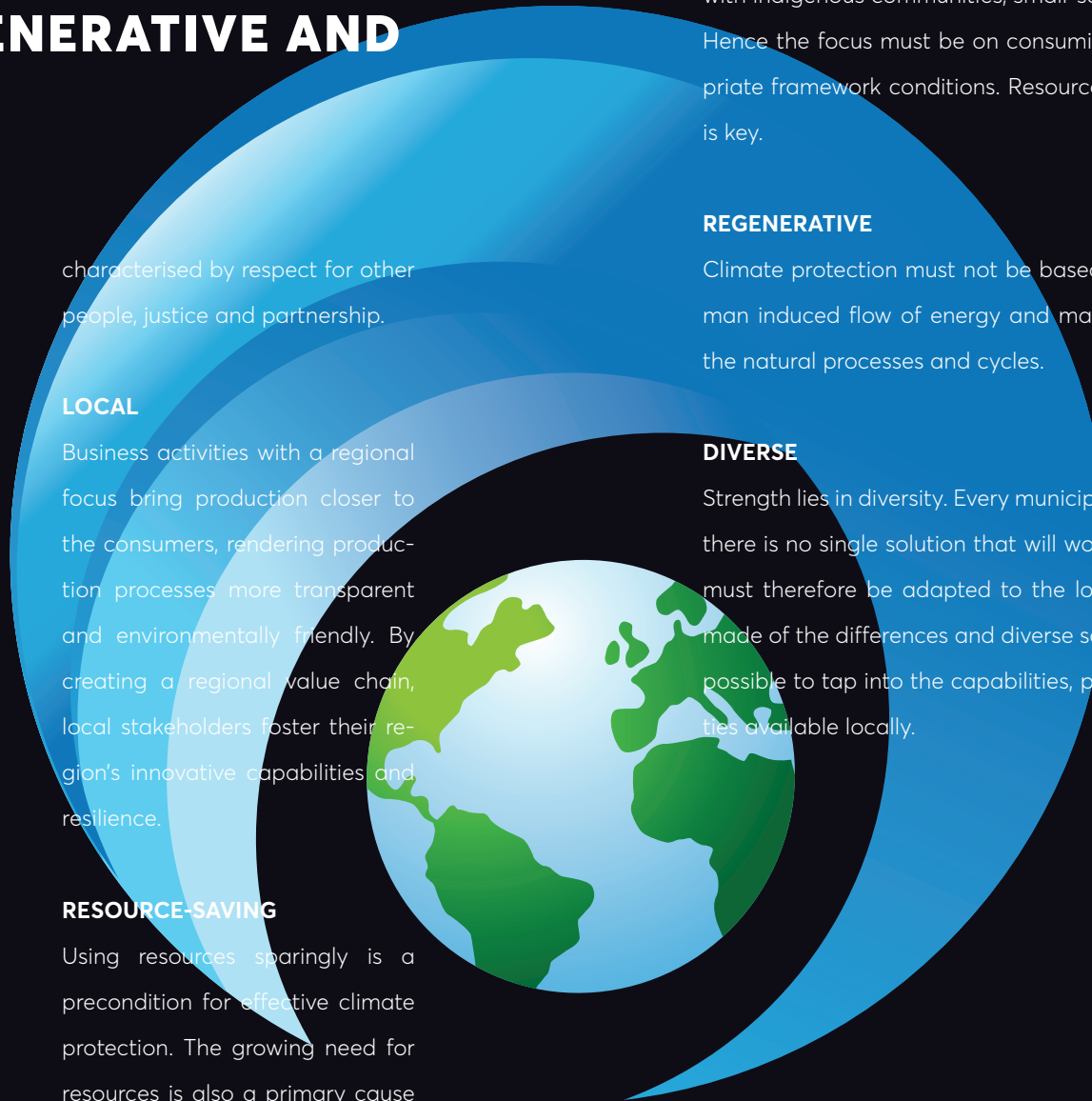
Hence the focus must be on consuming less from the outset under appropriate framework conditions. Resource efficiency, achieving more with less, is key.

REGENERATIVE

Climate protection must not be based on overexploitation. Rather, the human induced flow of energy and materials must be embedded entirely in the natural processes and cycles.

DIVERSE

Strength lies in diversity. Every municipality, town and district is different and there is no single solution that will work everywhere. Goals and procedures must therefore be adapted to the local conditions. Optimal use must be made of the differences and diverse solutions – for only in this way will it be possible to tap into the capabilities, potential and development opportunities available locally.





