



DISTRICT
ENERGY
IN CITIES



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE

Subject: City request to join the Sustainable Energy for All Building Efficiency Accelerator and Global District Energy in Cities Programme

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to ask you to join us in a unique partnership to accelerate action in your city to improve energy technologies, improve air quality, and reduce global warming emissions. As the world gathers at COP21 to discuss a new climate agreement, city action to decarbonize the buildings sector will be critical.

Buildings account for one third of global carbon emissions and represent the largest energy consuming sector in the economy. Sixty percent of this energy consumption is for heating and cooling which is largely met by fossil fuels. Measures to reduce demand *and* shift to supply sources that are consistent to our climate and energy ambitions are urgently required.

To support these efforts, the United Nations Sustainable Energy for All Initiative launched the Building Efficiency Accelerator (BEA) and the Global District Energy in Cities Initiative (DES Initiative), which have now teamed up to help cities adopt a holistic solution to the buildings sector.

To participate actively we invite you to take the following actions:

- Join the SE4ALL [Building Efficiency Accelerator](#) (BEA) which assists sub-national governments to speed adoption of best-practice policies and building efficiency projects. The Building Efficiency Accelerator is a public-private, multi-stakeholder partnership coordinated by the World Resources Institute (WRI).
- Join the SE4All [Global District Energy in Cities Initiative](#) (DES Initiative) which provides technical assistance to local and national government authorities and promotes the uptake of district energy worldwide. The DES Initiative is a public-private, multi-stakeholder partnership coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- Report in the carbonn® Climate Registry, the largest global database of local climate action, existing and new energy and climate commitments which your local government has made

In addition, ICLEI, UNEP, World Resources Institute and the Accelerators are part of a new [Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction](#) to be launched at COP21 that will help communicate our progress and action to national stakeholders supporting climate change action. By signing up with us, **the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction** will provide further publicity to your actions undertaken within the BEA and the DES Initiative at the COP21 and beyond. Additionally, the Alliance gives cities access to a central platform for all initiatives related to buildings and construction.

We bring to your attention the enclosed documents and ask you to kindly complete the attached Partnership Agreements (Annex 4) to sign up to both or either of the Initiatives and the SE4ALL statement of intent.

Annex 1: Introduction to the SE4ALL Building Efficiency Accelerator

Annex 2: Introduction to the Global District Energy in Cities Initiative

Annex 3: Introduction to the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction

Annex 4: Partnership agreements for the BEA and DES Initiative and Statement of Intent for SE4ALL

Yours sincerely

Mayor Park,
President, ICLEI – Local
Governments for Sustainability

Mark Radka,
Chief, Energy, Climate, and Technology Branch,
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Jennifer Layke,
Director, Building Efficiency
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