

AMBITIOUS CITY PROMISES

Engaging citizens. Driving climate action.



Supported by:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

AMBITIOUS CITY PROMISES: ENGAGING CITIZENS, DRIVING CLIMATE ACTION

Ambitious City Promises is implemented by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) through the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The ICLEI World Secretariat is responsible for project management and coordination. ICLEI Southeast Asia Secretariat and ICLEI East Asia Secretariat are implementing partners. The Seoul Metropolitan Government is a supporting partner.

For more information: <https://acp.iclei.org/>

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Implementing partner

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network working with more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 125+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.



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1. Forewords

VICTOR MA. REGIS N. SOTTO

Mayor, Pasig City, Philippines

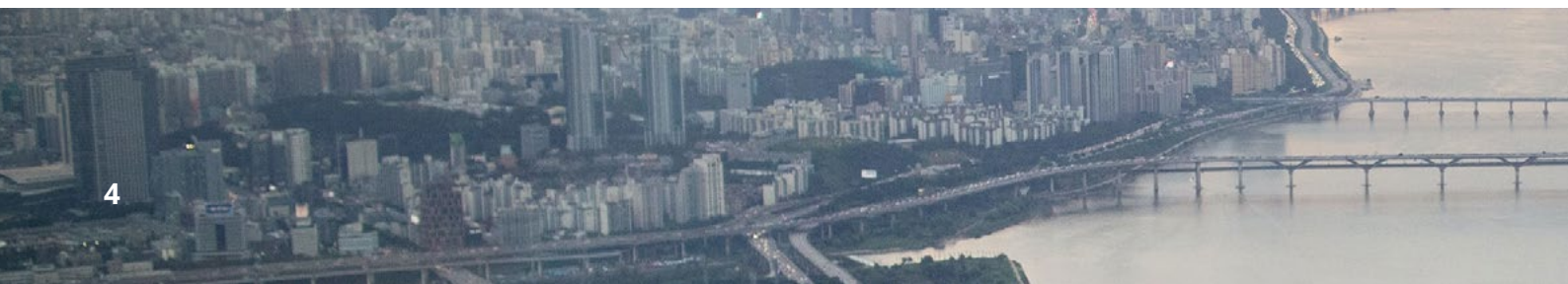
We recognize that for a local government to be fully effective in tackling climate change, we must be ambitious and inclusive. While local governments play an important role as primary drivers of climate action, it is also our responsibility to empower community stakeholders by providing a venue for them to participate in the process of local development planning and implementation.

Through the Ambitious City Promises Project, Pasig City has identified climate mitigation strategies that highlight a model of participatory local governance. We have stepped up our engagement with the community which enables us to better understand their needs and priorities, raise awareness of critical climate issues, and shape local action.

The Promise of Pasig fosters inclusion and plans for a green post-COVID-19 recovery by focusing on service delivery through initiatives, such as bike sharing programs, that address critical transportation needs in the city center.

We wish to express our gratitude for the tremendous support provided by ICLEI to the Pasig City Government throughout the Ambitious City Promises project. Most importantly, we would like to thank all the stakeholders who took part in the consultation workshops to craft the Promise of Pasig. We are confident that the Pasig City government and its people will contribute to the achievement of our national ambition and ultimately, the global goal to save the planet.

Through our partnership with ICLEI we are proud to be a part of the solution, working towards a more sustainable urban future.



GINO VAN BEGIN

Secretary General, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI's reach extends to more than 2,500 local and regional governments in 125 countries working towards shared climate action. We are fortunate to continually integrate innovative approaches from our members and provide collaborative platforms to facilitate peer exchanges, bottom-up planning, and meaningful pathways towards mitigating climate change.



Ambitious City Promises has leveraged ICLEI's institutional strengths in spreading a novel approach towards climate action from one of our most active members, the Seoul Metropolitan Government. Its 'Promise of Seoul' framework embodies ICLEI's belief in the power of stakeholder-centered planning, allowing for the participative retooling of local climate goals in line with both community needs and international ambitions.

We envision an alignment among community stakeholders, local governments and national governments towards pursuing climate action that is even more ambitious than the existing mandatory targets. Cities recognize that commitments to their citizens and peers extend not just to cutting emissions, but to find mechanisms of community engagement to ensure attaining those commitments in a participatory way. The path to climate neutrality is not a purely technical one: it involves deliberate efforts to permanently mainstream community engagement.

Ambitious City Promises would not be possible without the generous support from the German Government's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Seoul Metropolitan Government, and Members of Global and National Advisory Groups.

Our cities' motivation excites and humbles us at ICLEI. It is our hope that these will embolden fellow local and regional governments across Southeast Asia, as well as globally.



2. Executive Summary

Successful climate action is not a collection of silver bullets. It is an iterative process of communication, collaboration, self-evaluation, and open-minded exploration. One government alone cannot purport to have solved the climate emergency, and each of ICLEI's 2,500 members understands its peers are equally vital to ensuring a sustainable future.

Ambitious City Promises (ACP) recognizes the innovative potential of knowledge sharing, venturing to demonstrate that the best learning opportunities for cities are from beyond their own city halls. By continually opening the door to their own community stakeholders, local peer governments, and global thought leaders, city governments can co-create and triangulate solutions most applicable to their local contexts. Cities cannot afford to rest on their laurels: climate action requires consistent local, regional, national, and global efforts to outpace prior ambitions.

This report describes the process of designing, reconfiguring, and implementing the Ambitious City Promises project, a 4.5 year-long endeavor to fortify future metropolitan climate action in Southeast Asia. Cities in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam partnered with ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, the Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG), and each other through the funding from BMU's International Climate Initiative (IKI) to reimagine their postures towards goal-setting and idea generation. Ultimately, rigorous stakeholder engagement paved each project city's path to raising climate ambitions.



Key Outcomes



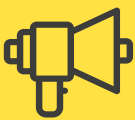
Engagement

Participation in key activities went beyond pre-existing feedback mechanisms in project cities. Various stakeholders in each project city were engaged to co-create objectives, goals, and low emission development priorities that reflect the needs and realities of people on the ground. **Through the course of the project, 1,200 stakeholders participated in shaping climate action from the ground up.**



Exchange

The project drew upon real-life experiences of SMG in its design, since a local government-driven proof of concept inspired its design. To facilitate learning experiences, the project offered multiple city-to-city exchange programs and training, some of which were directly conducted by the SMG. **Through ACP, 70+ trainings and workshops were offered and 500+ city staff were capacitated.**



Action

Three of the world's fastest-growing, most populous metropolitan areas have co-created pledges to drastically reduce GHG emissions in the next decade. These City Promises actualize global commitments on the local level, integrating inclusive and feedback-oriented plans. **Collectively, Jakarta, Hanoi, and Pasig's commitments through the City Promises account for a potential reduction of 46 million tons of GHG emissions.**

3. Ambitious City Promises in Numbers

City Promises in Numbers

GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGET BY 2030 TOTAL **46 MILLION tCO₂eq**





ACTIONS INCLUDED


TOTAL 918










SECTORS ENGAGED

DKI Jakarta 

Hanoi 

Pasig 

- LIST OF SECTORS**
-  Energy
 -  Green building
 -  Transport
 -  Waste
 -  Green spaces
 -  Urban farming
 -  Water
 -  Air quality
 -  Health & Safety
 -  Urban planning
 -  Ecology


LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DEPARTMENTS

ENGAGED IN THE CITY PROMISES

DKI Jakarta **15**

Hanoi **6**

Pasig **15**



Engagement in Numbers

PUBLIC HEARINGS CONDUCTED

TOTAL **20**



PUBLIC CONSULTATION PARTICIPANTS

TOTAL **1200**



CITY STAFF CAPACITATED

TOTAL **548**



TRAININGS & MEETINGS

ATTENDED BY SATELLITE CITIES

TOTAL **70+**



4. Theory of Change

While there is growing global recognition of the role of cities in delivering the goals of the Paris Agreement, the reality of harnessing this immense potential remains a challenge. Many Southeast Asian cities are strengthening their adaptation and disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) measures in the wake of intense local impacts from climate change. Mitigation measures, conversely, can feel more abstract and illusive. In advancing urban sustainability, local governments must simultaneously contribute to emissions reduction efforts and address pressing development concerns.

The Ambitious City Promises Project provides a model for Southeast Asian cities in pursuing stakeholder-driven strategies towards low emission development pathways. While scholarship is limited regarding the precise impact of individual behavioral changes on climate change in Southeast Asia, studies and evidence from cities elsewhere (like Seoul) suggest potential for emissions reductions via behavioral change. Druckman and Jackson (2010)* demonstrated that sustainable lifestyles can reduce the household level emissions by 37% in the United Kingdom, while Seoul's rigorous stakeholder engagement greatly contributed to a 11% reduction of household sector GHG emissions.

Many city-level policies require consensus and stakeholder participation in order for them to be fully realized. Therefore, engaging stakeholders in city-level climate action plans can further elevate governments' climate ambitions.

