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[Press release](#)

July 2, 2015

## **Compact of States and Regions releases first round of targets**

***Carbon emission savings from sub-national governments set to be one of the most significant commitments presented ahead of COP21***

**LYON** – The [Compact of States and Regions](#), the only global platform to record greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets and inventory data from sub-national governments, has today announced that 20 governments, representing over 220 million people and \$8.3 trillion GDP, have committed to a series of ambitious targets to reduce carbon emissions.

These reporting governments currently represent about 1.81 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e<sup>1</sup>, or 5%, of all global emissions, and with many more due to report over the summer, the potential emission savings through the Compact are set to be one of the most significant commitments presented ahead of COP21.

Presented at the [World Summit Climate and Territories](#) in Lyon, France, the initial round of targets include:

- All reporting governments have a series of reduction targets across their operations in place – some as ambitious as 90% by 2050 and 100% by 2060.
- 90% have also reported renewable energy targets.
- In total, 85 GHG reduction, energy efficiency and renewable targets have been reported – the total amount of climate recorded actions exceeded 200.

In addition, the Compact will be a platform for governments to report climate data going beyond 2015 – ensuring that they continue to accurately report against their climate targets with reliable, publically available data.

Speaking at the World Summit Climate and Territories, **Premier Jay Weatherill** of South Australia, and the Asia Pacific Co-Chair of [The Climate Group States & Regions Alliance](#), said: “We recognise that the challenge of climate change is also an opportunity for our state, and we want to ensure a prosperous, sustainable economy and future for our citizens. That is why we have reported our targets to the Compact of States and Regions; a platform that can now allow us to accurately and publicly report climate data against our own commitments.

“Sub-national governments play a vital role in the run up to COP21, and we want to work together, both in our own country and globally, to help ensure that this climate leadership is represented ahead of the international negotiations. More sub-national leaders need to follow suit, leading by example and report ambitious targets to the Compact.”

This data will be part of the [Non-state Actor Zone for Climate Action \(NAZCA\)](#) platform, the online tool developed by the United Nations with the governments of France and Peru ahead of COP21. Through NAZCA, businesses, cities, regions and investors have already showcased 2,763 climate initiatives.

**Christiana Figueres**, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), said: “Regions, States and territories representing the interests of billions of people are leading by example—they are underlining their determination to make the UN climate conference in

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<sup>1</sup> This figure is based on gross state-wide emissions reported by 20 state and regional governments to the Compact of States and Regions. Where possible, emissions reported by states and regions attributable to imported electricity have been removed to minimize the potential for double counting emissions.

Paris a success. It is an open invitation for others to get on board, register their commitments and make this wave of climate action unstoppable for generations to come”.

The Compact of States and Regions is now encouraging all global state and regional governments to lead by example and act. Governments have until July 31, 2015 to submit their own climate data to be included and part of the COP21 disclosure report.

**Jean-Jack Queyranne**, President of the Rhône-Alpes Region, host of the [World Summit Climate & Territories](#), said: “I wanted the Rhône-Alpes region to join the Compact of States and Regions, because the history of our climate now writes itself at the sub-national level. Countries sign treaties, but it is local governments who, through their actions and contributions, play a major role each day to tackle climate change.”

Ontario **Premier Kathleen Wynne**, whose province will host the [Climate Summit of the Americas](#) in Toronto next week, said: “This data is evidence of what we have long understood — that subnational governments have an important role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, combatting climate change and supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy. As we approach COP21, subnational governments are taking the opportunity to learn from one another so we can advance our shared priorities and make real progress on this urgent and critical issue.”

The following governments have submitted their climate data to the first round of reporting: British Columbia, [California](#), [Ontario](#), Oregon, [Quebec](#), [New York](#) and Washington in North America; Jalisco, [Rio de Janeiro](#) and [Sao Paulo](#) in Central and South America; [Basque Country](#), [Catalonia](#), [Lombardy](#), [Rhône-Alpes](#), [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#) in Europe; and Australian Capital Territory and [South Australia](#) in Australia.

Announced last year at the UN Climate Summit, the Compact is the first-ever global assessment of the GHG reduction contributions being made by state and regional governments around the world, allowing them to accurately record commitments and grow long-term ambition.

An infographic mapping out the governments and explaining the data, is available [here](#).

The Compact of States and Regions is a partnership between [The Climate Group](#), [CDP](#), [R20](#) and [nrg4SD](#), supported by the UN, [Climate-KIC](#), Center for the New Energy Economy ([CNEE](#)) [ICLEI](#) and [ENCORE](#).

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#### **For further information / WSCT press opportunity:**

For any media enquiries, please contact Beth Woodthorpe-Evans at The Climate Group [media@theclimategroup.org](mailto:media@theclimategroup.org) | +44 (0)7912514445

Representatives from reporting governments of the Compact of States and Regions will also be attending the World Summit Climate and Territories in Lyon, July 1-2. To arrange any interviews, please use the above contact details.

#### **About The Compact of States and Regions**

[The Compact of States and Regions](#) provides the first ever single, global account of greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets made by state and regional governments. Announced at the UN Climate Summit in New York in 2014, the Compact is supported by the UN and is a partnership between The Climate Group, CDP, R20 and nrg4SD.

Using aggregated data, the Compact showcases overall GHG reduction contributions made by sub-national governments around the world. Then each year, disclosure and assessment of progress toward those commitments will take place through GHG inventory data. The Compact will support global climate negotiations by providing a clear and accurate picture of the sub-national government contributions through reliable and publically available data.

The first Compact of States and Regions disclosure report will be released at the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21) in Paris, December 2015.