New Members Booklet
ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
Letter from the Secretary General

Dear ICLEI Member,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your local government. We are pleased that you have chosen to join over 800 local and subnational governments and their associations worldwide in pursuit of a sustainable future for the planet and its citizens.

Being a Member of ICLEI connects you with other local and regional government leaders around the world who are committed to building a sustainable urban world. By joining ICLEI you have gained access to solutions that can help turn your vision into local action.

At our last World Congress in Montreal in 2018, ICLEI Members committed to a new strategic vision, centered around five pathways. These five ICLEI pathways towards low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development are designed to create systemic change. They provide a framework for designing integrated solutions that balance the patterns of human life and the built and natural environments. They encourage holistic thinking to ensure that ICLEI, as a network of local and regional governments and global experts, optimizes our impact. For instance, we consider how nature-based development contributes to resilience, or how to bring equity into low emission development. When these pathways guide local and regional development, urban systems become more sustainable.

This booklet will introduce you to ICLEI and provide you with the information you need to get the most out of your membership. Your ICLEI liaison is responsible to share this information with professionals in various departments of your government according to their work, interests, skills and needs. We are glad to add other direct recipients if needed.

As an international network of cities, ICLEI offers an array of capacity building opportunities for Members. These include global events, case studies, Member-to-Member connections, and online workshops. Members receive first information on these activities and are invited to get involved, including at the global level.

ICLEI is governed by our Members as only Members may vote and serve on the Executive Committees. Our Members elect ICLEI's Regional Executive Committees (RexCom) across all ICLEI regions, which then forms the “highest body”, the ICLEI Council. The Regional Executive Committees elect the Global Executive Committee (GexCom), responsible for the global governance of the organization, as well as portfolio-specific leadership, such as procurement or low-emission development. The guiding leadership of our RexComs and GexCom helps to shape the priorities and strategy of ICLEI.

Information on upcoming opportunities will be sent to you through Member emails, newsletters, publications, and on our website. I hope you will be able to join our events, projects and various networks, and benefit from expert speakers and discussions with other local government representatives.

Thank you for joining ICLEI and I look forward to creating a more sustainable future together.

Sincerely yours,

Gino Van Begin
Secretary General
ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
Your membership

Welcome to the global ICLEI Network! Here are some of the membership benefits you can take advantage of as a Member. ICLEI Members design their own experience by choosing what areas they want to improve, and what programs they want to take part in.

1. Get connected

Joining ICLEI means connecting with hundreds of Members and an extended, global network of over 1,750 diverse cities, towns, and regions, as well as technical experts and a strong group of partners. ICLEI Members actively engage with their peers and take advantage of our connections with businesses, financial institutions and other implementation partners that help strengthen innovation and resourcing.

- **Peer networking platforms**: Participate in flagship events, workshops, webinars, online forums and city-to-city exchange meetings available throughout the year. ICLEI Members have discounted access to ICLEI events such as the [ICLEI World Congress](#).

- **Networks**: Be part of leading thematic networks and communities, including the [Ecomobility Alliance](#), the [CITYFOOD network](#), and [CitiesWithNature](#).

- **Access to global events**: Join ICLEI at international events and governance meetings, and access travel funds available to ICLEI Members, with special consideration for Members from the Global South.

- **Exclusive side events at global conferences**: Participate in Members-only side events where you can discuss sustainability issues and ideas with our experts and partners.

2. Get informed

ICLEI Members have access to the latest information and ideas that shape the sustainability landscape. We deliver up-to-date information on global advocacy processes, technical advancements and local sustainability leadership. Our products provide informative snapshots and thorough analyses that keep Members on the pulse of thematic and crosscutting sustainability issues.

- **Thematic newsletters**: Receive updates through [Urban-LEDs](#), [Resilient Cities](#), the [carbonn Center](#), [EcoMobility](#) and ICLEI’s other thematic newsletters.

- **Global news updates**: Read our global news roundups through ICLEI Links and receive global advocacy updates through the Local Government Climate Roadmap.

- **Webinars**: Learn from regular webinars hosted by the ICLEI network that cover your particular areas of interest. You can find the list of planned webinars on [our website](#).

