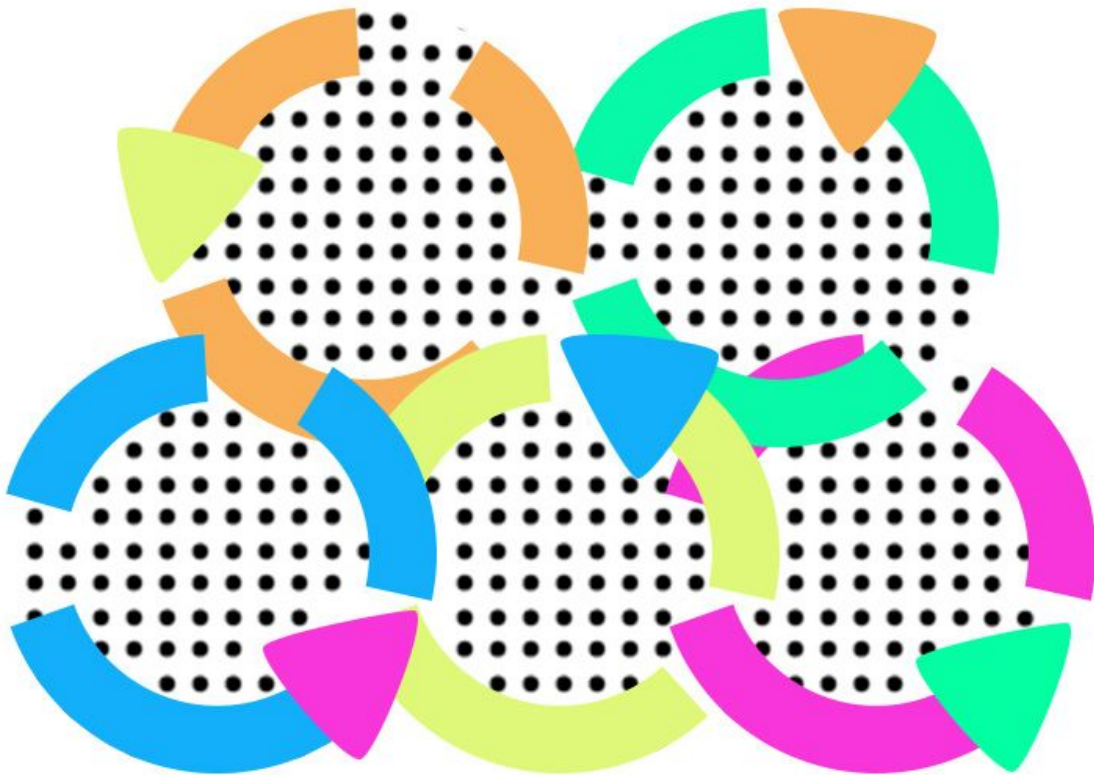


# Climate City Olympics – 1st Edition – Strategy, Operations, Timeplan



**FuturICT 2.0**



**COMPLEXITY  
SCIENCE  
HUB  
VIENNA**

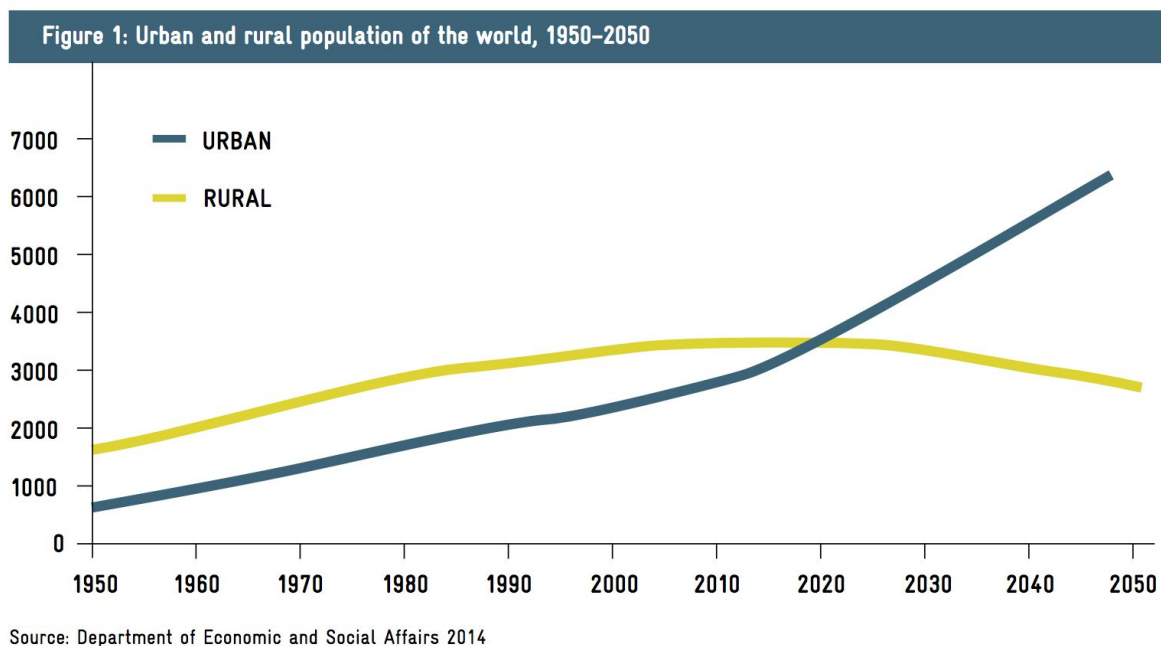


**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change

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## 1. Idea of Climate City Olympics

Today, every second person lives in a city. By about 2050, the cities' share of the world's inhabitants is believed to grow to up to 70%. Or as James Alexander from the city initiative C40 has put it at the 2018 Innovate4Climate meeting: "Every months, the world is adding a city the size of Singapore." And already today, cities account for three quarters of the planet's greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>1</sup>



So cities will be the central actors in future climate change mitigation and adaptation. But how can cities be motivated to engage in climate protection? And how can they finance climate action? A study by the German GIZ summarizes the central problem: "The case studies show that lack of awareness and political priority for climate change prevent cities from taking action. People tend to underestimate the costs of inaction versus potential co-benefits of climate smart development because they are very long term and difficult to measure or quantify." Consequently, GIZ issues the following recommendations to municipal authorities (excerpt):