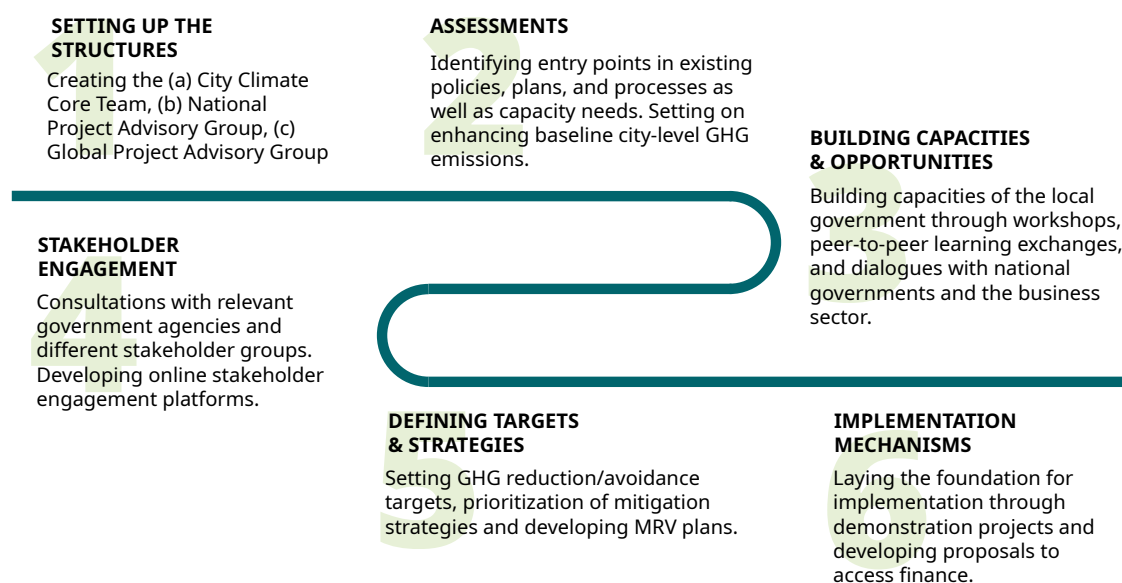


* Druckman, Angela & Jackson, Tim, 2010. "The bare necessities: How much household carbon do we really need?," *Ecological Economics*, Elsevier, vol. 69(9), pages 1794-1804, July

Development of the City Promises

The term 'Promise' represents the pledges and commitments of citizens, businesses, and local governments, putting all stakeholders on equal footing in climate action planning. The ACP project is inspired by the Promise of Seoul, which sets an example of bottom up and ambitious climate action planning. Through peer-to-peer learning and inclusive engagement, city governments and communities in Indonesia, Vietnam, and the Philippines set their own ambitious GHG reduction targets, actions and contribute to their country's NDCs.

The City Promises of Jakarta, Pasig, and Hanoi are guided by a common formulation process, but one which is flexible enough to accommodate local circumstances. The steps in this process are as follows:



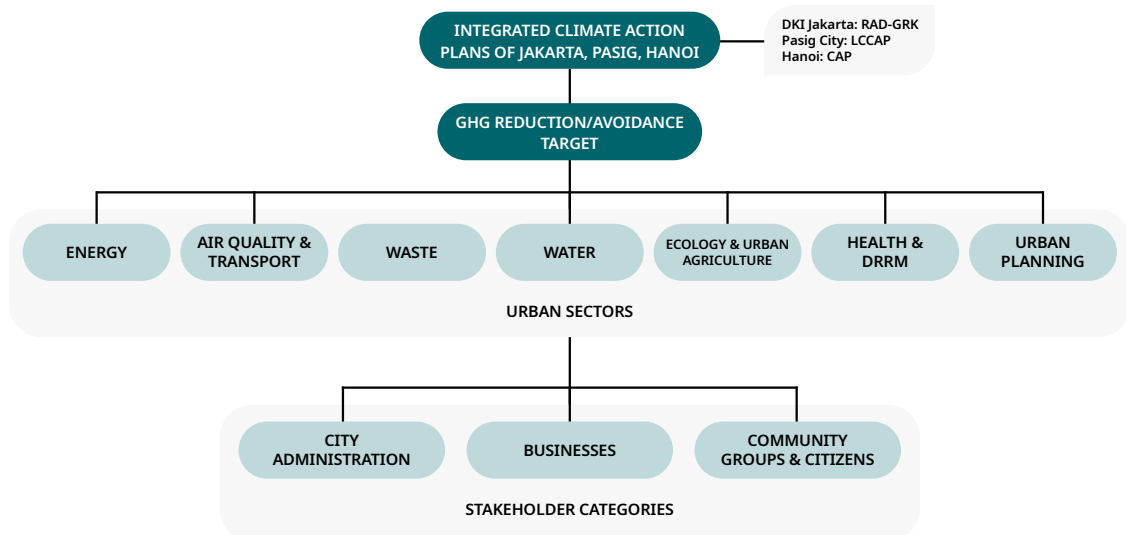
City Promises Formulation Process

Overall and sectoral GHG reduction/avoidance targets and key performance indicators in major emitting sectors - energy, transport, waste - were set based on the analysis of results of the activities previously discussed. The targets were informed by objective information (e.g. GHG inventory results, mitigation potential of identified actions), high potential in collaboration (e.g. pledges made by the stakeholder groups) and expert judgment of city officials (i.e. members of City Climate Core Teams) taking into account the cities' contexts, limitations, and development trajectories.

The rigorous citizen engagement activities bolstered the identification of stakeholder-pledged interventions across priority urban sectors. Therefore, the City Promises of Jakarta, Pasig, and Hanoi showcase planned mitigation actions that expand and enhance the existing climate ambitions of the cities through a stronger collaborative approach.

The City Promises contain information on the overall and sectoral GHG emissions reduction/avoidance targets, strategies, and climate actions by key stakeholder categories: city administration, businesses, community groups (including NGOs).

Lastly, prioritization of mitigation actions were determined by employing a multicriteria analysis. The criteria selection differed in each city based on their respective contexts and priorities but common factors that were considered include GHG emissions reduction/avoidance potential, cost, and inclusivity.



Basic structure of City Promises of Jakarta, Pasig, and Hanoi

Institutional Arrangements

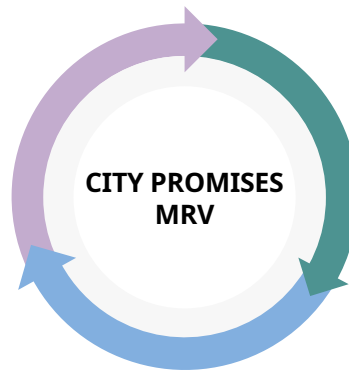
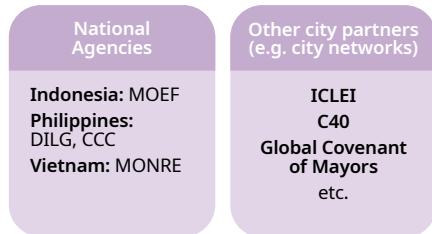
To implement these City Promises, the City Climate Core Teams composed of relevant city departments (e.g. planning, DRRM, waste, engineering, transport, and agriculture offices) and stakeholder groups (e.g. businesses, CSOs/NGOs, academia) of each city that have been involved in the formulation process undertake the implementation process according to their identified functions and pledged actions. The Environment Agency (DHL) in Jakarta, City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Pasig, Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE) in Hanoi continue to lead in orchestrating effective, efficient, and collaborative implementation and monitoring of the City Promises.

Monitoring and Reporting

While the City Promises can be considered as plans on their own, their impacts are best demonstrated by adding value to the integrated climate action planning, monitoring, reporting, and verification procedures that have been instituted in these three cities. The Ikhtiar Jakarta (Promise of Jakarta) and the Promise of Hanoi serve as stakeholder climate action plans that expand the reach of existing policies and plans of DKI Jakarta (e.g. RAD-GRK and the Long-Term Strategy to Achieve DKI Jakarta's Low Carbon Society 2050) and Hanoi (i.e. Integrated Climate Action Plan of Hanoi). The Promise of Pasig elaborates on existing mitigation strategies of Pasig City's Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP). This integration enables contributions of the City Promise to be monitored, reported, and verified via existing MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification) mechanisms between local and national governments.

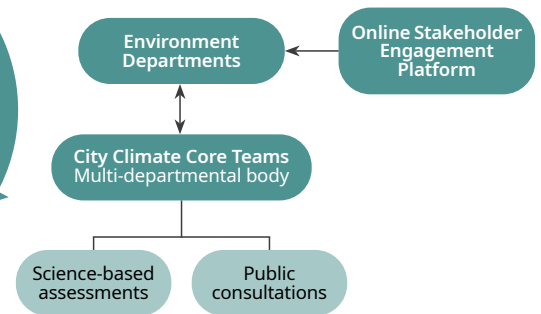
VERIFICATION

Relevant national ministries shall undertake the review and verification of the City Promises as part of the preparation and submission process of the countries' NDCs. Other partners of the cities such as city networks may also be conducting independent review of the cities' climate commitments as part of their engagement to common goals.



MONITORING

The Environment Departments of the model cities shall be the primary oversight and coordinating offices in the implementation, monitoring, and updating of the City Promises. Monitoring of the City Promises shall be done annually.



REPORTING

The Environment Departments of the model cities shall also be responsible in reporting the City Promises implementation progress to relevant national ministries and local stakeholders. Annual or biennial reporting (depending on local policies) shall be done through existing national and global reporting platforms.

Implementation

While the City Promises can be considered as plans on their own, their impacts are best demonstrated by adding value to the integrated climate action planning, monitoring, reporting, and verification procedures that have been instituted in these three cities. The Ikhtiar Jakarta (Promise of Jakarta) and the Promise of Hanoi serve as stakeholder climate action plans that expand the reach of existing policies and plans of DKI Jakarta (e.g. RAD-GRK and the Long-Term Strategy to Achieve DKI Jakarta's Low Carbon Society 2050) and Hanoi (i.e. Integrated Climate Action Plan of Hanoi). The Promise of Pasig elaborates on existing mitigation strategies of Pasig City's Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP). This integration enables contributions of the City Promise to be monitored, reported, and verified via existing MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification) mechanisms between local and national governments.



The Guiding Principles of the Project

Develop and deploy bottom-up models of climate action planning

The Ambitious City Promises project demonstrates the impact of bottom-up climate action by engaging city residents and integrating stakeholder pledges into the City Promises. By consolidating and integrating community pledges into local action plans, cities can quantify community contributions and make the case for greater ambition at all levels of government. In this way, Ambitious City Promises creates new climate leaders at the municipal and community level.

Establish lasting mechanisms for knowledge sharing

The project strengthens climate action by spreading good practices through city-to-city exchange and support. Inspired by the Promise of Seoul, this project, with the support of the Seoul Metropolitan Government, guides participating cities in establishing mechanisms that allow for peer learning while supporting and aligning with national climate action plans and policies.

