

### Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda





Side Event "Promoting synergies at local level: Why Local Governments are strengthening synergies between climate agenda and sustainable development?"

# **Local Governments at a Frontline of Sustainability**

July 2022 Togo UCHIDA, Executive Director, ICLEI Japan







# **ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability**



ICLEI is a global network working with more than 2,500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development.

- Established in 1990 at UN HQs with support from UNEP Active in 125+ countries, with 24 offices and over 500 staff worldwide (World Secretariat in Bonn, Germany)
- We influence sustainability policy at global, national and local level, and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.
- Japan Office was established in 1993. Currently, 22 Local Governments in Japan, representing over 30% of national population are member of ICLEI.
- We accumulate local knowledge, introduce global agenda to local governments, and promote local actions to global audiences.







EQUITABLE AND PEOPLE-CENTERED



RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT



CIRCULAR DEVELOPMEN



# **ICLEI-** Local Governments for Sustainability



ICLEI is the only organization officially representing local governments at all three Rio Conventions (the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)).

ICLEI also serve as the focal point for the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments uniting local government networks and to amplify the voice of the local and regional government constituency on the global stage







# 1) We live in an "Urban Era"



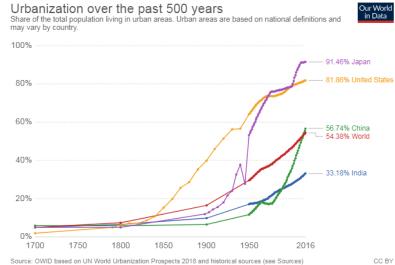


# In 2050, approximately 70% of global population will live in Cities

We need Sustainable Cities to have a Sustainable World



(Photo of Mexico City: PABLO LOPEZ LUZ / BARCROFT MEDIA / Landov)



# 2) Sustainability is Local





# Many of the problems and solutions of sustainability have their roots in local activities

We need to empower Local Governments as well learn from Local Governments to achieve sustainability

"Local authorities construct, operate and maintain economic, social and environmental infrastructure, oversee planning processes, establish local environmental policies and regulations, and assist in implementing national and subnational environmental policies. As the level of governance closest to the people, they play a vital role in educating, mobilizing and responding to the public to promote sustainable development."

(Agenda 21 - Chapter 28, 1992)







# Climate x Local SDGs

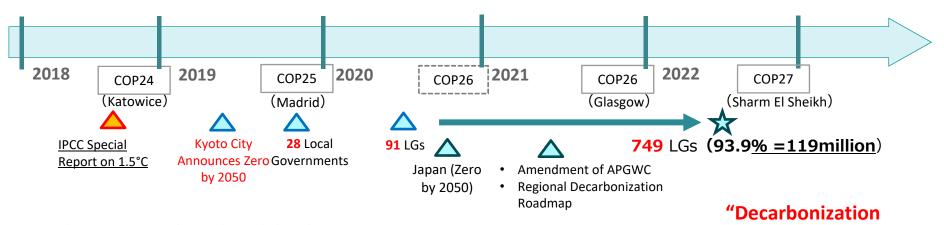
The context in Japan

### **Decarbonization – Case in Japan**



**Domino Effect**"





### <Ambition Loop – through Multilevel Cooperation>

- 1. Leading Local Governments committing to Zero by 2050
- 2. National government encourages other LGs to follow and many declared Zero by 2050
- 3. National government commits to Zero by 2050, establish "Council for National and Local Decarbonization" and create Regional Decarbonization Roadmap
- 4. Amending National Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures
- 5. Process starts to select over 100 Decarbonizing Leading Area (26 projects selected for the 1st batch)
- 6. As of June 30, 2022, 749 LGs committed to net Zero by 2050

# **Approach in Japan**





Urbanization Rate = approx. 92% (Europe: approx. 75%) Forest Coverage = approx. 68% (Europe: approx. 38%)

Concept in the Regional Decarbonization Roadmap

"Regional Revitalization through Decarbonization"

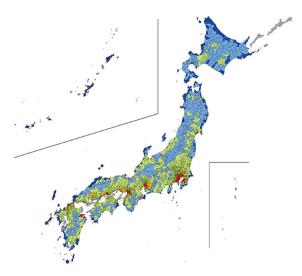
Promoting City to City collaboration

eg.

