



ONE PLANET CITY CHALLENGE

CANDIDATES BOOKLET

Guidance for local government representatives on WWF's 2019-2020 OPCC



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This booklet is designed to provide local governments with guidance that complements the instructions found on CDP's reporting platform website: <https://bit.ly/2RPdnC5>.

The 2019-2020 One Planet City Challenge (OPCC) is open to cities all over the world. See link for countries and cities that have been confirmed so far: <https://bit.ly/2CVDepJ>. If you would like your country to be added to the list, let us know by sending a message to opcc@wwf.se.

For participating cities, webinars will be held from March to July 2019. To find out more, go to: <https://bit.ly/2VMRshA>.

Cover photo: Global Warming Images / WWF

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions? Please contact your national WWF office or WWF's international OPCC Core Team (at opcc@wwf.se) for general questions about the OPCC.

Technical questions related to CDP's reporting platform should be directed to CDP at cities@cdp.net.

Other kind of technical support questions should be directed to ICLEI at carbonn@iclei.org.

THE OPCC IN A NUTSHELL

The One Planet City Challenge (OPCC) is a biennial competition organised by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to guide cities towards the most effective climate action, while publicly recognising the most ambitious cities as leaders in the field.

The OPCC aims to develop and disseminate climate mitigation and adaptation best practices. In this respect, the OPCC invites cities to:

- Report ambitious climate commitments, in line with the Paris Agreement and the 1.5 °C global warming goal; and
- Report ambitious, cross-cutting, inclusive big-win climate action plans that deliver on those commitments.

This year, for the first time, when cities report their climate plans and actions for the OPCC, they will be assessed on how their efforts align with the Paris Agreement goal of a maximum of 1.5 °C of global warming. They will also receive guidance on big-win actions to help them get there. Given the importance of energy and buildings (e.g. investing and implementing renewables and energy efficiency) to help a city move towards 1.5 °C alignment, WWF Cities will also provide a series of global support tools focused on energy and buildings, including webinars, tips and guidance, which are open to OPCC candidate cities to use. In some cases, national WWF offices may provide other guidance as well, for example on consumption-based emissions or transportation.

To participate in the OPCC, cities are required to report their climate ambitions through CDP and ICLEI's unified reporting system and enter data through CDP's platform¹. The OPCC data requirement is fully aligned with the Common Reporting Framework of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM)². This means that cities can meet the GCoM reporting requirements via participating in the OPCC, and vice versa.

The OPCC has expanded since its inception: by 2018, more than 400 cities from 25 countries on 5 continents participated at least once in the OPCC.

¹ In previous rounds, cities reported their climate ambitions through ICLEI's carbonn Climate Registry (cCR). CDP and ICLEI are partnering to present one unified process for subnational climate action reporting. Beginning in April 2019, local and regional governments will only have to report once on CDP's platform. Publicly reported data will be automatically shared with ICLEI.

² For more information, please refer to Global Covenant of Mayors Common Reporting Framework in the following link: <https://bit.ly/2wRn1wf>

THE OPCC CYCLE FOR 2019-2020

The OPCC Cycle for 2019-2020 will consist of five stages (see Figure 1).

Stage 1: Registration and reporting

Cities wishing to participate in the OPCC need to:

1. Register their interest via their local WWF office or via email to opcc@wwf.se.
2. Opt-in to the OPCC through the CDP reporting platform.
Contact cities@cdp.net if you do not already have an account on the CDP platform. More information can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2RPdnC5>.
3. Meet data reporting requirements for the OPCC through CDP and ICLEI's unified reporting system, which are the same as for the GCoM.
4. Report online or submit reporting sheets, containing at least 1 mitigation, 1 inventory³ and 1 action/action plan. The deadline for submission is **July 10th**. Thereafter, cities will only be able to make minor corrections and/or updates to their reported data until August 31st.

Stage 2: Pre-screening assessment

The data submitted by cities will be assessed against the '*pre-screening scoring matrix*' (see section IV). This focusses on carbon reduction targets, greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories and climate action plans. This process is designed not only to highlight best performers, but also to provide feedback to each participating city, suggesting how they can develop their climate ambition and action. The top performers in each country (up to 3) will be shortlisted for further review. This process will lead to a short-listing of *up to 3 finalist cities per country*.

