



Tools and Resources

The Network

As an association of local governments, ICLEI acts as the leader and facilitator of a robust network of more than 350 local governments leading the climate protection and sustainability movements. By putting both staff and elected local governments representatives in touch with each other via meetings, listservs, conference calls and one-on-one connections, innovators, novices and everyone in between can learn from the bevy of successes already advancing in the climate action arena.

Clean Air and Climate Protection Software Tool

ICLEI has been utilizing the Clean Air and Climate Protection (CACP) software is instrumental in both developing a baseline inventory of energy use and the greenhouse gas, as well as quantifying the emission reductions associated with climate action. ICLEI hosts regular web cast trainings on the CACP software tool for new and existing members and provides on-going technical support.

Toolkits

ICLEI develops various toolkits specifically designed as resource guides on particular topics. These toolkits typically incorporate information on a given topic related to funding, technology, barriers, outreach, and case study examples. ICLEI currently offers toolkits on Urban Forestry, Urban Heat Island, and Transportation and Land Use.

Outreach and Communications Assistance

As part of an effort to help our members gain recognition and support for their local climate actions, ICLEI provides outreach and communications assistance. This includes regular “ICLEI News and Opportunities” emails, media support in the form of press releases, talking points and reaching out to local media, and the online resources www.iclei.org/usa and www.coolmayors.org.

National, State and Regional Workshops

In 2006 ICLEI’s triennial North American Congress brought together members from throughout Canada, Mexico. ICLEI’s 2007 National Workshop was held in Fayetteville, Arkansas, focusing on the economic benefits of local climate action, and the 2008 event will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Regional and state workshops are regularly convened in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Pacific Northwest, and will be expanding to additional regions in the future. These events feature sessions for both elected and staff representatives designed to quickly translate what they’ve learned in conference rooms into on-the-ground emissions reductions.

Fee for Service Technical Support

Recognizing the financial, resource and staff constraints of our members, ICLEI has established a Fee for Service menu that offers members consultant-level quality emissions inventories and action plans at non-profit level prices. By working with local governments on contract projects, ICLEI is able to ensure that emissions inventories and action plans that local governments would seek outside assistance to complete still fit into their overall climate protection goals and the comprehensive CCP Five Milestone process.

Tools and Resources Under Development

Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant (Winter 2008)

This decision support tool is designed to aid local governments in the development of effective climate action plans by helping local officials to identify and prioritize actions for future implementation, drawing on the reported experiences of local government members, enabling users to tap into this collective knowledge-base when developing their own local action plans.

Toolkits & Implementation Guides (Ongoing)

ICLEI will continue to expand the range of toolkit topics to include such subjects as climate registries and carbon markets, biofuels, and approaches to climate adaptation. Resource Guides for Green Procurement; Enhancing Recycling Rates and Recycling Materials; Community Communication; Revolving Energy Fund, and a toolkit for Clean School Bus Fleets are just a couple of examples of these resources under development.

ICLEI Local Government Greenhouse Gas Emissions Protocol (Public Review December 2007)

The ICLEI Local Government GHG Emissions Analysis Protocol will set the international standard for local governments executing climate work to ensure that measurement and tracking of greenhouse gases by local governments follows basic standards in counting and reporting.

Next Generation ICLEI GHG Emissions Analysis Tool (2008)

ICLEI will continue to evolve its emissions analysis support to local governments by co-developing and delivering a next-generation emissions analysis tool for use by all ICLEI local government members. This new tool will enable web-based data quality assurance and reporting capabilities, expanded emissions analysis functionality, and more secure and accessible storage of local government emissions data.

Webcasts: Tools, Training, Policy Analysis & Topical Expertise (Winter 2008)

With the launching of an upgraded website, ICLEI USA will offer taped full length members' training sessions to download, and regular topic-based trainings on such issues as alternative fuels, climate registries, green buildings, energy efficient procurement, state and federal policy analysis and adaptation measures.

Peer-to-Peer Information Exchange Platforms (Ongoing)

ICLEI will utilize the latest in peer-to-peer networking and information exchange technologies (Wikis, discussion boards, targeted listservs, self-generated web content, etc) to more powerfully and seamlessly connect staff and elected officials from member local governments to share strategies and lessons learned in order to inspire and further local actions. This suite of tools is currently under development at a conceptual level, and will be an organizational priority over the next two years.

State and Regional Networks (Ongoing)

The regional office model allows ICLEI USA to more directly advance the actions of its membership through a greater appreciation and understanding of local processes, priorities, resources, and barriers. Through the creation and effective utilization of state and regional networks, ICLEI can position itself to support existing, and influence the emergence of new, multi-state climate protection initiatives and to actively exchange local resources and expertise

For more information about ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability or to become a member, please contact: Katherine Jarvis-Shean, ICLEI Membership Officer, at Katherine.jarvis-shean@iclei.org.