“The Paris summit succeeded where past attempts had failed, in part because cities and businesses had a seat at the table for the first time.” — Mike Bloomberg
On the Cover: More than 400 mayors from around the world gather in Paris's Hôtel de Ville at the Climate Summit for Local Leaders, part of COP21, on December 4th, 2015.
Bloomberg Philanthropies works to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. We focus on five key areas for creating lasting change: the arts, education, the environment, public health, and government innovation. These areas encompass the issues Mike Bloomberg and his team are most passionate about and where we can achieve the greatest good.

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Teamwork wins championships, as any sports fan can tell you. It’s no less important to solving public policy problems. Yet, for too long, it was lacking from one of the most difficult challenges facing the world: climate change.

In December of 2015, after more than two decades of stalemate, 196 nations committed themselves to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions at a climate change conference in Paris. They joined hundreds of cities, thousands of businesses, and countless citizens that had already made such commitments. At long last, all the major players have lined up on the same side of the field. But having a full roster is a far cry from having a great team, to say nothing of winning a championship. Success will require leadership that unites everyone behind a common mission and gets everyone to work together by promoting communication, collaboration, and coordination. It’s a role that Bloomberg Philanthropies has fully embraced.

As we look beyond Paris, Bloomberg Philanthropies will work with all the major players—nations, cities, businesses, and civic organizations—on a coordinated campaign to cut greenhouse gas emissions immediately. The Paris Agreement requires national progress beginning in 2020, but that won’t do. The challenge is too urgent. The dangers of delay are too severe. And the momentum that Paris has provided is too valuable to squander. The work of becoming a real team—not just one that exists on paper—must begin now.

The good news: We have already won two victories that are crucial to long-term success. First, the old argument between skeptics who saw no need to act and alarmists who predicted impending doom has lost its dominant hold on our political discourse. There are still some—ideologues on both sides of the climate issue and elected officials in both U.S. political parties—who insist
on carrying on that argument. But most people have moved on, because—whatever one thinks of the scientific studies—the economic risks of inaction are too great and the public health dangers are indisputably severe.

The second major victory is no less important: The old argument between developed and developing countries over who was responsible for leading the way forward has finally given way to the realization that we all must do more, together. Nations united in Paris not after a moment of epiphany, but only after mayors and local leaders from around the world had spent years urging their national governments to join them in confronting the issue aggressively; after business leaders had expressed major concern about the issue; after investors had demonstrated their appetite for clean energy projects; and after citizens demanded action. The top-down approach to reaching a global climate accord had failed for decades. A bottom-up approach, with cities and businesses leading the way, proved successful.

Thanks to a newfound global consensus on climate change, plus plunging costs for clean energy and a growing recognition of the costs of inaction, we turned a corner in Paris. Today, for the first time, it’s possible to see a realistic path that leads to a low-carbon future. No shortage of difficult obstacles lie ahead, but overcoming them is possible—if the major players communicate, collaborate, and coordinate effectively. In the year ahead, Bloomberg Philanthropies will work with each group to ensure that happens. Here’s a preview of what our work will entail.

**Cities**

Cities have been among the most aggressive players on climate change, because they are the biggest source of the problem—they account for about 70 percent of global emissions—and also face the gravest health and economic risks. More than 500 cities representing over 425 million citizens have signed the Compact of Mayors, which commits them to setting ambitious goals and assessing their progress using transparent and uniform measurements. In Paris, nations adopted similar requirements to transparently report, and review over time, their progress in cutting emissions. During the Paris conference, Bloomberg Philanthropies and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo co-hosted more than 1,000 mayors and local officials at the Climate Summit for Local Leaders, drawing attention to the pioneering work already being done by cities.

Through my work as the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change and as President of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, I’ve seen how eager local leaders are to cut emissions. But I’ve also seen how they are held back from acting because of a lack of resources and authority. For instance, many cities lack the credit ratings necessary to borrow money in capital markets. Without credit, they are unable to make major investments in low-carbon infrastructure that would reduce their carbon footprints, improve public health, and strengthen their economies.

Working with C40, we’re exploring new ways to give cities access to global capital markets. It’s one of the most important steps we can take to help cities reach the goals they are setting through the Compact of Mayors. But it’s far from enough.

In addition to lack of credit, cities are hampered by outmoded regulations, centralized monopolies, and national governments that may be less than fully supportive of cities’ climate goals. By showing national leaders that empowered cities will make it easier for them to reach national goals, we aim to promote more collaboration and cooperation among cities and national governments. As part of this work, we once again convened global cities in Washington, D.C., in May. Paris was only a starting point. City leaders know that the real work is just beginning.

**Businesses**

Climate change carries major economic implications for every industry: droughts threaten crop yields and livestock, floods threaten cities and coastal real estate, and warming oceans threaten fisheries and marine life.
The Declaration of Paris is presented by mayors at the Climate Summit for Local Leaders in Paris (from left: Seoul Mayor Park Won-soon, Mike Bloomberg, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Dakar Mayor Khalifa Sall, President of UCGA Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes, Istanbul Mayor Kadir Topbas, and President of COP21 Laurent Fabius)

Yet until recently, these threats were largely or entirely ignored by business owners, executives, and investors—and for good reason: There was little reliable information about them. That is slowly starting to change.

One of the most effective ways of fighting climate change is also the least expensive: making markets more transparent. Giving business owners, executives, and investors accurate and reliable data about climate change allows them to price risk into their decisions—improving the stability of markets and making low-carbon investments more attractive. Successful business leaders do not have the luxury of ignoring future risks and hoping for the best. They must work to identify and mitigate their exposure to risks, and climate change is no exception.

Two years ago, Hank Paulson, Tom Steyer, and I created the Risky Business Project to raise awareness of the economic challenges that climate change presents in the United States by providing localized and industry-specific climate data to business leaders and policy makers. Since then, Bloomberg Philanthropies has expanded that work by supporting two other efforts that hold great potential to improve the transparency of markets.

