

ICLEI World Congress 2006

for cities and local governments

Congreso Mundial de ICLEI 2006 para ciudades y gobiernos locales • Congrès Mondial d'ICLEI 2006 pour les cités et gouvernements locaux

Out of Africa: Local Solutions for Global Challenges

Desde África: Soluciones locales para desafíos globales • Depuis de l'Afrique: Des solutions locales pour des enjeux globaux



Cape Town, South Africa • Monday 27 February – Friday 3 March 2006



THIS CITY WORKS FOR YOU

Final Report



“Tackling problems at the global scale is impossible without local action. Indeed, the global scale is merely the sum of millions of communities addressing the issues locally.”



Mohammed Valli Moosa,
(Keynote Speaker)
President, World
Conservation Union
(IUCN)

Did you know?

- Cape Town received its name from the ‘Cape of Good Hope’ when explorer Bartolomeu Dias and other seafarers looked forward to rounding the Cape and setting sight on Table Mountain “like an inn that promised hospitality and prosperity”.
- Cape Town is located within the Cape Floristic Kingdom, one of only six floral kingdoms in the world; it is the smallest of these but is one of the richest with a high proportion of endemic and endangered species.
- 668 participants from 70 countries participated in “Out of Africa” – ICLEI’s first World Congress in the Southern Hemisphere.
- 50 Euros – amount of each registration fee that went toward offsetting the CO₂ emissions caused in average by each participant as a result of congress related air travel, totalling over 17,000 Euros
- 125 – the number of foot balls brought as gifts from Congress participants to the Nelson Mandela Peace Park, which provides youth with a sustainable place to play in a low-income area of Cape Town.



Congress Goals and Objectives

- Provide an inspiring environment for fruitful exchange and lively discussions on local strategies for sustainability;
- Strengthen co-operation between cities and local governments worldwide and in particular those in the African region;
- Review progress, examine the challenges and discuss effective strategies for the future implementation of ICLEI’s campaigns and programmes and delivery of ICLEI services;
- Assess progress made by local governments in implementing the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (2002);
- Provide a platform for interaction between ICLEI Members and United Nations agencies, governments, financing institutions, donors, businesses, NGOs and other partners working towards achieving local sustainability;
- Adopt ICLEI’s Strategic Plan 2007-2012 (the “Cape Town Plan”)

“A really outstanding, world-class conference. The City of Cape Town was so generous and welcoming and so highly organized. I have never seen a city take on a conference like this. Combined with the efficiency and professionalism of ICLEI, it made this a truly memorable and high impact conference.”

Charles McNeill, (Keynote Speaker), Environment Programme Team Manager, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Report Highlights

- The Congress programme provided the opportunity for energizing debate and exploration of new ideas in the field of sustainability through sessions, workshops and technical tours. Full presentations and speeches are available on the congress website (see pgs. 5 – 12 for **session and tour reports**).
- The Strategic Plan 2007-2012 (the “**Cape Town Plan**”) was approved by the ICLEI Council in Cape Town on 3 March 2006 (pg. 13).
- The Strategic Plan was amended by ICLEI’s membership to include that ICLEI facilitate the participation of interested Members in the conceptualisation of a **Local Action for Biodiversity initiative** as proposed and led by the City of Cape Town. The initiative would also identify opportunities for the creation of an inter-regional local government network for biodiversity, which would promote a greater understanding of urban biodiversity issues and implementation of actions (pg. 14).
- According to their Declaration of Commitment, Members will raise awareness of **ICLEI’s global footprint** by striving to calculate their ecological footprint and report results at the ICLEI 2009 World Congress; the Executive Committee will discuss this initiative at its next meeting (pg. 15).
- Meet ICLEI’s **new Executive Committee** (pg. 13) and find out what the **new President**, David Cadman has in mind for ICLEI (pg. 4).





**“You arrived as delegates
and you left as friends”**

Osman Asmal

Dear Friends, thank you to all of you who helped to make the 2006 World Congress in Cape Town a tremendous success! The interaction between Members, partners, our political leaders on the Executive Committee and our staff from all continents was remarkably smooth and productive.

This report will provide you with highlights of the congress – a five-day event filled with insightful presentations and discussions, study tours and celebrations, sharing and learning. We hope that you find the report to be informative and inspirational.

Case studies presented in Cape Town have made us aware of how much progress in local initiatives was made since our Athens congress. We have seen new approaches and innovative solutions developed, and learned about experiences and achievements made, across the globe. The Congress produced far more than hundred presentations and papers that are published on our website (www.iclei.org/worldcongress2006).

The ICLEI Council, our triennial general assembly, approved the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan, the goals of which are captured in the Declaration of Commitment that was also adopted. This one-page document contains our Members' vision for our association and their commitment to ICLEI's programs, campaigns and services.

In Cape Town, we have met colleagues and made new friends from all over the world. I was happy to see the ICLEI network strengthened and growing. It is now important that every member local government achieves tangible improvements in local sustainability conditions, which altogether reduce the ecological footprint of ICLEI's membership on our globe.

We look forward to seeing you at the next ICLEI World Congress!

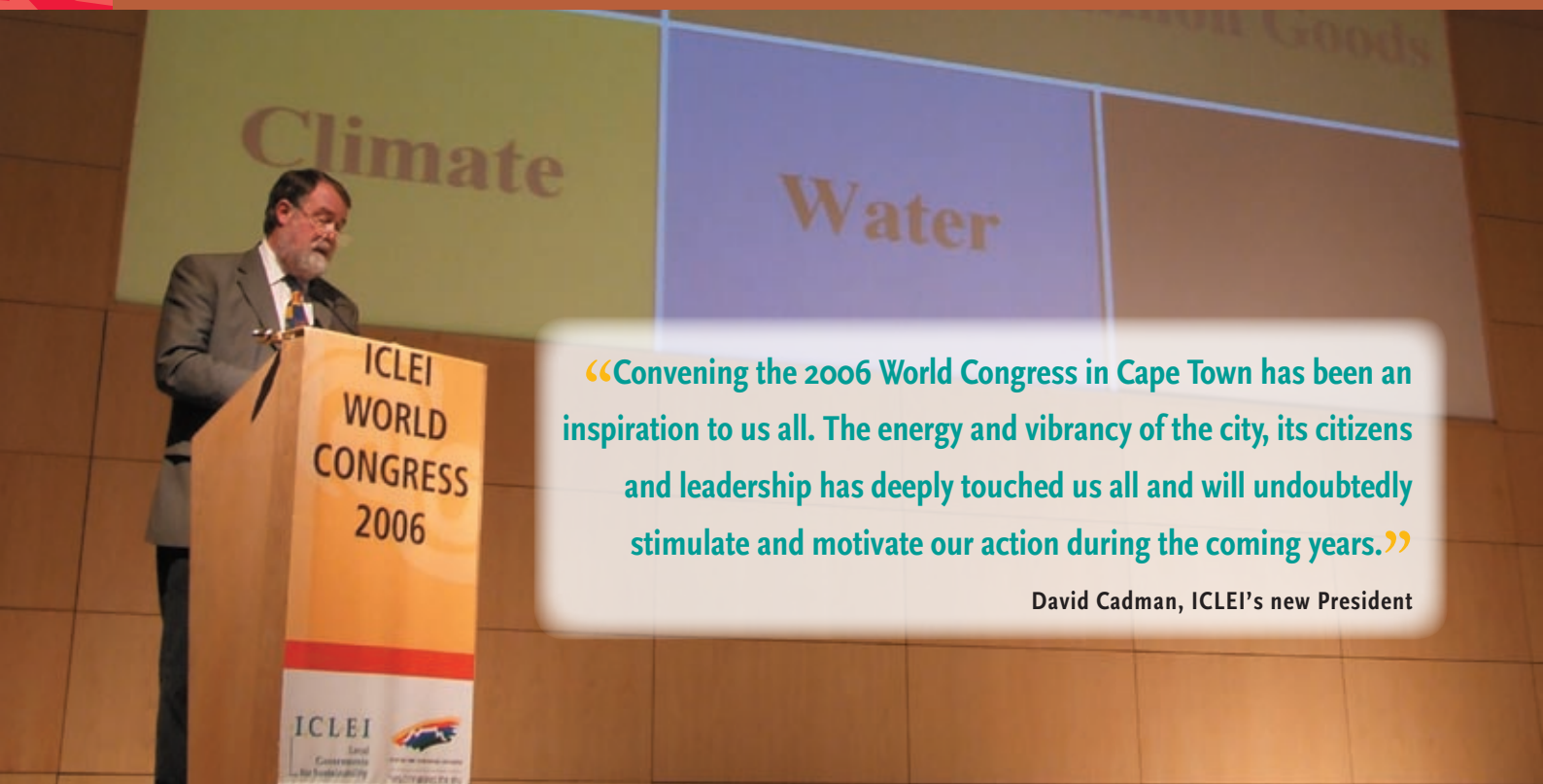
Konrad Otto-Zimmermann
ICLEI Secretary General