Contribute to local, national and global climate goals

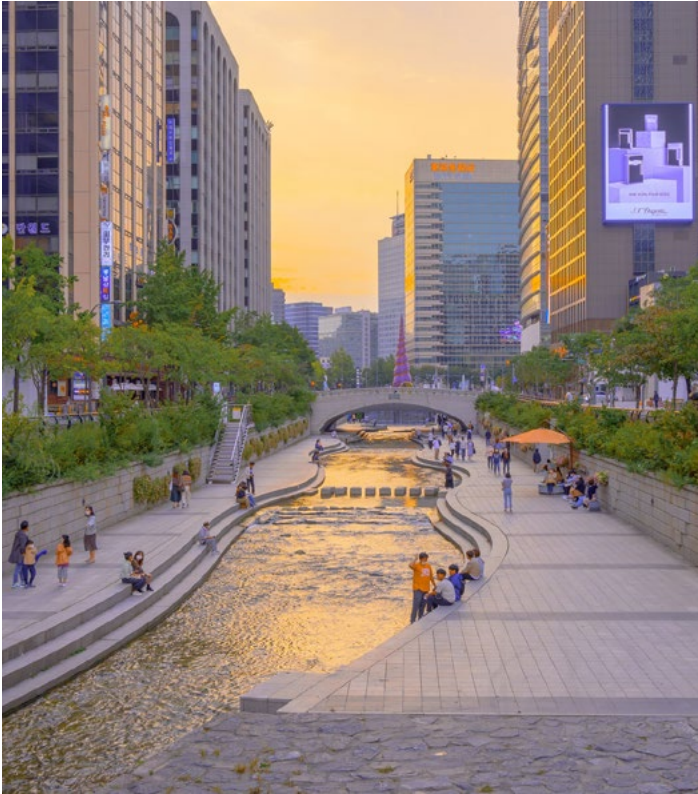
Ambitious City Promises accelerates ambitious climate action at the local level by equipping cities to define and implement low emission development strategies through City Promises shaped by inclusive, participatory processes. These Ambitious City Promises are designed to increase impact and allow for increasingly significant contributions to national and global climate goals.

5. The Promise of Seoul

Seoul has achieved unparalleled levels of urban development in only a 60-year period. Seoul's population quintupled from the 1960s to the 1990s, stabilizing at 10 million where it has remained since. GDP per capita also grew substantially to reach over \$39,000. This exponential growth drastically expanded Seoul's built environment, and the accompanying social and environmental challenges pressured the Seoul Metropolitan Government to develop progressive urban planning.

Based on the experience of managing this rapid development path, Seoul has accumulated unique knowledge and insights that the city is committed to sharing in order to strengthen climate action abroad. As a part of this mission, SMG continually supported the development and implementation of the Ambitious City Promises project, sharing their learnings with participating cities across all urban sectors and levels of leadership.

The Promise of Seoul is a comprehensive climate strategy established in 2015 with a goal to reduce GHG emissions by 40 percent by 2030 compared to 2005 levels. The Action Plan of the Promise of Seoul contains 160 actions for the local government and citizens across a broad range of urban sectors. Representative governance bodies, including the Citizens' Committee for a Green Seoul and Citizen Commission of One Less Nuclear Power Plant, worked with the local government from the initial stage of agenda setting. Additionally, various meetings and discussions (such as People's Assembly) were held to gather inputs from the citizens to develop the Promise of Seoul. Following exhaustive consultation processes, the Promise of Seoul was announced at the ICLEI World Congress in April 2015 with the support from the fellow mayors attending the congress.



Seoul's bottom-up process of ambitious climate action is at the heart of the Ambitious City Promises Project. Seoul's commitment inspired genuine peer-to-peer exchange with Southeast Asian local governments, with activities to share experiences on climate planning and policy making, and consultations for local initiatives. SMG's direct engagement complemented ACP project resources with experts and experiential knowledge.

Seoul's ACP Project Engagement

<p>Sharing experiences</p>	<p>At ACP Joint Project Meetings and Expert Meetings, representatives from Seoul shared technical methods to calculate complex GHG emissions derived from climate policies with raw data, and advised how to set measurable, effective KPIs. SMG experts also shared the city's up-to-date policy campaign results, such as the innovative bottom-up financial model of Solar Energy Citizens' Fund and the successful achievements of the One Less Nuclear Power Plant.</p>
<p>Policy consultation</p>	<p>More than a dozen departments of SMG reviewed the draft City Promises of each model city and provided direct recommendations in setting up ambitious, yet realistic goal-setting mechanisms. The experts from Seoul also shared their experience on how to build voluntary participation into initiatives from the onset.</p>
<p>Capacity building</p>	<p>Seoul's direct support came via the Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRDC) and ICLEI East Asia Secretariat. Seoul organized two training sessions to cultivate local expertise. Public transport systems, SMG's transfer-free scheme generating environmental co-benefits, and the voluntary energy-saving program 'EcoMileage' were particularly compelling for ACP cities, some of whom expressed interest in introducing similar energy incentive programs.</p>

Next Climate Ambitions of Seoul

The Promise of Seoul marked an important milestone in SMG's climate strategy. In 2018, national GHG emissions increased by about 30% compared to 2005 levels but Seoul registered an emissions reduction of 5% during the same period. The household sector showed the greatest improvement of 11% reduction thanks to rigorous local stakeholder engagement.

Despite the city's ambition, existing plans and actions are insufficient to meet the global 1.5 degree Paris Agreement goal. For Seoul, engaging private buildings is the key challenge; reducing their large emissions share requires stronger regulations and more attractive incentive schemes. In July 2020, SMG announced the '2050 GHG Reduction Strategy by Promoting Green New Deal Policy' with the more ambitious goal of climate neutrality by 2050. Then, in December, Seoul followed with its '2050 GHG Reduction Action Plans' which includes inputs from citizens and experts. SMG aims to preemptively cut emissions of its heaviest contributors (buildings, transport and waste), while accelerating a transition to renewable energy and creating forests to serve as carbon sinks.

Seoul will continue to work with its citizens and experts to be at the forefront of climate action. The city expects to reach the goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 if the whole society joins the city's efforts. As evident from Seoul actively sharing its practices through the ACP project, it is committed to continuously inspiring peer cities with measures towards carbon neutrality.



6. Project Cities

Indonesia

Metropolitan area	Population (2020)	Area
Jabodetabek	31.240,709	6,343 km ²



DKI Jakarta

Municipality	Population	Area	GHG Emissions	Per capita emissions*
DKI Jakarta	10,562,088 (2020)	699 km ²	38 million tCO ₂ eq (2010)	3.60 tCO ₂ eq/capita

DKI Jakarta is Indonesia’s capital, historical center, and the fulcrum of the world’s second most populous metropolitan region, Jabodetabek. A coastal province traversed by 13 rivers, Jakarta is particularly exposed to climate-related disasters. The northern portion of the city is especially at risk because it is progressively sinking due to land subsidence. Jakarta’s rapid development lends itself to tremendous emissions reduction opportunities. DKI Jakarta has participated in the Earth Hour City Challenge (now known as One Planet City Challenge) since 2015, and has been awarded the National Earth Hour Capital. It has also been recognized with the national Adipura Awards, given for urban environmental management and cleanliness.



Bekasi

Municipality	Population	Area	GHG Emissions	Per capita emissions
Bekasi	2,543,676 (2020)	210 km ²	12.5 million tCO ₂ eq (2013)	4.91 tCO ₂ eq/capita

Well-known for its manufacturing and a growing service economy, Bekasi’s role in waste management, particularly as the primary destination for the metropolitan area’s waste, is of tremendous importance to ACP. Bekasi has actively supported community waste bank programs and recognizes its potential for energy generation from the Waste-to-Energy plant in the Bantar Gebang landfill. Bekasi is along the main east-west highway traversing Java, which subsequently clogs its own road arteries. Although two rapid transit systems pass through Bekasi, most citizens lack access to public transport.



Tangerang

Municipality	Population	Area	GHG Emissions	Per capita emissions
Tangerang	1,895,486 (2020)	164 km ²	5.5 million tCO ₂ eq (2012)	2.85 tCO ₂ eq/capita

Tangerang City is the epicenter of Java’s manufacturing industry and houses Soekarno-Hatta International Airport. With more than 1,000 factories for both domestic and multinational corporations, most of its lands were dedicated for residential and commercial purposes, although a considerable portion of forests and swamps still remain. Facing rapid development with rapid population and workforce growth, transportation is a key issue in the city. Like Jakarta, Tangerang City has received the Adipura Award. In 2014, the city was also the recipient of the 2nd ASEAN Certificates of Recognition for Clean Air in Big Cities Awards.

* - The per capita emissions are calculated based on available data

Pasig
Marikina
Parañaque

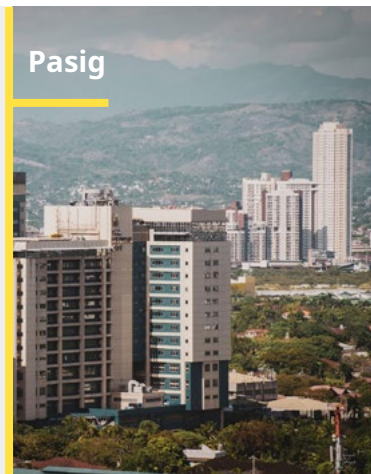
Philippines

Metropolitan area	Population (2020)	Area
Metro Manila	12,877,253	619 km ²

Municipality	Population	Area	GHG Emissions	Per capita emissions
Pasig	755,300 (2015)	31 km ²	1.5 million tCO ₂ eq (2017)	1.99 tCO ₂ eq/capita

Pasig City is one of the Philippines' oldest and most prosperous cities among the sixteen peer cities in Metro Manila. The economically-dynamic Pasig recognizes its role in catalyzing change within its own boundaries and across the entire metropolitan region. Pasig has been aggressively mobilizing its resources to spearhead sustainability initiatives and brought fellow municipalities on board, following a legacy of successful initiatives in incentivizing community participation. Pasig has been recognized for its sustainable transport program and serves as a model of a liveable city, having won the Galing Pook Awards for Outstanding Local Government Program (2017) and LGU Eco Champion National Awards (2015), to name a few.