The first is the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB), which creates disclosure standards for companies. SASB helps companies assess their internal sustainability efforts while enabling investors to compare similar companies across a range of rigorous sustainability metrics. This year, after finalizing draft standards for 10 sectors and 79 industries, SASB will launch a pilot reporting program involving several companies to demonstrate how disclosures are a cost-effective and compelling way for businesses to understand the material risks that climate change and other sustainability factors pose to their operations.
“As we look beyond Paris, Bloomberg Philanthropies will work with all the major players—nations, cities, businesses, and civic organizations—on a coordinated campaign to cut greenhouse gas emissions immediately.”

The second effort began at the Paris climate summit, when Bank of England Governor Mark Carney, in his capacity as chairman of the Financial Stability Board (which monitors the global financial system), asked me to lead a new taskforce on the financial risks of climate change. Since then, we’ve begun working with banks and other financial institutions to develop a common set of voluntary guidelines to bring transparency to the opaque risks that climate change presents to financial markets. The market cannot accurately value companies, and investors cannot efficiently allocate capital, without reliable data on the risks they face.

The growth of my company, a financial information tech start-up I founded 35 years ago, is a testament to the fact that investors value transparent markets and reliable data. Market forces, combined with technological innovation, are the two most powerful drivers of change in the world. If we’re going to win the battle against climate change, we need to tap into both of them—and that starts with giving investors better information about the true costs and risks of climate change, as well as the potential dividends of low-carbon projects and companies.

**Citizens**

Like cities and businesses, citizens and local communities have self-interested reasons to fight climate change, but they don’t always have the tools to do so. Working with the Sierra Club, we are empowering communities across the United States to close coal-fired power plants. Of course, coal pollution doesn’t just contribute to climate change. It also kills thousands of people a year through heart attacks and respiratory disease. Our Beyond Coal campaign has already phased out 232 coal plants and helped reduce the number of people in the United States killed by air pollution from coal each year from 13,000 to 7,500. That’s a big reason why the United States is already nearly half-way to the emissions reduction goal it set in Paris.

By the end of 2017, we aim to secure the retirement of half the United States coal capacity, compared with 2010—something that was almost unthinkable back then. Building on the success of Beyond Coal, the Sierra Club has also launched a new program—called Ready for 100—that helps cities move toward a full transition away from fossil fuels and toward 100% renewable energy.

Empowering communities also means supporting individuals who develop creative new ways to engage the public. During the COP21 summit in Paris, Bloomberg Philanthropies supported Olafur Eliasson’s and Minik Rosing’s Ice Watch, an installation of ice collected from an iceberg drifting off of Greenland. They set it in the Place du Panthéon, arranged in the shape of a clockface. As it slowly melted during the course of the summit, it drew the world’s attention to the pressing climate crisis. The best public art makes people stop and think—and this installation went further, inspiring those who saw it in person or online to act.

**Nations**

Now that national governments have committed to action, we must ensure that they follow through. The Paris Agreement included a provision (which city leaders had pushed for) committing nations to regular and transparent reporting of progress. That will allow the global community, as well as cities and voters, to hold national governments accountable for fulfilling their commitments.
At the United Nations’ Climate Action 2016 Summit in May, one subject of discussion was the steps national leaders can take to empower local and regional officials. Here in the United States, there’s new momentum to develop smart, forward-looking energy policies. Bloomberg Philanthropies is helping governments craft energy policies that shift electric power production away from coal to renewable energy sources. These policies are putting us on track to meet the 2025 emissions goals set by the Obama Administration in its Paris pledge, as well as the 2030 target set by the EPA’s Clean Power Plan.

While the Supreme Court temporarily halted full implementation of the Clean Power Plan in February 2016, many states are proceeding on their own, and some—including California and New York—have set goals that far exceed what the federal government calls for. In a political climate plagued by gridlock and hyper-partisanship, we must continue to look beyond Washington for leadership.

Each major player in the fight against climate change has a crucial role to play—and, for the first time, every player has committed to action. But success is only possible if they work together.

At Bloomberg Philanthropies, we take to heart that most important rule: The whole is always greater than the sum of its parts. With teamwork, and by focusing on data, we can win the battle against climate change. And in the process, we can save thousands of lives and build a stronger and more prosperous global society.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
Annual Letter
from the CEO

When I visited Moscow for the first time last June, I found a dynamic city filled with beautiful architecture, fascinating history, and welcoming people. It turns out, though, that the most remarkable thing in Moscow was what I didn’t experience: tobacco smoke.

Russia has a long history of smoking and, until recently, the country’s tobacco control program was virtually non-existent. That changed when Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use started working there in 2007. In the subsequent nine years, tobacco control has gained traction in Russia, and, thanks to our partners, we’ve made substantial progress. I’ll never forget when an ex-smoker I met there hugged me in gratitude for the work that we do.

Our work in Russia is part of our global tobacco control program, the most ambitious initiative of its kind in the world. Over the last ten years, it has helped save tens of millions of lives—but it is only a single spoke in a large wheel of activities aimed at making a difference in people’s lives. For our annual report, we want to share some of the results that make our work so gratifying.

Over the past year, we’ve seen inspiring progress in each of our five major areas of work—the environment, the arts, education, public health, and government innovation—and in helping women play a greater role in Rwanda’s and Congo’s rising economies. In addition, our philanthropic consulting firm, Bloomberg Associates, is working with urban leaders around the world on the most critical issues facing their cities, and our colleagues at Bloomberg L.P. are dedicating their time and expertise to strengthening local communities through volunteer service.

Together with our grantees, which range from national and local governments to nonprofit organizations and research institutions, we’re unafraid to take risks. We follow the data, make big commitments, and set bold goals. In 2015, our major new initiatives and investments included:

• A $48 million new Clean Energy Initiative to limit carbon pollution from power plants and spur clean energy investments. This initiative supports advocates, technical experts, and lawyers to help states develop climate plans that move them off coal and toward compliance with the new EPA carbon rules finalized in 2015.