Osman Asmal
Director: Environmental Resource Management Department
City of Cape Town, South Africa

**“UNEP will continue to work closely with ICLEI to show
that environment has no boundaries and that it is the key to
sustainable local, and global, development.”**

Dr. Klaus Töpfer, (Keynote Speaker), Executive Director,
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
& Honorary Chair of the ICLEI Advisory Council





“Convening the 2006 World Congress in Cape Town has been an inspiration to us all. The energy and vibrancy of the city, its citizens and leadership has deeply touched us all and will undoubtedly stimulate and motivate our action during the coming years.”

David Cadman, ICLEI's new President

Tanya Imola, ICLEI's International Media Coordinator speaks to David Cadman (Councillor, Vancouver, Canada).

TI: ICLEI recently celebrated its 15th anniversary. To what do you attribute its growth in this period?

DC: More and more local governments understand that if sustainable development is going to be achieved, it will be through the commitment and actions of local governments pressing national governments to implement development strategies that will enhance and assist sustainable development. Members stand to gain from joining the “ICLEI Family”. ICLEI's staff has succeeded in raising nine dollars of project funding for each dollar that Members put in. It is this project money that allows for what ICLEI delivers. We have 140 creative and energetic staff in 12 offices in 10 countries. ICLEI provides local government a platform, tools, strategies and a global network of committed governments of all levels, organizations and individuals to achieve their sustainable development aims.

Congratulations on your new appointment as President of ICLEI. What will be your priorities during your three-year mandate?

ICLEI's membership has grown 25% in the past five years, to close to 500 Members. One of my priorities will be to expand our membership internationally, particularly in countries such as China. Much has been achieved in the last

15 years in the field of sustainable development, so another priority will be to work with our 12 global offices to strengthen ICLEI at the local level.

This World Congress was the first to take place in the Southern Hemisphere. Do you think that participants from the North were able to gain any experiences from the host city?

DC: Cities from the North can definitely learn from our cities in the South. Convening the 2006 World Congress in Cape Town has been an inspiration to us all. The energy and vibrancy of the city, its citizens and leadership has deeply touched us all and will undoubtedly stimulate and motivate our action during the coming years.

Despite all of the challenges facing Cape Town, including high rates of HIV/AIDS and poverty not present in developed countries, it is still dedicated and successful in achieving sustainable development. We saw this through its initiatives such as the building of eco-efficient housing in the low-income area of Kuyasa and the protection of their biodiversity system. This city is true evidence of a commitment to re-establish a shared recognition of human and environmental values. If we wish to accelerate sustainability worldwide, we need more of such strong examples.

What do you think participants were able to bring back home with them from Cape Town?

Sharing best practices and lessons learned will dare cities to be ambitious and to elevate our communities on sustainable patterns of life. We learned that we urgently need to connect with

and influence the different spheres of government – not only to seek recognition and support to our work but also to avoid situations whereby national or international strategies contradict local action.

Enkosi* Mayor Masondo

●●● ICLEI has been honoured to have Executive Mayor Amos Masondo of Johannesburg, South Africa serve as its President for the 2003-2006 term. His leadership and dedication to sustainable development has had a tremendously positive impact. Under his presidency, ICLEI has reached achievements such as establishing regional Secretariats for South Asia and Southeast Asia, creating and implementing a Sustainable Procurement Campaign in Europe, which is now expanding to other regions and helping to set up the World Mayors Council on Climate Change. We are fortunate that Mayor Masondo will continue to provide his leadership and skills by remaining an Ex-Officio Member of ICLEI's Executive Committee as Immediate Past President.

* Enkosi means thank you in Xhosa, one of South Africa's official languages.



Scarce Water resources can be better managed



Today, more than 1.2 billion people lack access to adequate water supply and 2.4 billion people lack access to safe sanitation facilities. In an increasingly urbanizing world, the absence of basic services is a major threat to the quality and availability of fresh water in rural and urban areas. Congress participants did not have to go far to search for such threats. According to Ebrahim Rasool, Premier of the Western Cape Province, South Africa, a Co-sponsor of the World Congress,

“Halving poverty by 2015, changing patterns of consumption and production, and protecting our shared natural resources, is less and less about global commitments alone, and more and more about local action.”

**Marthinus van Schalkwyk,
Minister of Environmental Affairs
and Tourism, South Africa**



Cape Town is suffering from a three-year drought. The problem clearly does not exist in Africa alone. In his keynote speech, Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) & Honorary Chair of the ICLEI Advisory Council, provided other key examples from across the globe. For instance, in Al Isawiyah, Saudi Arabia, irrigating farms are tapping into ancient water supplies at an unsustainable rate. The challenge for local governments is to address access to adequate water and sanitation services while ensuring that the increasing demand for high-quality, fresh water does not threaten local sustainability.

Presentations during the sessions demonstrated that through water demand

management systems (as in Australia) (see box on this page for more information), community participation (like in Baguio, Philippines) and appropriate legislative frameworks (examples being Zambia and SADC), the use of scarce water resources can be better managed.

Participants concluded that the ICLEI Water Campaign provides a supporting framework for the management of water resources. This framework could be enhanced through the use of a modular approach that allows local adaptation by local governments or communities using the framework. As sanitation and hygiene are key issues in developing countries, these modules should be developed to support existing city programs.



Featured presentation: Townsville, Australia

••• The Australian city of Townsville – the largest regional city in the province of Queensland - is located where the tropical savannas meet the coast. Its water challenges include the proximity of the town and urban area to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, financial and environmental regulations and lack of knowledge about

tropical ecosystems. The Council addressed some of these issues through an initiative called Community-Based Education & Involvement (CBEI).

Over the last 10 years, community education has been an integral component of the shift in transforming water management cultures and paradigms. For example, in 2004 over 2,000 students were involved in local 'learn-scape' tours visiting Townsville's wetlands, waterways, coastal scapes and catchment areas. Eco-catchment tours have been very successful in fostering citywide education and involvement by simply showing the community the environment that they live in. The tours have facilitated and are continuing to build capacity for enhanced community participation in environmental activities and on-going, long-term ownership of local environments and habitats. The tours have also generated interest, awareness and an appreciation for the local environment.