- **Publications and libraries**: Gain access to technical reports, case studies, guidebooks and other informative pieces and peruse [our thematic online libraries](#).
3. Get resources

ICLEI offers Members a vital combination of methodologies, tools, knowledge and skills that support local projects at all stages of planning and implementation. By working with the multidisciplinary ICLEI network, Members are well equipped to develop and implement integrated solutions that advance their sustainability goals.

- **Methodologies**: Gain full access to ICLEI methodologies and associated support, including the GreenClimateCities (GCC) methodology and Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC).

- **Tools and reporting platforms**: Report your climate action through ICLEI and CDP's unified reporting system with support from ICLEI's [carbonn Center](http://www.carbonn.com). Report your work on biodiversity through the [CitiesWithNature platform](http://www.citieswithnature.org). Find more tools and resources through the [Solutions Gateway](http://www.solutionsgateway.org), Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC), [ClearPath](http://www.clearpath.net) – the cloud-based emissions management platform and other ICLEI products.

- **Multidisciplinary knowledge and skills**: Build capacity by working alongside our technical teams across the world that specialize in our five crosscutting Pathways.

- **Programs and projects**: Access projects and programs that are part of our five ICLEI Pathways, including GreenClimateCities (GCC) Program, [Transformative Actions Program (TAP)](http://www.iclei.org/tap), Urban-LEDS, among many others run by our multidisciplinary teams.

- **Grant and travel funding**: Access grant opportunities within ICLEI projects and programs, such as Urban-LEDS, [Ambitious City Promises (IKI)](http://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org), [Global Covenant of Mayors](http://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org), and take advantage of our travel grants to connect with the ICLEI network around the world.

"With opportunities to present and exhibit at international meetings, we have been able to disseminate our environmental policies around the world and take advantage of the knowledge of other member cities in the development of Kitakyushu City."

Kenji Kitahashi
Mayor of Kitakyushu, Japan

Kitakyushu, Japan
ICLEI Member since 1992.
4. Get involved

ICLEI Members steer the direction of our work, shape our strategy and play a central role in our governance structure. By joining ICLEI, Members are eligible to vote and take part in our governance bodies worldwide. ICLEI also invites Members to speak at high level events to advance the interests of local and subnational governments on the global stage.

• **Governance:** Apply to participate in our Regional Executive Committees and Global Executive Committee that define our strategic direction, including our thematic focus portfolios, charter, global advocacy positions in the climate and biodiversity negotiations, among other key decisions. ICLEI Members also participate in expert committees as advisors.

• **Voting:** Elect political representatives that define our strategic direction. ICLEI Members can vote to elect their regional governance bodies, the Regional Executive Committees that make up the ICLEI Council.

• **Hosting:** Host a global or regional event in your city that attracts a variety of cities, experts, implementing partners and media. Members can also host an ICLEI office and work closely with the over 20 ICLEI offices worldwide to build the ICLEI network and leverage themselves as a regional leader to attract new opportunities for your local government.

• **Leading Cities:** Participate in pioneering global projects, such as TAP and CitiesWithNature, while serving as role-models to cities around the world.

• **Advocacy:** Represent city interests on multilateral global platforms by working alongside the ICLEI global advocacy team. ICLEI Members have the opportunity to engage in global processes, platforms and organizations, including but not limited to the United Nations Climate Change (UNCC), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and to speak at international events such as the annual UNFCCC COPs and other key global forums.

• **Challenges and competitions:** Get access to joint partner initiatives and competitions, such as the Earth Hour City Challenge.

Furthermore, ICLEI develops and runs a broad range of campaigns and programs that address local sustainability issues while protecting global common goods, and link local action to internationally agreed targets and goals. As the leading global network of more than 1,750 cities, towns and regions committed to building a sustainable future, ICLEI provides information, delivers training, organizes conferences, facilitates networking and city-to-city exchanges, carries out research and pilot projects, and offers technical services and consulting.

