



**EMBARGO: 2 DECEMBER 10:00 CT (MEXICO CITY)//
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2 DECEMBER 2016

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PARIS MAYOR ANNE HIDALGO AND POWERFUL WOMEN MAYORS LAUNCH WOMEN4CLIMATE INITIATIVE TO EMPOWER WOMEN LEADERS IN THE CLIMATE FIGHT

C40 Chair and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo announces a top priority in her role as C40 Chair: women leadership on climate action

Mexico City, Mexico (2 December 2016) – Today, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo leads women mayors from around the world in launching the [Women4Climate](#) initiative to help support and celebrate women leaders who are driving forward climate action. As the first woman chair of the C40, Mayor Hidalgo aims to galvanize the international community to focus on the nexus of gender and climate issues. The announcement was made at the [C40 Mayors Summit 2016](#) in Mexico City.

“Women leaders like Christina Figueres, Patricia Espinosa and C40’s women mayors were instrumental in delivering the Paris Agreement and have a unique role to play in realising its ambition,” said **C40 Chair and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo**. “As women mayors and city leaders we can’t rely on anyone else to take the lead on creating a sustainable world for future generations. We are more than ready for the challenge.”

The first-of-its-kind Women4Climate initiative will identify and support the next generation of women leaders globally, empowering them to take action on climate change, creating opportunities to deliver on this crucial agenda. Powerful women mayors will take under their wing these young leaders to get ready the next generation.

Addressing gender inequality and social inclusion whilst also tackling climate change will be a key priority of Mayor Hidalgo’s agenda as C40 Chair. As a long-time feminist political leader, the initiative will be one of Mayor Hidalgo’s first efforts to

formally advance this topic both inside and outside the C40 organization and global network of cities, with the opportunity to engage many strong and dynamic women mayors, CEOs and NGO leaders around the world. Mayor of Washington D.C. Muriel Bowser, Mayor of Cape Town, Patricia de Lille, Mayor of Caracas, Helen Fernandez and Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore will join Mayor Hidalgo at the C40 Mayors Summit in Mexico City on Friday to discuss the basis of the Women4Climate agenda.

Other high profile women on the international stage have [endorsed](#) Mayor Hidalgo's efforts to elevate the profile of women in combatting climate change, including Patricia Espinosa, UNFCCC Executive Secretary, Laurence Tubiana, French Ambassador for Climate Change Negotiations, Dr. Hakima El Haite, Minister in Charge of Environment, Morocco and Celestine Ketcha-Courtes, Mayor of Bangangte and representative of the Global Covenant of Mayors.

Follow C40 Mayors Summit announcements on social media with #Cities4Climate.

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About the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group

The C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, now in its 11th year, connects more than 85 of the world's greatest cities, representing 650+ million people and one quarter of the global economy. Created and led by cities, C40 is focused on tackling climate change and driving urban action that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks, while increasing the health, wellbeing and economic opportunities of urban citizens. The current chair of the C40 is Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes; Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo is Chair-elect; and three-term Mayor of New York City Michael R. Bloomberg serves as President of the Board. C40's work is made possible by our three strategic funders: Bloomberg Philanthropies, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), and Realdania. To learn more about the work of C40 and our cities, please visit www.c40.org, follow us on Twitter [@c40cities](#) or Instagram [@c40cities](#) and like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/C40Cities>.

About the C40 Mayors Summit

From November 30 to December 2, 2016, the biennial C40 Mayors Summit provides a unique opportunity for city leaders to share ideas for reducing emissions and creating sustainable and liveable cities for citizens. In addition, winners of the annual [2016 C40 Cities Awards](#) – which provides global recognition for cities that are demonstrating climate action leadership – will be announced alongside the Summit at a ceremony on the evening of December 1.

Attendees include more than 60 C40 mayors and deputy mayors from all over the world and hundreds of urban and sustainability leaders who are committed to

taking meaningful action on climate change. Speakers include nearly 40 mayors from the world's largest and most influential cities; business leaders of Fortune 500 companies; elected officials at all levels of government; prominent NGO leaders; internationally-renowned climate experts; and celebrity activists.