“Climate Protection is not a cost but an investment”

Mayor Dick Hubbard,
Auckland, New Zealand

Climate affects and influences all of us and its protection is increasingly becoming more important at the local level. Time Magazine's cover story for 26 March 2006 reads, "Disasters have always been with us and surely always will be. But when they hit this hard and come this fast – when the emergency becomes commonplace – something has gone grievously wrong. That something is global warming". During the Congress, Hannu Penttilä, Executive Director, Helsinki Metropolitan Area Council (YTV), Finland presented that in Helsinki, climate change is considered the most important environmental concern and that local authorities are considered to be a highly credible source of climate protection information.

Since 1993, 770 cities worldwide have reacted to climate change's negative impacts by participating in ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection™ (CCP) Campaign. The CCP is the largest and most effective global movement of local governments to act on climate change. Campaign participants have access to a range of resources including ICLEI's new emissions data software, HEAT, presented at the 2006 World Congress. CCP participants at the Congress praised the campaign's flexibility to be adapted to the varying contexts of cities around the world. The campaign has also been successful in acting as an umbrella to address multiple environmental concerns such as water and energy conservation,

integrated waste management, air quality and health in cities.

The World Congress placed high importance on climate change by holding nine sessions on the topic that included discussions on strategies and solutions for mitigation, adaptation and renewable energy. ICLEI's CCP participants showcased their knowledge and expertise to those who had not yet set up climate protection activities in the "Getting Started" session. Participants learned that successful programs do not have to have a large funding base but must have a well-thought political framework, integration of the climate program with municipal goals and a strong public education component.

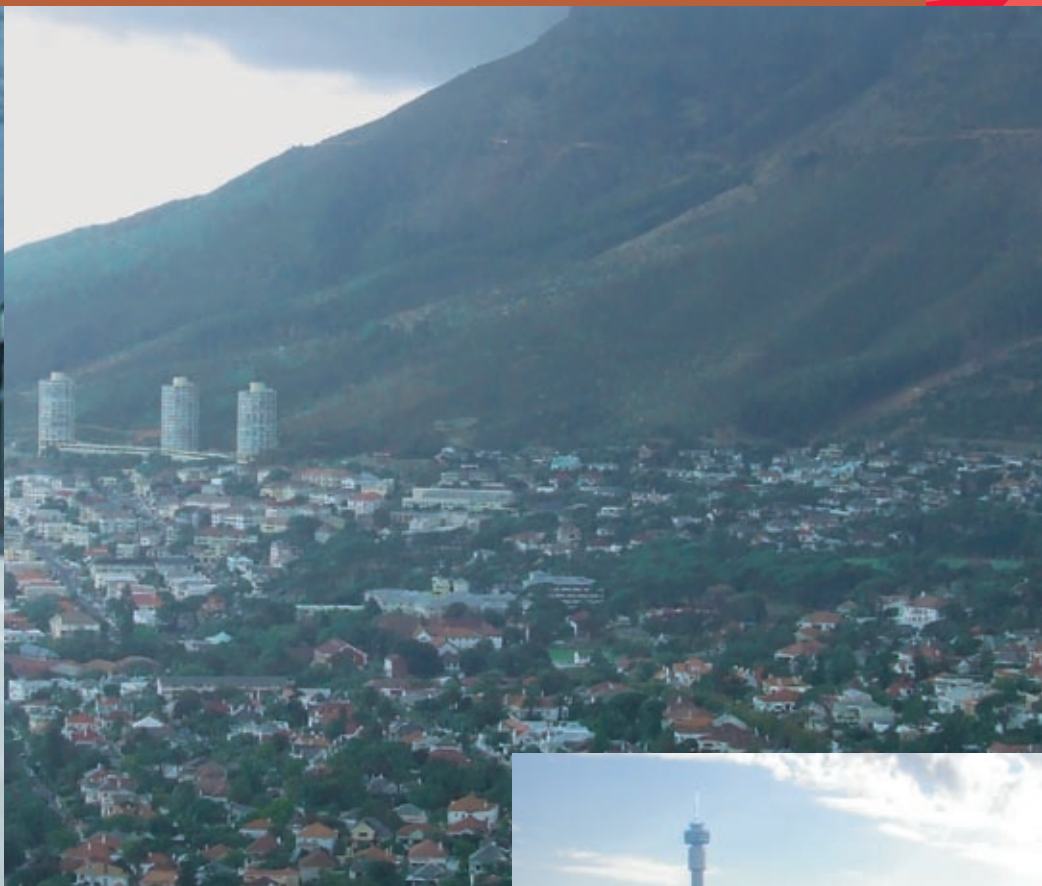
Despite the recent attention to climate issues, prioritising these activities in the face of resource competition within local governments appears to be an ever-

present challenge, even for municipalities with well-established climate action programs. The Congress specifically addressed how to gain political support in the "Addressing the Myth" panel. Melissa Knight, Deputy Team Leader, USAID - Housing & Urban Development, South Africa, presented strategies and techniques for municipal leaders wishing to continue to have climate change on their agendas. Strategies such as promoting logical arguments and using youth as a catalyst were outlined in detail.

Local governments were also urged to assume the role of partnership facilitators between other levels of government (state and national), businesses, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and their communities as these sorts of partnerships have proven to have long-lasting benefits for all parties. Imma Mayol, Deputy Mayor from the



Participants in the Local Renewables Model Community Network



Featured presentation: Johannesburg, South Africa

●●● Since 2001 Johannesburg has been a participant in the Cities for Climate Protection™ (CCP) Campaign, which enlists cities to adopt policies and implement measures to achieve quantifiable reductions in local greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and enhance urban liveability and sustainability. The benefits of the CCP to Johannesburg include: financial savings, job creation and local economic development, reduced traffic congestion, improved local air quality, enhanced urban/community liveability and awareness creation.

City of Barcelona, Spain, spoke about a successful municipal ordinance to promote solar thermo energy and its impacts in other cities in the Province of Catalonia. The local initiative has been so successful that it will be emulated by the Spanish national government.

Yasushi Otsuki, Treasurer, City of Kyoto, Japan, on behalf of Mayor Yorikane Masumoto, pointed out that international partnerships, such as the World Mayors Council on Climate Change (WMCCC) are of high relevance. The Council focuses on promoting climate protection policies at the political level and fostering international cooperation of municipal leaders on achieving climate targets. The role of the Council's Secretariat has been assumed by ICLEI to ensure close coordination with the CCP Campaign. One of the session's conclusions was that municipal leaders need training on how to facilitate multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to reap the benefits they bring to communities and cities.

In the "Municipal Options for the Global Carbon Market" session, cities learned how ICLEI is exploring the possibilities for cities to take part in the complying carbon market under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), of the Kyoto Protocol and non-complying markets such as the Chicago Climate Exchange. Participants were also introduced to Cape Town's Kuyasa CDM project on a technical visit (see pg. 18 for more information)

The launching of two exciting new projects was discussed in Cape Town. The Indian cities of Bhubaneswar, Coimbatore and Nagpur were selected to participate in the three-year initiative, the Local Renewables Model Communities Network. The existing network includes Betim (Brazil), Bonn and Freiburg (Germany), Växjö (Sweden), and Cape Town (South Africa). These communities have committed to create local policies that will include the development and use of renewable energy in their growth strategies and policies. The new program, Climate Safe Cities was also launched. The initiative, initially only in local governments in the U.S.A., aims to address vulnerability in cities and improve their resiliency to an increased risk of climate-related crisis.