Please find below some of our flagship global programs that are available to Members in any region:

**EcoMobility Alliance**

The EcoMobility Alliance is a network of ambitious cities, led by innovators and visionaries, supported by experts and businesses, committed to building a sustainable mobility future that is efficient, people-centered, low emission and environmentally-friendly. Through a service-oriented structure, collective learning exercises, peer-to-peer exchanges and joint activities, EcoMobility Alliance cities help each other to increase their urban mobility performance. Founded in 2011 with six cities, the EcoMobility Alliance has since grown to 23 cities from various regions of the world. Since its inception, the EcoMobility Alliance has worked to become a truly global actor by engaging a geographically diverse range of cities and partners. Cities that have joined have shown significant efforts to advance and implement sustainable urban mobility.

For more information: [http://ecomobility.org/alliance/](http://ecomobility.org/alliance/)

Ecologistics Community

The EcoLogistics was established as an initiative in 2016 by ICLEI. It represents a selected group of ambitious cities that have committed to make the urban environment more sustainable and liveable through sustainable urban freight. These cities aim to achieve world class excellence in EcoLogistics through projects and peer learning. The ICLEI EcoLogistics Community, funded by Taoyuan City, Chinese Taipei, in 2020-2021, is the first of its kind in the world entirely focusing on the sustainability and innovation of urban freight. Through established methodologies, capacity building programs, media and international outreaches, cities, together with ICLEI and technical experts, have access to the advice and knowledge to achieve EcoLogistics.

CitiesWithNature

CitiesWithNature is a unique initiative that recognizes and enhances the value of nature in and around cities across the world. It provides a shared platform for cities and their partners to engage and connect, working with shared commitment towards a more sustainable urban world. More than 90 local governments are currently involved in the initiative, spread across all continents.

For more information: https://www.citieswithnature.org

CITYFOOD Network

The CITYFOOD Network is a network for local and regional governments to develop a strategic approach to their city-region food systems. This network is managed by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability and RUAF Foundation - Global partnership on sustainable urban agriculture and food systems; and ICLEI serves as Secretariat for the CITYFOOD Network.

The purpose of this network is to raise awareness on resilient city-region food systems and urban and peri-urban agriculture, create an advocacy platform for cities, provide cities with information, training and technical and policy assistance as well guide and facilitate cooperation between cities worldwide and between local governments and civil society.

For more information: https://iclei.org/en/CITYFOOD_Network.html

To join the CITYFOOD Network, download the commitment form and send it to cityfood@iclei.org.

ICLEI-CDP Unified Reporting System – Report your climate

The ICLEI-CDP Unified Reporting System captures over 6,800 local mitigation and adaptation actions from over 1,000 reporting cities and regions, covering thematic topics such as renewable energy, air quality, project finance and etc. It is the world's largest database of local and sub-national climate action. The cCR is the designated central reporting platform of the Compact of Mayors. The Registry is also a prime data partner of the UNFCCC's Non State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) Platform. It supports Measurable, Reportable and Verifiable (MRV) climate action.

To learn more about low-emission development activities and reporting at ICLEI, visit ICLEI's carbonn Center website: www.carbonn.org

For information on many more programs and projects, please visit our website: https://www.iclei.org/en/featured_activities.html
5. Get featured

ICLEI Members are the core of our network and are the drivers of global change. Through our wide-reaching global communication channels, we aim to show this to the rest of the world. Our global communications showcase the work of our Members, who also have preferential access to speaking slots at ICLEI events across the world.

- **Digital communications:** ICLEI Member activities are featured on our website, global newsletter, social media channels and CityTalk blog to an audience of tens of thousands of your peers. ICLEI Members are also invited to co-develop stories for these channels.
- **Speaking opportunities:** Get preferential access to present your ideas and achievements at ICLEI events and conferences.
- **Publications:** Showcase your work in our publications that ICLEI distributes worldwide.
- **ICLEI in the Urban Era publication, and Activity Database:** Feature your ICLEI-based projects and programs in the ICLEI in the Urban Era publication, a compendium of the ICLEI network’s activities, and on the ICLEI Activity Database featuring local government work across all SDG’s and ICLEI Pathways.
- **Webinars:** Work with our technical teams to showcase your projects as good practice examples in our webinars.