• An additional $30 million investment in the Sierra Club’s Beyond Coal campaign (bringing our total investment to $80 million) to halve the amount of coal burned for power generation by the end of 2017 and to ease our country’s transition to clean energy sources. So far we’ve helped close 232 coal plants in the United States.
• A conference for more than 1,000 local leaders from more than 600 cities, including 446 mayors, at COP21 in Paris. Co-hosted with Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, Bloomberg Philanthropies convened the Climate Summit for Local Leaders, where mayors and other officials from around the world committed to taking more ambitious climate actions through the Compact of Mayors.

• A Public Art Challenge launched in the United States to help select cities fund temporary art projects that address civic issues.

• A $30 million commitment to nationally expand our Arts Innovation and Management program for small- and medium-sized cultural institutions in six cities around the country.

• An expansion of the CollegePoint program, which, by providing free virtual advising (on the phone and online), aims to increase the number of high-achieving, low- to moderate-income students who enroll in the most selective U.S. colleges and universities.

• A $125 million reinvestment to support road safety efforts globally and assist cities and national governments in reducing road crashes, one of the world’s leading causes of preventable death.

• An Anti-Tobacco Trade Litigation Fund created with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to combat the tobacco industry’s use of international trade agreements to threaten and prevent countries from passing strong, life-saving tobacco control laws.

• A $100 million Data for Health program, launched with our partners in the Australian government, that already is working to improve health data in developing countries so that governments, aid organizations, and public health leaders can use this information to prioritize risks, develop policies, deploy resources, and measure success.

• A new partnership with the Government of India to encourage smarter urban development by helping design its Smart Cities Challenge, through which cities competed for development funds by proposing the most innovative and impactful projects.

• A $42 million “What Works Cities” initiative to help mayors use and analyze data more effectively for decision-making.

• A free database for nonprofits and governments called Equal Footing that provides information about funding in sub-Saharan Africa.

• A new $125 million research center, the Bloomberg–Kimmel Center for Cancer Immunotherapy at Johns Hopkins University. Immunotherapy is a technique that deploys the body’s immune system against cancer, one of the most promising developments in cancer research. The Center builds on Michael Bloomberg’s investments in public health research and infrastructure at Johns Hopkins University.

Bloomberg Philanthropies has had an exciting, fast-paced 2015, and 2016 holds even more promise as we expand our successful programs and add new ones. In the following pages, you will see the challenges, opportunities, and approaches we have employed to further our mission: ensuring better, longer lives for the greatest number of people.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Harris
Chief Executive Officer

Arianna Huffington, Mayor Gloria Garcia of Victorville, CA, Mayor John Giles of Mesa, AZ, and Patti Harris kick off the What Works Cities summit in New York
Bloomberg Philanthropies’ work is making progress at an ever-increasing rate. A few of the highlights of the last year:

- 500+ cities committed to the Compact of Mayors
- 232 coal plants retired through Beyond Coal
- 62,224 babies delivered at upgraded community health centers in Tanzania since 2009
- 25,660 police officers trained by Global Road Safety partners since 2010
- 80 cities supported by Government Innovation programs
- 8,300 students reached by CollegePoint in class of 2016
- 437 cultural institutions supported around the world
- 146,427 women who have completed job training in sub-Saharan Africa since 2008
- 9,800 Bloomberg employee volunteers
- 260 African media and business professionals trained in financial journalism
Our Global Reach

Bloomberg Philanthropies works in more than 400 cities in over 130 countries around the world.

ENVIRONMENT
Our Environment program brings together a wide range of partners, including cities and businesses, to address some of the most serious threats to our global sustainability, including climate change and overfishing.

THE ARTS
Our Arts program supports artists, organizations, and audiences to bolster cultural infrastructure that is critical to the health and vibrancy of cities.

EDUCATION
Our Education program works to maximize student potential, bring college into reach for more students, and spread success.
Our Public Health program aims to combat preventable deaths and injuries by spreading solutions at national and local levels that are proven to protect more people and save more lives.

Our Government Innovation program helps mayors take risks, collaborate with citizens, and creatively tackle challenges because Bloomberg Philanthropies believes cities are drivers of progress and innovation.

Bloomberg Philanthropies takes on additional, unique projects for which Mike Bloomberg has a special passion. Two examples include programs focused on spurring women’s economic development in Africa and funding to his alma mater, Johns Hopkins, to support research on vital public health issues, scholarships, and infrastructure.
Environment

Taking Action to Protect the Planet
Our Environment program brings together a wide range of partners, including cities, businesses, public health advocates, and citizens’ groups to address some of the most serious threats to our global sustainability, particularly climate change and overfishing. Left unchecked, carbon pollution has long-term impacts on the global climate and poses health risks from worsening smog. Overfishing threatens a vital food source and an economic resource for billions of people. Bloomberg Philanthropies supports measurable, local action to address these risks through our Sustainable Cities program, our Clean Energy program, our Vibrant Oceans Initiative, and through Mike Bloomberg’s work as the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change.

“Mayor Bloomberg was ahead of the curve on climate change as mayor of New York, reducing New York’s carbon footprint by 19 percent. He continues to put not only his name, but his significant resources behind efforts on climate change.”

THE HONORABLE JOSEPH BIDEN
Vice President of the United States
Bringing Cities to the Forefront

Michael R. Bloomberg, UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change

Helping cities set public goals, take action, and measure progress in combating climate change

For the first time ever, cities are publicly setting goals and measuring climate progress in the same standardized way as nations through the Compact of Mayors, a Bloomberg Philanthropies initiative launched with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2014.

- In a little over a year, the Compact of Mayors grew to include more than 500 cities representing more than 425 million citizens.

- Together with Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, Mike Bloomberg convened more than 1,000 city leaders (including 446 mayors) from around the world at the Climate Summit for Local Leaders during COP21, putting mayors at the center of climate diplomacy.

Taking On the Role of Special Envoy

Appointed as the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change in 2014, Mike Bloomberg has been working to highlight the central role of cities as partners in creating a global climate solution.