The CCP Campaign has, in the coming years, the responsibility to lead its members and address climate change challenges. ICLEI cities present in Cape Town demonstrated their commitment to the CCP and this will ensure that the aims of the ICLEI Strategic Plan and the Campaign will be fulfilled.



Imma Mayol, Deputy Mayor, Barcelona, Spain



Cape Town Day was offered as part of the World Congress Program as a day of site visits that gave participants the opportunity to observe firsthand the work that is being done locally and to allow them to bring these invaluable lessons back to their local communities.

Mayor Nick Berman, Hornsby, Australia – a newly elected Executive Committee Member, highlighted that the expertise found in developing countries is as valuable as the expertise found in developed countries. Mayor Berman spoke of how the education and training that his father received as a civil engineer in Sri Lanka was used in the planning of sewerage systems in Australia. ICLEI's firm belief in the value of this exchange is confirmed by its Charter and By-Laws, which state that ICLEI supports "networking among and exchange of experiences between local governments, especially between developing and industrialized countries". In light of this, ICLEI was exceptionally pleased to have held its World Congress in South Africa, offering its membership the opportunity to learn from their African counterparts who have made such strides in sustainable development. Participants had the choice of eleven different tours that exposed them to Cape Town's creativity in identifying local solutions to challenges in such varied issues as responsible tourism, biodiversity and coastal management – issues faced by local governments worldwide. The tours concluded with a workshop, allowing participants to engage with local and international experts on the examples showcased on the tours and to brainstorm on new approaches within a variety of local contexts.



Urban Mobility

This tour allowed participants to experience first-hand the potential for non-motorised transport. The visit included a bicycle ride along the Rondebosch Common's bicycle path; a ride along the Klipfontein Road Corridor to learn about the Rapid Bus Transit System (RBTS) which travels through upper, middle and low income level areas; and a visit to the Pedal Power for Africa exhibition at the MTN Science Centre.

"The tour brought to life that we should view non-motorized transportation as a way to improve safety and not see safety as being a barrier to cycling...The tour also showed how bicycles are a vital tool for promoting change in low-income communities since they improve mobility, allowing for independence and may be used as a power source".

Tour participant



Biodiversity

The two tours offered on biodiversity, highlighted and emphasized related but distinct aspects of the issue. The first focused on planning and managing natural areas in an urban context and visited areas around False Bay; the second showcased Cape Town's rich biodiversity along the Atlantic Coast and visited two blue flag awarded beaches within the city.

"False Bay has so much to offer and we each have so much to learn from the South African experiences".

Tour participant



Responsible Tourism

Focusing on responsible and sustainable tourism, this tour took participants to locations of socio-economic and environmental interest. The locations, which for many were their only opportunity to visit less common destinations included the Saartjie Baartman Centre for Women and Children, established to help victims of violence; the Siyazama Community allotment Garden Association, an urban agriculture project that demonstrates how technology and grassroots approaches can combine to work towards a healthier environment; and the Spier Estate, a winery and estate which serves as a popular tourism destination practicing responsible tourism.

"A highly interesting mix of cases, from the downsides of tourism in the developing world (sex tourism), to small-scale opportunities for disadvantaged communities, and highly professional approaches to sustainable and responsible tourism."

Tour participant



Unexpected municipal elections offer delegates a deeper insight of the new South Africa

●●● Municipal elections, held every five years in South Africa, were due in December. President Thabo Mbeki, however, set the date for the cycle for 1 March 2006 – right in the middle of Congress! Although the congress was well supported by South African local government officials – over 200 attended the African regional meeting on the first day – many had to return home mid-way through the Congress to exercise their voting rights. Cape Town itself experienced a change in government with a shift in the composition of the City Council. This is only the third democratic election cycle South Africa has experienced in its history. The elections offered delegates an exciting close-up view of South Africa's young democracy at work.

Health Management

This tour visited community-based projects in the Khayelitsha township on the outskirts of Cape Town. It allowed the participants to discuss issues relating to health: waste, clean water access, air pollution and the challenges to maintaining high medical standards in a developing country. The visits included the Oliver Tambo Centre to learn about Khayelitsha township's Air Pollution Strategy; an informal meat market to discuss challenges faced by the City's health directorate; the Fikelela Children's Home for abused and HIV/AIDS children; and the Sibanye Economic Empowerment Project.

"Walking through the township was certainly a good way to present the situation to people! It got straight to the point and stimulated discussion and questions". Tour participant



Energy and Climate

Delegates visited the new British Petroleum (BP) energy efficient building; a Clean Development Mechanism project in Kuyasa, Khayelitsha (see page 18 for more information); an EcoVillage featuring a company that provides green energy solutions; and the Sustainability Institute, which offers academic programmes on sustainable development.

"It was very moving for all ICLEI participants to visibly see how they are affecting change in South Africa." Tour participant



Integrated Waste Management

As an issue that is of concern for local authorities worldwide, the integrated waste management tour provided the opportunity to witness the creative alternative solutions to the challenges of limited landfill site capacity. The tour included the innovative waste alternatives at the Athlone Waste Transfer Station; the Tsoga Environmental Centre and Coastal Park Landfill Site; the Footprints Recycling and Educational Centre; and a community-recycling depot.

"The tour exemplified to me that zero waste is achievable with proper legislation such as the Polokwane Declaration's goal to reduce waste by 50% by 2012 and a plan for zero waste by 2022". Tour participant

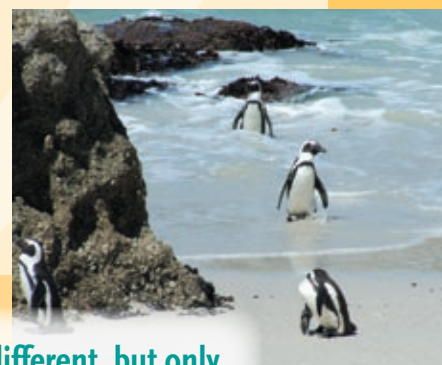


Disaster Management

Cape Town, having been significantly affected by disasters shortly before the World Congress provided an excellent opportunity to discover how local authorities react in the immediate follow-up to natural or human-made disasters. The tour included site visits to three recent disaster sites of the 2006 fire on Table Mountain; the informal settlement of Joe Slovo ravaged by a runaway fire; and a Rehabilitation Centre for Penguins affected by an oil spill that had threatened their lives.




"Many developed countries rely too heavily on technology and do not use the basic 'community member' experiences when developing resilience plans or preparing for potential disasters. Cape Town's success in utilizing a community-based risk assessment process that is then linked with technology proves that we must improve communication between government and members of the community to alert them to potential risks that they may not be aware of, and in turn, collaborate with the people living in areas of risk to receive their input on a disaster management strategy". Tour participant




"The tour taught me that issues for developing and developed nations are different, but only in emphasis. The actual issues are basically the same. Therefore, case studies from developing nations could be used by developed nations and vice versa."

Tour participant



“ICLEI is the lead voice on issues of sustainability and local government and as such I encourage all Metropolis members, and other local governments, to work with ICLEI on furthering both local and global sustainability.”