Member login information

Our Global Website has an Exclusive Members Section where you can access Member-only information and opportunities. This section can be accessed here: [https://members.iclei.org](https://members.iclei.org). This section can only be accessed using the login information provided to you in the Introduction Letter.

Des Moines, IA, USA
ICLEI Member since 2008.

“ICLEI brings valuable knowledge and resources into the hands of local leaders to empower them to make their cities more sustainable and resilient. In Des Moines, Iowa, we’re working to make our City more energy efficient and have committed to a greenhouse gas reduction of 28% by 2025. Our City, and the United States as a whole, needs to be a part of the efforts ICLEI is leading to ensure a healthy planet for future generations. I’m proud to be a leader in ICLEI as a ICLEI USA Board of Directors Member and as the ICELEI e.V. Board Vice President.”

Frank Cownie
Mayor, City of Des Moines, IA, USA
Who we are

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.

ICLEI’s mission is to build and serve a worldwide movement of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in global sustainability with special focus on environmental conditions through cumulative local actions. We bring sustainability to a rapidly developing urban world.

Our development

In 1989, local government leaders met with a leading atmospheric scientist to discuss the depletion of the ozone layer. They pledged to establish local laws to phase out ozone depleting chemicals and imagined an organization that could coordinate local government responses to global environmental problems.

ICLEI was founded in 1990 by 200 local governments from 43 countries who convened for the first World Congress of Local Governments for a Sustainable Future at the United Nations headquarters in New York. Operations began in 1991 at the World Secretariat in Toronto, Canada, and the European Secretariat in Freiburg, Germany. The World Secretariat moved to Bonn, Germany in 2010. Our first global programs promoted participatory governance and local sustainable development planning. The Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign was the first and largest program in the world designed to support cities in climate action planning using a five-milestone process that reduced greenhouse gas emissions, improved air quality and enhanced urban livability and sustainability.

ICLEI’s programs and campaigns embrace wider sustainability issues. In 2003, the ICLEI Council acknowledged this by formally broadening our mandate and adopting the new name, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. We are now working in more than 100 countries, with global experts in over 20 offices.

Our approach

ICLEI makes sustainability an integral part of urban development and creates systemic change in urban areas through practical, integrated solutions. We help cities, towns and regions anticipate and respond to complex challenges, from rapid urbanization and climate change to ecosystem degradation and inequity.

The local and regional governments in our network confront these challenges by incorporating sustainability into day-to-day operations and policy. We invest in the capacity and knowledge needed to design solutions and make decisions informed by data, scientific evidence and local realities and pressures. Our five pathways towards low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development are designed to create systemic change.

We work in cities, towns and regions of all sizes, with varying capacities and challenges. Many have set and reached ambitious targets and are at the forefront of sustainability, pioneering new solutions and challenging the status quo. Others are taking early steps towards transformation, strengthening their systems and capacities to achieve sustainability goals.

Across the world, ICLEI brings the latest global knowledge and solutions to the local context. The ICLEI network is united for worldwide action.

Our Members and team of experts work together through peer exchange, partnerships and capacity building to create systemic change for urban sustainability.

ICLEI creates connections among the local, regional, national and global governmental levels. We advocate for robust national and global sustainability policies that reflect the interests of local and regional governments and their communities.

ICLEI forges strategic alliances with international organizations, national governments, academic and financial institutions, civil society and the private sector. We create space for innovation within our multi-disciplinary teams and work alongside our partners to create new ways to support sustainable development at the urban scale. Through our collective efforts to build a sustainable urban world, ICLEI is shifting the trajectory of global development.
Our strategy

The FIVE ICLEI PATHWAYS towards low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development are designed to create SYSTEMIC CHANGE. The pathways are a framework for designing INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS that balance the patterns of human life, and the built and natural environments.

The Five Pathways are a basis for sustainable urban development that considers the complexity of urban systems. The pathways encourage HOLISTIC THINKING to ensure that ICLEI optimizes our impact. For instance, we consider how nature-based development contributes to resilience, or how to bring equity into low emission development.

