

Ecologic Institute

Science and Policy
for a Sustainable World



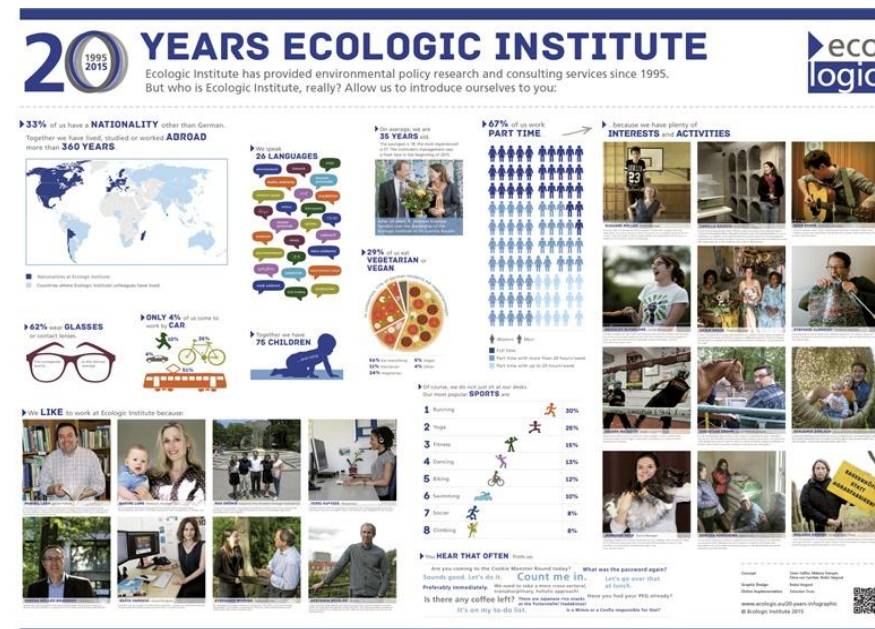
The Evolving Role of Cities as Non-state Actors in the International Climate Regime

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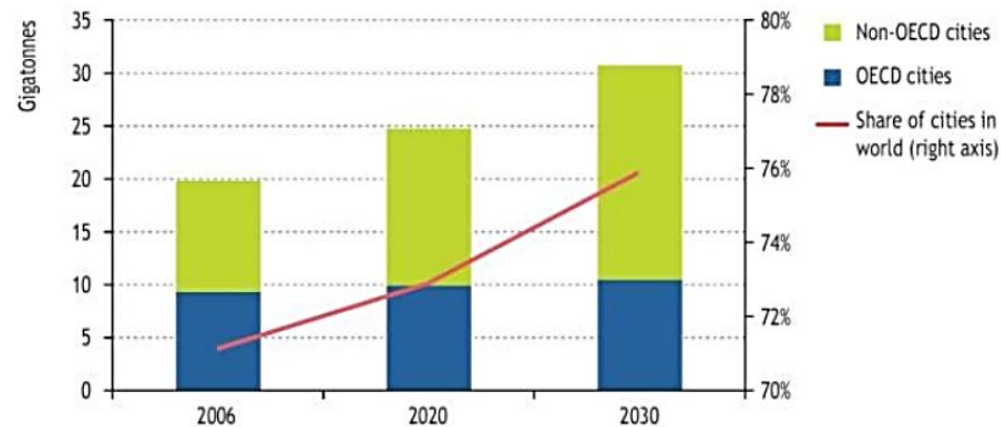
- Not-for-profit think tank , founded 1995
- Environmental research, policy analysis and advice
- International, interdisciplinary team of about 130 people
- Offices: Berlin, Brussels, Washington
- Independent, non-partisan



Overview

- 1. Why are Cities relevant in the Context of CC?**
- 2. Cities in the International Climate Regime – Milestones und Changing Roles**
- 3. What do Cities do?**
- 4. Conclusions**

