

## High-level principles for GCoM city reporting in 2020

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### Background

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The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM) fully recognizes the socioeconomic, political, and geographical impacts that COVID-19 is having on communities around the world. This includes the prioritization of responses to the pandemic and its immediate consequences, and the safeguarding of individuals, families, and societies-at-large. As cities and local governments develop sustainable recovery plans, GCoM seeks to clarify its reporting principles for cities committed to the alliance in 2020.

### High-level principles

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1. **The GCoM alliance is committed to providing flexibility in the 2020 reporting process and timeline** to cities and local governments. Both MyCovenant and the CDP-ICLEI Unified Reporting System are open and actively receiving submissions for the 2020 reporting cycle, and cities are invited to report if they have the capacity to do so.
2. **Cities and local governments committed to GCoM – or wishing to commit and thus report – are invited, but not required, to report** their climate data and actions to any of the alliance's recognized reporting platforms.
  - a. Cities reporting to [MyCovenant](#) may submit their information at any point in 2020. As per usual practice, cities can request a delay to submit their action plan and/or monitoring report via MyCovenant by contacting the Helpdesk at [info@eumayors.eu](mailto:info@eumayors.eu).
  - b. Cities reporting to the [CDP-ICLEI Unified Reporting System](#) may submit their information at any point between 06 April 2020 and 31 December 2020. Those who do not report their climate data and actions by 31 December 2020 must submit for the 2021 reporting cycle. These details will be released at a later date.
3. **Cities and local governments will not lose any badges earned and maintained in the 2019 reporting cycle, regardless of whether or not they report data in the 2020 reporting cycle.** Recognizing the challenges that cities may face in accessing inventory data, dedicating resources to city climate reporting, and/or rapidly-changing priorities on the ground due to COVID-19, any GCoM badges earned prior to the 2020 reporting cycle will be maintained – even if these badges were set to expire without further reporting in 2020<sup>1</sup>.
4. **Cities who choose to report in 2020 and fulfil reporting requirements as outlined in the Common Reporting Framework (CRF) will qualify for and may be awarded GCoM badges** in the 2020 reporting cycle. The validity period for any badges earned in 2020 will start from the year 2020. The validity period for badges maintained from previous years starts from the year each badge was first earned<sup>2</sup>.
5. **The Global Secretariat, Regional/National Helpdesks, and reporting platforms remain at the disposal of GCoM local governments** For any questions or concerns about reporting in 2020, please reach out to us at [info@globalcovenantofmayors.org](mailto:info@globalcovenantofmayors.org)

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<sup>1</sup> For further information on reporting timelines for GCoM committed cities and local governments, please refer to the Common Reporting Framework and/or contact your regional helpdesk.