

**COP21: INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM “CLIMATE POLICY AND LEGAL ASPECTS”
SASS; ACEF; GIZ; SHANGHAI UNIVERSITY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND LAW**

CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE CONTEXT OF COP21

SHANGHAI, 2. NOVEMBER 2015

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- **Non-governmental think-tank**
- **Staff: ~ 120 Berlin, Washington, Brussels**
- **Inter- and transdisciplinary environmental research, policy analysis, consultancy**
- **Energy&climate, resources, biodiversity, transition, water.**



**ECOLOGIC
INSTITUTE**



- **POCACITO facilitates the transition of cities to a sustainable or “post-carbon” economic model.**
- **13 partners from 11 countries, lead by Ecologic Institute**
- **Activities in Europe, China, Brazil and globally**
- **Participatory approach with local stakeholders and citizens**
- **Qualitative-quantitative approach with storylines translated into indicator values**
- **Impact assessment building on common set of Key Performance Indicators**
- **> Post-carbon city roadmaps**
- **<http://pocacito.eu/>, <https://twitter.com/EUCities>**
- This project has received funding from the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no. 613286.

Why Cities?

Cities and COP21

- **Legal connections**
- **Major activities**

**Project: Pocacito – Post-Carbon
Cities of Tomorrow**

Cities are the greatest creations of humanity.

Daniel Libeskind

Urbanization is (...)about a complete change from rural to urban style in terms of industry structure, employment, living environment and social security.

Li Keqiang

Why?

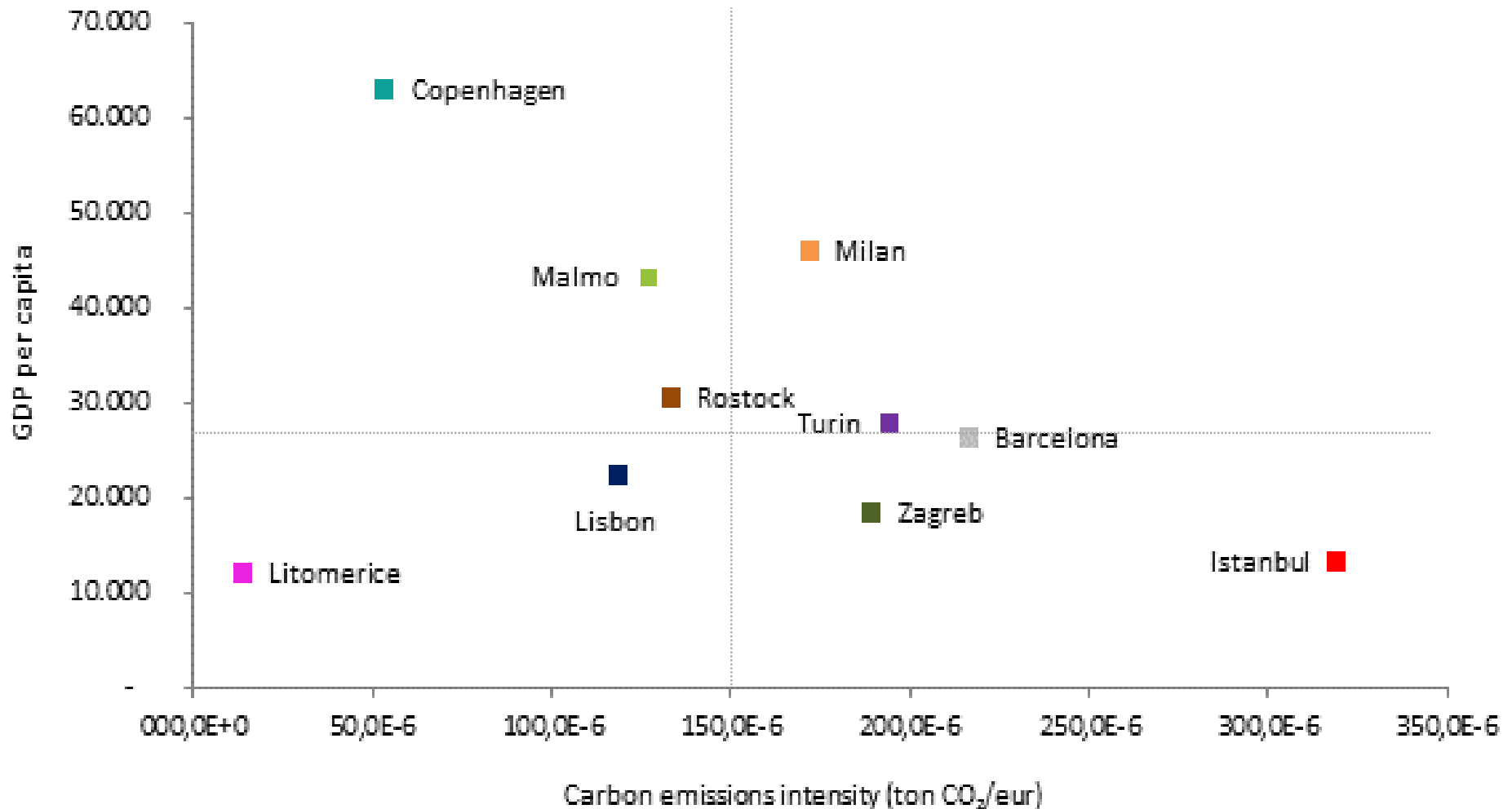
- ▶ **Higher living standards**
- ▶ **More opportunities**

- ▶ **Today over 50% of all mankind live in cities**
- ▶ **2050: 75%!**

CO2 emissions per capita



GDP per capita vs Carbon emissions intensity



Cities learning from each other

- ▶ **C40 – Cities Climate Change Leadership Group**
- ▶ **Local Government Climate Roadmap**
- ▶ **Compact of Mayors ...**
- ▶ **Cities learn from another, transdisciplinary research helps to distill lessons learned: Pocacito project.**

Cities and COP 21



- ▶ Lima - Paris Action Agenda
- ▶ Fourth pillar of “The Paris Alliance”: The Action Agenda
- ▶ Joint statement of Non-State actors
- ▶ Draft text refers repeatedly to non-state actors
- ▶ Non-state Actor zone for Climate Action (NAZCA)
- ▶ ADP Workstream 2, Technical examination process
- ▶ “Summit of Local Governments for Climate” during the COP21 in Paris in December 2015
- ▶ “Transformative Actions Programme”

BUT...



- ▶ Nothing concrete ... cities (and communities) are no subjects of international law (hence no contractual obligations)
- ▶ “encourage ...” and “welcomes...”
- ▶ Non-state actors are not a homogenous group

Some ideas to make cities stronger in COP

- ▶ Clear definition of roles
- ▶ The agreement could bind states to work with non-state actors
- ▶ Could the agreement include non-state actors such as cities?
- ▶ Agreement could support institutions that shall cooperate with cities or other non-state actors
- ▶ Inclusion in National Adaption Plans?

Let's discuss!

The fight against climate change needs cities – therefore they need to play a bigger role in COP21!

There is more than enough networking going on already – leave the capacities to do work on the ground!

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

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