



# A Day for Cities, States, and Regions

*A COP26 side-event series organized along  
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## **Event Details:**

DATE: November 10, 2021

LOCATION: The Royal Mile in Edinburgh

LENGTH: 11:00AM - 9:30PM

## **Participants:**

AUDIENCE: Elected officials from all over the world.

SPONSORS: SDCL, Mott MacDonald, and Under2

## **Event Goals:**

Facilitate connections between global representatives from cities, states, and regions (subnational governments).

Support climate change mitigation, adaptation, and action through public-private and cross-continental collaboration.

Promote the recognition of subnational governments as members of COP.

## **AGENDA**

Planned for November 10th, the event will begin in the morning at location #1, Dynamic Earth, for opening speeches by senior government representatives.

Following a break for lunch, attendees will launch into two forty-five minute sessions on their choice of the following topics:

- 1) How can we adapt to extreme water-related weather events?
- 2) How do we keep cool in an extreme heat atmosphere?
- 3) How can we decarbonize the transportation sector?
- 4) How can we attain energy efficiency in public buildings?
- 5) How can we guarantee that disadvantaged communities are part of a just energy transition?

Each session will have a diverse selection of speakers, including elected officials such as mayors or ministers, subject matter experts from academia, non-profits, or climate networks, private sector representatives from SDCL and consultancies, and, if appropriate, members of civil society.

We will then meet at our location #2, Edinburgh City Chambers, for cocktails and conversation sponsored by Mott MacDonald. This section of the event will be hosted by Edinburgh Lord Provost Frank Ross.

The last section of our event will be an evening reception with sustainable beverages and food options, however, the venue will be announced later as it is dependent on Scotland's COVID-19 safety measures.



A DAY FOR CITIES, STATES, AND REGIONS PRESENTS:

## **‘We Are The How:’ An Interactive Panel Series on Mitigation and Adaptation Solutions for the Consequences of Climate Change.**

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### **1. Water: How can we adapt to extreme water-related weather events?**

In our breakout session on water, we will discuss explicit strategies that elected officials can employ to handle extreme water-related weather events, such as floods, hurricanes, and droughts. We will dive into different ways elected officials can reduce total water consumption and establish infrastructure renovation programs that allow cities and regions to deal with both influxes and shortages of water.

### **2. Heat & Cooling: How do you keep cool in an extreme heat atmosphere?**

In our breakout session on heat and cooling, we will cover ways that cities, states, and regions can renovate existing infrastructure and establish innovative adaptation initiatives that maintain a vital level of cooling without emitting more greenhouse gases. We will hear from representatives of cities that have to adapt to acute heatwaves in the coming decades and consider potential solutions to one of the most dangerous consequences of climate change.

### **3. Transport: How can we decarbonize the transportation sector?**

Transportation is both one of the hardest-to-abate sectors and a large contributor to climate change. During our breakout session on transport, we will delve into ways that we can incentivize and advance both public and private transit electrification. We will cover specific industry and regulatory strategies that will help cities, states, and regions accelerate the transition to a net-zero carbon emission transportation sector.

### **4. Buildings & Energy Efficiency: How can we attain energy efficiency in public buildings?**

As one of the most accessible climate mitigation tactics, the breakout session on buildings and energy efficiency will cover the ways cities can rapidly upgrade their municipal infrastructure to reduce both energy prices and carbon emissions. We will explore how representatives can facilitate private-public partnerships to renovate and build a new generation of resilient and sustainable municipally-owned buildings.

### **5. Environmental Justice & Just Transition: How can we guarantee that disadvantaged communities are part of a just energy transition?**

In our breakout session on environmental justice and just transition, we will ask our speakers and attendees to reflect on how they can include those in their local communities most impacted by climate change in the solutions to its consequences. Specifically, we will talk about hiring and educational programs that can source local talent for climate change initiatives such as infrastructure projects, as well as employment opportunities with private sector firms in the climate space.