We design our work to integrate as many pathways as possible into any given activity such as a PROJECT, PARTNERSHIP or INITIATIVE. When these pathways guide local and regional development, urban system becomes more sustainable. Urban systems are part of a broader city-region territory. Local and regional governments and their urban systems are INTERCONNECTED. We address city-to-city and rural-urban linkages to create a multiplier effect.

To achieve a sustainable urban world, we will undertake transformative actions to support:

**Low Emission Development**

**We must** curb climate change, create new economic opportunities and improve the health of people and natural systems.

- We will drastically reduce all environmentally harmful pollutants and emissions from heating, cooling, lighting and food systems as well as reduce noise. We will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions in all our activities, especially in our transport, waste and building sector. We commit to implement the Paris Climate Agreement goal of keeping the global warming increase to well below 2°C and will pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
- We will aim to achieve climate neutrality in our own infrastructure and operations before mid-century and actively promote the renewable energy era, by divesting from fossil fuels, by committing to 100 percent renewable energy and by using nature-based solutions.

**Nature-Based Development**

**We will** protect and enhance the biodiversity and ecosystems in and around our cities, which underpin key aspects of our local economies and upon which we depend for the well-being and resilience of our communities.

- We will prioritize healthy local environments, in which air, water, soil and all natural resources that sustain life and health are protected and nurtured.
- We will deploy strategies and plans that use the potential nature has to provide essential ecosystem services and to unlock new economic opportunities in our jurisdictions.
- We will apply nature-based solutions, use blue and green infrastructure options and promote green zones to reconnect and engage with nature in our new urban world.
Circular Development

We will support new models of production and consumption to build sustainable societies that use recyclable, sharable and regenerative resources, to end the linear model of “produce, consume, discard” and to meet the development needs of a growing global population.

• We will decouple urban, economic development from resource consumption and environmental degradation and factor environmental and social costs into the price of goods and services. We will encourage equitable access to resources and create closed-loop urban and peri-urban systems to end linear economic activity.

• We will support new local economies that are productive and not extractive, where resources are exchanged and not wasted. We will prioritize sustainable waste management options including prevention, re-use and recycling of waste.

• We will work with the business sector from early-market engagement to the delivery of solutions that support local sustainability goals and that meet the needs of all citizens. We will use our procurement power to green our economies.

Resilient Development

We support development that anticipates, prevents, absorbs and recovers from shocks and stresses, in particular those brought about by rapid environmental, technological, social and demographic change, and to improve essential basic response structures and functions.

• We will make resilience a core part of our municipal strategies and prepare for new risks and impacts taking into account the rights and needs of vulnerable sections of our society.

• We will continuously strengthen our essential systems, including our municipal operations, to prevent, absorb and recover from shocks, stresses and unforeseen changes, alleviating the burden on people and the environment.

• We will pursue a transparent and inclusive approach on resilience that will enhance trust in our institutions and the processes that support them.

Equitable and People-Centered Development

We will build more just, livable and inclusive urban communities and address poverty.

• We will pursue processes and patterns of an “inclusive development for all” that safeguard the natural support systems for human life.

• We will ensure that the natural and built environment in and around cities improves livability and safety, mitigates disease, promotes human health and well-being. We pursue secure and safe access to food, water, energy, sanitation for all, culture and education, as well as clean air and soil.

READ MORE ON THIS ON OUR WEBSITE: https://iclei.org/en/our_approach.html
ICLEI seeks to build an international policy environment that strengthens local governments and supports local sustainability. Through our advocacy, we have helped reshape the global sustainability landscape where cities and local governments are recognized, engaged and resourced. While ICLEI is active in a number of fields, Climate and Biodiversity are two key components of its advocacy strategy.

ICLEI’s priorities in terms of Climate Advocacy, in the framework of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency at the UNFCCC, include:

1. **Raising** ambition by increasing climate emergency declarations, climate neutrality targets and transition to 100% renewables, divesting from fossil fuels with additional mechanisms for synergy and implementation; including aligning commitments with the global carbon budget and long-term strategies such as 2050 Pathways; addressing implementation problems caused by additionality criteria such as corresponding adjustments; and improving local legislation and policy frameworks to increase climate neutrality targets and transition to zero emissions.