Why Cities? Because they are major emitters

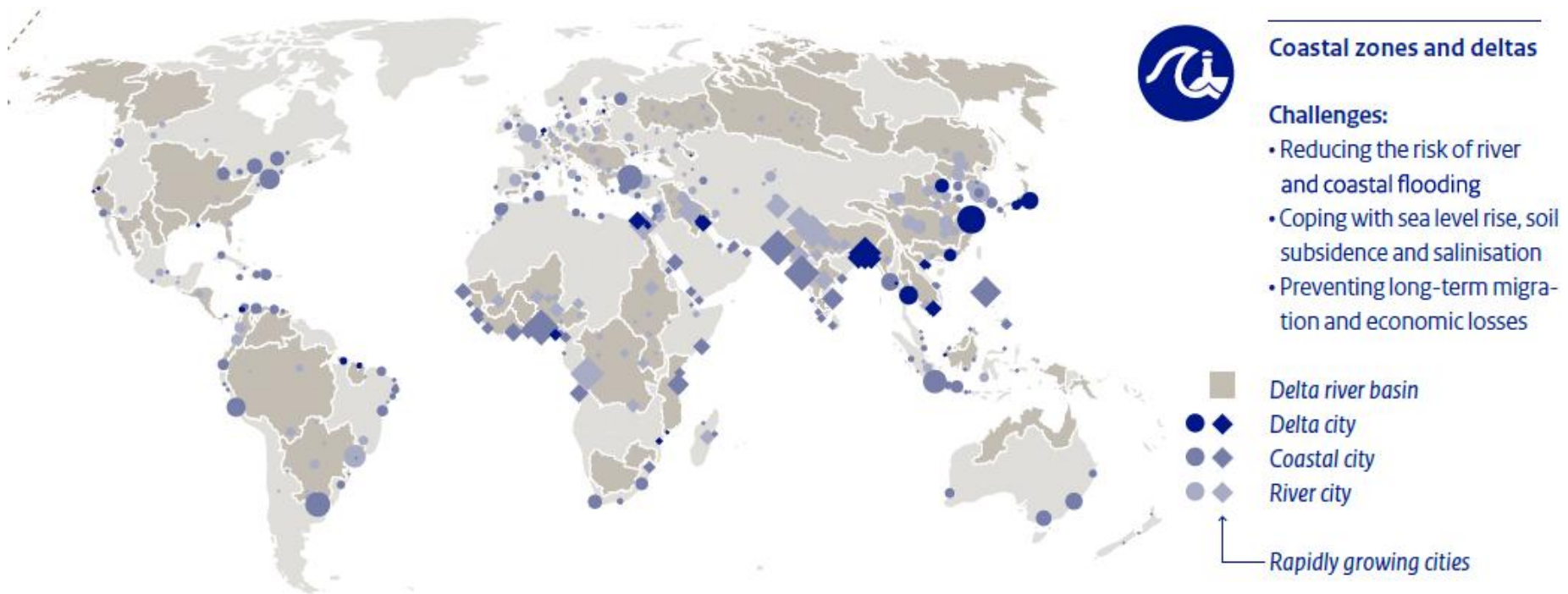


> 70%

of global energy-related CO₂ emissions are attributable to cities

www.ghgprotocol.org/city-accounting