Stage 3: Deep-dive assessment

Each shortlisted city will then enter a '*deep-dive*' assessment (see section IV) based on the climate action plans and documents they provide. This assessment will review the quality of a city's action plans, since poorly integrated, supported and adopted climate mitigation and adaptation plans have less chance of catalysing long-term action or change. This information will be documented and presented in city briefs that will help the OPCC expert jury make final evaluations. Just as for the pre-screening assessment, this process is designed to provide additional feedback to participants, and therefore will be shared with shortlisted cities.

Stage 4: Evaluation by OPCC Expert Jury

In line with taking ambitious, 1.5 °C-aligned action, the OPCC Expert Jury will focus on how shortlisted cities demonstrate:

- Clear commitment to tackle the effects of climate change, including the backing of the mayor or council, and dedicated resources for climate action;
- Ambitious mitigation and adaptation targets for both the mid-term and the long-term;

³ Cities that have initiated but not finalized their inventories can be exempt from this requirement. However, without inventory, feedback on 1.5 °C alignment cannot be performed.

- Evidence-based action planning that shows engagement with a broad set of stakeholders, assesses the powers the city has to implement the plan, and provides evidence of how the plan will be integrated in future decision-making.

Based on reported data, the OPCC Expert Jury⁴ will select National and Global OPCC winners with the most ambitious and inspiring commitments and actions.

Stage 5: Promotion and global awards

National and global OPCC winners will be profiled in OPCC awards ceremonies, conferences, press releases, media posts, videos and more. All cities should feel encouraged to participate in the OPCC. The aim is to celebrate successful climate action, highlight cities that are serious about climate change and encourage all cities to extend their ambition.