Pasig



Municipality	Population	Area	GHG Emissions	Per capita emissions
Marikina	450,741 (2015)	21.5 km ²	719,269 tCO ₂ eq (2013)	1.60 tCO ₂ eq/capita

Marikina City is the manufacturing hub of Metro Manila and is considered the Shoe Capital of the Philippines. Given the intense commercial and industrial activity, it is no wonder Marikina's emissions are heavily skewed towards its energy sector. However, considering that Marikina City is a fairly small but highly urbanized city, emissions from the transportation sector are low relative to peers in Metro Manila. This can be attributed to the local ordinance on incentivizing the use of bicycles, which gives tax breaks to residents who cycle.

Marikina



Municipality	Population	Area	GHG Emissions	Per capita emissions
Parañaque	665,822 (2015)	47.7 km ²	1,027,669 tCO ₂ eq (2010)	1.54 tCO ₂ eq/capita

As a booming city with business centers, residential hubs, and industrial pockets, Parañaque City's rapid urbanization and industrialization caused sharp increases in energy consumption, traffic, and waste generation. Residents in numerous subdivisions are over reliant on private vehicles with inadequate public transportation within Parañaque and across Metro Manila. The local government has demonstrated its commitment to low emission development and a climate adaptive agenda. Parañaque is active in solid waste management, waterways clean-up, rehabilitation, and preservation, monitoring of pollution generators along waterways, and solar powered street lights.

Parañaque





Vietnam



Hanoi

Municipality	Population	Area	GHG Emissions	Per capita emissions
Hanoi	8,053,663 (2019)	3,358 km ²	18 million tCO ₂ eq (2015)	2.26 tCO ₂ eq/capita

Hanoi is the thousand-year-old, bustling capital of Vietnam and one of the world's fastest-growing capital cities. Hanoi almost tripled its land area in 2008 when it expanded city boundaries to encompass neighboring provinces and districts. Although Hanoi shows relatively low emissions, high energy generated from hydropower, growth in carbon emissions is expected to accelerate without appropriate interventions. Hanoi's pressing needs in establishing urban mass transport and a superior transport network are evident in modal share, which tilts overwhelmingly towards motorcycle use. Air pollution is also a top priority for the Hanoi People's Committee. They are aiming to curb air pollution by eliminating traditional cooking and farming methods.



Soc Son

Municipality	Population	Area	Primary Sector
Soc Son District*	338,386 (2017)	306.5 km ²	Agriculture, Mining, and Fishing

Soc Son is a semi-mountainous agricultural region and one of five satellite towns of Greater Hanoi. Soc Son is well connected to urban Hanoi and hosts Noi Bai International Airport and Nam Son landfill. Considering its function for future development of educational institutions and industries to accommodate the needs of Hanoi City, harmonizing economic development and environmental protection is Soc Son's primary mission. Foreign investment has prioritized industrial production, and the rate of service production growth has spiked.



Son Tay

Municipality	Population	Area	Primary Sector
Son Tay District*	230,577 (2018)	113.5 km ²	Services

Son Tay is the economic, cultural, and social center of Hanoi's North-West area. In the master plan of Hanoi, Son Tay is classified as a historical and ecotourism city, military center, and tourist hub. However, due to rapid development, Son Tay's waste treatment facility already reached its full capacity in 2016 leading to a garbage landslide. As a historical-ecotourism city, Son Tay's priorities lie in sharing similar commitment and reduction targets with greater Hanoi.

* - ACP's Vietnam satellite city partners Soc Son and Son Tay are two of the 17 rural districts within the municipality of Hanoi.

7. Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is core to Ambitious City Promises. The process of co-creating objectives, goals, and low emission development priorities reflects needs and realities of people on the ground.

Survey: The survey in Jakarta, Hanoi, and Pasig assessed stakeholders’ insights on the climate crisis, low emission development, and sustainable lifestyles. Results informed local governments on citizens’ willingness to commit to prospective lifestyle changes. These actions were ultimately incorporated into the City Promises.

Public Consultations: During the project period, the model cities engaged 1,200 plus participants across 20 public consultations. Consultations enabled stakeholders to share ideas on climate action and commitments to support formulating their cities’ Promises. Dialogue solicited stakeholders’ preferences and needs, allowing governments to design the most appropriate action plans. ACP empowered stakeholder groups often excluded from local governance processes, such as women, youth, elderly, and disabled persons.

Stakeholder Engagement Platform: The platforms were inspired by Seoul’s EcoMileage initiative, which engaged more than 2 million citizens of the capital and contributed to an 11% GHG emissions reduction from the city’s household sector. The platforms are dynamic, accessible, and real-time communication tools that were developed in accordance with local contexts as an alternative to top-down communications. Through the platforms, the citizens pledged their individual climate actions, opting for a more sustainable lifestyle in line with the climate targets of the cities. The platforms ultimately translate the “City Promise” into citizens’ commitments, including a GHG calculator to visualize the collected pledge and induce further citizen engagement. Survey results and consultations informed the content and design. Notably, platforms for Jakarta and Hanoi were made available in local languages.



Stakeholder pledge platforms of model cities

Media Campaigns: ACP launched social media campaigns for all cities and marked significant events with op-ed placements to keep stakeholders current with key activity milestones.

Pillars of Participatory and Value-laden Stakeholder Engagement

ACP sought to dissuade one-way communication and a tokenistic view of civic participation on the local level. The following principles ensured communication and discussion were equally valuable to stakeholders and city representatives.

Stakeholders are **equal co-creators of knowledge and practice**. Local climate governance is influenced by the support and engagement of communities and stakeholders, and meaningful engagement should be institutionalized as a way to develop and meet climate targets.



In **Hanoi**, consultations with CSOs and NGOs has led to a more holistic, integrated climate action approach. The pilot projects demonstrated a community's active role as an agent of change by co-designing a public space in Nghia Tan of Hanoi. The local community participated in the design of the recycled playground to align it with their needs.

Engagement methods **must consider stakeholders' preferences and limitations**, and design activities with **respect to the local context**. Stakeholders need a range of touchpoints with their government, given their physical, economic, and geographical limitations. Feedback mechanisms should be equally mindful of these constraints and compensate for them in efforts to educate, incorporate, and ultimately empower stakeholders.



Public consultations in **Pasig City** provided platforms for marginalized voices, gathering representatives from vulnerable groups like women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWD), and the elderly. Unlike historical exclusion, representatives felt their opinions were valued. One PWD leader noted that the consultations gave groups a chance to ensure their interests as vulnerable segments of society are heard, and the city could consider implementing policies that respond to their unique needs. For PWD, examples include accessible public spaces and disaster-management plans.

Stakeholders must have the opportunity to **make their relationship with climate justice tangible**. Often, stakeholders felt distanced from prospective individual contributions to climate action, and were not given access to climate justice narratives nor empowered to co-author those justice narratives with intersections in their daily lives. **ACP set paths towards empowerment** by amplifying stakeholders' voices, making climate justice connections clearer, framing the climate crisis in a way that the stakeholders can readily relate to it, and co-creating climate action goals that align with daily realities.

In **Jakarta**, an interfaith collaboration of the city's six major religions – Islam, Catholicism, Protestantism, Hindusim, Buddhism, and Confucianism – spearheaded advocacy. Ecospirituality inspires thousands of Jakartans to live more sustainably. ACP helped develop modules and learning materials that the religious leaders can use in engaging their respective congregations.



Sustaining a Participatory and Active Stakeholder Engagement Process

While the technical aspects of city's climate actions were undoubtedly important, stakeholder engagement gave meaning to numbers and graphs. Stakeholders must understand what goals mean and why local climate action is relevant to their daily lives. Inspiring stakeholders' active support and cooperation starts by creating a collective understanding and appreciation of what the city wants to achieve and the role that the stakeholders play in their low emission development journey.

A Note on Stakeholder Engagement During a Global Pandemic

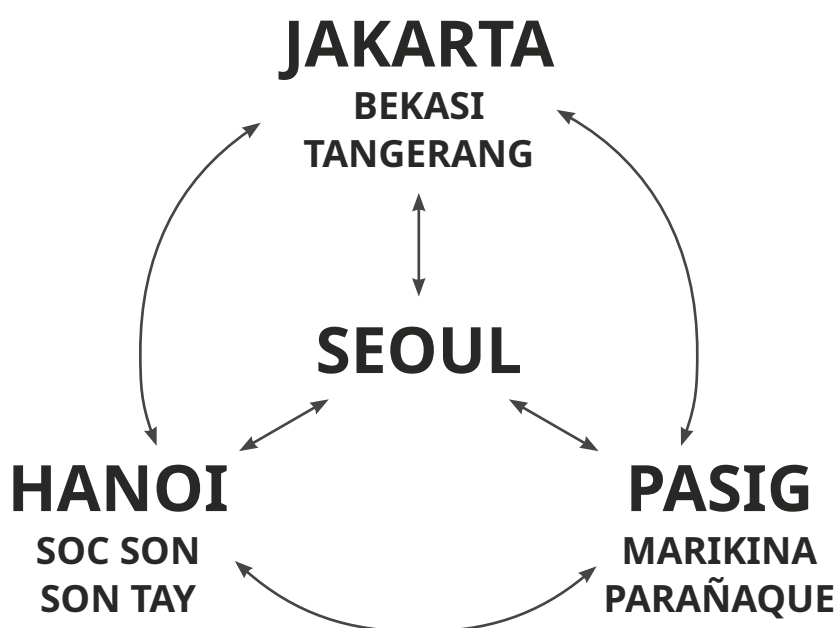
Face-to-face interaction is a prized component of development projects. The project team had to ensure that connection with stakeholders remained strong and constant. The project ushered in an overarching, yet thoughtful shift to digital communications, while redesigning project themes and activities aligned with the reality of COVID-19 and stakeholders' limitations regarding access and connectivity. Ultimately, these efforts allowed the project and stakeholders alike to reconfigure their perspectives of low emission development, and integrate resilient climate actions to co-create emissions reductions progress.