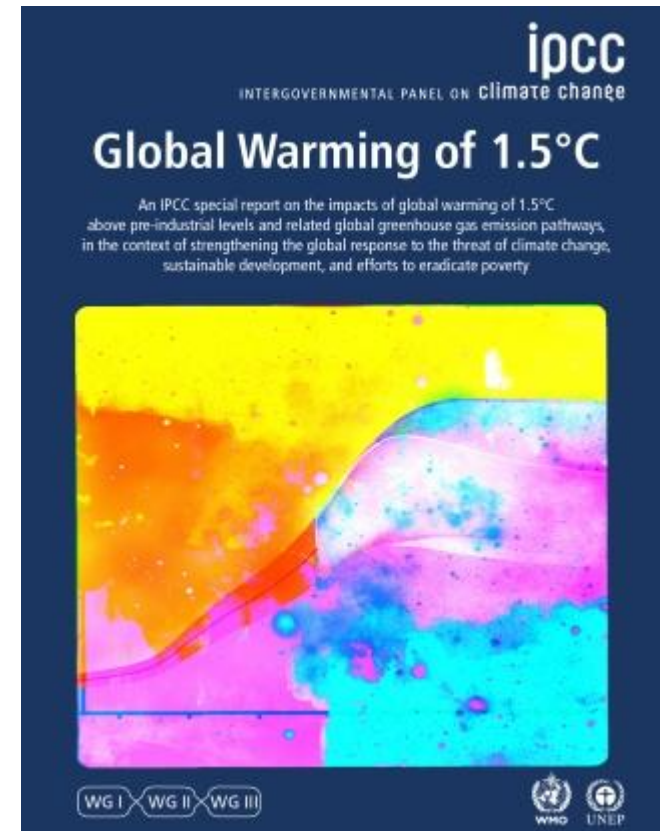
Why Cities? Because they need to adapt



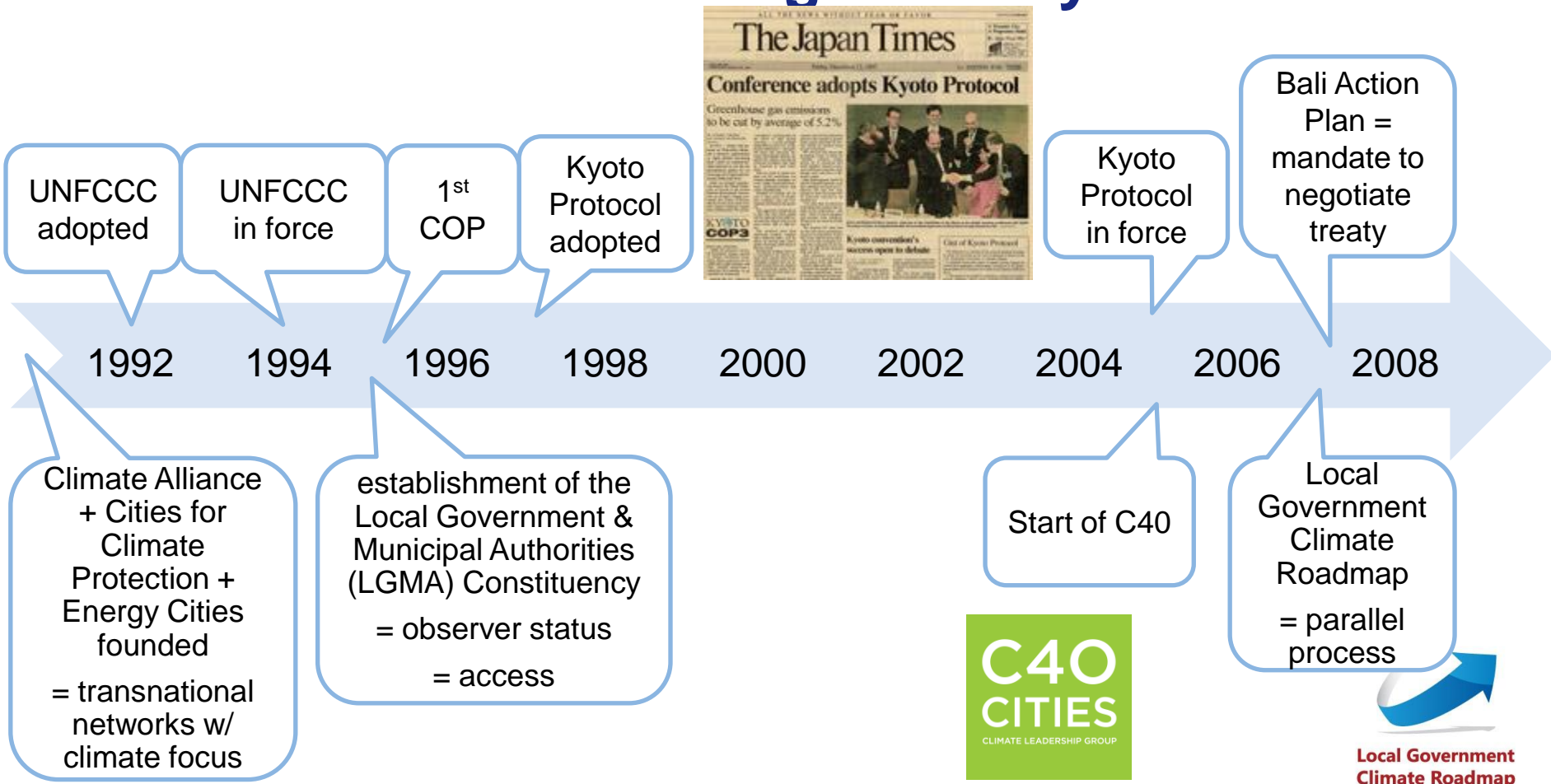
Source: PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency 2018