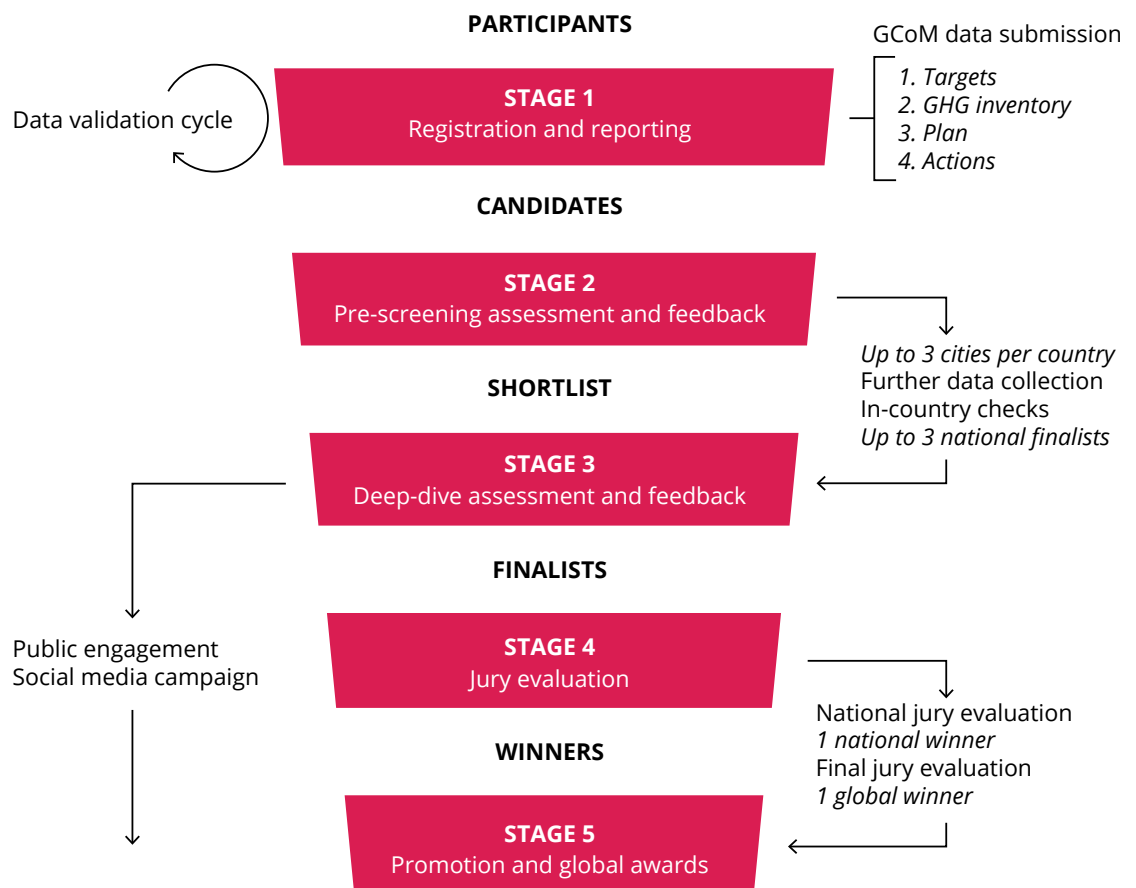


Figure 1. Outline of the 2019-2020 OPCC Cycle.

⁴ The OPCC Expert Jury is made up of leading urban sustainability and climate experts, representing UN institutions, international development banks, scientists and researchers, including representatives from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), leading city networks, and more. Find out more on the jury at: www.panda.org/opcc.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT BY WWF

Up to 3 cities per country will be invited to join the *We Love Cities* (WLC) campaign. WLC is a social media and engagement campaign that allows people to express support for sustainable urban development by demonstrating sustainability actions in their favourite OPCC city, posting improvement suggestions for these cities or messages of solidarity. You can read more at welovecities.org. Through WLC, cities can:

- Inspire and raise awareness of progress being made in cities to support sustainability.
- Give the general public an opportunity to celebrate, vote and upgrade their city through making suggestions to decision makers.
- Reward communities and strengthen the bond between the public and decision makers.

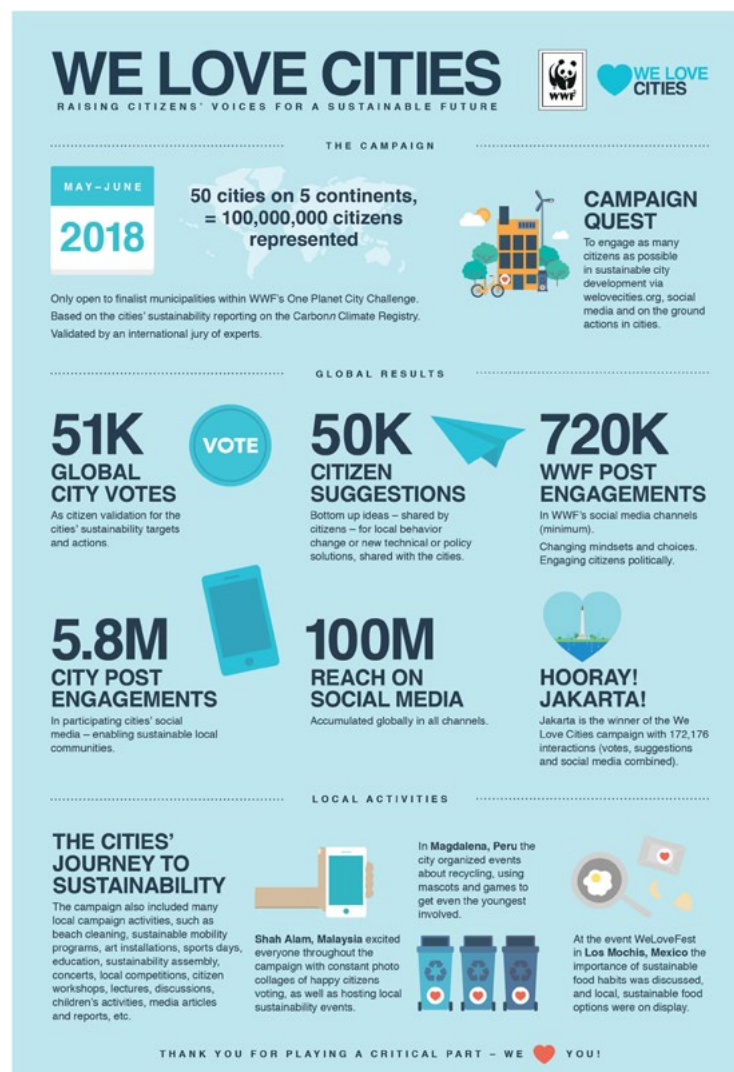


Figure 2. *We Love Cities* Campaign success stories.