Josep Roig, (Closing Plenary Speaker) Secretary General, Metropolis



Featured presentation: Hamilton, Canada

... Triple Bottom Line (TBL), a planning and reporting mechanism and decision-making framework used to achieve sustainable development, has been used by the City of Hamilton, Canada as an evaluation and assessment tool. The Hamilton case has produced lessons useful for other cities interested in TBL, such as that the involvement of stakeholders early in the project helps to gain greater public support. The tool helped to foster cross-departmental communication and organizational learning. It also strengthened public awareness and reaffirmed citizen priorities. The TBL network has proved to be a resourceful group from which Hamilton staff were able to adopt tools and adapt the lessons learned to their local setting.

Tubigon, Philippines

... The Philippine Province of Bohol has piloted **ecoBUDGET**, a management system for natural resources and environmental quality budgets, in the City of Tubigon to work hand in hand with the Local Governance Poverty Database Monitoring System (LGPDMS) a software that records and ranks levels of deprivation. While the LGPDMS identifies poverty indicators, **ecoBUDGET** focuses on bettering the poverty indicators. For example, the Master **ecoBUDGET** for Tubigon identified and set targets to improve potable water supply and solid waste disposal as priority environmental issues. The use of **ecoBUDGET** improves the poverty indicators recorded by the LGPDMS. The marriage of LGPDMS and **ecoBUDGET** proves that using creative approaches in adapting existing tools to fit to cities' unique needs and circumstances leads to success.

Sustainability Management supports local governments through the application of innovative management instruments to achieve sustainability. The World Congress sustainability management sessions focused on two instruments developed by ICLEI – **ecoBUDGET**® and Triple Bottom Line – as a basis for a larger discussion on the pertinent sustainable management issues currently faced by local governments. Charles McNeill, Environment Programme Team Manager, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), presented in his keynote address that local governments should make greater use of economic instruments and market-based approaches in the management of ecosystem services and use tools such as **ecoBUDGET** in their response to sustainability needs. Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) echoed this call by asking for better local management practices to achieve tangible improvements in sustaining our global environmental resources.

ecoBUDGET is a management system analogous to financial budgeting, which adopts the idea of an annual 'budget' as a spending framework for natural resources and environmental quality. It does not monetarize

environmental factors but instead uses indicators for which targets are set as the environmental budget's limits. Presentations by cities applying **ecoBUDGET**, Bologna (Italy), Växjö (Sweden) and Tubigon (Philippines, see box on this page) showed successful applications of this system. Participants also explored the features and benefits of environmental management systems, the importance of legal compliance and setting up the appropriate indicators, as well as the value of cooperation among cities worldwide.

Triple Bottom Line (TBL), known from the corporate sector and adapted to local authorities by ICLEI's Oceania Secretariat in partnership with the City of Melbourne, Australia, is a planning and reporting mechanism and decision-making framework used to achieve sustainable development. In addition to widespread use throughout Australia, TBL has recently also been piloted in Hamilton, Canada (see box on this page). Melbourne City Councillor, Fraser Brindley presented on TBL during the sustainability management sessions. Along with other panellists, Councillor Brindley raised issues concerning reporting; namely, that reporting is not an end in itself and must be linked back to decision-making. Participants were interested to learn how to report lack of progress and how to maintain local value while simultaneously remaining globally relevant.

ICLEI cities that have worked with **ecoBUDGET** or TBL have strongly echoed the value of such instruments for long-term sustainability management. ICLEI's Strategic Plan for 2007-2012 adopted the goal of establishing additional pilot application of these instruments in other ICLEI active regions.



The benefits of Sustainable Procurement

“Realising that public authorities, for example those found in the 25 countries of the European Union, buy goods and services for about 1,000 billion Euro a year, then even a small shift towards “green” purchasing offers an enormous potential and can achieve substantial environmental gains.”

David Cadman, ICLEI President

Sustainable procurement aims to integrate environmental, social and economic considerations into all stages of the purchasing process with the goal of reducing the impact on human health, the environment and improving social and economic conditions. At the Congress, cities that have been quite successful in making their purchasing processes more sustainable encouraged others to carry out sustainable purchasing. The Sustainable Procurement sessions, which were officially endorsed by UNEP included panellists from Makati (Philippines), Barcelona (Spain), São Paulo (Brazil, see box on this page) and Leicester (UK). It was proposed that a city-twinning initiative would assist in transferring knowledge from cities that have had more experience with sustainable procurement with others that have not. For example, participants of ICLEI's Procura⁺ Campaign may twin with cities that are interested in strengthening or starting to integrate sustainable purchasing in their procurement processes. ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement Campaign, Procura⁺, which was launched in 2004 and has 30 European participants, was presented and discussed. The Campaign aims to achieve tangible improvements for the global environment, based on the targets that political decision-makers set for their administration.



Featured presentation: São Paulo, Brazil

... Eduardo Coelho e Mello Aulicino, Advisor, Secretariat for the Environment, City of São Paulo, Brazil presented on “The Power of Public Purchasing as an instrument towards sustainability”. Mr. Aulicino stated, “São Paulo's

population of 10.4 million makes it the fourth biggest city in the world and the largest consumer market in Brazil. In 2002, São Paulo decided to promote changes within the standards of consumption and production of the municipality. With the implementation of the Municipal Programme for Environmental Quality, the City has adopted environmental criterion for the products purchased and services hired by the Municipal Administration. Through the power of purchasing as an environmental policy, the City seeks to disseminate a culture of responsible consumption throughout society as a whole.” São Paulo has faced obstacles to green purchasing such as resistance to change, lack of green certification policies and legislation that prioritises lower prices regardless of environmental friendliness. But Mr. Aulicino is hopeful. He stated, “The practical results achieved thus far reveal that the simple act of sustainable procurement can promote far reaching transformations to overcome obstacles”.

Sustainable procurement is beneficial because it provides advantages such as higher levels of efficiency, financial savings and job creation. For example, according to Councillor Ernesto Aspillaga of Makati, Philippines, the City's sustainable procurement efforts were, in part, responsible for an annual energy savings of US\$ 84,000. Despite these figures, fighting long-standing (mis) perceptions about sustainable purchasing remains an obstacle. Participants explained that barriers in greening their local governments' purchasing included the perception that sustainable products are more costly, and that the market is not able to produce alternatives to non-sustainable products. One concrete suggestion made to local governments by one of the session facilitators, Desta Mebratu from UNEP's Regional Office in Africa, was to fight the perception that green purchasing is time-consuming by defining it as a fine-tuning of the existing procurement process, not as an add-on or a parallel process.

Procurement session panel



Building Sustainable Cities and Communities

“Solutions for global challenges do not only exist where the light is shining. We must join and hold hands to explore unlit areas.”

Ebrahim Rasool, Premier of the Western Cape Province, South Africa (Congress Co-sponsor)



Featured presentation: Phuket, Thailand

Effective action to reduce vulnerability must be community-centred and sensitive to specific local conditions. As Phuket, Thailand has demonstrated, one of the key determinant factors of the level of human and developmental costs arising from an extreme event is the relief and reconstruction effort of local people and institutions following such major natural disasters. On 26 December 2004 the City of Phuket, along with other Southeast Asian communities, was struck by a tsunami that caused massive structural damage and the loss of 7,000 human lives in Phuket alone. In the face of this devastation, the City of Phuket demonstrated its resilience by “springing back” to develop capacities to identify and reduce its vulnerabilities. It also identified and pursued creative opportunities arising from change that would not only allow the city to return to its earlier state, but to an improved status. Ms. Somjai Suwansupana, Mayor of Phuket, spoke to participants on how her city turned this unprecedented natural disaster into an opportunity for resilient reconstruction. Phuket began by raising local disaster prevention awareness, which included teaching disaster prevention at schools and conducting training workshops for local residents and other stakeholders. After the tsunami, Phuket also improved emergency systems further by supporting the functions of emergency and rescue services. Resources were allocated to the creation of a disaster management information system and network linking related organizations as well as reserving relief goods and equipment. Phuket placed great importance on improving the disaster-response capabilities within the community by improving and reinforcing volunteer disaster response groups and supporting volunteer activities. Their community was made more disaster-resistant by building quake-resistant housing and promoting disaster-resistant infrastructure; Phuket’s efforts will surely result in a more resilient community.