- "Assess and widely communicate long-term socio-economic impacts of climate change. This will create buy-in of citizens and governmental departments, increase demand for climate-smart urban services and infrastructures and help justify the costs of climate action. Such analyses should be conducted with support from academia.

<sup>1</sup> See: GIZ (2017): Challenges and Opportunities for Urban Climate Finance – Lessons Learned from eThekweni, Santiago de Chile and Chennai. Online: [https://www.adelphi.de/en/system/files/mediathek/bilder/GIZ\\_Urban%20Climate%20Finance.pdf](https://www.adelphi.de/en/system/files/mediathek/bilder/GIZ_Urban%20Climate%20Finance.pdf)

- Develop a citywide climate change strategy and make provisions for mainstreaming key priorities into sectoral strategies and urban planning.
- Exchange information on successful project proposals with other cities, possibly from other (but similar) countries.
- Engage the private sector in climate action, e.g. by illustrating the effects of climate change on industries and by highlighting best practice examples of climate projects with good return on investment.”

Taking into account the above mentioned recommendations, we have developed a new approach to supporting cities in their efforts for engaging in urban mitigation, the so-called Climate City Olympics.

The Olympic games are held every two years and attract hundreds of millions of viewers worldwide, just to see how people compete in different sports. Why not adopt this idea in other areas, such as countering climate change and fostering sustainability? And how can this format contribute to reaching the United Nations Sustainability Goals, as laid out in the Agenda 2030, the Paris Climate Accords, and elsewhere.