ALIGNING CITIES WITH PARIS AGREEMENT'S AMBITIONS

In 2015, an historic accord was signed, bringing together nearly 200 nations in a joint commitment to reduce GHG emissions – the *Paris Agreement*. The aim was “*holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels*”. To support this goal, the OPCC has been redesigned to align cities to the latter goal – knowing that cities are ready to tackle this challenge. To help concentrate ambition and catalyse action, the 2019-2020 OPCC will support candidate cities to demonstrate that they have science-based emissions reduction targets that align with a 1.5 °C future and that these targets are supported by evidence-based climate action planning.

Science-based target setting

Setting science-based targets allows cities to plan and implement emissions reductions at the right level of ambition and at the right pace, according to what climate science has established is required to protect the global climate system⁵. This approach also ensures that cities have a fair, robust and pragmatic benchmark against which to compare their greenhouse gases reductions targets.

OPCC's approach for science-based target setting internalizes the latest findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), as presented by its Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C⁶. The latest IPCC evidence suggests that the most effective approach for achieving targets is to focus on setting the direction of emissions reductions by defining a clear end goal and interim target. For this reason the OPCC requires cities to have a mid-term and a long-term target for Scope 1 and 2 emissions⁷:

- 2030: Reduce per capita emissions in-line with a global reduction of 50%
- 2050: Reduce total emissions to net zero

5 For more information, please refer to: IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 151 pp.

6 IPCC, 2018: Summary for Policymakers. In: Global warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty [V. Masson-Delmotte, P. Zhai, H. O. Pörtner, D. Roberts, J. Skea, P. R. Shukla, A. Pirani, W. Moufouma-Okia, C. Péan, R. Pidcock, S. Connors, J. B. R. Matthews, Y. Chen, X. Zhou, M. I. Gomis, E. Lonnoy, T. Maycock, M. Tignor, T. Waterfield (eds.)]. World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, 32 pp.

7 According to IPCC (2014) 'Scope 1' emissions relate to those GHG emissions that are from sources owned or controlled by the reporting entity. On the other hand, 'Scope 2' emissions relate to indirect GHG emissions associated with the production of electricity, heat, or steam purchased by the reporting entity. Source: Allwood J.M., V. Bozzetti, N.K. Dubash, L. Gómez-Echeverri, and C. von Stechow, 2014: Glossary. In: Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Edenhofer, O., R. Pichs-Madruga, Y. Sokona, E. Farahani, S. Kadner, K. Seyboth, A. Adler, I. Baum, S. Brunner, P. Eickemeier, B. Kriemann, J. Savolainen, S. Schlömer, C. von Stechow, T. Zwickel and J.C. Minx (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA

Recognizing that cities are at different stages of development with vastly different emissions profiles, OPCC takes equity into account by introducing the Human Development Index (HDI). A HDI factor corrects mid-term targets so cities are required to reduce per capita emissions at different rates. As a result, prescribed 2030 targets range between 25-65% reductions depending on development levels as determined by the HDI⁸.

Consumption-based emissions

Typically, cities only consider Scope 1 and 2 emissions when developing climate action plans. The OPCC encourages leading cities to go further and consider the additional emissions of imported goods and services produced outside a city's boundary. This approach links carbon budgets to consumer responsibility, and since most cities are net importers, can drastically increase the emissions associated with a city.

Consumption-based emissions reporting has been widely-discussed for several years, but has only recently appeared on city climate agendas. It is an active area of research and draws parallels to Scope 3 emissions reporting by companies.

To advance this discussion, the OPCC will consider consumption-based emissions and the extent of action to reduce them in shortlisted cities. This is to raise awareness of the impact of consumption behaviour on a more holistic city emissions reduction approach, especially in cities in OECD countries.

⁸ More information of OPCC's methodology to 1.5 °C alignment can be reviewed in detail in the full technical description of the Updated OPCC Assessment Framework, available here: <https://bit.ly/2CVDepJ>.

EVIDENCE-BASED ASSESSMENT OF CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING

Targeting deep and holistic emissions reduction is a vital commitment, but it must be underpinned by a clear and actionable plan. The OPCC supports this by incorporating learning from leading climate action plan frameworks and evaluating the process of developing the plan, as well as the actions it contains.