BY THE NUMBERS

1,000+

leaders signed the Paris Declaration, committing 500 cities to 3.7 gigatons of greenhouse gas emissions reductions by 2030

Cities account for 70% of global carbon emissions
Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Clean Energy Initiative aims to support states’ transition beyond coal to clean, profitable energy systems that will reduce air pollution, protect public health, combat global warming, and drive economic growth and competitiveness for decades to come.

The Clean Energy Initiative funds technical support and research that helps states take advantage of new clean energy options, such as wind and solar, while curbing climate change. With the help of Bloomberg Philanthropies, states will be able to reduce their carbon emissions, move away from coal, and help the United States lead the world on ambitious climate action.

• To date, 232 power plants have announced their retirement as a result of the Sierra Club’s Beyond Coal campaign; the United States now leads the world in reducing carbon pollution.

• At the same time, state governments are charting their energy future with billions of dollars in energy infrastructure improvements over the coming decades.

UPDATE:
By the end of 2017, the Beyond Coal campaign will have halved the amount of electric power produced by coal in the United States by closing coal plants around the country, replacing their capacity with cleaner energy.

Local activists and Sierra Club employees unite to move America Beyond Coal at Bloomberg Philanthropies’ reinvestment announcement on March 8, 2015
Restoring and Protecting the World’s Oceans

The Vibrant Oceans Initiative

Limiting damage caused by overfishing and protecting vital marine areas

Oceans are home to some of the most beautiful and diverse ecosystems on the planet and have tremendous potential for scientific research. They also provide a source of food and income to billions of people. Climate change, pollution, habitat destruction, and overfishing threaten ocean health around the globe.

The Bloomberg Philanthropies Vibrant Oceans Initiative works in Brazil, Chile, and the Philippines to restore and protect fisheries as a vital ocean resource. The Initiative takes a multi-pronged approach to protect oceans, winning national policies and engaging local communities to stop the most destructive fishing practices, and creating financial incentives to support sustainable fishing.

This year, Bloomberg Philanthropies also worked through partners such as Coral Reef Alliance, Pew Charitable Trusts’ Global Oceans Legacy, and Oceans 5 to support efforts to secure protection of critical marine areas across the globe.

Some recent updates include:

- The Chilean government announced a new ocean reserve that will be the largest marine park in the Americas, protecting a major area of biodiversity.

- Toledo City in the Philippines rejected a destructive project that would have flooded the Tañon Strait Seascape with mining waste, thus protecting the community’s livelihood and health.

Local fishermen along the Tañon Strait in the Philippines collect shellfish and other marine life to supplement their diets and incomes

More from Environment
To learn more about our Vibrant Oceans work, watch our latest videos at www.bloomberg.org
The Arts

Harnessing the Transformative Power of the Arts

Children interact with the Tate’s Timeline of Modern Art History, a Bloomberg Connects digital platform that is part of Tate Modern’s expanded partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies.
The Bloomberg Philanthropies Arts program supports artists, organizations, and audiences to bolster cultural infrastructure that is critical to the health and vibrancy of cities. The Arts Innovation and Management program is helping more than 260 cultural institutions improve their marketing, fundraising, and board engagement. Bloomberg Connects helps cultural organizations develop dynamic and interactive digital tools to improve the visitor experience, as well as increase access to, and expand audiences for, the arts. And, with the Public Art Challenge, Bloomberg Philanthropies supports temporary public art projects that enhance urban identity and catalyze economic development in communities across the United States.

“As Mayor of Gary, Indiana, I believe that public art—combined with design, community engagement, and private and government investment—can transform the way we imagine a city. This perspective is especially crucial as we continue to think of new ways to rebuild our city as a destination.”

MAYOR KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON
City of Gary, Indiana
Bringing mayors and artists together to develop public art projects that spur economic activity, strengthen identity, and enrich city life

Through our strategic investments, our arts program is working to highlight the potential of artists to act as civic partners. That’s why Bloomberg Philanthropies launched the Public Art Challenge, which supports temporary public art projects that engage communities and enrich the vibrancy of city life.

• 237 cities applied to be part of the Public Art Challenge.

• The winners—Albany, Schenectady, and Troy, New York (a collaborative project); Gary, Indiana; Los Angeles, California; and Spartanburg, South Carolina—have received grants of up to $1 million.

• The selected projects address pressing civic priorities such as revitalizing decayed downtown areas, underutilized waterfronts, and vacant neighborhoods and cover a range of issues, including neighborhood safety, environmental sustainability, workforce development, and civic identity.
**OUR IMPACT**

**Strengthening More Than 260 Cultural Institutions Across the United States**

**The Arts Innovation and Management Program**

Providing small- to medium-sized cultural institutions with specialized skills training and tools to help them expand their ideas, tactics, operations, and impact.

Small- to medium-sized cultural organizations are central to our nation’s creative ecology and are the lifeblood of local communities. These cultural organizations engage residents, promote social cohesion, and are major contributors to a city’s economy, identity, and quality of life. To bolster the potential of cultural organizations, Bloomberg Philanthropies expanded our Arts Innovation and Management program in 2015 from New York City to six new cities.

- More than 260 nonprofit cultural institutions in six cities across the United States: Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, will benefit from intensive training sessions led by the DeVos Institute of Arts Management to equip them with the tools they need to move toward achieving their fundraising, audience development, and marketing goals, all while building stronger cultural networks in each city.

- The program supports a diverse range of cultural institutions, including local cultural centers and performing, literary, and visual arts organizations that present music, film, dance, poetry, and other art forms.

- The grantees contribute to a thriving and robust arts community in each city, collectively serving more than 10 million residents.

Dallas Film Society, a participant in Bloomberg Philanthropies Arts Innovation & Management program, poses with their 2015 Summer Film Camp.

The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles, a grantee of our Arts Innovation & Management program, performs in Hilo, Hawaii.

260+ arts organizations in 6 cities supported by Arts Innovation and Management program.
Bloomberg Philanthropies is helping cultural organizations engage participatory audiences, increase access to the arts, and stay current through the development of innovative digital platforms.