THE GLOBAL GOALS

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries.
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change).
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

THE ROLE(S) OF MUNICIPALITIES

ROLE MODELS AND CONSUMERS

Cities and municipalities assume an important role model function when they reduce energy consumption in public buildings, encourage their employees to adopt climate-friendly behaviour, use green power, or practice sustainable forestry in municipal forests.

PLANNERS AND REGULATORS

By setting climate-friendly standards or legal and regulatory measures, municipalities are also able to influence the behaviour of businesses and consumers to the benefit of the climate.

SUPPLIERS AND PROVIDERS

Municipalities act as "suppliers and providers" in the energy and transport sectors, waste disposal and municipal construction.

ADVISORS AND PROMOTERS

Where no legal basis exists, municipalities are also able to have an indirect influence, for example, by raising awareness or providing financial support for climate action measures.



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ACTIVITIES OF CLIMATE ALLIANCE MEMBERS – SUSTAINABILITY GOALS IN DETAIL

Countless Climate Alliance municipalities already contribute to the attainment of the SDGs today with a variety of projects and local activities – and thus also to the

global sustainable development agenda.

Let yourself be inspired by the diversity of municipal commitment – and join in on the action!

ENERGY AS A DRIVER OF DEVELOPMENT

RENEWABLE, LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE

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Energy tops the agendas for both municipalities in Europe and our indigenous partners in the Amazon region. It is a matter of intense debate.

"100% renewable energies" is an approach to which many municipalities and regions have now committed. Thus the municipality of Amstetten in Austria is driving the **LOCAL** energy transition. Along with local inhabitants and businesses, it has developed a vision for an energy-efficient Amstetten by 2050 and a **RESOURCE-SAVING** municipal energy supply.

Not only European municipalities are considering sustainable development though. Access to and use of **LOCAL** energy is also an issue in the rainforest. In Peru, Climate Alliance members are supporting the indigenous population with a solar lamp project. The local communities organise

the assembly and sale of lamps themselves. The Programme for Training Bilingual Teachers in the Peruvian Rainforest (FORMABIAP) of the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDSESEP) is the co-operation partner. Thanks to this support, over 1,000 lamps have been distributed across several communities and an important contribution to improving the living conditions of the locals has been made.



TRANSITION TOURS: URBAN TOURS OF THE FUTURE – STRENGTHENING COOPERATION, EXPLORING DIVERSITY

In many places, people are actively working with their heads, hearts and hands to achieve a sustainable coexistence. They enhance their urban living space, reduce traffic and take a **RESOURCE-SAVING** approach to life. They boost quality of life and at the same time contribute to climate protection.

Whether urban gardening, repair cafés or exchange platforms – those who work to transform their urban environment leave the beaten path and discover vibrant places of transition. The TRANSI-

TION TOURS project allows the public to experience local initiatives striving for future-oriented lifestyles through tours, bringing committed individuals and local organisations together with municipal representatives.

To give an example: the energy department of the city of Frank-

furt, Germany, is supporting the TRANSITION TOURS project within the scope of its “100% climate protection” master plan. This includes compelling district projects, climate protection along the Main River, and the **LOCAL** energy revolution.

stadtwandeln.de



LOCAL DIVERSITY – THE FAIR TRADE CITY OF ROSTOCK

In 2013, the Hanseatic city of Rostock, Germany, was named the “**FAIR** Trade Capital” of the year, setting a clear sign for a more just world! Shortly thereafter, the local parliament agreed the “100% climate protection” master plan, embedding **RESOURCE-SAVING** principles on the local level. Rostock thus committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 95% and its energy consumption by 50% by 2050 (base year: 1990).

In order to meet the challenges of climate change on the global level and drive **REGENERATIVE** development, Rostock is supporting the Harakmbut indigenous people of the Amaraakeri Communal Reserve in the Peruvian Amazon’s Madre de Dios region. Important aims include marking and controlling the reserve’s boundaries to prevent illegal logging and the exploitation of natural resources in indigenous territories. In practical terms, this means marking the territorial boundaries by planting local species of trees and drawing up a monitoring plan.

The Belgian city of Zoersel brings its inhabitants, clubs, schools and businesses together within the scope of a decentralised strategy for fostering cooperation. It assumes a role model function in this: whether through rap videos, informational visits or direct project cooperation, the city has fostered a vibrant exchange with its partner city of Bohicon in Benin for many years now.