8. City-to-City Learning

Metropolitan areas face similar challenges in providing socially inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and economically stable development. Proactive engagement – through a process of discovering, interpreting, and utilizing new information – only becomes more arduous with formidable learning barriers (i.e. funding and staff limitations) on the municipal level.

City-to-city learning – which encourages municipalities to draw lessons from the experience of their peers – responds to this challenge with approaches that encourage and accommodate international education. When a city-to-city process is actively guided and facilitated, it can accelerate the transfer of knowledge in the partner cities. ACP was designed to draw real-life experiences – from Seoul to all project cities, and from model cities to satellite cities – that enable concrete implementation from empirical evidence.

This type of learning entails direct communication at both the political and technical levels. The Seoul Mayors Forum for Climate Change (SMFCC) in 2017 assembled political leaders in Seoul to endorse the development of inclusive and ambitious climate action plans for future generations. Commitments to learn followed. The project enabled peer-to-peer learning through capacity building, training, study tours and deep exchanges at the city level. Such exchange of knowledge, experience and good practices forms a foundation for cities to develop evidence-based policies. This approach yields mutual benefits: discussing implemented and planned solutions to common problems can help cities cultivate new approaches for implementation.



Types of Exchange

Joint Project Meetings

Two intensive and interactive Joint Project Meetings were held in 2018 and 2019 as a platform where the project cities defined their vision and narrowed down their areas of priorities for an inclusive and ambitious climate action plan. Most of the sessions were designed for creative discussion to benefit from the peer-to-peer learning opportunity among the cities and SMG representatives. The meetings were especially instrumental for the model cities to identify the pilot and investment projects through scenario planning exercises conducted with their peers. Through the exchange, cities shared key challenges that they faced in empowering their citizens and drew inspiration from their peers through joint discussions. Study tours were part of the Joint Project Meetings for the cities to have first-hand experience in sustainable initiatives that are already in place in the peer cities.



Joint Project Meeting conducted in 2019 in Hanoi

Expert Meetings

Through the expert meetings, the project cities and experts from Seoul Metropolitan Government streamlined support and explored avenues for knowledge transfer. This mechanism was one of the key exchanges designed to identify areas of exchange and learning for the satellite cities. The proof-of-concept shared by the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the expert consultation were targeted to the specific urban challenges that each of the model and satellite cities are facing. Expert meetings highlighted the crucial role that local leaders' commitments play in successful implementation of comprehensive climate action plans and that Interdepartment collaboration (within cities and across different government levels) is key to mainstreaming climate action into plans, policies, and programs.



National Expert Meeting 2019, Indonesia

Urban LEDS Study Tour



City representatives learned about various community and business-led initiatives of Bologna

From June 17-24, 2019, representatives from the ACP model cities joined the Urban LEDS European Study tour to jointly explore planning and accelerating local low-emission development. Participants visited some of Europe's most innovative, ambitious low-emission projects in Helsinki (Finland), Bologna (Italy) and Warsaw (Poland). Bologna's "District Labs" initiative, which fostered a culture of co-creation by local government and communities in designing public spaces, in particular, strongly resonated with ACP cities. Its approaches to integrate citizens into sustainability action plans incentivized citizens and business to become active, accountable stakeholders in neighborhood and business development. These ideas inspired Hanoi's pilot implementation project to co-design a public space with residents.

Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue



Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue conducted in DKI Jakarta in March 2018

The three ACP model cities were some of the first local governments to join the movement of Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues conducted in 2018. The Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues served as a means to model conversation between national and local governments to discuss how to deliver and raise ambitions for NDC achievement through multi-level governance. Through the dialogues, the project cities contributed to the overall NDC process by identifying the specific challenges in mainstreaming climate actions (including policy gaps) and providing a basis for updating the NDCs of their respective countries.

In-country Study Tours

The tours allowed the ACP project cities to discover tangible strategies and helped identify solutions that were tested by peers in their own countries, increasing the likelihood of eventual uptake.

Indonesia: The city representatives from DKI Jakarta, Bekasi, and Tangerang traveled in April 2019 to the two Indonesian Urban LEDS* cities of Balikpapan and Bogor. The group visited the Manggar Sanitary Landfill (Bogor City), which includes a waste-to-energy facility that supplies electricity to around 150 households. Then, the cities were able to get first-hand experience from Bogor City on how it cooperated with the private sector and community groups in providing alternative fuel in cement production from municipal solid waste.



Study tour participants learning about the leachate treatment unit of Manggar Sanitary Landfill of Balikpapan City

Philippines: The ACP cities in the Philippines visited Cauayan, Santiago and Ilagan City. Each shared their experience in improving the city's basic delivery services while surfacing low-carbon development. Particularly, the delegates learned about the digitalized disaster risk reduction management system and inter-local cooperation on disaster response (City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office of Santiago City), alternative public transportation services (Hybrid Electric Road Train of Cauayan City) and waste management education program at the household level (Ilagan's Solid Waste Education Enforcement Program).



Philippine project city representatives visited this sanitary landfill in Ilagan for inspiration to improve their own solid waste management practices

Vietnam: From March 14-17, 2019, the representatives of Hanoi, Soc Son, and Son Tay visited sites in Ho Chi Minh City and An Giang Province. The study tour focused on better understanding of collating climate activity data as a sound basis in local climate action planning (Ho Chi Minh) and a prominent model of nature conservation and climate change providing a sustainable source of livelihood to nearby communities (An Giang).



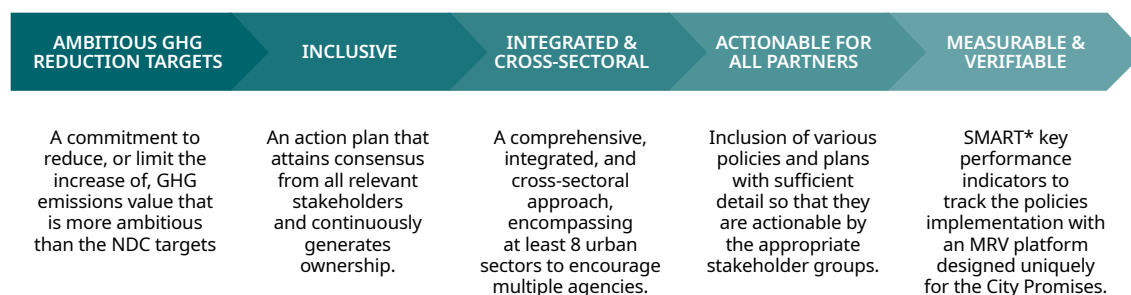
City representatives experiencing ecotourism activities in mangrove forest sitewhere An Giang developed to provide a sustainable source of livelihood to the neighboring communities

* - Urban Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) is a synergy project of ACP that is funded by the European Commission. More information available at: <https://urban-leds.org/>

9. City Promises

A City Promise represents a different climate action, one that espouses mutual trust, reputation-driven accountability, ambitious targets, and – most importantly – integration of stakeholder-driven climate action. The word ‘promise’ connotes a complementary relationship to emissions reduction targets, and implies collective relations across stakeholders within a particular city, peer cities, national and local governments, and international bodies.

In lieu of perceived distance from targets like the Paris Agreement’s aim to limit warming to 1.5 degrees, the model of a City Promise actualizes international ambitions on the local level. Throughout the process of developing the City Promises, city government and communities in Jakarta, Pasig City, and Hanoi joined forces to adopt an inclusive and ambitious approach to climate action.



*SMART: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound.

Distinct characteristics of City Promises

Collectively, the three project cities have committed to contributing to GHG emissions reduction and avoidance by up to 46 million tCO₂e by 2030 through their City Promises. To meet these targets, a cumulative 32 climate strategies with approximately 900 local stakeholder-pledged climate actions across more than 8 sectors are planned to be urgently delivered in the next decade.

DKI Jakarta, Indonesia	Pasig City, Philippines	Hanoi, Vietnam
Target: GHG emissions reduction by 30% against the BAU projection by 2030	Target: GHG emissions reduction by 20% below its 2017 baseline emissions by 2030	Target: GHG emissions reduction against the BAU projection by 12.14% by 2025 and by 18.17% by 2030

DKI Jakarta, Indonesia

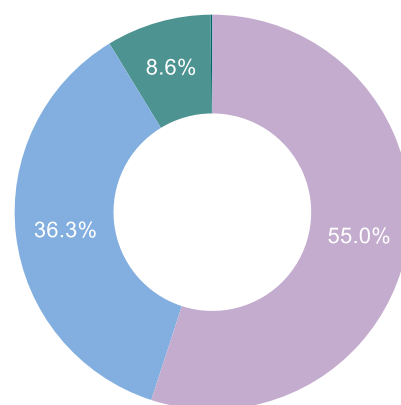
Ikhtiar Jakarta, “The Promise of Jakarta”

DKI Jakarta has proactively led its Indonesian peers in translating climate targets and strategies to the local government level. Ahead of Indonesia’s submission of its first NDC, the DKI Jakarta Provincial Government had already set its GHG emissions reduction target of 30% by 2030 based on its 2005 baseline emissions through their Regional Action Plans for Reducing GHG Emissions in DKI Jakarta (RAD-GRK). Until 2018, DKI Jakarta already achieved 26.5% of its emissions target in 2030 (equivalent to 7.95% of its total emissions projection). Following Indonesia’s first NDC submission and the Governor’s recent urgent call to action, DKI Jakarta reaffirmed its existing commitments, setting its sights on halving its GHG emissions by 2030 en route to **achieving by 2050**.

