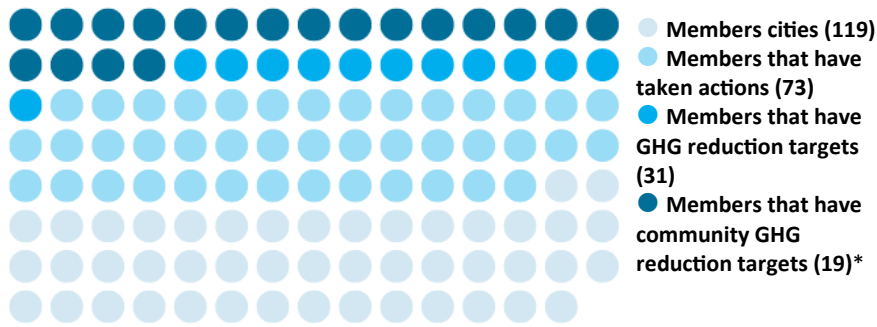


Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Efforts among Member Cities

12/01/2015



To support the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP21) held in Paris this December and the work of the Compact of Mayors, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative member cities are moving forward with commitments and actions to reduce their CO₂ emissions. Here is a brief overview.



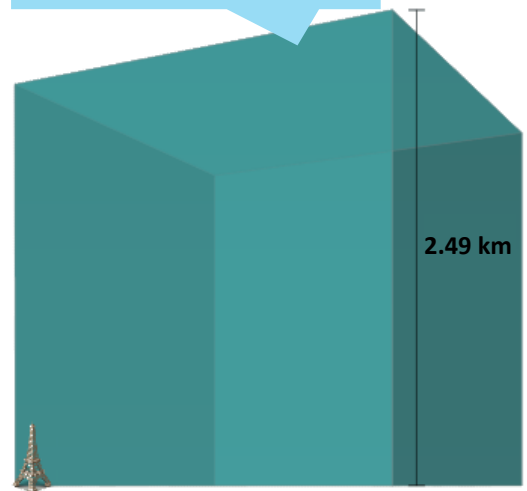
28,697,367: This is the minimum number of tons of equivalent CO₂ that will not go in the atmosphere in 2020 when 31 cities that have set targets will meet them, compared to if they had continued to emit the same number of emissions as their base year. This equals avoiding burning more than 12 billion liters of gasoline or taking more than 6 million passenger cars of the roads for a year.



Of our **119 member cities**, at least **73 are actively working toward** reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. Cities are doing this by adopting GHG targets, creating targets and action plans to reduce energy consumption, or implementing efficient actions such as renewing their vehicle fleet with hybrid and electric cars, changing street lights to LEDs or constructing energy-efficient buildings.

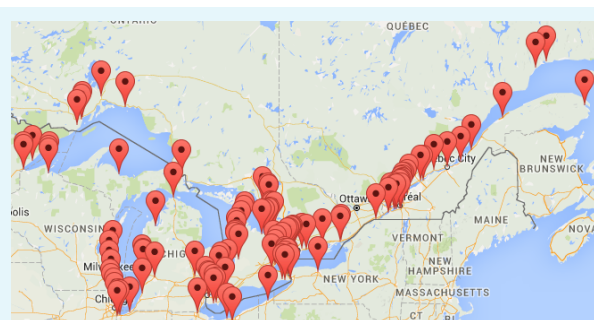
*At least **31 member cities have a GHG reduction target**, which represents **26%** of our members. For 19 member cities, the target covers the entire municipality. The targets of the remaining cities cover the operations of the municipal government.

28.7 megatonnes of CO₂



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Our member cities have targets with base years, reduction goals and target years; some targets are as high as a 100% reduction and future target years vary from 2016 to 2050. Together, these 31 cities represent **13,781,383 people**.



About the Cities Initiative

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (glslcities.org) is a binational coalition of over 115 mayors that works actively to advance the protection, restoration and sustainability of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin.



The Cities Initiative and the Compact of Mayors

The Cities Initiative encourages its members to join the Compact of Mayors, this international effort that works with local leaders to make GHG inventories, set targets and reach them.

16 of our member cities now have committed to the Compact of Mayors and this number grows from week to week.

This collaboration with the Compact of Mayors fits the goals of our Green CiTTs Program (Green Cities Transforming Towards Sustainability) that aims to promote low-carbon energy generation and consumption, as well as to protect water resources and coastal areas, encourage the adoption of green land use and building design and encourage green economic development.