A dedicated group of leading visionaries from universities, governments and civil society institutions met on May 7 and September 11, 2018, in Vienna to brainstorm on how to organize the Global City Climate Olympics, where cities and regions around the world would regularly compete for the best environmental-friendly, energy-efficient, resource-saving and crisis-proof solutions.

The results of these workshops have led up to the following strategy.

## 2. Organization of the 1<sup>st</sup> City Climate Olympics

At the 2nd Workshop on Climate City Olympics, participants have agreed to accept the proposal of TIA Summit and the UNFCCC to

- Start the 1st Climate City Olympics at the TIA Summit 2019 in Bangalore, India, July 2019
- Award the winners of the 1st Climate City Olympics at the COP25 at a place TBC (probably Brazil), December 2019

The competition phase would thus last for five months. Additional principle that have been agreed on:

- The 1st edition should be organized as a pilot version with a relatively small number of cities (5-10) from different continents.
- An interim Task Force has to be nominated to ensure adaption of a strategy and fundraising for the 1st Climate City Olympics. The interim Task Force can become the board of the CCO once a bureau for organizational matters could be established.
- The legal structure of the CCO has to be clarified in order to start with fundraising activities.

### 2.1. Climate City Olympics Task Force

The following table shows the current confirmed members of the CCO interim Task Force. Interim Task Force members are responsible for handling their field of activity. Members highlighted with bold letters form the core group of the interim Task Force. In order for the interim Task Force to take decisions, at least four of the core group members have to be present. Decisions are made by consensus whenever possible.

All interim task force roles are on a strictly voluntary basis.

Activity	Lead	Support by
Adapt strategy for 1st edition of CCO	<b>Stefan Klauser SKL</b>	Jose Jacob Kalayil JJK, Alexandre Gellert Paris AGP, Cesar Carreño CCR, Mario Gualdi MGU, Cassius Castellino CCA
Set up budget for 1st edition of CCO	<b>Jose Jacob Kalayil JJK</b>	SKL, MGU, Dirk Helbing DHL
Create information package for fundraising (brochure, video)	<b>Anna Hentschel AHL</b>	SKL
Fundraising activities (based on budget and information package)	<b>Mario Gualdi MGU / Miro Polzer MPO</b>	all

City reachout & support for participation	<b>Cesar Carreno CCR</b>	Klemen Bizjak KRB, CCA
Technical Lead Measurements and Reporting	<b>Denis Avrilionis DAV</b>	MGU, SKL
Media relations	Anna Hentschel AHL	JJK, AGP
Organize task force meetings / overview progress	Klemen Bizjak KRB	SKL, Qusai Jouda QJA
Manage relations to UN system	Alexandre Gellert Paris AGP	MPO
Manage relations to Climate-KIC / Climathon	Harald Rauter HRA	
Manage relations to Climate Chain Coalition	Miro Polzer MPO	
Manage relations to blockchain scene	Tadej Slapnik TSA	SKL, QJA
Government relations	Gary Schaal GSA	SKL
Citizens Science Advisory	Rosy Mondardini ROM	MGU

## 2.2 Climate City Olympics Legal Structure

For the legal structure, the interim Task Force has to decide from two options.

Option 1 is: to establish its own non-profit legal entity. This brings clarity in legal terms and assures the independent operation of the CCO. On the other hand, this brings along a few legal obligations in terms of reporting etc.

Decisions to be taken: Where to establish a legal entity? Switzerland, India, Estonia?

Option 2: to link the CCO to an established organization. This ensures quick operability and slim procedures. On the other hand, this could bring conflicts of interest.

Decisions to be taken: Which institution would be willing to act as an umbrella for the CCO? ICLEI? CSH?