Through interactive touch screens and immersion rooms, specially designed apps with rich content as well as growing digital staffs to serve as connectors and innovators, Bloomberg Connects grantees are expanding the role of technology to become part of the core operations of cultural institutions, working side by side with senior leadership, curators, and education and development departments.

The Bloomberg Connects program works with 15 major cultural institutions worldwide, providing access for a broader audience to explore, share, and ultimately engage directly with everything that these institutions have to offer.

Participating museums and projects include:

- The American Museum of Natural History
- The Art Institute of Chicago
- Brooklyn Museum
- Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum
- The Jewish Museum
- Lincoln Center for the Arts
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art
- The Metropolitan Opera
- The Museum of Modern Art
- The New York Botanical Garden
- San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
- The Science Museum in London
- Singapore’s Gardens by the Bay
- Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum
- Tate Modern

More from the Arts

Learn about the interactive and immersive Bloomberg Philanthropies–supported digital tools at the reopened Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum

www.bloomberg.org
High school students participate in a Strive for College mentoring session
Properly educating every child is the bedrock on which our families, communities, and nation depend. Far too many Americans’ potential to contribute to society remains unrealized because they are not receiving the education they need and deserve. To address America’s education gap, Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Education program works to improve student outcomes, maximize student potential, bring college into reach for more students, and spread success.

“We cannot stand by while remarkable students do not access the opportunities they have earned. Working alongside Bloomberg Philanthropies, we are pleased to be able to say to these students ‘if you work hard, we will help break down barriers to help you succeed.’”

DAVID COLEMAN
College Board President and CEO
OUR IMPACT

Removing Barriers to Higher Education

CollegePoint

Bringing higher education within reach and matching high-achieving students with top schools

Each year, tens of thousands of hardworking, high-achieving students from low- and moderate-income families fail to apply to even a single leading college or university that matches their qualifications.

More than 50% of these students settle for two- or four-year colleges well below their abilities—and leave with more debt, have lower graduation rates, and, as a consequence, have dramatically reduced career and leadership opportunities.

In response to this challenge, Bloomberg Philanthropies created a coalition of nonprofit organizations and philanthropic institutions with the goal of helping up to 65,000 high-achieving, low- and moderate-income students apply to, enroll in, and graduate from top institutions.

The program connects students with advisors who provide virtual one-on-one advising over the phone, text, email, video conference, and document sharing. Advisors provide:

- Credible, personalized guidance about which institutions are a good match given each student’s level of academic achievement.
- Accurate, personalized information about the real costs of leading institutions, which, because of financial aid, are often far less than lower-income students believe.
- Examples of other students like themselves who have successfully made the transition to top institutions.

Helping low-income high-achievers reach their full potential at college won’t just address inequality from the bottom up, it will help us capitalize on the full spectrum of American talent. We’re already beginning to see progress.

OUR IMPACT

8,300
high-achieving, low- and moderate-income high school students from the class of 2016 are being advised

1,325+
high school students in graduating class of 2015 received virtual advising

87%
of those surveyed applied to at least one school in the top 80 (a 15% bump from those who did not receive advising) and

67%
were accepted to at least one of them
Participants in CollegePoint share their acceptances to colleges across the United States.
Participants in CollegePoint share their acceptances to colleges across the United States over a lifetime than peers who did not, creating an earnings gap of up to $550,000 over a lifetime.

Graduates of top-tier colleges earn 18 to 28% more than peers who did not, creating an earnings gap of up to $550,000 over a lifetime.
Public Health

Taking on Tobacco, Obesity, Road Safety, and Using Data to Save Millions of Lives

Traffic in Hanoi, Vietnam
Every year, millions of people around the world die from preventable causes. Many of these causes of death—which range from tobacco use to road traffic crashes to limited access of emergency obstetric care—have proven solutions, yet they continue to endanger much of the world’s population. Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Public Health program aims to combat these health hazards by spreading strategies at national and local levels that are proven to protect more people and save more lives. Our programs use effective strategies to improve the quality of life for tens of millions of people worldwide. In each of our public health initiatives, we form partnerships with existing organizations and rigorously analyze data to achieve results.

“The innovative Data for Health partnership between the Australian Government and Bloomberg Philanthropies is designed to provide partner countries, aid organizations, and public health leaders with better data to inform health policy. Developing partner countries will benefit from the world-renowned expertise in data collection and analysis which Bloomberg will bring to this program.”

**THE HONORABLE JULIE BISHOP MP**
Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs
Taking On the Tobacco Industry

The Bloomberg Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use

A new joint legal defense fund with the Gates Foundation pushes back on the industry’s predatory international legal tactics

Tobacco will claim 1 billion lives in this century unless urgent action is taken—the Trade Litigation Fund is the newest part of our comprehensive strategy to reduce tobacco use globally. In 2015, Mike Bloomberg and Bill Gates launched the Anti-Tobacco Trade Litigation Fund to help countries combat the tobacco industry’s tactic of threatening legal action or using international trade agreements to prevent passage of strong domestic tobacco control laws.

In addition to the Fund, Bloomberg Philanthropies is supporting the government of Uruguay as it fights a lawsuit brought against it by Philip Morris International to overturn the country’s effective graphic pack warnings.

In 2015, Mike Bloomberg recognized the success of groups that are accomplishing the impossible at the Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Tobacco Control Awards during the 16th World Conference on Tobacco or Health in Abu Dhabi, the world’s largest gathering of tobacco control advocates, policy makers, and researchers. Six organizations from low- and middle-income countries were honored for their efforts in implementing effective tobacco control policies.