2. **Improving** the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) vertical integration and transparency by inviting Parties to the Paris Agreement to establish multi-level collaboration and engagement mechanisms at the national level throughout in order to present new and revised NDCs with higher ambitions at COP26 in Glasgow, supported with adequate monitoring, reporting and verification to ensure transparency.

3. **Localizing** climate finance by fostering domestic action-oriented strategies and instruments accelerating the localization of Climate Finance; ensuring full operationalization, enhancing effectiveness and increasing budget shares of global and national climate funds that support investments of local and regional governments; unlocking market mechanisms such as further commitment periods of the Kyoto Protocol and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement; advancing in the Loss and Damage implementation.

4. **Reaching** a balanced approach in mitigation and adaptation by addressing the risks of climate change through adaptation planning and adaptation in coordination and collaboration with subnational and local governments alongside ambitious mitigation efforts.

5. **Linking** climate to circular economy and nature by enhancing the effectiveness of the revised NDCs via the creation of appropriate synergies with co-benefits, including equitable access to basic services, a circular economy and the new deal for nature to be adopted at the Biodiversity COP15 in Kunming, in October 2020, inspired by the outcomes of the UN Nature Summit in NYC in September 2020 and including land degradation neutrality targets.

6. **Amplifying** global climate action by advancing the Global Climate Action as well as NAZCA in the post2020 phase with appropriate support and facilitation mechanisms and expanding the existing collaboration to the stakeholders and ministries such as those responsible for Urbanization, Infrastructure, Public Works, Culture, Education, Family, Youth, Arts, and Music through effective Ministerial engagement towards and at PreCOP26 and COP26.

In terms of biodiversity advocacy, the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) COP15 and the planned adoption of the “Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework” are landmarks on the road to achieving the CBD’s overall vision of “living in harmony with nature” by 2050. The “Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework” will outline what nations need to achieve in the next decade and beyond, to set humanity on course for achieving this vision. In order to shape the landscape of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity landscape, ICLEI is developing strong messages and proposals for local and subnational biodiversity Action.

You can find regular advocacy updates in the Member-only section of the ICLEI website: [http://www.members.iclei.org](http://www.members.iclei.org)

Please use the login information provided in the welcome letter to access this section.
Our global partners

As a network of local governments, ICLEI connects local government leaders to each other. ICLEI also invites leaders from a wide array of sectors that all have a stake in urban sustainability to the table. They are from regional and national governments, international agencies, financing institutions, nonprofits, academia and the business community.

Via our advocacy work, local government delegations are connected to high-level United Nations meetings. We forge multi-stakeholder partnerships through which local governments, international agencies, development banks, ministries, institutes and others can collaborate. ICLEI joins forces with the business sector, for example through the engagement in the annual meetings in Davos.

ICLEI offers different types of partnership, enabling collaboration to take place with a wide range of actors committed to sustainability.

- **Associate Partnership** is available to non-governmental organizations, universities and not-for-profit research institutions. The purpose of Associate Partnership is to facilitate dialogues between local governments and these partners, to provide knowledge transfer in line with ICLEI’s Mission and Charter, and an avenue for which partners can support ICLEI’s work and mandate.

- **Institutional Partnership** links ICLEI with other major institutions working towards sustainability. The purpose of Institutional Partnerships is to encourage common efforts from both sides and exchanges in order to facilitate the accomplishment of ICLEI’s Mission and Strategic Plan.

- **Corporate Partnership** is available to commercial, for-profit organizations, businesses, and corporations on a non-exclusive and voluntary basis. The purpose of Corporate Partnerships is to encourage private-public-partnerships through the ICLEI network between Members and Corporate Partners and to facilitate long-term commitments from the private sector in support of ICLEI’s Mission and Strategic Plan.