The mission of the Local Agenda 21 (LA21) Initiative (proposed by ICLEI and adopted as part of Agenda 21 by the 1992 Rio Earth Summit) is to build a worldwide movement of local governments and associations dedicated to achieving sustainable development through participatory, multi-stakeholder planning and subsequent implementation. The launch of Local Action 21, (the implementation-oriented stage of LA21), at the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit called for specialised local agendas addressing key barriers to sustainability, and for mechanisms to ensure unwavering implementation.

In Cape Town, the European Sustainable Cities & Towns Campaign and the Latin America Local Agenda 21 (LALA21) program were showcased as ICLEI’s most comprehensive LA 21 programs.

The Resilient Communities & Cities Initiative, which addresses local vulnerability to natural, industrial and environmental disasters through local agendas for resilience, was also discussed.

There was consensus that the initiative should be:

- further developed by making existing tools and mechanisms available to ICLEI Members in Southeast Asia, South Asia, Africa and potentially Latin America,
- linked to fighting poverty, and
- be derived from local methods for participatory action planning and include partnerships with public and private actors.

The Congress agenda featured sessions on the Just, Peaceful & Secure Communities program, which uses the LA21 multi-stakeholder planning approach to foster equity and prevent violence and conflict. Within this program in Latin America, the capacity and social capital of cities and their communities will be built upon a number of pilot projects.

ICLEI Members urged the association to continue its activities in forming networks across the globe, especially in the area of south-south collaborations to increase knowledge sharing and best practices.



The 2006 Council Meeting – Looking towards the future

“We, Members of the world association ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability...endorse the vision for our association as: a growing Association of local governments dedicated to sustainable development with worldwide presence, which has challenging positions, whose voice is heard, and which is attractive to be a member of, work for and partner with ...”

From the Declaration of Commitment endorsed at the Council Meeting by ICLEI Membership

On 3 March 2006, the newly elected President, David Cadman chaired ICLEI's Council Meeting, attended by 109 voting Members. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the strategic plan and other relevant issues for the Association for the upcoming three-year period. By approving the Strategic Plan 2007-2012, ICLEI Members endorsed a vision for the association in the "Declaration of Commitment" that could be found on www.iclei.org.

The Chair acknowledged and thanked the commitment of the following outgoing Executive Committee Members who dedicatedly served ICLEI throughout the past term(s):

- Fernando Cordero Cueva, Cuenca, Ecuador
- Omar Abdullah Kadi, Organization, Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC)
- James Knight, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Patricia Kranz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Danile Landingwe, Cape Town, South Africa
- Harvey Ruvin, Clerk, Miami-Dade County, USA
- Pedro Sabat Pietrocarpina, Ñuñoa, Chile
- John So, Melbourne, Australia
- Kaarin Taipale, Helsinki, Finland
- Katsuhiko Umehara, Sendai, Japan
- Beate Weber, Heidelberg, Germany
- Yang, Yoon Jae, Seoul, Korea



Fraser Brindley, Councillor, Melbourne, Australia

In late 2005, the Council elected a new Executive Committee for the next three-year term. The 2006 – 2009 Executive Committee had its inaugural meeting on Sunday, 26 February 2006 and elected David Cadman, Councillor, Vancouver, Canada as ICLEI President and Stephen Kabuye, Mayor of Entebbe, Uganda as ICLEI Vice President. The new 2006 – 2009 Executive Committee Members are:

- Immediate Past President Amos Masondo, Executive Mayor, Johannesburg, South Africa

Africa

- Stephen Kabuye, Mayor, Entebbe, Uganda
- Themba Raymond Sikhutshwa, Councillor, Cape Town, South Africa

Latin America and Caribbean

- Eduardo Jorge Martins Alves Sobrinho, Municipal Secretary of Environment, São Paulo, Brazil
- Fernando Carrion Mena, Deputy Mayor, Quito, Ecuador

Southern Asia

- Hansa Patel, Advisor / Executive Director, All India Institute for Local Self Government, India
- Mary Jane Ortega, Mayor, San Fernando, La Union, Philippines

Oceania

- Nick Berman, Mayor, Hornsby, Australia
- Fraser Brindley, Councillor, Melbourne, Australia



Emilio D'Alessio, Deputy Mayor, Ancona, Italy

Honouring ICLEI Members

During the Congress, ICLEI Members were invited to visit the ICLEI booth in the Ubuntu Market to receive a certificate in appreciation of years of dedicated membership, presented by new President David Cadman and ICLEI Secretary General Konrad Otto-Zimmermann. Designed specifically for the World Congress, the certificates honoured Full ICLEI Members by acknowledging the length of their commitment to ICLEI and sustainable development.



Mayor Suwansupana receives Phuket's (Thailand) certificate from the ICLEI President

Eastern Asia

- Kim, Yong-seo, Mayor, Suwon City, Republic of Korea
- Yorikane Masumoto, Mayor, Kyoto, Japan
- Won, Sei-hoon, Vice Mayor I for Administrative Affairs, Seoul Metropolitan Government, Republic of Korea

Western and Central Europe

- Emilio D'Alessio, Deputy Mayor, Ancona, Italy
- Imma Mayol, Deputy Mayor, Barcelona, Spain
- Dieter Salomon, Lord Mayor, Freiburg, Germany
- Margit Vestbjerg, Mayor of Environment & Planning, Kolding, Denmark

Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

- Venelin Donchev Todorov, Deputy Mayor, Bourgas, Bulgaria

North America

- David Cadman, Councillor, Vancouver, Canada
- Margaret Pageler, Urban Sustainability Advisor, Seattle, U.S.A.
- Joe Pantalone, Deputy Mayor, Toronto, Canada

Proposal: Local Action for Biodiversity



“Recognizing that local governments that participate in these [ICLEI] campaigns are having a tangible impact on global sustainability, the World Conservation Union (IUCN) is looking forward to expanding collaboration with ICLEI on addressing the challenges in achieving the 2010 biodiversity target.”

Mohammed Valli Moosa, (Keynote Speaker) President, World Conservation Union (IUCN)

Congress creates opportunities for other gatherings to take place in Cape Town

... Urban Nature 2006

Over 75 delegates representing 11 countries attended Urban Nature 2006, a pre-congress event that took place at the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Held under the auspices of the South African National Biodiversity Institute, the purpose of the event was to draw together local governments and other interested organizations around the theme of planning for and managing urban biodiversity at the local government level. The workshop was structured to address the overarching question of how to ‘mainstream’ biodiversity values into the social and economic structures of society. Recommendations from the event included: i) the creation of a networking node that would provide continuity for communication links established for this and other common interest groups, ii) the establishment of a media communications strategy, which would include formal academic papers, a biodiversity digest and an almanac of practical information printed at low cost or using electronic circulation, and an internet blog site.

