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GCoM Experts Exchange Program Application Form

February 2023

What does the GCoM Experts Exchange Program offer to cities?

The [Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy \(GCoM\) Experts Exchange Program \(EEP\)](#) aims at facilitating the exchange of knowledge and best practices among signatory cities from different regions of the GCoM, particularly on the technical and practical aspects of the implementation of actions and projects included in the Climate Action Plans (CAPs) developed by the participating cities. Furthermore, it aims at creating opportunities to further engage GCoM signatories and Regional/National Covenants in city-to-city relations and connections, that can lead to further and more successful cooperation in the context of climate actions implementation. A deeper interaction between GCoM signatory cities would help to facilitate transfer of capacities for CAPs formulation and implementation from a city-to-city perspective.

Please note: only GCoM signatory cities that have developed/are developing and implementing a Climate Action Plan consistent with the Common Reporting Framework requirements can apply.

The Experts Exchange Program will support financially and organizationally exchanges between **20 GCoM signatory cities**, structured in 10 pairings on a thematic basis. Each exchange will allow for two experts from each city visiting the respectively paired GCoM signatory city in a different Regional/National Covenant.

The 20 cities (and related teams) will be coupled in **10 pairings**, primarily based on their main themes of interest and priorities in their CAPs implementation, and ideally starting a city-to-city cooperation that could continue and cover even further steps and cities' stakeholders of the respective CAPs implementation process. The pairings activities will hence happen in the very common sectors between the two cities, and oriented to facilitate the projects' implementation.

The cities will be selected in a geographically balanced manner, covering all the 13 Regional/National Covenants. The Regional/National Covenants who have the highest numbers of signatory cities will be offered the opportunity to provide more than one city. The pairings will be selected by the GCoM Secretariat, in full coordination and cooperation with the relevant Regional/National Covenants.

Each city will perform one exchange visit to the paired city, and the paired city will reciprocate the visit later in the process, so to have two exchange visits for each one pairing. Each exchange visit will be performed by **two experts** from the city's staff on a **three (min.) – five**

(max.) full working-days period (travels excluded). The exchanges are planned to happen **between January 2023 and March 2024**. The GCoM Secretariat will cover all travel and accommodation expenditures for all the exchange visits.

What are cities committing to?

Cities participating in the Experts Exchange Program commit to enhance their efforts in further developing their own Climate Action Plans through sharing their knowledge and learning from their peers.

They commit to exchange closely with the city they have been paired with until the program's end (September 2024), and to use the exchanges outcomes to further develop and implement their own Climate Action Plan.

To ensure a successful exchange and roll-out of measures and actions, cities will have to commit to an adequate amount of time and resources in order to carry out the work. These resources should be adequate to the ambition of the actions planned.

Application form

The following Application Form has to be filled in by GCoM cities in order to apply for the GCoM Experts Exchange Program. Successful candidates will be paired with another GCoM city that faces similar challenges in CAPs implementation, allowing both parties to build cooperation and share knowledge through a mutual Experts visit of 3 – 5 working days.

The application form must be submitted by the 8th of March 2023 CoB, to the following [email address](mailto:experts.exchange@globalcovenantofmayors.eu): experts.exchange@globalcovenantofmayors.eu

Privacy Statement

Your privacy is important to us. This [privacy statement](#) for the Application for the Expert Exchange Program explains the personal data we process, how we process it, and for what purposes.

Section 1 - Eligibility

City Profile

A. Info on the applicant city
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• City Name• Population (approx.)• Local government website (URL)• Number of municipal employees• Mayor’s name

Contact details

B. Contact for application
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name and last name• Function/Job title• Name of division/Department where you work• E-mail address• Phone number• I confirm I am officially mandated by the city for the submission of this application <p>(Signature)</p>

C. Capacity (resources, time, knowledge, skills) and motivation

1. Why are you interested in joining the GCoM Experts Exchange Program (see above for the scope of the program)? Please briefly explain (max. two lines):

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2. By submitting this application your city will engage with the GCoM Experts Exchange Program, including (in case of award):

- Availability to be paired with another GCoM city from a different region for technical exchanges and cooperation on the agreed topics;
- Availability to share with the paired city's team own Climate Action Plans documents, materials and information for development of cooperation;
- Provision of technical team (two persons) for one-week visit to the paired city;
- Availability to host a technical team (two people) from the paired city within own offices and premises for development of the pairing cooperation.

(please note: The GCoM Secretariat will support all financial costs related to travels and accommodation of both cities' delegations – see the previous Guidance for further details).

Is the GCoM Experts Exchange Program sufficiently clear and agreed? Yes |_|. No |_|

3. Please explain the capacity that your city can commit to the GCoM Experts Exchange Program (e.g. staff time, expertise, etc.)

- Staff number and time.
- Units/Departments involved (either not on a continuous basis)
- Specific expertise in the sectors of
- Other.....

D. Main Sector/Topic of cooperation

What topics/sectors (in which your city has mandate/responsibility) do you wish to address through this cooperation?

Please select your area of interest (up to 3 fields):

- Energy transition
- Access to energy/energy poverty
- Risks and adaptation to climate emergency
- Housing
- Urban mobility
- Sustainable use of land and nature-based solutions
- Waste management/circular economy
- Water and sanitation
- Social inclusion
- Urban poverty
- Other.

E. Region/City for cooperation

Which GCoM region or city would you prefer to work with? Please name them and rank them according to preference (max. 2 preferences) and explain both why you would like to partner with them and whether your city has had any previous relations with them.

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Section 2 - Selection

Climate Action Plan update and implementation

1. Is your city's Climate Action Plan addressing all three pillars?

Mitigation
Adaptation
Access to Energy

2. Has your city already started implementation of its Climate Action Plan?

YES NO

3. Please list the 5 (max.) main actions already under implementation

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.

4. Are/have national institutions (Ministries etc.) and/or other administrative entities (Regions, Provinces, Districts) been involved in the CAP actions' implementation?

Yes
 Only on single specific actions
 Not at all

5. Are/Have different stakeholders been involved in the CAP formulation and implementation?

Engagement of local business
 Engagement of research community
 Engagement of citizens/citizens groups
 Other

None