## 2.3 Climate City Olympics Organizational Tasks & Deadlines

The following tasks have to be fulfilled in order to organize the first CCO:

Finalize strategy document for the 1st edition of the CCO	02.11.2018	SKL
Finalize budget for the 1st edition of the CCO	02.11.2018	JJK
Create a website for the CCO	02.11.2018	SKL
Establish CCO organization (association?)	30.11.2018	MPO
Create an information package for distribution (slides, brochure)	30.11.2018	AHL

Coordinate fundraising activities to fill the budget of the 1st CCO	31.01.2019	MGU, MPO
City reachout activities (depending on budget)		CCR
Implement technical standards for measurements and reporting		DAV
Coordinate with local players in Europe		SKL
Coordinate with local players in Asia & Pacific		CCA
Coordinate with local players in the Americas		CCR
Coordinate with local players in Africa		CCR

## 2.4 Climate City Olympics Budget

The CCO 2019 budget estimate contains the following categories:

Cost Category	Description	Period	Amount	Covered by
Set up	Establish CCO Association	one time	-	
Communications	Website	2019	EUR 10'000.-	initially by FuturICT 2.0 / ETH COSS
Communications	Information Package for Stakeholders (slides, brochure, video)	2019	EUR 5'000.-	FuturICT 2.0
Communications	City reachout activities	2019	?	potential ICLEI in-kind contribution?
Material	Grants for sensor material for poorer regions (arduino, sensors, etc.)	2019	EUR 10'000.-	
CCO operations	Set up software etc. for live data feed	2019	?	
Salaries	Full-time CCO Managing Director position	2019	EUR 50'000.- (depending on location)	
Salaries	Regional Support Offices CCO (contacts to local	2019	EUR 20'000.- each (*4)	some in-kind from Swissnex Bangalore for

	universities, cities, initiatives)			Asia / Pacific, FuturICT 2.0 / ETH COSS for Europe
Events	Launch event Bangalore (TIA Summit, June / July 2019)	2019	?	In-kind contributions?
Events	Award event at COP25	2019	?	In-kind by UNFCCC?
Travel	Travel of Managing Director, Technical Aids etc.	2019	EUR 10'000.-	
Total 1	-	2019	EUR 165'000.-	
Overhead	20%	2019	EUR 33'000.-	
<b>Total 2</b>		<b>2019</b>	<b>EUR 198'000.-</b>	

Current contributions:

FuturICT 2.0 / ETH COSS: initial set-up of website, video, communications material, plus in-kind work contribution (max. 20%)

TBC:

Grant from Swiss Academies of Humanities	(CHF 30'000.-)
Support ETH Global for Regional office Asia (Swissnex)	(TBD)

## 2.5 Outreach for the City Climate Olympics

Events currently foreseen:

January 23(TBC), 2019: Future ICT 4 Sustainable Cities, Bangalore, India  
February 27, 2019: FuturICT 2.0 Forum, Zurich, Switzerland

## 2.6 Content for the Climate City Olympics

Cities currently foreseen for the 1st Ed. of the Climate City Olympics, as first contacts have been established and / or interest expressed:

Europe: Piräeus, Rome, Vienna, Zurich

Asia / Oceania: Andhra Pradesh, Bangalore, Singapore, Seoul.

Americas:

Africa:

The rankings would either be calculated as one of the following options:

- a) index of different disciplines (weighted)
- b) different rankings for different disciplines

We would measure the improvements over a certain time period, not absolute values!

**Proposals for Categories / Disciplines in the City Climate Olympics and their operationalization**

Category	Variable	Measurement Unit	Level	How?
Emissions	Fine Dust Concentration	?	individual	People setting up sensors outside their living space, office, etc.
Circularity	Food Recycling	?	individual / restaurant / company level	Partnership with anti food waste organizations
Mobility	Walking, Bike and Public Transportation Use	person kilometers	individual	Reporting through form linked to mapunity; partnership with <a href="http://cycleto.work/">http://cycleto.work/</a>
Energy	Energy Consumption	?	city level	Partnership with Energy providers
Sustainability	Flight Compensation Score	Share of climate compensated flights at local airport	city / airport level	MyClimate Partnership