

Press release 14 December 2009

3220 climate targets for the Danish COP Presidency

Cities across the globe have made concrete and ambitious targets to reduce their CO2 emissions. These targets have been collected in the "Copenhagen Climate Catalogue", which today was handed over to the newly appointed Climate and Energy Minister Lykke Friis by David Cadman, President for ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability and the Copenhagen Mayor for the Environment Klaus Bondam.

"With more than 3200 individual climate targets adopted by cities across the globe, the catalogue has exceeded my most optimistic expectations," said Bondam and Cadman. "The catalogue is proof that local leaders all over the world are taking the lead in the fight against climate change. I hope that the catalogue can inspire world leaders to sign an ambitious Copenhagen agreement."

The Climate Catalogue documents the 3200 targets which more than 2800 cities and local governments have set to reduce greenhouse gasses.

In the United States alone, more than 1000 cities have signed up to meet or surpass the reduction targets prescribed in the Kyoto Protocol. The United States national government has not signed the Kyoto Protocol.

23 cities with more than five million inhabitants have been registered in the catalogue, including capitals like New York and Jakarta. But the catalogue also includes medium sized cities such as Kyoto, Japan and smaller cities such as Herzlya, Israel with 58,000 inhabitants. Cities of all sizes have made commitments to act on climate change.

The cities and local governments recorded in the catalogue represent more than half a billion inhabitants and economies which combined are comparable to the GDP of the entire European Union.

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, is an international organisation which represents cities and local governments at the United Nations. The climate catalogue will be handed over to Copenhagen's partners during COP15, and will be further developed to be used as a tool for cities to cooperate on climate change issues.

Link to the Copenhagen Climate Catalogue: www.climate-catalogue.org

Contact:

Mayor Klaus Bondam, via chief press officer Astrid Haug tel. 2630 0989

President David Cadman, ICLEI, via press officer Michael Kessler tel. +45 5037 9555