1.5° IPCC Report confirms this

- 2°C = greater risks to urban areas than 1.5°C
 - risks depend on vulnerability of location (coastal?), sectors (energy, water, transport), levels of poverty & mix of formal / informal settlements.
- Action needed on adaptation & mitigation
- Green infrastructure can be more cost effective than conventional infrastructure
- limited literature on the risks of warming of 1.5°C and 2°C in urban areas



Cities have an increasing visibility...



... in climate negotiations



“regulatory” vs “catalytic & facilitative regime”

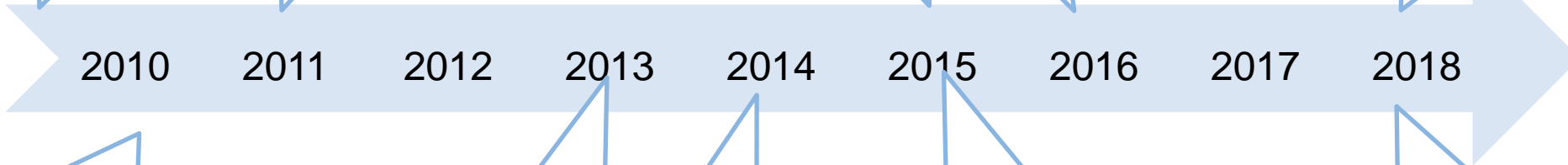
Copenhagen ☹️

Durban mandate

Paris Agreement adopted

Paris Agreement in force

IPCC 1.5° report, COP24 Katowice



first dialogue of local leaders with COP presidency

„Cities Day“ announced/ endorsed by Secretariate & Presidency;; ADP workshop on urbanisation;; Friends of Cities“

LPPA & NAZCA Platform = key outcome & visibility

Today: 9k cities

NPA = 4th Pillar; Paris decision & NDCs recognize importance of action by NPAs & introduce new soft elements