... The Researchers Symposium

The International Researchers Symposium on Sustainable Human Settlements and their Governance took place on 24-25 February 2006. The Symposium drew participants from across the globe representing 12 countries (approximately 60 participants in total). The first day focused on sharing research and case study findings, and new approaches to research, while also highlighting some of the challenges faced by researchers and local government practitioners working in this complex and multi-faceted arena. The gathering also acknowledged and endorsed the outcomes of the Researchers Symposium held in Nanning, China in November 2005, and sought to build on these outcomes and recommendations. The second day focused on discussing these challenges and identifying mechanisms for strengthening communication and collaboration between researchers and practitioners. Merle Sowman of the University of Cape Town gave a presentation on the outcomes of the Symposium and its work in the future to the ICLEI World Congress plenary on Tuesday 28 February.

The Biodiversity proposal put before ICLEI’s Membership during the Council Meeting generated much discussion at the Congress as ICLEI Members and staff, as well as partners and other stakeholders, ardently presented their views on the issues. An amendment to ICLEI’s Strategic Plan was proposed to develop a biodiversity initiative. Proposed by the City of Cape Town, *Local Action for Biodiversity* would identify opportunities for the creation of an inter-regional local government network for biodiversity, with a goal of promoting a greater understanding of urban biodiversity issues and implementing actions. The City of Cape Town was a strong advocate for the amendment, being home of the Cape Floral Kingdom, the smallest of six biodiversity systems in the world. In response to the biodiversity strategy panel, Stephen Granger, Chairperson of the Local Organising Committee for the World Congress, stated, “Although it may not be on the global agenda now, biodiversity would gain prominence by having ICLEI put the issue on its agenda. The CSD (Commission for Sustainable Development) has assigned biodiversity as the key focus for their agenda in 2011. As a prudent stockbroker invests when shares are low, so ICLEI should invest resources in Urban Biodiversity now, so it will be well placed to make an important global contribution in 2011.”

The topic was first addressed at the Congress in a speech given by Mohammed Valli Moosa, President, World Conservation Union (IUCN). President Moosa spoke of nature’s

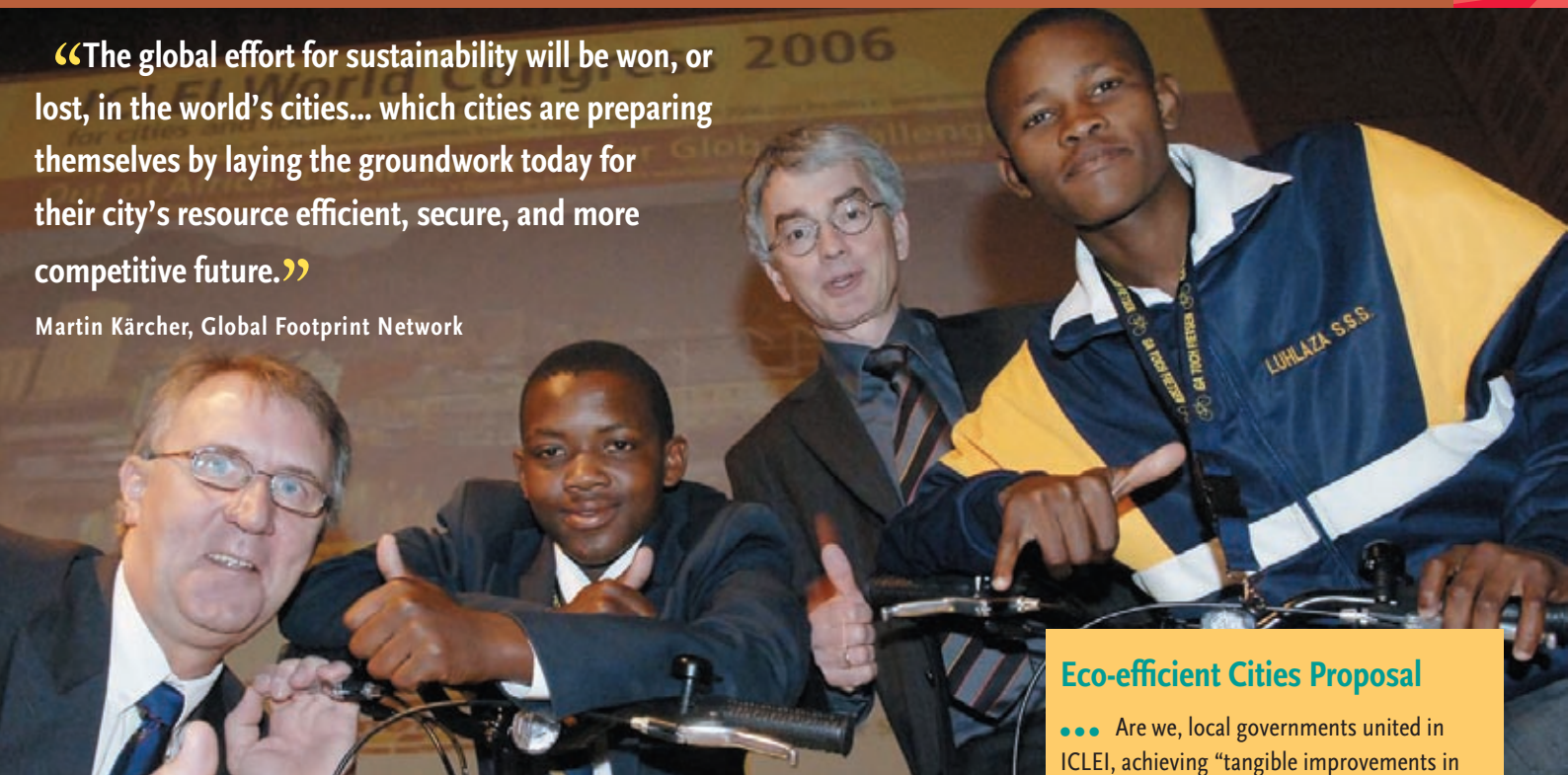
service to humanity and gave examples of negative consequences of loss of biodiversity caused by alien invasive species and deforestation. During the sessions, representatives from Latin America, Europe, South Asia and Africa showcased their successes in bringing biodiversity to the attention of local governments in urban areas. Ms. Thea Jordan, Deputy Director of Environmental Planning, uMhlathuze Municipality, South Africa sparked up a lively discussion that continued after the session ended on how to best “sell” biodiversity to local councils. Other presenters in the session included Sebastian Winkler, Head of the Countdown 2010 Secretariat, IUCN. Countdown 2010 sets out to achieve a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. Both Mr. Moosa and Mr. Winkler stressed the importance of collaboration with ICLEI in order to challenge local governments to become actively involved in achieving the Biodiversity 2010 target.

The proposal by the City of Cape Town to establish an ICLEI Biodiversity Programme (three year pilot phase) “Local Action for Biodiversity Action” was supported by ICLEI’s membership, and adopted in the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan.



“The global effort for sustainability will be won, or lost, in the world’s cities... which cities are preparing themselves by laying the groundwork today for their city’s resource efficient, secure, and more competitive future.”