The provincial government recognized that deep involvement with stakeholders is a precursor to realizing these aspirations. Notably, **more than half of DKI Jakarta’s RAD-GRK mitigation actions are only possible through collaboration between the provincial government and external stakeholders**. In this context, the Promise of Jakarta (locally known as Ikhtiar Jakarta) is designed to bridge implementation gaps of the current RAD-GRK and serves as a principal document compiling pledged actions aligned with government priorities, simultaneously expanding local engagement reach and potential.

The Indonesian NDC

Indonesia was among the earliest countries to submit its first NDC to the UNFCCC in November 2016. The NDC communicated Indonesia’s GHG reduction pledge of **an unconditional target of 29% and conditional reduction target of up to 41% of the business-as-usual scenario by 2030**. This submission was followed by stronger national calls for local action, in line with Presidential Regulation No. 61 of 2011 mandating provincial governments to prepare regional GHG emission reduction plans (*Rencana Aksi Daerah Penurunan Emisi Gas Rumah Kaca* or RAD-GRK).



● Stationary Energy ● Transportation ● Waste
● Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU)

DKI Jakarta's GHG emissions per sector, 2010

Examples of specific goals of Ikhtiar Jakarta

Sector	Specific indicators	2030 targets
Energy	Proportion of existing public and private buildings meeting green building standards	60%
Transport	Daily commuters shift from private vehicle to public transport systems	1 million
Waste	Individuals engaged as volunteers or employees of community-scale waste management facilities	10,000
	Number of Pemberdayaan Kesejahteraan Keluarga (PKK) or Family Welfare Movement members engaged and capacitated on 3R (reduce reuse recycle) practice	5,000

Facilitating Access to International Finance

ACP supported the preparation for the proposals on the following projects through the [Transformative Actions Programme \(TAP\)](#) platform.

- Technical assistance in formulating policy design and financing schemes for installing **rooftop solar panels** for a total installed capacity of 5.5 MW to attract private sector investment. The project concept serves as one of DKI Jakarta's COVID-19 green recovery measures to create new jobs, and redirect budget allocations from cost savings to improve healthcare and basic services while utilizing clean energy sources.
- Establishing an **integrated municipal solid waste management facility** in DKI Jakarta capable of diverting 75 tons of municipal solid waste daily from the Bekasi City landfill.

Implementation Mechanisms of Ikhtiar Jakarta

Pilot interventions address pressing province-wide challenges in solid waste management that deeply affect Bekasi, the satellite city that receives waste from across DKI Jakarta. The community-based waste management, using the Black Soldier Fly system, demonstrated a decentralized solution with a model of cooperation between local government and community, an adequate management system to ensure sustainability, and a financing scheme that promotes a circular economy.

Recognizing the strong role that the youth and religious groups can play in advocating daily actions for combating climate change, the project built these two groups' capacity as agents of inspiration. Particularly, the project supported Islam, Catholic, Protestant, Buddhist, Hindu, and Confucian religious leaders to join forces together to produce different guidebooks tackling the role of their faith in climate crisis prevention.

Pilot Activities for Implementing Ikhtiar Jakarta

Community-based waste management using BSF system (infrastructure)

Installed a Black Soldier Fly treatment system at Rawasari temporary waste disposal site demonstrating a circular economy model. The pilot project deployed a decentralized community-based waste management system in DKI Jakarta using local and environment-friendly technology.

Results:

- 365 tons/year of organic wastes diverted from landfill
- 52 direct jobs created
- 5000 households participate in the management
- 400 tCO₂e/year GHG emissions avoided



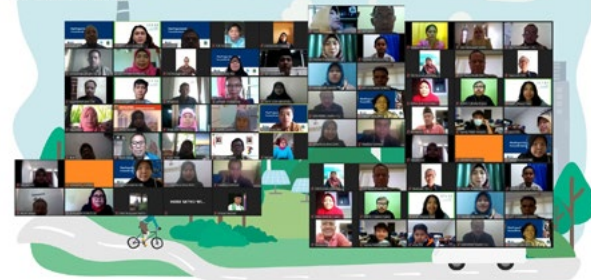
Youth Energizers (behavioral change intervention)

Built the capacities of the youth, specifically students in DKI Jakarta, to become active and knowledgeable advocates of energy efficiency and conservation.

Results:

- 120 youth individuals trained
- 11 capacity building events delivered
- 3 knowledge products developed

The Launch of Pilot Project Youth Energizers: Student Leaders as Champions of Energy Efficiency and and Environmental Sustainability in DKI Jakarta 20 October 2020



Interfaith-based approach in climate change education (behavioral change intervention)

Built the capacities of key religious groups in incorporating climate change in teachings and recommendations of best practices to LEEDS as well as to develop interfaith guidebooks on climate change education.

Results:

- 180 individuals from different religious groups trained
- 6 capacity building events delivered
- 8 knowledge products developed



Pasig City, Philippines

Promise of Pasig

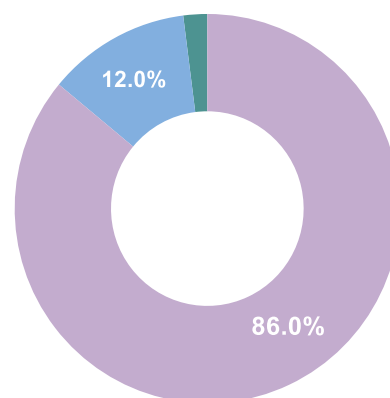
The Promise outlines Pasig’s ambitious commitment and strategies for a 20% GHG emissions reduction by 2030 (from a 2017 baseline) through Pasigueños’ participation. The Promise of Pasig aims for consistency with the national whole-of-government-and-society approach and Pasig City’s vision as “*a model community of empowered citizens with high quality of life.*” The Promise was formulated in parallel with the NDC, employing both science-based methodologies and consultative approaches with 250 key stakeholders.

Pasig City has an overall estimated GHG emissions of 1.48 million tCO₂e (using 2017 as base year). The energy sector had the lion’s share of the total emissions (86%), followed by transport (12%) and waste (2%). The 20% reduction target – doubled from its initial 2010 target – is equivalent to a reduction of 296,454 tCO₂e by 2030, with an interim reduction of at least 8% by 2025 via interventions in the energy, transport, and waste sectors. Therefore, Pasig City holds great potential in further raising its ambition within this period.

In total, the Promise of Pasig comprises 422 climate actions pledged by the local government, private sector, CSOs/NGOs, and international development partners who actively participated in the consultation processes.

The Philippine NDC

The Philippine government submitted its first NDC to the UNFCCC on April 15, 2021, committing to a **projected GHG emissions reduction and avoidance of 75%, 2.71% of which will be unconditional and 72.29% conditional.** The Philippine national law on climate action – Republic Act 9729 (The Philippine Climate Change Act of 2009) – reaffirms local governments’ vital role as “frontline agencies in the formulation, planning, and implementation of climate change action plans”.



- Stationary Energy
- Transport (on-road)
- Waste (solid waste, wastewater)

City-level GHG emissions of Pasig City, 2017

Examples of specific goals of Promise of Pasig

Sector	Specific indicators	2030 targets
Energy	Percentage of newly constructed public and private buildings and facilities that have adopted energy and resource efficient building designs, technologies and practices	100%
	Number or percentage of households and SMEs shifting to energy-efficient lighting and/or energy-efficient AC systems by 2030	10,000 or 50% of households, and 3,000 or 50% SMEs
Transport and Air Quality	Additional bicycle lanes allocated through the Pasig Basic Bicycle Network	77.5 km
Waste	Reduction rate of solid waste generation from barangays and establishments by further strengthening waste reduction and recycling	20%
Urban Agriculture and Ecology	Expanded green spaces dedicated to food production and urban landscapes among communities in the city	160,000 sqm

Facilitating Access to International Finance

The project supported the City of Pasig in receiving a project grant from 10YFP Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Program of the Ministry of Environment of Japan (MOEJ) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) through the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). The project “Active City-Community Engagement to Leverage Emissions Reduction through Activities that Transform Energy-use” (ACCELERATE) strengthened sustainable consumption and production of energy patterns of the local communities of Pasig City and Paranaque City by enhancing the implementation of the Philippine Green Building Code (PGBC) at the local level and improving energy efficiency and conservation across the board.

Implementation Mechanisms of Promise of Pasig

The pilot interventions supported by the ACP project emphasized energy sector actions of the Promise of Pasig, due to its significant contribution to the overall GHG emissions of Pasig City (86%, equivalent to 1.27 million tCO₂e). This share can be attributed to the energy-intensive operations of commercial and institutional buildings operating within the city. The estimated budget required to implement the Promise of Pasig for 2020-2030 is Php 18 billion (309.38 million Euros). Therefore, the local government is also optimistic in its ability to leverage the existing municipal budget, as well as in accessing available climate finance to accelerate implementation.

Pilot Activities for Implementing City Promise of Pasig

Pasig Recharge! (infrastructure)



Showcased green building solutions that enhance efficiency of building structure, improve resource circulation, enhance occupants' productivity, and potentially contribute to GHG emissions reduction in one selected pilot barangay. The 12.16 kWp of rooftop solar panel systems and 1,000 L portable biogas digester were installed along with 64 units of energy efficiency AC and lighting.

Results:

- 18,336 kWh/year electricity savings
- 11 tons/year organic waste diverted from landfill
- 30 tCO₂e/year GHG reduction

Amendment of Local Green Building Ordinance (policy)

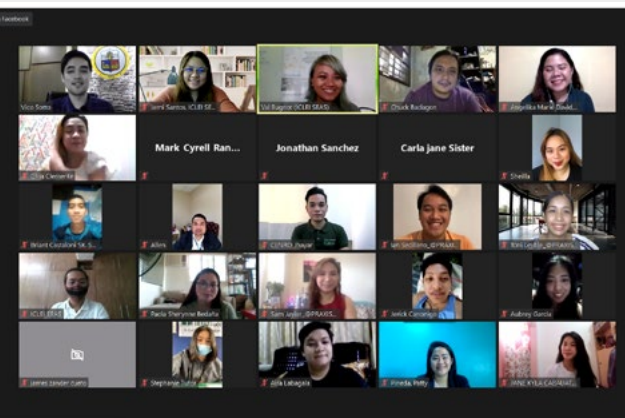


Provided technical support in crafting the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the ordinance to improve resource efficiencies associated with the new buildings and retrofitting of existing buildings aligned with Philippines' Green Building Code.