The OPCC pre-screening assessment tests whether mitigation actions align with the main emissions sectors and whether adaptation actions map effectively to climate risks. To support knowledge sharing, we provide each candidate city with feedback, including examples of how similar cities are taking climate action.

Climate action plans in shortlisted cities are then tested further. Stakeholder engagement is evaluated, actions investigated for environmental, social and economic co-benefits and the implementation, monitoring and review process are validated.

Pre-screening assessment for participating cities

The OPCC will perform a quantitative pre-screening process, focussing on carbon-reduction targets, GHG inventories and climate action plans for all participating cities. The tables below list indicators along with their scoring criteria. Scores indicate the weighting assigned by WWF to each category. Figure 2 provides a visual example of the pre-screening assessment report.

For pre-screening evaluation, the category scores will be judged according to two key dimensions: ‘*Vision*’ represents a city’s commitment and the ability to drive change, while ‘*Impact*’ represents the reduction potential of current city climate action. Cities accumulating the highest combined score will be shortlisted and move to the next phase.

Following registration and reporting, the pre-screening assessment will be provided as feedback to all participating cities (see section II).

COMMITMENTS

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Political commitment	Commitment organisations	10
	Mayor/city leader letter of commitment	

TARGETS AND GOALS

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Mitigation targets	GHG targets towards carbon neutrality	40
	Renewable electricity targets towards carbon neutrality	
	Energy efficiency targets towards carbon neutrality	
Adaptation targets	Adaptation goals and milestones towards a climate resilient city	5

EVIDENCE FOR ACTION PLANNING

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Emissions reporting	Inventory provided	20
	Inventory status	
	Scope of emissions considered	
	Sectors of inventory	
	Level of confidence	
	Alignment with GPC	
	Gases covered	
Climate change risk or vulnerability assessment	Assessment attached	20
	Boundary of assessment	
	Areas/sectors covered	
	Identification of vulnerable populations	
	Update of vulnerability assessment	
	Impact of hazards	
	Critical sectors identified/mapped	
	Social impact identified/mapped	
	Future impact description	

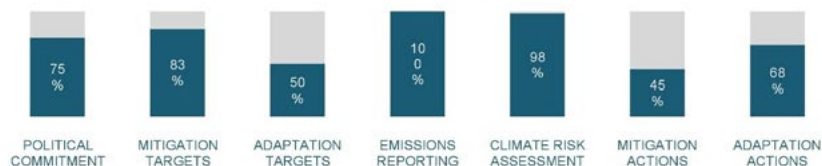
CLIMATE AND ADAPTATION ACTION PLANS

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Mitigation actions in climate action plan	Climate action or energy access plan	30
	Stage of implementation of climate action plan	
	Areas covered by action plan	
	Emissions reduction	
	Status of mitigation actions	
Adaptation actions in climate adaptation plan	Climate adaptation plan	25
	Stage of implementation of climate adaptation plan	
	Boundary of climate adaptation plan	
	Alignment with hazards	
	Status of adaptation actions	
	Benefits from adaptation actions	

Pre-Screening City Feedback Report EXAMPLE



The pre-screening assessment is split into 7 categories, providing a comprehensive review of the climate action planning process and highlighting areas for future development. Full details of the methodology are available [here](#).



Pilot City Comparison

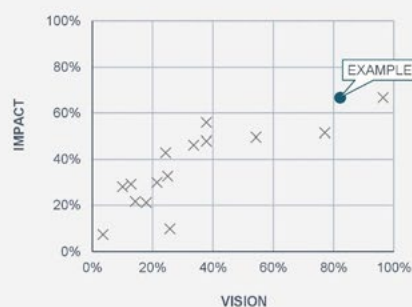
15 global cities participated in the OPCC pilot testing. This analysis illustrates how **EXAMPLE** compares, under two key dimensions:

VISION

A review of city commitments and an assessment of the ability to drive change. This includes: Political Commitment, Mitigation Targets, Adaptation targets and Emissions Reporting.

IMPACT

The reduction potential of climate actions, the role of renewable energy and the emphasis on energy efficiency. This includes: Climate Risk Assessment, Mitigation Actions and Adaptation Actions.



City Emissions

This analysis is based on the reported inventory data, adjusted based on population and GDP projections. The reduction potential reflects the reported actions and the sector labels gives this as a percentage of sectorial emissions. The gaps highlight which sectors future action should address. The targets assessment compares the city GHG targets against science-based targets calculated based on national HDI data.