CitiesIPCC Cities and Climate Change Science Conference

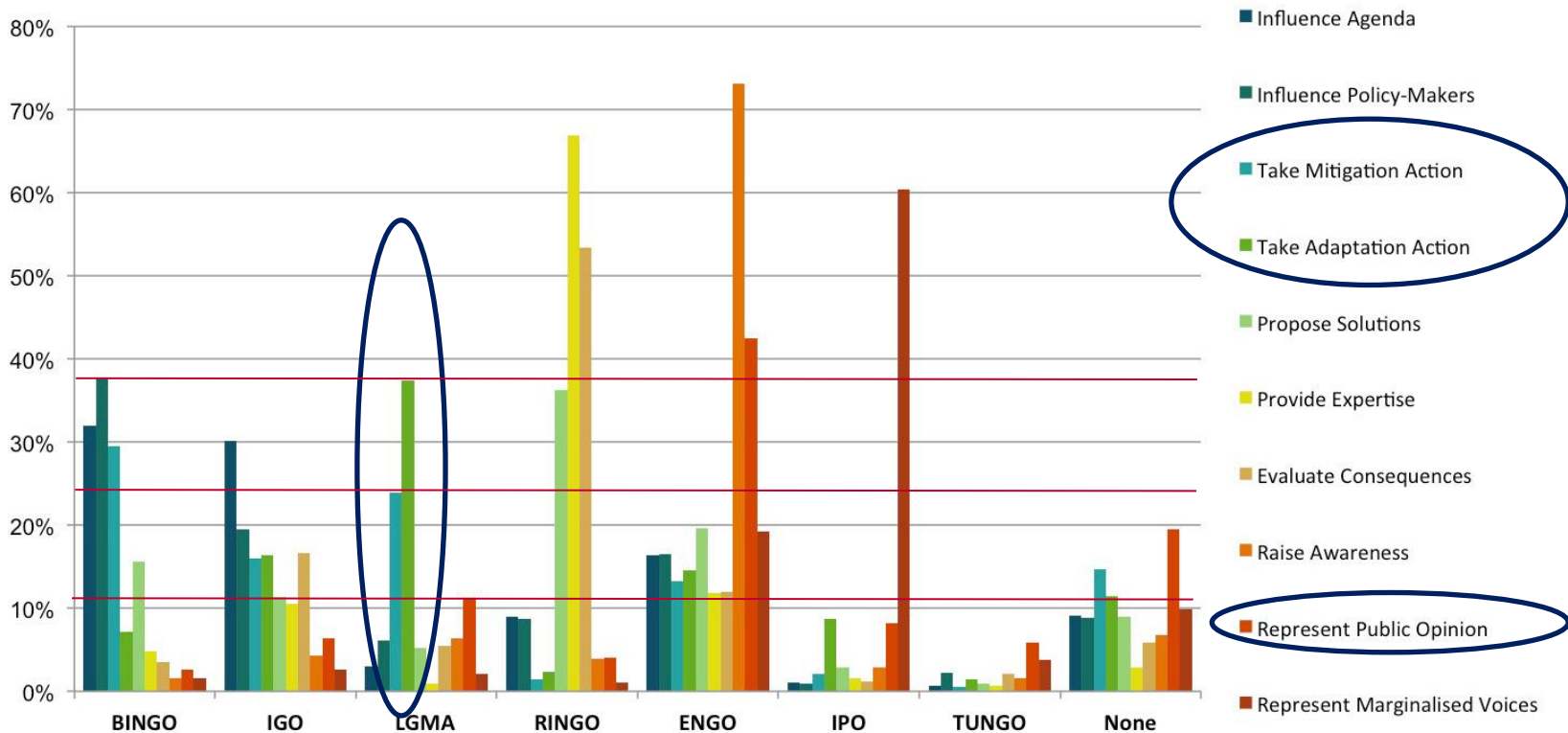
the 2030 Agenda

CITIES
2018 CONFERENCE
IPCC



Local level important for climate action

Perception of Role of Non-party Actors in the context of Paris



Source: International Negotiations Survey 2018

Examples of mitigation commitments of cities

Main dimensions	Influencing factors	Respective design elements	Cities				
			Berlin	Bogota	Denver	Kempton	Sydney
			2016	2015	2015	2013	2017
Long-term stability	Political commitment	Political support	Broad	in flux	Broad	Broad	Broad
		Stakeholder involvement	Extensive	Limited	Extensive	Extensive	Extensive
	Legal bindingness	Legal framework	Yes	No	No	No	No
	Adaptability	Adjustment option foreseen (main targets)	Limited	Limited	Yes	Limited	Yes
Transformational potential	Strength of the target	Long-term target defined	Yes (2050)	Yes (2050)	Yes (2050)	Yes (2050)	Yes (2050)
		Target enshrined in law	Yes	No	No	No	No
		Interim milestones, budgets	2020, 2030	2020, 2025, 2030, 2038	2020	No	2030
	Implementation stringency	Monitoring & evaluation process	Yes	Foreseen	Yes	Yes	Yes
		Progress gap mechanism	Yes	Foreseen	Partially	Yes	Yes
	Policy impact	Policies included or process for defining them	process in the law	Yes	specific policies, limited process	specific policies & a process	specific policies & process
Overarching factor	Institutional set-up	New institutions with distinct mandates	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	staff capacity

Duwe et al., Paris compatible governance, Ecologic Institute, 2017

Conclusions: Cities in the context of the PA

- Cities strongly **affected** by cc = genuine interest in mitigation/adaptation
- Within limits, cities can **contribute** to mitigation & adaptation efforts
- The **failure** in Copenhagen and e.g. negative stance of Trump propelled interest in non-state actors to boost action, credibility, acceptance and global engagement
- Increasing **visibility** of non-state actors in climate regime w/ increasing opportunities to contribute, but are not parties (who negotiate/vote/set the agenda) = „hybrid multilateralism“ and „polycentric approach to climate governance“?
- To achieve PA goal (temperature rise well below 2°C) city action **needed**
- Cooperation** w/ party actors in climate regime might be less important than the cooperation w/ other cities or w/ national gov't/legislator (pressure)
- Transparency:** Monitoring, reporting, compliance and risk of double counting with respect to mitigation efforts remains a challenge

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Thank you very much!

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