Results:

- 1 amended policy on local green buildings
- 1 IRR of local green buildings policy
- 1 policy implementation monitoring tool

#PROMISEOFTHEYOUTH (behavioral change intervention)



Built the capacity of youth groups in Pasig City, specifically the Sangguniang Kabataan and youth leaders, influencing behavioral change towards collaborative climate action by honing and mobilizing youth advocates for the environment.

Results:

- 50 youth individuals trained
- 8 capacity building events delivered
- 6 knowledge products developed

Hanoi, Vietnam

Promise of Hanoi

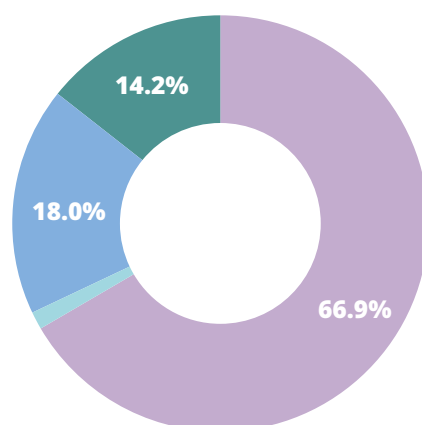
Through partnerships with ICLEI and C40 Cities, the Hanoi People’s Committee revisited its climate strategy to update Hanoi’s climate action plan. The Promise of Hanoi was formulated following an exhaustive review of Hanoi’s relevant existing policies, activities, and programs, as well as a series of consultations with more than 300 participants from different stakeholder groups.

Hanoi’s Green Growth Action Plan 2025-2030 committed the Vietnamese capital to GHG emissions reductions of 12.14% (equivalent to 6.68 million tCO₂e) by 2025, and of 18.17% (equivalent to 13.76 million tCO₂e) by 2030. Mitigation interventions will help realize targets in the industry, agriculture and forestry, residential, urban management, and transport sectors.

The Promise of Hanoi strengthens inclusivity in the Hanoi’s Climate Action Plan by compiling pledges of not only the city government, but also businesses and CSOs/NGOs across 118 climate actions. The climate actions are estimated to yield a potential GHG emissions reduction of 2.15 million tCO₂e by 2025, and 2.30 million tCO₂e by 2030 to contribute to Hanoi’s existing GHG reduction targets.

The Vietnamese NDC

In July 2020, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). The NDC communicated the country’s increased ambition to reduce its GHG emissions by 9% compared to the business-as-usual scenario by 2030 with its own domestic resources. This contribution can be raised up to 27% with international support. New policies since the country’s first NDC submission are designed to meet more ambitious targets and align local governments’ climate strategy development with national priorities.



- Energy
- AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use)
- Waste
- IPPU (Industrial Processes and Products Use)

Hanoi’s GHG emissions per sector, 2015

Examples of specific goals from Promise of Hanoi

Sector	Specific indicators	2025	2030
Energy	Proportion of commercial buildings with highly energy-efficient air conditioners	30%	60%
Transport	Modal share of public transportation	30-35%	40-45%
	Conventional motorbikes switched to electric bikes	-	5%
Waste	Proportion of urban solid waste sorted at source and recycled, composted, and/or properly disposed of	80%	100%
	Proportion of rural solid waste sorted at source and recycled, composted, and/or properly disposed of	50%	70%

Facilitating Access to International Finance

The project assisted Hoan Kiem District People’s Committee in its submission of a project proposal to the [Transformative Actions Programme \(TAP\)](#). The project concept seeks to complement the existing effort of Hoan Kiem District in addressing mobility and air quality issues in their jurisdiction by adopting a smartphone-based bike sharing system including improvement of 10km of dedicated bike lanes and deploying 100 charging stations and at least 200 units of e-bike. This system aims to become a convenient, reliable, efficient, and affordable last-mile connectivity mechanism within the district.

Implementation Mechanisms of the Promise of Hanoi

According to Hanoi’s 2015 GHG inventory, energy and waste sectors accounted for 66.9% and 14.2% of overall estimated GHG emissions, respectively. To address the primary emission sources, ACP’s pilot projects sought to establish a cooperation and awareness-raising center on climate action and environmental protection for local communities in Cau Giay District. The ward office’s redeveloped community center is envisioned to serve as a space for learning about different mitigation solutions. Installation of infrastructure measures such as a playground built with recycled materials, rooftop solar panels, and waste segregation system, among others, will demonstrate the range of potential mitigation proposals.

An ICLEI-led design contest, in partnership with Think Playgrounds, Live & Learn, and Hanoi’s Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE), solicited 48 proposals for sustainable visions of Hanoi. Three of the four contest winners’ concepts will be integrated into the playground infrastructure intervention, while the fourth has the potential to be incorporated into future urban greening efforts for infrastructure redevelopment.

Pilot Activities for Implementing City Promise of Hanoi

Collaborative design of low-carbon public space (infrastructure)

Created a space for learning about different LED solutions through installations such as low carbon playground, rooftop solar panels, among others.

Results:

- Recycled more than 1 ton of waste (e.g. milk box, tyre, pine pallet)
- 20 kWp of rooftop solar photovoltaic system installed
- 1 air quality monitoring device installed
- About 10 tCO₂eq/year of GHG emissions reduction



Urban design contest and green public space guidebook (behavioral change interventions)

Empowered keystakeholders to engage in the collaborative design of urban green spaces to inspire transformative visions for Hanoi. Through the pilot project, a guidebook on developing a low carbon public space was created. These interventions aimed to directly support the green space goals in the Promise of Hanoi of quadrupling green space per capita by 2025, aiming even higher for 13-15 m² per capita by 2030.

Results:

- 48 contestants submitted design ideas
- 3 contest ideas incorporated into the infrastructure pilot project
- 1 knowledge product developed



10. Satellite City Highlights

Learning opportunities among cities are core to ACP's project design and aspiration for future innovative climate action. ACP experimented in how innovations and inspirations spread across cities – from model to satellite cities – by theorizing that model cities could illustrate effective proof of concept for peers. Essentially, the project functioned as an enabling mechanism for bottom-up planning. Identifying the cities that would be participating in capacity building and exchange opportunities, therefore, was a deliberate effort. The satellite partners not only shared many characteristics and goals of the model cities, but also showed the willingness to launch ambitious action trajectories. Each ACP target country had **one model city and two satellite partner cities** in the same metropolitan region to facilitate action among all three.

The logic follows that of the broader inspiration from Seoul. SMG served as a model for the pioneer cities in each country, which, in turn, become models for national-level peer cities. It is the project's hope that satellite city actions inspire further pioneering activity among peers across Southeast Asia.

Country-by-Country Activities

Indonesia

ACP assisted **Tangerang** City in enhancing the city's 2019 community-level GHG inventory by actualizing its data generation and advising on how to avoid double accounting of the emissions generated in Soekarno-Hatta International Airport which is located in Tangerang City. The project also supported the city in submitting a proposal for creating a new water-based public transportation system to the Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) Challenge 2020.



Expert meeting conducted in 2019 at Tangerang City Hall

Both **Bekasi** and Tangerang benefited from the capacity building opportunities that were jointly organized with the Urban-LEDS II project. The opportunities included: i) Estimating city-level GHG emissions using SIGN SMART (a national online platform for calculating and reporting GHG emissions); ii) "Green Budget Tagging and Bankable Proposal Development for Indonesian Local Governments", and iii) "Low Emission Indonesian Study Tour" for learning opportunities from host local governments' initiatives.

Philippines

Parañaque City joined Pasig City in the implementation of the Active City-Community Engagement to Leverage Emissions Reduction through Activities that Transform Energy-use (ACCELERATE) project, which ICLEI guided through the proposal process in 2019. This project contributed to the improvement of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) practices of the two cities through interventions in the building sector, and recognizes cities' crucial roles in reducing consumption-based emissions. Project activities provided insights into the current implementation of the Philippines Green Building Code (PGBC), and supported its localization to improve building energy efficiency.

As discussed in Section 8, all Philippine project cities Pasig, **Marikina**, and Parañaque joined the "ACP Project Study Tour: Advancing Low Emission Development among Philippine Cities" in host cities in the Province of Isabela. The tour also highlighted an empowerment framework for local villages aimed at poverty reduction through inclusive planning and implementation, as well as participatory development programs.



Representatives of Parañaque and Pasig Cities at the ACCELERATE inception workshop

Vietnam

In 2008, Hanoi annexed neighboring municipalities, nearly tripling in land area and doubling its population. As districts of Metropolitan Hanoi – versus separate municipalities like their fellow satellite cities – **Soc Son** and **Son Tay**'s relationships to their pilot city differed substantially. Project interventions in Soc Son and Son Tay were manifestations of Hanoi-driven priorities in some of the major environmental campaigns for modernizing residents' lifestyles. Yet, ACP interventions respected the different characteristics of these exurban, largely agricultural districts, particularly given the associated ecological concerns of Hanoi's rapid development.

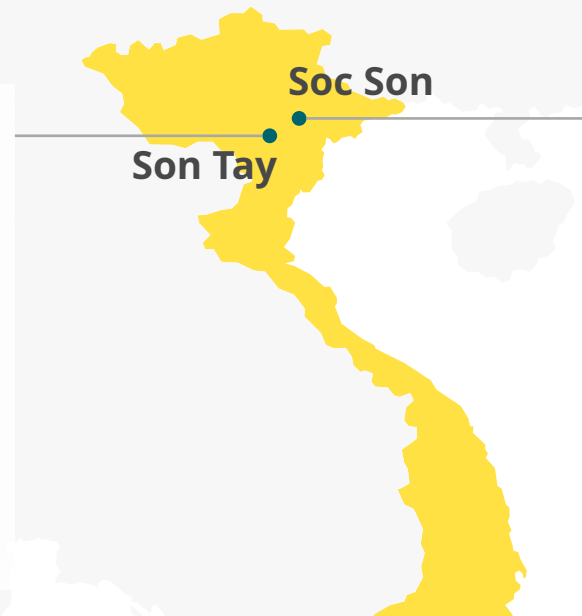
Soc Son and Son Tay joined public consultations and information sharing on mechanisms to implement two Hanoi People's Committee Council priorities for improving air quality conditions: (a) elimination of beehive stoves, and (b) banning of straw burning in agricultural areas. The satellite cities also participated in the dialogue with local businesses in Hanoi on curbing plastic waste leakage to the environment.