“Through the partnership between Singra Municipality and ICLEI, we have been able to build our knowledge on climate change and how to work on resilience planning. Attending different knowledge exchange events, trainings enabled us to work in an integrated way for all urban sectors. Their contribution also helped us to achieve the first Urban Resilience Award in 2018. We gladly appreciate this partnership and looking forward to a long time engagement.”

Md. Zannatul Ferdous
Mayor of Singra Municipality, Bangladesh
**Governance & leadership**

ICLEI governance bodies are composed of officials from Member local governments, elected from among the global Membership and responsible for determining the strategic direction of the Association. Ultimately, the policy of the Association is shaped by its Members.

**The ICLEI Council**

The Council represents ICLEI’s global Membership and is composed of all ICLEI Regional Executive Committee members. The Council is the supreme decision-making body of ICLEI and has sole power to amend the ICLEI Charter, which constitutes the global associations' governing statutes. Furthermore, the Council elects the members of the ICLEI Global Executive Committee and adopts the ICLEI Strategic Plan for every term. The Council serves a three-year term, during which it meets at least once in person.

**The ICLEI Regional Executive Committees**

The Regional Executive Committee is the regional representation of ICLEI Members in a given region, both generally and before regional institutions. There are 9 Regional Executive Committees, each representing an ICLEI Region. Each Regional Executive Committee consists of 3 to 5 Members who serve ICLEI in that region on the basis of pre-defined portfolios of activity. Regional Executive Committees are made up of ICLEI Members from the respective region elected by their fellow Members in that region. Each Regional Executive Committee then nominates one representative to the Global Executive Committee. The Regional Executive Committees also serve a three-year term.

**The ICLEI Global Executive Committee**

The Global Executive Committee is the representation of ICLEI Members at the global level, both generally and before global and international institutions. The Global Executive Committee has sole power to adopt and amend the ICLEI By-Laws, to call meetings of the Council and to approve the establishment of regional, sub-regional and country offices. In addition to the nine Regional seats appointed by the Regional Executive Committees, the Global Executive Committee has a number of Portfolio seats, elected by the ICLEI Council. The Global Executive Committee also serves a three-year term and meets at least once every year.

**The ICLEI President**

The ICLEI President serves as chair of the Global Executive Committee and is elected by a majority vote of the Global Executive Committee from among its members. The President oversees that the activities of the Association are executed consistently with the Charter, the By-Laws and the policies and decisions of the Global Executive Committee.

The current ICLEI President, elected for the term 2018-2021, is Ashok Sridharan, Lord Mayor of Bonn, Germany.

For more information, visit: [https://iclei.org/en/leadership.html](https://iclei.org/en/leadership.html)
The ICLEI First Vice-President

The First Vice President serves as Vice Chair of the Global Executive Committee. Similar to the President, the First Vice President is elected by majority vote of the Global Executive Committee from among its members. The First Vice President shall carry out the function of the President during the absence of the President or in the event of the President's inability to act.

The current ICLEI First Vice-President, elected for the term 2018-2021, is Cathy Oke, Councillor, City of Melbourne, Australia.

For more information, visit: https://iclei.org/en/leadership.html

The ICLEI World Secretariat

The World Secretariat is the global ICLEI headquarters located in Bonn, Germany and provides basic services to the global network, coordinates the work of regional offices and globally represents local governments. The World Secretariat also runs global projects and events in coordination with ICLEI offices worldwide.

Mornington Peninsula Shire, Australia

ICLEI Member since 2002.

“Our Shire continues a strong commitment to reducing our carbon emissions and adapting to climate change. We are well on our way to achieving carbon neutrality in our municipal operations by 2021 and are committed to supporting our community in reducing community emissions by at least 2.9 percent annually on a path towards a zero emissions Peninsula.”