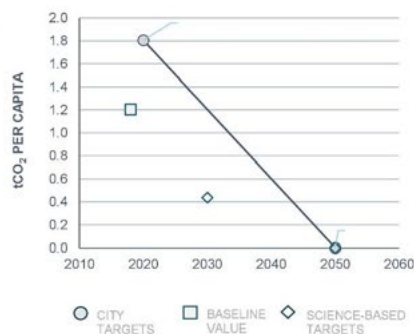
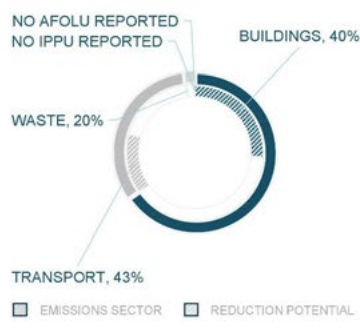


Figure 3. Example of OPCC participant city pre-screening report (page 1/2).

‘Deep-dive’ assessment for shortlisted cities

The OPCC will provide a ‘deep-dive’ assessment to shortlisted cities. The assessment will examine in detail a city’s climate action plan and planning process. The tables below list the indicators along with their scoring criteria. The scoring will be based on each city’s submitted climate action plan and supporting documents. Figure 3 provides a visual example of the deep-dive assessment report.

Since the deep-dive complements and develops the pre-screening assessment, scores for both sections will be combined to give the total city score.

Following pre-screening assessment and shortlisting, the deep-dive assessment will be provided as feedback to all shortlisted cities (see section II).

COMMITMENTS

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Resources	Dedicated financial, human and time resources for climate action planning	10
	Dedicated financial, human and time resources for climate adaptation planning	

TARGETS AND GOALS

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Ambition for wider benefits	Wider benefits considered in climate action plan	10
	Wider benefits considered in climate adaptation plan	
Mitigation targets	Consumption-based emissions target	25
	Energy efficiency targets towards carbon neutrality	

EVIDENCE FOR ACTION PLANNING

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Stakeholder engagement	Stakeholder engagement for climate action planning	10
	Stakeholder engagement for climate adaptation planning	
Powers assessment	Powers assessment for climate action planning	10
	Powers assessment for climate adaptation planning	
Planning integration	Integration of climate action plan with existing policies, programmes and plans	10
	Integration of climate adaptation plan with existing policies, programmes and plans	

CLIMATE AND ADAPTATION ACTION PLANS

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Mitigation actions in climate action plan	Strategic alignment and evidence	20
	Action boundary	
	Delivery timescales	
	Cost-benefit analysis	
	Potential barriers	
	Action ownership and stakeholders	
Adaptation actions in climate action plan	Strategic alignment and evidence	20
	Action boundary	
	Delivery timescales	
	Cost-benefit analysis	
	Potential barriers	
	Action ownership and stakeholders	
Synergies and trade-offs between mitigation and adaptation	Synergies and trade-offs identified between mitigation and adaptation actions	10

IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PLANS

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Implementation of climate action plan	Extent of mitigation actions planned with confirmed funding / in construction	10
	Extent of mitigation actions completed / in operation	
Implementation of climate adaptation plan	Proportion of mitigation actions planned with confirmed funding / in construction	10
	Proportion of mitigation actions completed / in operation	

MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Monitoring, reporting and evaluation	Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of mitigation and adaption actions implementation	10
	Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of adaption actions impact and co-benefits	
Revision process	Commitment to update the climate action and adaptation plans	5

COMMUNICATION, OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

SUB-CATEGORY	INDICATOR	SCORE
Communication, outreach and advocacy	Communication strategy	10
	Knowledge sharing	

EXAMPLE

The OPCC deep-dive assessment is a detailed review of the climate action plan and the planning process. It builds on the pre-screening assessment and the scores for both sections combine to give the total city score. Full details of the methodology are available [here](#).