Representatives of Soc Son and Son Tay presented their initiatives at Seoul Mayors Forum on Climate Change 2019

Highlights from the Satellite Cities

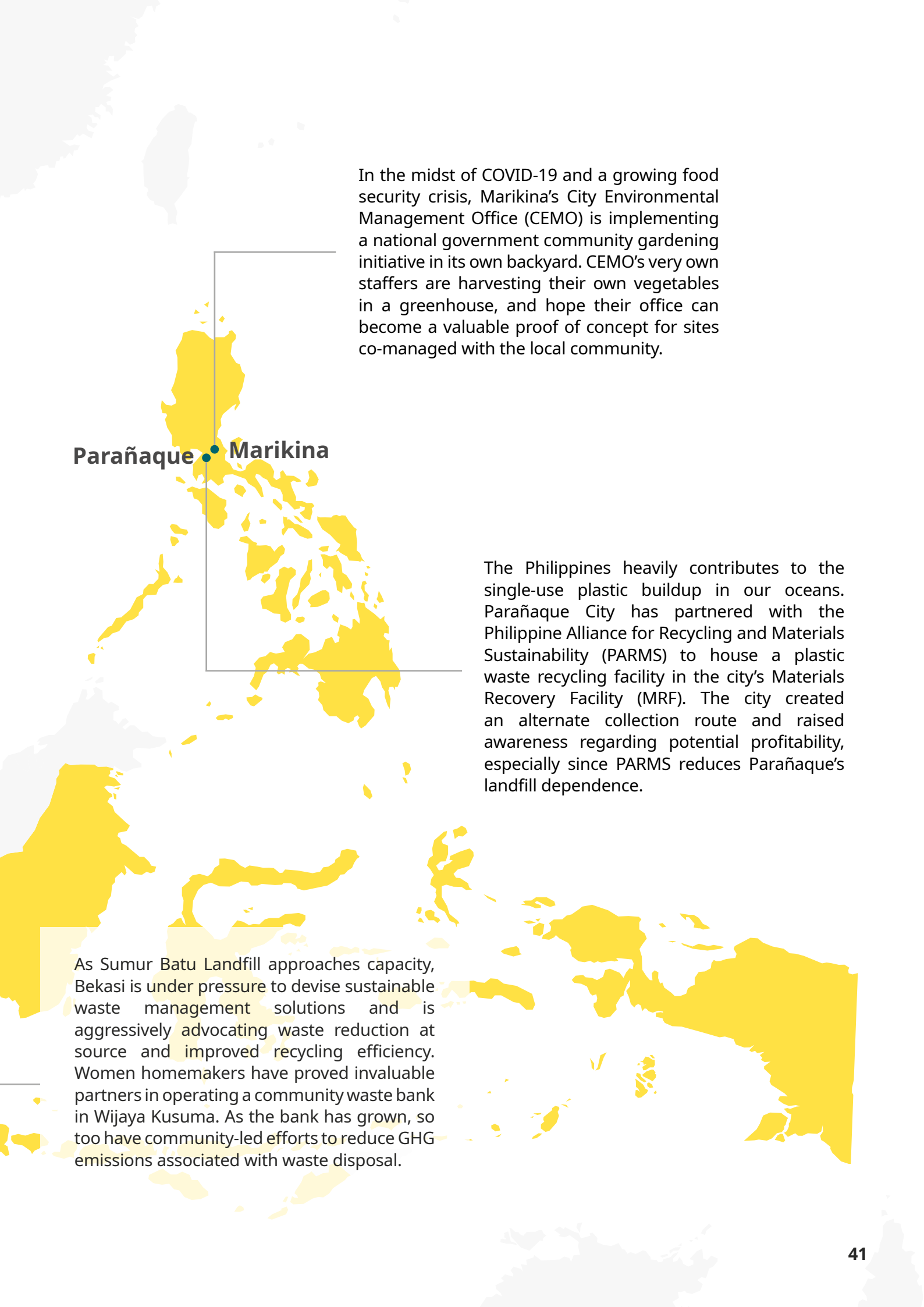
The idyllic Son Tay District's participation was enlisted in another Hanoi-wide initiative to curb air pollution threatening the entire metropolitan region's future. Traditional methods of cooking in beehive stoves, although popular, are extraordinarily detrimental to air quality. In Son Tay, local ward-level committees developed implementation plans for the Hanoi-wide initiative, while the district government organized training and campaigns.



Reducing air pollution is a metropolitan priority and agriculture contributes to about 18% of Hanoi's overall greenhouse gas emissions. Straw burning of residue from rice cultivation is environmentally unsustainable for soil degradation and air pollution. The Women's Union of Soc Son District have mobilized to reverse this trend by advocating and capacitating farmers to practice composting and organic farming.

Champions in Benua Indah district of Tangerang spearheaded local implementation of the national government's Climate Village program. Their determined efforts yielded bottom-up stakeholder management strategies in waste management that were an effective proof of concept for subsequent urban farming initiatives in the same climate village. This village's success inspired the Mayor of Tangerang to dramatically expand the program across the entire city.





In the midst of COVID-19 and a growing food security crisis, Marikina's City Environmental Management Office (CEMO) is implementing a national government community gardening initiative in its own backyard. CEMO's very own staffers are harvesting their own vegetables in a greenhouse, and hope their office can become a valuable proof of concept for sites co-managed with the local community.

Parañaque • Marikina

The Philippines heavily contributes to the single-use plastic buildup in our oceans. Parañaque City has partnered with the Philippine Alliance for Recycling and Materials Sustainability (PARMS) to house a plastic waste recycling facility in the city's Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The city created an alternate collection route and raised awareness regarding potential profitability, especially since PARMS reduces Parañaque's landfill dependence.

As Sumur Batu Landfill approaches capacity, Bekasi is under pressure to devise sustainable waste management solutions and is aggressively advocating waste reduction at source and improved recycling efficiency. Women homemakers have proved invaluable partners in operating a community waste bank in Wijaya Kusuma. As the bank has grown, so too have community-led efforts to reduce GHG emissions associated with waste disposal.

11. Legacy

The ACP project supported cities in Southeast Asian metropolitan areas in adopting a bottom-up model of enhancing climate ambition. Although its four and a half year journey has concluded, the project leaves a lasting legacy for participating cities and others. Introducing methods of people-centric low carbon development empowered citizens, enabled their active engagement in local government decision-making processes, and transformed them into implementing agents of the city's ambitions. Project cities have institutionalized mechanisms for incorporating citizens' feedback and engagement in their climate action plans. These are included in their respective City Promises.

With the completion of the project, each of the cities are well positioned to implement their climate commitments in an inclusive manner. Now more than ever, local governments also need to take advantage of green recovery mechanisms to remain on track to meet their commitments to climate action and sustainable development. The world is set to realize net-zero emission ambitions by the middle of the century. Local governments, including ACP project cities, are going beyond national commitments and taking bold actions. The project cities' ambitious targets are making strong contributions in the global push towards climate neutrality. The established implementation and monitoring mechanisms, together with the strong commitments from stakeholder groups and the city government, ensure that the project cities can continue on their path towards sustainability.

The methodology shaped by the experience of the project cities will contribute to broader climate action at local, regional, and national levels. The lessons learned can be replicated by a wider group of cities. ICLEI, as a global network of cities and regions, will continue to support the cities on this path to Race to Zero. and provide appropriate platforms for exchange to drive future climate pioneers and transfer innovation across urban contexts. It is our hope that the project cities will embolden peer local and regional governments across Southeast Asia and beyond to tap into the energy of local governments and stakeholders to jointly fuel climate action.



Key lessons learned from the project



Empowering citizens

The project cities saw that pursuing the city-level climate targets alone is not sufficient to achieve the desired results and impacts. **Combining climate targets with social aspects** amplifies synergies and empowers stakeholders to commit to climate actions. Although many local governments include public participation as part of their processes, communication often flows in one direction: top-down. ACP was able to elevate the public's voice and activate citizens' potential as key contributors to climate actions through its consultation method. The process also served as a capacity building opportunity for citizens to make informed decisions, as well as inspire city governments to develop transformative and collaborative climate actions.



Peer-to-peer exchange

Placing peer-to-peer exchange at the core of the capacity building activities allowed cities to find commonalities in their approaches to addressing urban challenges. Members learned from and with each other. Implementing the peer learning methodology showed that replicating the proof of concept (while carefully adapting the approach to the local context) has many advantages, particularly because of the alignment between the suggested and current institutional arrangements and local government priorities. This explains why the Promise of Seoul model was an effective approach in deconstructing the concept of climate change mitigation: it related goals to the sectors (e.g. energy, transport, air quality, waste) that directly affect both mandates of local governments and citizens' daily lives.



Promising the ambitions

The notion of stakeholders making promises for climate action is distinct to ACP's approach to local climate action planning, reflecting the experience of SMG's Promise of Seoul. A 'promise' implies a different posture towards a local government's climate ambition, especially as communities and stakeholders can feel distanced from international goals (e.g. Paris Agreement).

Through the project, model cities Jakarta, Pasig, and Hanoi reimagined climate action planning into a more tangible, accountable, and motivational enterprise. Their experiences demonstrated that **accounting for and supporting local contributions can be a key driver of NDC implementation**. They nurtured a culture of climate action among leaders, staff, and community stakeholders to become climate advocates.



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