BY THE NUMBERS

23 MILLION LIVES saved with Bloomberg Philanthropies’ support for anti-tobacco efforts

$600 MILLION committed by Bloomberg Philanthropies through 2016 to tobacco control in low- and middle-income countries

164 MEDIA CAMPAIGNS in 31 countries have educated people on the dangers of tobacco use

550,000+ NEWS STORIES about tobacco control published in countries with half the world’s smokers (China, India, Indonesia, Russia, and Bangladesh)

5,000 LAWYERS AND ADVOCATES trained by legal experts to fight for tobacco control laws and enforcement

Mike Bloomberg presents the 2015 Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Tobacco Control Awards to Uruguay, Russia, Philippines, Nepal, Brazil, and Ukraine
Creating a Public Health Priority

The Bloomberg Initiative for Global Road Safety

Reinvesting an additional $125 million to work with national governments and cities to curb one of the world’s leading causes of death

Despite road crashes killing more than 1.25 million people and injuring up to 50 million a year worldwide, road safety is not seen as a public health crisis. However, the World Health Organization predicts that, at the current rate, road crashes will become the seventh leading cause of death globally by 2030.

We expanded the scope of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Initiative for Global Road Safety in 2015 to implement proven interventions in ten cities, as well as strengthen road safety laws and regulations in countries with legislative opportunities. The strategies feature:

- Targeting cities because mayors can move quickly to adopt and enforce proven road safety interventions, such as reducing speed limits and running media campaigns.
- Strengthening national road safety legislation in countries and cities.
- Advocating for strengthened vehicle standards to protect customers, including regulations requiring airbags and seat-belts.

As a result of local government and nonprofit efforts, we are seeing real benefits—including dramatically decreased fatalities and injuries.

Helmet use is on the rise in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, but large gaps still remain

2015 Road Safety Work in:

COUNTRIES
Cambodia, China, India, Mexico, Philippines, Russia, Tanzania, Thailand, Vietnam

CITIES
Accra, Ghana; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Bandung, Indonesia; Bangkok, Thailand; Bogotá, Colombia; Fortaleza, Brazil; Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Mumbai, India; São Paulo, Brazil; Shanghai, China

Results since 2010

125,000 LIVES saved by road safety interventions funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies

34% → 77%
The increase in helmet use by motorcyclists in Ha Nam, Vietnam, from 2011 through 2014

68% → 3%
The decrease in speeding in Thika, Kenya, from 2010 through 2014

4% → 37%
The increase in seat-belt wearing in Afyon, Turkey, from 2010 through 2014
In 2015, Bloomberg Philanthropies launched Data for Health, a $100 million initiative co-funded with the Australian government. The program assists 20 low- and middle-income country governments across Latin America, Asia, and Africa to strengthen their public health data and improve the way they use data to inform policy making and investments in health.

With two-thirds of deaths in the world currently unrecorded, many health policy decisions are made without adequate information. Given the often-limited resources in these countries to improve public health, gaps in the data merely complicate already challenging decisions about where to allocate government spending.

By working with national and local governments to shape new policies and provide subsequent accountability, the Data for Health initiative will provide more complete birth and death data that will drive health priorities forward and save lives. Our work is focusing on helping countries determine the scale of this problem and ways to improve health—thus ultimately reducing deaths.

“...The work Bloomberg Philanthropies has supported in Mexico is truly groundbreaking and has paved a way for the world to follow. Raising sugar-sweetened beverage tax can be done and, as shown in Mexico, it does have impact. A sugary drinks tax is just one part of a really strong multi-pronged child obesity strategy needed by countries all over the world to tackle this epidemic. I am delighted that the UK and countries around the world are starting to follow Mexico’s lead.”

JAMIE OLIVER
CHEF AND CAMPAIGNER
Government Innovation

Improving the Way City Government Works

October 18, 2015: Mike Bloomberg kicks off the Mayors Innovation Studio at CityLab in London with Arianna Huffington
Cities are drivers of progress and innovation and hold solutions to many of the world’s most pressing issues. That is why cities are at the center of so much of what Bloomberg Philanthropies does.

In order to find great ideas and help them spread, Bloomberg Philanthropies convenes mayors at global events and runs innovation competitions. With expertise built during Michael Bloomberg’s tenure as New York City’s mayor, Bloomberg Philanthropies helps cities use data to improve city services. And to promote experimentation, Bloomberg Philanthropies funds dedicated innovation teams to work directly for mayors in city halls around the world. Through its philanthropic consultancy, Bloomberg Associates, in-depth advice is provided to mayors on issues ranging from marketing to municipal integrity. By supporting cities, Bloomberg Philanthropies is able to capitalize on the unique and essential role mayors and city leaders play in leading global progress.

“Using data sounds great until you start to see that what you’re doing doesn’t work, that what you’re paying for isn’t making a difference. But of course that’s where the real value comes in. Thanks to Bloomberg Philanthropies, we’re making headway on that front.”

MAYOR TONY YARBER
City of Jackson, Mississippi
Using Competitions to Create Opportunities for Cities to Boldly Experiment

The Mayors Challenge

Surfacing new, replicable, and bold solutions to urban challenges

In the United States and Europe, the Mayors Challenge offered city leaders powerful incentives that encouraged them to develop creative new approaches to their cities’ most pressing problems. With our assistance, the winning cities have since been working to bring their ideas to life—testing and adapting them along the way.

• A program in Providence, Rhode Island, is helping increase the number of words heard by children in low-income households before they enter kindergarten.

• Santa Monica, California, developed and published a first-of-its-kind index of residents’ well-being, which is now informing policy with replication potential and interest from around the globe.

• Barcelona, Spain, began piloting a platform that connects friends, family, professional caregivers, and volunteers to engage and empower at-risk elderly residents.

Building on these successes, we’re thrilled to bring the Mayors Challenge to cities in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016—a region experiencing record urban growth and whose citizens are demanding more responsive, transparent, and effective public services.

Participants in Providence Talks, the U.S. Mayors Challenge winner, work to close the reading gap

Vincles BCN, a digital platform to coordinate senior care in Barcelona, Spain, was the Mayors Challenge Europe Grand Prize winner

More from Government Innovation:
Stay up-to-date on the Mayors Challenge competition:

www.bloomberg.org
Partnering to Improve Quality of Life in India’s Cities

The Smart Cities Challenge

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in 2014, he pledged that billions would be spent to help cities undertake ambitious transformations that improve quality of life and expand urban opportunity. He invited Bloomberg Philanthropies to help design and execute India’s first-ever competition to distribute national urban development funding—what would become the Smart Cities Challenge.

