

I.C.L.E.I

Local Governments for Sustainability

Local Solutions to Global Challenges

Connecting Leaders - Accelerating Action - Pioneering Solutions



Introduction

What is ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability?

- An **association** of over 1100 local governments that represents the interests of local authorities within the United Nations and at international policy forums.
- A **movement** driving positive change on a global scale through programs and campaigns on local sustainability.
- A **resource center** offering information, tools, networking, training and consulting services.

www.iclei.org/about

Growth

- ICLEI started with the idea that a single municipality has a significant impact. On a global scale, the cumulative effect of concerted local action can be profound.
- ICLEI was created in 1990 as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, when 200 local governments from 43 countries convened at its founding conference at the United Nations in New York.
- In 2003, the organization became 'ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability' and assumed a broader mandate.
- Over 1100 Members in 68 countries prove that local governments worldwide take responsibility in creating a sustainable society.



“What distinguishes ICLEI is that we are the first entrants, the first pioneers doing what seemed like improbable things for cities to pay attention to twenty years ago. We have gone up a learning curve; we have got 20 years of experience now on how to tackle global environmental problems at the local level.”

Jeb Brugmann
*ICLEI Founder and First Secretary General
(1990-2000)*

Membership

Benefits for Members

- A global network of local leaders enjoying exclusive information and resources about local sustainability.
- Advice adapted to regional political and cultural considerations from ICLEI staff in 15 offices around the world.
- Tools to be effective: professional networks, trainings, reference materials, software, international events, advocacy partnerships.

Joining ICLEI

- Members can be local governments, municipal associations and regional associations. Associate membership is available for other organizations.
- Apply for membership online or contact the ICLEI office in your region.

www.iclei.org/membership



“Embarking on an environmental program sounds like a great idea. But if you’re a mayor trying to cut greenhouse gases, where do you begin? How do even know how to measure your current levels? That’s where an organization called ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability can help.”

Newsweek
Leadership and the Environment issue,
2007

Partners

- As a non-profit association ICLEI receives financial support from a modest membership fee and funded projects, while host cities provide office space, grants and in-kind assistance.
- ICLEI coordinates Local Government advocacy towards the United Nations, especially: Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and Environment Programme (UNEP).
- ICLEI cooperates with global agencies, businesses, academic institutions, national and regional governments and non-governmental organizations. See a full list online.

www.iclei.org/partners



Photo: addictedbyes

“UNEP has been supporting ICLEI since its foundation. We recognize the crucial role of local authorities across the suite of environmental challenges and opportunities. One important area of cooperation is UNEP’s endorsement of the Local Government Climate Roadmap with the aim of fully integrating cities in a new UN climate agreement en route to a Green Economy for the 21st century.”

Achim Steiner
*Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Under-Secretary General*

Capacity Building

- ICLEI trains its Members in their capacities as policy makers and managers to make informed decisions on sustainability.
- Since 1992 over 20,000 local authorities have participated in more than 500 capacity building events, organized by ICLEI's International Training Centre and regional offices.
- The *Young Municipal Leaders Initiative* helps build a new generation of municipal decision-makers to advance sustainability through global awareness, tools and solutions.

www.iclei.org/itc



Photo: ICLEI International Training Centre

“ICLEI’s activities are very valuable in building local governments’ capacity in Mexico and around the world to become more sustainable, and to achieve climate change mitigation. We are committed to strengthening further the institutional capacity in our country and to expand the network of ICLEI member cities.”

Martha Delgado
Secretary of Environment, Mexico City

Solutions

- The *Cities for Climate Protection Campaign* achieves quantifiable greenhouse gas reductions through local climate action plans.
- Through its *Cities Climate Center* ICLEI is leading the advancement of local solutions to climate change.
- The *Climate Action and Reporting Center* (carbons) provides standards to measure and report municipal carbon emissions.
- ICLEI organizes *Resilient Cities*, the annual forum on urban resiliency and adaptation to climate change.
- ICLEI coordinates the representation of local governments in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, ensuring municipalities are part of the global climate negotiations.

www.iclei.org/ccp



“The large part of the fight against climate change will be won through actions by citizens, businesses and local governments, in the towns and cities that you represent.”

Yvo de Boer
Executive Secretary
United Nations Framework Convention
on Climate Change

Solutions

Sustainability Planning & Management

- Over 10,000 communities worldwide have engaged in Local Agenda 21, a participatory planning process developed by ICLEI for Agenda 21, the global action plan for sustainable development.
- Innovative sustainability management instruments developed by ICLEI are available to municipal decision-makers, facilitating the integration of environmental, social and economic factors.

www.iclei.org/la21, www.iclei.org/smi

Sustainable Procurement

- The Sustainable Procurement Program supports local governments in including sustainability considerations when purchasing products and services.

www.iclei.org/procurement



Photo: pntill

“The 21st century faces massive urbanization, with a large portion of the world population living in urban areas. As such there will be increased demand for urban services as well as conflicts about scarce natural resources. Cities will be unable to provide the increased resources if existing resources are not utilized in a sustainable manner.

ecoBUDGET is an environmental management system, specially designed for local governments that provides a framework to assist in sustainable local development and effective management of the urban environment.”

Kanna Lakshminarayana
Minister of Transport
Andhra Pradesh, India

Solutions

Water

- The Water Program trains local governments to use integrated local water management to ensure equitable access to water and its efficient use.

www.iclei.org/water

Biodiversity

- The Local Action for Biodiversity program engages local governments in biodiversity action planning and management.
- ICLEI is part of the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity and organizes advocacy by local governments at the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

www.iclei.org/biodiversity



Photo: Jean-Olivier Dajmond

“We are proud to be a founding partner of the ‘Local Action for Biodiversity Initiative’. Our cooperation with ICLEI has shown that working with local governments is a powerful driver to sustain and enhance biodiversity. I look forward to building on our achievements.”

Julia Marton-Lefèvre
Director General
International Union for Conservation of
Nature (IUCN)

Solutions

Local Renewables

- ICLEI strengthens local governments promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in the urban environment, focusing on their role as a driving force for local innovation.
- Cities selected to become model communities receive assistance and meet in an annual forum which welcomes all local governments.

www.local-renewables.org

Sustainable Transport

- As the secretariat of the Global Alliance for EcoMobility, ICLEI advocates for local transport based on walking, cycling, wheeling and public transport.

www.ecomobility.org



“The Global Alliance for EcoMobility will ensure that policy makers do not ignore the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable road users.”

David Ward
Director General, Foundation for the Automobile and Society, Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA)

ICLEI Worldwide

ICLEI is the largest network of local governments committed to sustainable development with over 1100 Members active in 68 Countries that are serviced by 15 offices and 250 staff members.

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