**Shortlist Comparison**

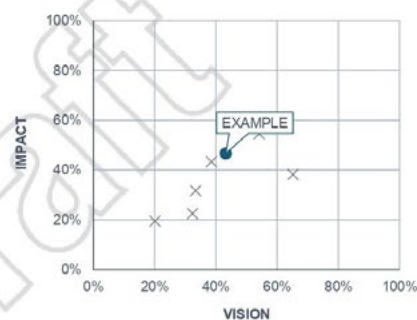
Following the pre-screening assessment, 6 pilot cities were shortlisted. This analysis illustrates how the cities compare, under two key dimensions:

VISION

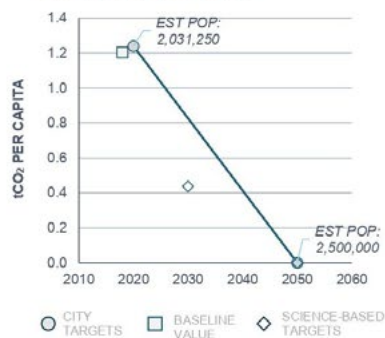
A review of city commitments and an assessment of the ability to drive change. This includes: Political Commitment, Mitigation Targets, Adaptation targets and Emissions Reporting.

IMPACT

The reduction potential of climate actions, the role of renewable energy and the emphasis on energy efficiency. This includes: Climate Risk Assessment, Climate Actions, Monitoring and Reporting and Communication and Outreach.

**City Emissions Targets**

The analysis compares city GHG targets against calculated science-based targets.

**Key Recommendations**

Based on the detailed review of the climate action plan and supporting documents provided by the city, the following opportunities could be investigated by the city to prepare, plan and implement future climate action:

- [TO BE ADDED]
- [TO BE ADDED]
- [TO BE ADDED]
- [TO BE ADDED]
- [TO BE ADDED]

Figure 4. Example of OPCC participant city deep-dive assessment report (page 1/2).

ONE PLANET CITY CHALLENGE

CITIES

Cities are the epicentre of sustainable development. Working with cities is critical for achieving a sustainable global footprint and conservation of biodiversity.

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

In the sustainable city, ecosystem services – both in the city and in relation to the world around it – stand for a wide range of benefits.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINTS

Smart, efficient cities can reduce their footprints while raising quality of life.

LEADERSHIP

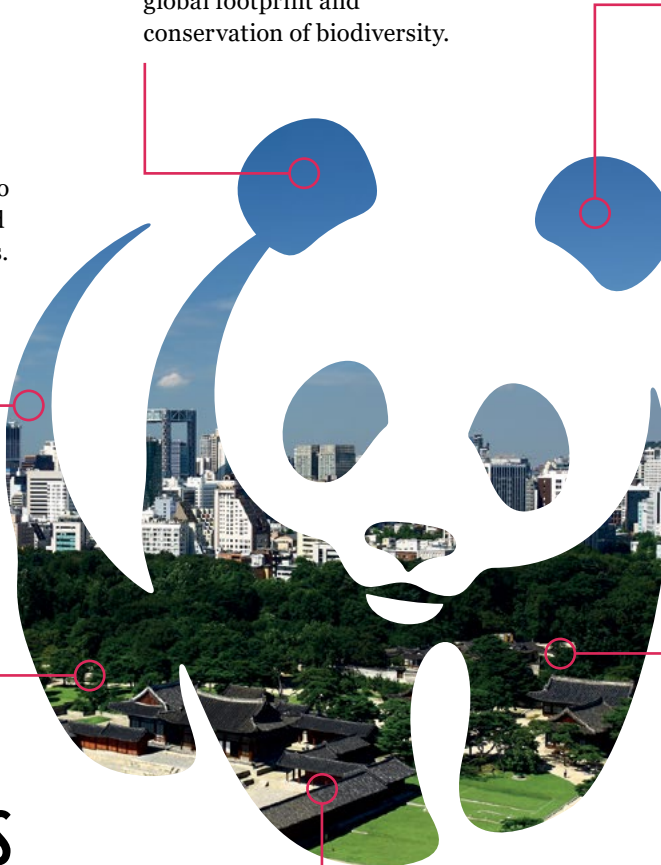
A strong focus on urban solutions is needed in order to secure a globally sustainable development in the coming decades.

INVESTMENTS AND INNOVATIONS

Sustainable cities require new ways of thinking about and organizing the city's needs, functions and infrastructure.

BRIDGING THE GAP

Cities and their residents will play a critical role in closing the gap between nations' commitments so far and the additional emission reduction needed to keep global warming well below 2 degrees.



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

www.panda.org