(City B) High Renewable Energy potential (City A) High Economical Assets

Based on Regional Circular Ecological Sphere (RCES) also known as **Localizing SDGs** 

Synergy Between "Climate and SDGs"



Renewable Energy Potential by Municipalities (Red=low, Blue=high)





# **G7** Cities

Statement by Advanced Cities in G7 countries

# **G7** advocacy of Local Governments





### Chronology

2016



#### Communiqué

G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting

Toyama, Japan May 15-16, 2016

1. We, the G7 Ministers and high representatives, and European Commissioner responsible for the environment, met in Toyama from May 15 to 16, 2016. We were joined by heads and senior officials of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) – Local Governments for Sustainability, the Organisation for Economic Coperation and Development (DECD), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Global Compact, and 100 RESILIENT CITIES, representatives from the cities of Bristol, Firenze, Frankfurt am Main, Higashimatsushima, Kitakyushu, Toyama, Vancouver, and Vitry-le-François, and the governor of Toyama prefecture.

2016 G7 Toyama Environment Ministers'
Meeting Communiqué

Mayors to G7 leaders: "Make the Paris deal a reality now, embrace renewable energy"

2017



COP23 Bonn-Fiji Commitment of Local and Regional Leaders 2021

Final joint statement from the Core Cities UK G7 U7 Summit



We, as Leaders and Mayors of cities across the G7 nations – the 'Urban 7' – have come together for the first time, as the G7 national leadership prepares to meet.

Our historic Summit takes place at a moment of extreme challenge resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as multiple emergencies on alimate, nature and social justice, when it has never been more important for local and national governments across nations to work tagether. In doing so, we want to pay tribute to the outstanding efforts of workers on the front-line across all our cities who have worked tirelessly to combat the pandemic.

### We welcome the UK's G7 Presidency priorities to build back better from Coronavirus by:

- leading the global recovery from coronavirus while strengthening resilience against future pandemics;
- promoting future prosperity by championing free and fair trade:

Flows of trade and commerce are largely between cities globally. We can use and strengthen our links to support solidarity, collaboration and trade among our nations.

The majority of carbon emissions globally are from cities. As we approach COP26 to be held this year in the city of Glasgow, our cities are strengthening their commitments and accelerating actions to deliver a zero-carbon economy and 1.5°Centigrade compatible lifestyles well before 2050. We urge the G7 nations to work with us, to demonstrate their leadership, enhancing the ambitions in National Climate Action Plans which can only be delivered through multilevel collaboration, and to know the commitments of the United Nations Paris Agreement on climate change.

As globally-facing cities we all share common values

Final Statement 2021 G7 U7 Summit.pdf

2021 U7 Summit webcast - https://youtu.be/bi6SM7bg79w

## 2022 G7 "Urban 7" Partnership





Urban7 Group Alliance: The Association of German Cities (DST), Global Paliament of Mayors (GPM), ICLEI

In collaboration with: Engagement Global

Supported by: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

### **Urban7 Group:**

Germany: The Association of German Cities (DST)

Canada: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

France Urbaine France:

Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani (ANCI) Italy:

Japan Designated City Mayors' Association (JDCMA) Japan:

UK: Core Cities UK

USA: US Conference of Mayors (USCoM)

EU: **Eurocities** 

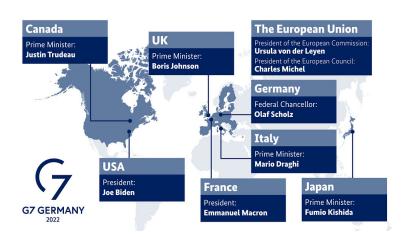
Global Network Partners: ICLEI, GPM, UCLG

2022 G7 Urban7 Group Alliance:









### In collaboration with:





Supported by:



# **2022 U7 Mayors Declaration**





"Many of the greatest challenges faced in the 21st century are too complex for nation states to solve alone. Local governments are the level of democratic leadership closest to the people, with responsibility for creating sustainable, prosperous places to live and work. Our cities foster innovation, welcome collaboration and active participation of citizens, civil society, scientists and entrepreneurs, to create a sustainable planet through integrated urban development. Cities also work together as networks, with thousands of local governments supporting each other in implementing the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Climate Agreement and other global agreements, by adopting ambitious commitments and striving for transformative emergency actions through innovative solutions."

2022 U7 Mayors Declaration, May 2022

### $2022 \rightarrow 2023$





### 2023 G7 Presidency will be Japan

<2022>

September: G7 Sustainable Urban Development Ministerial Meeting (Potsdam)

October: Daring Cities 2022 (ICLEI)

November: COP27 (Sharm El-Sheikh), Saitama Sustainable Cities Summit: E-Kizuna Global

**Summit (Saitama)**, ISAP (IGES), Asia Smart City Conference (Yokohama)

December: COP15 (Montreal)

<2023>

March: Zero Carbon City International Forum (MOEJ)

May: G7 Ministerial Meetings, G7 Summit (Hiroshima)

September: HLPF (New York)

ありがとうございました