Cr. David Gill
Mayor of Mornington Peninsula Shire, Australia
The Secretary General

Gino Van Begin became the ICLEI Secretary General in January, 2013. He previously served as ICLEI Deputy Secretary General since 2008. The Secretary General serves as the chief executive officer of ICLEI. The Secretary General’s office is at the ICLEI World Secretariat in Bonn, Germany. The ICLEI Secretary General is in charge of the global representation of the Association and the direction of the Association’s World Secretariat, international, regional and country offices and agents to ensure the fulfillment of the Association’s mandate. He also directs the daily activities of the Association to ensure the implementation of the Strategic plan, the annual work plans and oversees the economic affairs of the Association. The Secretary General has a significant role in the organization of the Member-based governance, in particular by supporting and attending all meetings of the Global Executive Committee and of the Council. He is also responsible for carrying out the resolutions and promoting the policies of the Council and the Global Executive Committee. In the absence of the Secretary General, his responsibilities should be carried out by the Deputy Secretary Generals.

The Deputy Secretary General

Emani Kumar was appointed ICLEI Deputy Secretary General in 2013 and has been working with ICLEI for almost 15 years. Emani Kumar is also the Regional Director of the South Asia Secretariat in Delhi, India, since its founding in 2005. The Deputy Secretary General serves as the deputy chief executive officer of ICLEI.

The ICLEI Offices

The regional offices are ICLEI offices located on all continents. In addition to the World Secretariat, ICLEI has 23 offices around the world. The regional and country offices provide services to Members in their specific region and implement and track tailored campaigns and themes for those Members.

The IOMC

The IOMC stands for the International Offices Managers Consultation and represents the team of regional directors that lead the Regional Offices. The IOMC meets regularly and decide on inter office policy and approve proposals to be implemented across all offices.

Edmonton, Canada
ICLEI Member since 1992.

“The City of Edmonton has been a proud member of ICLEI from close to the inception of this innovative organization. Over the time of this lasting partnership, Edmonton has benefited through participation in a number of ICLEI programs, support from ICLEI’s expert and dedicated staff and networking with member cities from across Canada, North America and around the globe. This was abundantly demonstrated when Edmonton hosted ICLEI World Congress in 2009.”

Don Iveson
Mayor of Edmonton, Canada
Regional Office Directors

Representing the Association in each region where we operate, ICLEI has 13 Directors, each leading one ICLEI Office.

Africa Secretariat
Ms. Kobie Brand
Executive Director

Canada Office
Ms. Megan Meaney
Executive Director

East Asia Secretariat
Mr. Shu Zhu
Director

Europe Secretariat
Mr. Wolfgang Teubner
Executive Director

Japan Office
Mr. Togo Uchida
Executive Director

Kaohsiung Capacity Center
Ms. Wan-Tien Tsai
Director

Korea Office
Ms. Yeonhee Park
Executive Director

Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean Secretariat
Mr. Edgar Villaseñor Franco
Executive Director

Oceania Secretariat
Mr. Steve Gawler
Regional Director

South America Secretariat
Mr. Rodrigo de Oliveira Perpetuo
Regional Director

South Asia Secretariat
Mr. Emani Kumar
Regional Director

Southeast Asia Secretariat
Mr. Victorino Aquitania
Regional Director

USA Office
Ms. Angie Fyfe
Executive Director

The ICLEI Staff

Within the ICLEI offices, we have over 300 expert staff worldwide to assist cities engaging in ICLEI activities and in their efforts towards sustainability.
ICLEI Offices around the world

British Columbia Office
Victoria, Canada

USA Office
Denver, USA

Canada Office
Toronto, Canada

Québec Office
Montréal, Canada

Mexico, Central America & Caribbean Secretariat
Mexico City, Mexico

Argentina Office
Santiago, Argentina

Colombia Office
Medellín, Colombia

South America Secretariat
São Paulo, Brazil

Brussels Office
Brussels, Belgium

World Secretariat
Bonn, Germany

Berlin Office
Berlin, Germany

European Secretariat
Freiburg, Germany

South Asia Secretariat
Delhi, India

East Asia Secretariat
Seoul, South Korea

South India Office
Hyderabad, India

Beijing Office
Beijing, China

Korea Office
Suwon, South Korea

Japan Office
Tokyo, Japan

Kaohsiung Capacity Center
Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei

Southeast Asia Secretaria
Manila, Philippines

Indonesia Office
Jakarta, Indonesia

Africa Secretariat
Cape Town, South Africa

Oceania Secretariat
Melbourne, Australia