Why the Covenant of Mayors?

- 75% of European population live in urban areas
- 80% of energy consumed and CO2 emitted come from cities
- 1.9% is the growth rate of energy use in cities (vs 1.6% globally)
UW1  Utilisateur Windows; 7/4/2009
Covenant Signatories commit to

- Go beyond EU energy and climate objectives: 20% CO$_2$ reduction by 2020
- Prepare a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP)
- Implement their Action Plan and report periodically on progress
- Involve citizens and other stakeholders
- Encourage other cities to join

485 CITIES SIGNED UP!!!
Among the Covenant Signatories are...

- Växjö (SE)
- Budapest (HU)
- Paris (FR)
- Riga (LV)

Who supports Covenant cities?

- European Institutions
- Covenant Of Mayors Office
- Supporting Structures
- Financial Facility
- Benchmarks of Excellence

European Cities
The European Commission

- Ensures political recognition and visibility of cities
- Negotiates third parties’ contribution
- Negotiates support for smaller cities
- Mobilises finance

Co-operation with EIB

IEE II: €15 million to promote sustainable energy investments in cities

Covenant of Mayors Office

- Encourages local authorities to join the Covenant
- Provides technical guidance and support to signatories
- Monitors the implementation of their Action Plans - in co-operation with the Joint Research Centre
- Facilitates liaison among Covenant cities
- Promotes Covenant cities at European level
- Supports signatories in organising local energy days
Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP)

- Document formally approved by City Council
- Concrete measures leading to **20% reduction of CO₂ emissions** by 2020
- Baseline emissions inventory
- Scope: public and private sector actions
- Guidelines based on practical experiences of cities, developed in co-operation with Joint Research Centre
- Free choice of methodology in accordance with SEAP template
- Personal advise of Covenant Helpdesk and FAQs on-line

Supporting Structures

WHO?
- Regions, counties, provinces, agglomerations, mentor cities, Networks of Local Authorities

WHY?
- To assist local authorities lacking skills & resources to fulfil Covenant requirement

HOW?
- Provide guidance and support for the SEAPs
- Disseminate concepts of the Covenant
- Monitor implementation of the Action Plan
- Liaise with the European Commission
Benchmarks of Excellence

WHO?
- Public or private body proposing a model initiative or programme
  - Endorsed by the Mayor of a Covenant city
  - Evaluated by the European Commission

WHY?
- To valorise and replicate sustainable energy model initiatives

HOW?
- Share experience
- Facilitate transfer of knowledge
- Promote the Covenant
- Disseminate information
- Present the model initiative
- Help implement similar approaches

Annual Covenant of Mayors ceremony

10th February 2009
Hemicycle of the European Parliament, Brussels
Thanks to the commitment of hundreds of Covenant signatories, a rough estimate of 60 million tons of CO₂ can be saved.