To contribute to climate justice **LOCALLY**, Zoersel has also been a **FAIR** trade community since 2007. Campaigns and festivals on **FAIR**

trade, **LOCAL** and sustainable food and international cooperation help raise awareness of these approaches among the local population.

And to help the residents of Zoersel become active themselves, the city also helps organise and funds grassroots initiatives. One project it supports is the “Zusammengarten”, where local residents meet with refugees to maintain a garden – and all then reap the fruits of their labour!

FAIR CITY – DIVERSE COMMITMENT



GENT EN GARDE

CO₂ neutral by 2050: this is the aim of the Belgian city of Ghent. To achieve this, the city is active in a variety of political fields and works with **LOCAL** stakeholders – including civil society, businesses and organisations – to achieve this vision.

A concrete example: to support the **RESOURCE-SAVING** use of food and prevent waste, the city focuses on **LOCAL** and sustainable production of food, working to achieve a closed production cycle. Local supply chains are set up from producers to consumers:

“We create transparent and closed supply chains for food, whereby the entire supply chain

from the producer to consumer should be local,” said Tine Heyse, deputy mayor of the City of Ghent and Climate Alliance President. This chain also includes food waste. Within this, Ghent supports structures to create alternative re-processing routes. The interactive website “Gent en garde” offers a platform and helps bring the city’s **DIVERSE** stakeholders to one table.





BRIDGES TO THE FUTURE – GLOBAL COOPERATION WITH A LOCAL IMPACT

What can we learn from our indigenous partners in Amazonia?

As the guardians of the forest, indigenous peoples are one step ahead of us in many aspects, for example, with regard to their sustainability expertise and **REGENERATIVE** ways of life. To foster regular exchange, enable a change of perspectives and learn about **DIVERSITY**, Climate Alliance organises delegation tours for municipal and indigenous representatives, supporting direct partnerships.

The city of Munich has thus fostered an intense partnership with the Asháninka, an indigenous people of Peru, for many years

now. The cooperation's impact has reached far beyond city borders. During their delegation trip in 2015, Jhenny Muñoz and Teresita Antazu, representatives of the Asháninka and Yanasha peoples, visited the Hungarian parliament in Budapest as well as Climate Alliance municipalities in Eastern Europe such as Daruvar (Croatia) and Tirgu Mures (Romania). They met with students, municipal representatives and **LOCAL** farmers to discuss a **RESOURCE-SAVING** lifestyle with **FAIR** future perspectives that promotes a 'good life'.



Sustainability with and for members: whether within the scope of projects or directly – Climate Alliance is working with municipalities to develop a **DIVERSE** range of offers in the field of awareness raising and educational work. Campaigns for implementation in municipalities; exhibitions on climate change, resource exploitation and land grabbing; training and online tools – many of our members already actively use our offers: new members welcome!

Whether in Cascais, Nagykanizsa, Wels or Munich: many municipalities in Europe use the "A good life is simple" campaign and incorporate it into their **LOCAL** activities. Become a part of the campaign,

reach out to your local community and encourage the implementation of climate-friendly measures! overdeveloped.eu

Want to approach the younger generation? Children in Climate Alliance cities have been collecting green footprints for a good climate since 2002.

zoom-kidsforclimate.eu

In our CITY CYCLING campaign, entire families and municipal parliaments alike take to their bikes for a good cause.

stadtradeln.de

For full details of all campaigns, please see:

klimabuendnis.org

FAIR, LOCAL, RESOURCE- SAVING, REGENERATIVE AND DIVERSE – MEASURING SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is measurable and municipalities are able to (re)view their local activities and to use different tools and methods to set a direction.

Is my municipality fit for the future? Use checklists to determine how your municipality is doing. Let yourself be inspired by concrete ideas and formulate your own aims. The Climate Compass can help you to track your local commitment, provide orientation and offer direct complements to existing activities.

Whether in the field of energy, procurement, transport, climate justice or public relations – Climate Compass allows you to review and analyse your activities in eight key areas. The online tool then presents a comprehensive overview of your local commitment.

The Climate Compass shows you the way – navigate towards a sustainable future now!

climate-compass.net

FAIR IN THE FUTURE – EDUCATIONAL WORK IN EUROPE





Climate Alliance

Municipalities in partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples – The world's largest city network taking local action on global climate change

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