



Covenant of Mayors  
in Sub-Saharan Africa



# CoM SSA SEACAP Toolbox

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Module 1.1: Introduction to the  
CoM SSA Initiative

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## Module 1.1: Introduction to CoM SSA Initiative

### What you will learn in this module:

- Overview of the CoM SSA initiative



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## What is the CoM SSA Initiative?

- CoM SSA was established in 2015 and is the African regional chapter of the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM), an alliance of over 11,000 cities promoting urban climate action.
- It comprises a network of 300+ sub-Saharan African cities who are making ambitious climate change commitments, and sharing good practice.



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# CoM SSA signatory cities



Source: <https://comssa.org/join-the-com-ssa/>

“What makes the difference with CoM SSA is the vision that we carry as mayors and local governments, but also the support and collaboration that cities and municipalities can contribute to discussions like this. CoM SSA is at the heart of climate action on the African continent...”

**Hon. Mohammed Adjei Sowah**  
**Mayor of Accra, Ghana**



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# Ambitions for Sub-Saharan African cities who are part of CoM SSA

## What are the objectives?

- Increase access to sustainable energy and support local climate mitigation and adaptation action.
- Localise NDCs and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), empower local authorities and initiate local action.
- Improve institutional frameworks, and local authorities' technical and resource mobilisation capacities.
- Promote political ownership and good practice dissemination.



# Ambitions for Sub-Saharan African cities who are part of CoM SSA

- Effectively adapt to the negative impacts of climate change.
- Reduce African cities' emissions.
- Improve access to sustainable, affordable and secure energy.
- Realise the co-benefits of climate and energy planning for city development.
- Facilitate greater sensitivity for marginalised groups, particularly women.



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# What are the Benefits of CoM SSA for Sub-Saharan African cities?



- Capacity building and technical support on climate and energy planning and implementation
- Access to locally grounded best practice
- Knowledge exchange activities
- Improved international visibility of climate and energy actions carried out by cities in sub-Saharan Africa



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## What is the approach?

- Engage with key stakeholders to understand local context needs and opportunities.
- Develop local capacity, ensuring that the work is relevant, context-specific and serves the most vulnerable.
- Enhance dialogue between national and sub-national levels.
- Foster institutional cooperation.



# Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa

Promote the development, implementation and monitoring of **Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plans (SEACAPs)** by and for the cities of Sub-Saharan African cities.

What is the approach?



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### **Please note:**

This module has been designed for local government officials and partners who are developing their SEACAP.

This module is one component of the SEACAP Toolbox. For the full Toolbox, please visit: <https://comssa.org/>



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## CoM SSA SEACAP Toolbox

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Author:  
ICLEI Africa



Local Governments  
for Sustainability  
AFRICA

For more information contact: [helpdesk@comssa.org](mailto:helpdesk@comssa.org)  
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# Thank you



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Find out more: <http://comssa.org>

Contact: [helpdesk@comssa.org](mailto:helpdesk@comssa.org)