- Bloomberg Philanthropies helped government officials devise the competition guidelines and then developed a robust program of support for chronically under-resourced Indian municipal officials.

- The effort supported the government’s commitment to running a transparent, merit-based grant-making process, breaking significantly with past practice.

- The Government of India is now exploring other ways competitive models can be used to spur innovation, local buy-in, and better results for India’s rapidly growing population.

Helping the Government of India use innovation and competition to improve the way it allocates billions in urban development funds

Mike Bloomberg visits New Delhi, India, to discuss the Smart Cities Challenge
Helping Cities Use Data and Evidence to Improve People’s Lives

What Works Cities

Helping cities use data more effectively

Our What Works Cities program is helping mayors enhance their use of data and evidence to engage residents; improve services and government efficiency; and strengthen communities. At the same time, the program is creating a standard for what data-driven decision-making in the public sector looks like and, importantly, what it can achieve for residents.

Twenty seven cities were admitted to the What Works Cities program in 2015. The program will reach 100 cities by the end of 2018. Through technical support and peer-to-peer learning, Bloomberg Philanthropies is helping city managers better address issues like homelessness, job growth, and public safety.

Mayor Michael Hancock of Denver, Colorado, a What Works City

Mayor Carolyn Goodman of Las Vegas, Nevada, a What Works Cities participant

BY THE NUMBERS

100 CITIES
in What Works Cities program by the end of 2018
Bloomberg Associates has developed into a universally regarded and highly sought-after philanthropic, municipal consulting firm. As a nonprofit, Bloomberg Associates focuses on developing deep relationships in a select number of cities across eight disciplines: cultural asset management, marketing and communications, media and technology, municipal integrity, sustainability, social services, transportation, and urban planning. Through hands-on mentorship, leadership strategies, and actionable expertise, Bloomberg Associates helps mayors around the world tackle some of the most complex and difficult challenges facing their cities.
Examples of Projects from Our Partner Cities

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**

Enhancing a Global Image and Promoting New Economic Activity

Working with Mayor Miguel Mancera, Bloomberg Associates helped develop transparency and marketing strategies to combat negative perceptions of Mexico City. Projects included the city’s first-ever whistle-blower protection statute and the launch of a global communications campaign.

**POPULATION**

City: 8,918,653  
Metro area: 20,400,000

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Creating Faster Transportation and Greener Public Space

Mayor Eric Garcetti has boldly set out to reduce Los Angeles residents’ reliance on motor vehicles by creating and improving alternative transportation options. With the guidance of Bloomberg Associates, Garcetti:

- appointed a new transportation general manager
- authorized the first-ever “Great Streets” vision plan
- plans to create a new bike-share program

**POPULATION**

City: 3,928,864  
Metro area: 12,828,837
HIGHLIGHTS

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM
Modernizing Through New Technology and Cultural Programming

Bloomberg Associates helped Mayor Boris Johnson develop a new digital strategy and continues to consult on the transformation of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park into a modern Culture Education Facility (CEF). With Bloomberg Associates’ guidance, the Johnson administration:

• committed £5 million to digital skills programs
• created a Broadband Taskforce to improve high-speed internet delivery
• secured £141 million from HM Treasury to support the CEF project

POPULATION
City: 8,538,689
Metro area: 13,879,757

HIGHLIGHTS

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
Becoming the Next Great Cityscape in the United States

Bloomberg Associates is working with Mayor Sly James’ administration on the new Twin Creeks residential project—a 15,000-acre, mixed-use development that will offer enhanced connectivity, walkability, and open-space design that, upon completion, could potentially increase Kansas City’s population by one-fifth.

POPULATION
City: 470,800
Metro area: 2,393,623
HIGHLIGHTS

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
Rebuilding a Neglected Downtown Corridor

As Rio de Janeiro prepares to host the Olympics, Mayor Eduardo Paes is using the Games as a catalyst to transform key parts of the city. Bloomberg Associates is helping the mayor with the repopulation and regeneration of Centro—the city’s beleaguered downtown historic district and financial center—by repairing over 100 blocks of sidewalk, increasing lighting levels and the number of municipal patrols, and fast-tracking approvals for residential and commercial development.

POPULATION
City: 6,453,682
Metro area: 12,090,607

HIGHLIGHTS

ATHENS, GREECE
Resilience Through Recession and Crisis

Bloomberg Associates is helping Mayor Georgios Kaminis ensure Athenians’ quality of life and service delivery amidst budgetary constraints and geopolitical turmoil. Bloomberg Associates is working with Kaminis and his cabinet to:
• align resources that ensure his priority projects are delivered within budget and on time
• launch the Athens Partnership—a nonprofit entity to help secure and establish public-private partnerships to support critical city initiatives

POPULATION
City: 3,090,508
Metro area: 3,753,783
Bloomberg Philanthropies takes on additional, unique projects for which Mike Bloomberg has a special passion. These projects include spurring women’s economic development in Africa and supporting his alma mater, Johns Hopkins, by funding research on vital public health issues, scholarships, and infrastructure that supports students and faculty.
Creating Economic Opportunity for Women and Their Families Through Training

The Women’s Economic Development Initiative

Increasing economic opportunities for women in Rwanda and Congo

Working with government, nonprofit, and for-profit partners, Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Women’s Economic Development Initiative provides women with training in basic knowledge and skills, including rights, literacy, numeracy, nutrition, and health care. In the third month of training, women receive an individualized program plan through which they select a yearlong vocational track.

