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C40 CITIES BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES AWARDS CELEBRATE 10 BEST CITIES FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN 2017

*More than 90 cities applied to awards program demonstrating global city-led
urgency and innovation on climate action*

Chicago, IL (5 December 2017) - Ten cities were honored today at the [C40 Cities Bloomberg Philanthropies Awards](#) ceremony, which recognizes the world's most inspiring and innovative cities taking major climate action. The fifth-annual awards ceremony took place at the [North American Climate Summit](#) in Chicago.

The awards honor 10 sustainability projects from around the globe that represent the most ambitious and innovative efforts taken by mayors to shape the future. Given the increasingly important role U.S. cities must play in driving climate action, this year each of the five award categories has one winner from a U.S. city and one winner from elsewhere in the world.

Five award categories highlight the best climate action policies, projects, and programmes: building energy efficiency & clean energy (Cities4Energy); sustainable transportation (Cities4Mobility); reducing waste (Cities4ZeroWaste); climate action plans (Cities4Action); and adaptation plans & programmes (Cities4Tomorrow).

This year's winners are:

- Cities4Energy: **Chicago, Copenhagen**
- Cities4Mobility: **New York City, Dar es Salaam**
- Cities4ZeroWaste: **Phoenix, Auckland**
- Cities4Action: **Fort Collins, Mexico City**
- Cities4Tomorrow: **Washington, DC, Wuhan**

“Nowadays, our worldwide philosophy should be ‘Think local, act global’. The winners of the C40 Cities Bloomberg Philanthropies Awards are evidence of the stunning innovation and disruptive progress by cities around the world to shape the century ahead” said **Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris and Chair of C40**. “These projects should be considered blueprints that other cities can adapt to accelerate their own efforts.”

“Cities are helping nations reach the goals they set under the Paris Agreement, including in the U.S. Because cities share common challenges, each of these winning projects has the potential to improve lives around the world - while also improving our odds in the fight against climate change. Congratulations to all the winners,” said **Michael R. Bloomberg, C40 President of the Board and U.N. Secretary General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change**.

C40 received 174 applications from 92 cities which were assessed by a selection committee of urban sustainability and climate change experts at C40 and Sustainia, who then identified [25 finalists](#). Sustainia partners with C40 each year to produce *Cities100*, a publication that showcases 100 of the best urban climate solutions from around the world. An expert jury panel comprised of former mayors, climate experts, and others, selected the winning urban sustainability

projects based on excellence in urban planning and dedication to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving resiliency.

C40 has captured compelling images from each of the winning city projects. These can be downloaded by clicking [here](#), and are free to use. Winning city projects are:



Chicago (Cities4Energy): Retrofit Chicago partners with countless local organizations to improve energy efficiency and cut costs and greenhouse gas emissions for Chicago's residents and businesses.



Copenhagen (Cities4Energy): Copenhagen's energy surveillance program makes the city the first in the world to have a completely centralized building monitoring system.



New York City (Cities4Mobility): The South Bronx Clean Truck Program accelerates the purchasing of low-carbon vehicles, retrofits existing trucks, and replaces old vehicles to reduce local air pollutants by 75% per truck.



Dar es Salaam (Cities4Mobility): DART tackles traffic congestion and high levels of local air pollution with a new Bus Rapid Transit system serving 200,000 people every day and adding new, lower-carbon engines to the city's fleet.



Phoenix (Cities4ZeroWaste): The Reimagine Phoenix Initiative will clean the air and improve public health by diverting 40% of the city's waste by 2020 and reaching zero waste by 2050.



Auckland (Cities4ZeroWaste): Auckland's Waste to Resources program has developed a way to divert 65% of curbside waste to be recovered, re-used, or recycled.



Fort Collins (Cities4Action): Fort Collins' Climate Action Plan aims to reach complete carbon neutrality by 2050, and is already delivering 25% per capita emissions reductions along with a 60% rate of waste diversion.



Mexico City (Cities4Action): Mexico City's Climate Action Program has already delivered on 65% of the city's 2018 goals and has begun work on all but 5% of the cumulative actions outlined by the plan.



Washington, DC (Cities4Tomorrow): Climate Ready D.C. has established a long-term commitment to climate resiliency that will impact the city's transportation, buildings, neighborhood design and policy structure.



Wuhan (Cities4Tomorrow): Wuhan's plan to rehabilitate and revitalize the Yangtze River embankment will massively reduce localized pollution and make space for walking, cycling, green space, and recreation.

Chicago-based artist, Walter Kitundu, designed this year's C40 Cities Bloomberg Philanthropies Award trophy. The trophy encases air from arctic ice cores in a specially designed glass sphere. All materials are sustainable.

For more information on the Awards and the winning projects visit: <http://www.c40.org/awards>.

For details about the North American Climate Summit please refer to the website: <https://northamericanclimatesummit.splashthat.com/>

Follow the C40 Cities Awards on social media with #C40Awards and the North American Climate Summit with the hashtag #ChicagoCharter.

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About the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group

C40 Cities connects more than 90 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 Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo; 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](https://twitter.com/c40cities) or Instagram [@c40cities](https://www.instagram.com/c40cities) and like us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/C40Cities>

About Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies works in over 120 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's charitable activities, including his foundation and his personal giving. In 2016, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed over half a billion dollars. For more information, please visit bloomberg.org or follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BloombergDotOrg), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/BloombergDotOrg), [Snapchat](https://www.snapchat.com/add/BloombergDotOrg), and Twitter [@BloombergDotOrg](https://twitter.com/BloombergDotOrg).