- More than 140,000 women have been trained and educated in business, increasing their incomes by 111%.
- Their greater economic opportunities have positively impacted close to a half million of their children and family members.
- More than 4,000 women farmers are growing and exporting high-quality coffee from crop to cup to international distributors. Through a system of profit-sharing, these women use the proceeds to invest in their businesses and communities.
- The Rwanda Coffee Institute shipped more than 90,000 pounds of coffee to international roasters. This high export volume signals that the women enrolled in this initiative are now active participants in the global market. Further, their coffee brand, Question Coffee, is distributed through international retailers and roasters.

In addition, Bloomberg Philanthropies and the King Baudouin Foundation joined to support the Foundation Center to launch a free data portal called Equal Footing. It organizes data around philanthropic efforts in the countries of Burundi, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

![A woman attends a class at the Women’s Economic Opportunity Center](image1)

![A screenshot shows the homepage of the Equal Footing free database](image2)
Since graduating from the University in 1964, Mike Bloomberg has contributed more than $1 billion to Johns Hopkins University for projects and initiatives, including the top-ranked school of public health that bears his name, the Malaria Research Institute, and thousands of scholarships to ensure the best and brightest students can attend the University. Johns Hopkins University has added 20 highly accomplished faculty members as Bloomberg Distinguished Professors. Another 30 positions will be created for interdisciplinary professorships to galvanize people, resources, research, and educational opportunities to address major world problems.

Recently, Mike Bloomberg, philanthropist Sydney Kimmel, and others contributed $125 million to create the Bloomberg-Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy. Vice President Joe Biden, 100 medical students, doctors, and cancer survivors joined together for the center’s launch. Immunotherapy, which is a central element of the Obama administration’s new moonshot to cure cancer, has the potential to cure and end all forms of cancer, making it one of the most promising avenues of cancer research today.
Bloomberg L.P.’s philanthropy and engagement programming builds on a culture of giving developed by founder Mike Bloomberg. Philanthropic initiatives engage employees from across the company in service activities in cities where Bloomberg has offices, while programs like Bloomberg Startup aim to inspire the next generation of leaders through a diverse range of mentoring and education initiatives.
Using a global workforce for good

In 2015, more than 9,800 employees volunteered more than 86,800 hours with 300 charities in 56 cities around the world. More than half of all Bloomberg employees around the world contributed their spirit, talents, labor, and work ethic to their communities.

Employees across the company participated in service activities—assisting neighbors in need, revitalizing cities, and inspiring the next generation of leaders through a diverse range of mentoring and education initiatives.

Many employees brought family and friends, expanding Bloomberg’s impact in communities worldwide.
In 2015, more than 9,800 employees volunteered more than 86,800 hours with 300 charities in 56 cities around the world.

- 7,000 employees dedicated 30,000 hours to helping neighbors in need around the world. Employees set a company record for blood donations in 15 offices worldwide.
- Nearly 2,000 employees gave more than 10,000 hours on environmental stewardship—helping clean and revitalize local parks, rivers, and beaches in 21 cities.
- Participating employees donated 1,700 units of blood, benefiting 19 nonprofit partners and potentially saving more than 5,100 lives.
- Employees donated a record 11,000 coats to under-served adults and children across several U.S. cities.
- Bloomberg Startup grew and worked to expand awareness, inspiration, and skills in the fields of technology, entrepreneurship, and news literacy for students.
- More than 2,500 employees around the world participated in workshops and programs designed to encourage the next generation of technologists and entrepreneurs through its mentor program.
Program Highlights

Tradebook Charity Day
Bloomberg Tradebook donated the day’s almost $1 million in commissions to 20 participating charities, including Harlem RBI, the Child Mind Institute, and the Endometriosis Foundation.

Bloomberg Teams Up with Veterans Aid and Habitat for Humanity
In 2015, 561 employees in London volunteered to rebuild “Veterans House,” a collaboration with Veterans Aid and Habitat for Humanity to refurbish a Veterans Aid center in East London. The center provides free housing to homeless veterans in need of crisis support.

Expansion of Bloomberg and Goldman Sachs’ 10,000 Small Businesses Coaching Session Program
In conjunction with Goldman Sachs, sessions were hosted in New York and London. In the past two years, more than 200 Bloomberg and Goldman employees have volunteered to give 34 American and 14 British small-business owners a cumulative 1,500 hours of strategic advice.

Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa
The Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa (BMIA) brings together business and media leaders, academics, and Bloomberg employees in News and Global Data to strengthen economic and financial reporting in Africa, to improve access to information, and to enhance transparency on the continent. In 2015, 260 journalists, business, government, and civil society professionals completed the business journalism training program.
Partnership with Citi for Its 10th Annual Global Community Day

More than 200 Bloomberg employees and their families joined Citi employees, including Citi CEO Michael Corbat, in 12 community volunteer projects in four global cities.

Bloomberg Startup in Singapore

Launched in fall 2015, Bloomberg Startup in Singapore is designed to reach more than 500 junior college and polytechnic students through Junior Achievement’s networks, providing workshops in global financial markets, financial data and journalism, communications, and leadership.

Helping Neighbors in Need

Bloomberg volunteers in New Jersey help America’s Grow-A-Row pick and deliver free fresh produce for families in need. In 2015, employees spent 6,900 hours helping to combat hunger and provide meals at 37 nonprofits in 15 cities around the world.

Protecting Local Parks and Beaches

Bloomberg volunteers helped clean up Sandy Bay Beach with the Nature Conservancy in Hong Kong. In 2015, employees gave more than 10,000 hours to environmental stewardship by cleaning and revitalizing local parks, rivers, and beaches in 21 cities around the world.
Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg’s charitable activities, including his foundation, his personal giving, and his corporate philanthropy. In 2015, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed $510 million.

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Michael R. Bloomberg

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In his work, *Ice Watch*, artists Olafur Eliasson and Minik Rosing arranged twelve immense blocks of ice, harvested as free-floating icebergs from a fjord outside Nuuk, Greenland, in clock-face formation at the Place du Panthéon, where they melted away from 3–12 December 2015, during COP21.
The Paris summit succeeded where past attempts had failed, in part because cities and businesses had a seat at the table for the first time.

— Mike Bloomberg