Martin Kärcher, Global Footprint Network



Eco-efficient Cities Proposal

... Are we, local governments united in ICLEI, achieving “tangible improvements in global sustainability”, according to ICLEI’s mission? Are we reducing humanity’s Footprint by increasing eco-efficiency? Are we reducing it fast enough? – These were some of the questions that Mr. Martin Kärcher, Coordinator Swiss Office, Global Footprint Network had for ICLEI Members. Anurag Mishra, Program Manager for Energy and Environment at ICLEI’s South Asia Secretariat stated that, “The Ecological Footprint is a resource management tool that measures how much land and water area a human population requires to produce the resources it consumes and to absorb its wastes under prevailing technology. Today, humanity’s Ecological Footprint is over 23% larger than what the planet can regenerate”. In 2005, ICLEI established a partnership with the Global Footprint Network with the goal of calculating and monitoring the development of ICLEI Members’ Ecological Footprints. Holger Robrecht, Director of ICLEI’s Sustainable Management Program, outlined that ICLEI’s Footprint proposal aims to have ICLEI members calculate their footprints, commencing with the 2006 World Congress, by the next World-Congress in 2009 and that in 2009 all ICLEI Members will start introducing a local eco-efficiency strategy using ICLEI’s management instruments as distinct sets of tools. It was agreed at the Council Meeting that a recommendation paper would be prepared and discussed by the Executive Committee on the footprint calculation proposal, to then be considered by ICLEI Members.

In 2006, the ICLEI Local Initiatives Awards consisted of two types of awards: the **Cities Enjoy Bicycles Awards**, which focused on non-motorized vehicle use in urban transportation and the **Judy Walker Memorial Prize**, which focused on Member-to-Member cooperation and exchange. The awards were presented at a ceremony during the World Congress.

... The recipient of the **Judy Walker Memorial Prize** was Charles Sturt, Australia, for its Cities for Climate Protection Business Energy Partnership Program. The program engages the business sector in greenhouse gas reduction strategies through a partnership between the city and large private sector companies to help small and medium enterprises reduce emissions through energy efficiency. The expansion of Charles Sturt’s program to fellow Australian ICLEI Members Frankston and Gosford, and Australian CCP participant, Tea Tree Gully, serves as an excellent example of what the Judy Walker Prize is meant to honour, Member-to-Member collaboration and cooperation.

... The recipients of the **Cities Enjoy Bicycles Awards of Excellence** were Cape Town (South Africa) for the Bicycles Recycles Project, and Geneva (Switzerland) for its Transportation Package and Promotion of Mobility Plans for Business. Certificates of Honour were also presented to Copenhagen (Denmark), Freiburg (Germany), Koprivnica (Croatia), Lund (Sweden) and Tilburg (Netherlands).

... The three winners of the awards will be highlighted in the ICLEI Case Study series as exemplary examples of local government initiatives; additionally, winners received an expense-paid trip to attend the World Congress.



Executive Committee Member, Beate Weber presents Geneva, Switzerland with the Cities Enjoy Bicycles prize



Executive Committee Member, Hansa Patel presents Charles Sturt, Australia with the Judy Walker Memorial prize



“ICLEI has a special spirit which I don’t find anywhere else. Participants are more friendly to each other, perhaps they feel united in one aim.”

Congress participant

Engaging conversations that began during the day continued into the evening social events that surrounded participants with sounds of African drums, Xhosa lyrics and spirited dancing. On Monday evening, our host, the (former) Executive Mayor of Cape Town, Nomaindia Mfeketo, warmly invited participants to a dinner reception that ended with musical delights. The City of Johannesburg continued the party on Thursday with an invitation by Executive Mayor Amos Masondo to the Stellenbosch Winery Estate, featuring world-renowned South African game and treats from the field and wineries. On Wednesday evening, the Ubuntu Market was filled with music, dance, theatre and displays, which shaped a lively cocktail reception where participants presented Cape Town with a gift of over 100 foot balls. To acknowledge Cape Town’s contribution to the World Congress, participants were invited to bring a foot ball from their home country to be given to the Nelson Mandela Peace Park in Cape Town. Thank you, participants for joining us in thanking our most gracious host – Cape Town!



“The ICLEI event was an eye-opener and also a time to get to know each other and learn from each other.”

Congress Participant

Highlights from entertainment and social events



Bringing people together – The Ubuntu Market

... *Ubuntu* a traditional African term that means 'the belief in a universal bond of sharing that connects all humanity' was the perfect name for the Exhibition Hall at the 2006 World Congress. The Ubuntu Market, as it was known, was a place where delegates had the opportunity to share ideas and information; present their displays; and most importantly to interact and network with other exhibitors and congress delegates. In total, 23 stands, 8 table exhibits and 9 poster exhibits were on display.



Kuyasa Project: Walking the Talk



EVENT GREENING

Greening an event means making environmentally and socially responsible decisions when organising or participating in an event. The greening vision for the event was to reduce the consumption of resources, avoid damage to the local and global environment, take ecological, social and economic aspects into account for future-orientated city development and offer sustainable development options to the local people and economy.

Being that event greening is an on-going process and not just an isolated once-off activity, the programme included the following:

- Training of staff and awareness raising of event greening amongst delegates. One of the outcomes of this programme is that now the Cape Town Hotel School is including training on Event Greening in their syllabus.

- Audits were performed on the conference venue and several of the hotels to evaluate how they can save water and energy as well as reduce their waste to landfill sites. These audits provided the participating hotels with guidelines to help them with their greening initiatives.

- To enable more specific data capturing, a lessons-learned report is being compiled on initiatives such as the use of green electricity, carbon tax and bio-gas for busses. The report will also include a socio-economic study to verify the impact that the greening programme had on the conference.

- Sustainable procurement of goods and services proved to make a significant positive impact on the ecological footprint of the congress.

For more information about the greening of the ICLEI Congress, please visit www.iclei.org/worldcongress2006.

The Kuyasa Low Income Urban Housing Energy Update Project was a highlight of the Energy and Climate Tour. The project in Khayelitsha is a successful Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) project where houses in this low-income area have been retrofitted with solar water heaters, insulated ceilings and energy efficient lighting. The retrofits have been, in part financed by ICLEI's Climate Legacy project, an initiative reducing the environmental

impacts of ICLEI events by collecting carbon offset payments from participants to compensate for the CO₂ emissions resulting from event-related air travel. CO₂ emissions fees collected from four recent ICLEI- organized events (the ICLEI European Members Convention in Tilburg, Netherlands, the 2nd National Councils' Climate Conference in Nottingham, UK, the Fourth Municipal Leaders Summit on Climate Change in Montréal, Canada and the ICLEI World Congress 2006 in Cape Town, South Africa) supported the Kuyasa Project. Representatives of the cities of Tilburg, Nottingham, Montréal and Cape Town who were present on the tour were presented with certificates of appreciation and met a family who is living in one of the retrofitted homes. The Kuyasa project is an important adjunct to the City of Cape Town's pressing integrated human settlement requirements and will help set the direction for sustainable housing construction in the long term.





Thank you ... Enkosi ... Dankie

We are particularly indebted to Nomaindia Mfeketo, Former Mayor of Cape Town, who facilitated the participation of Cllr. Carol Beerwinkel, Mayoral Committee Member for Planning and Environment, in her place at the World Congress, Osman Asmal, Director, Environmental Resource Management Department, Stephen Granger, Chairperson of the Local Organising Committee for the World Congress and Shona Young, Environmental Support for ICLEI World Congress 2006.

A special thank you to Monika Zimmermann and the ITC for their continued work with the City of Cape Town in the many months and years, prior to the 2006 World Congress.

We would also like to extend a very warm thank you to: Karin Diederichs, Senior Conference Coordinator, Global Conferences, iKAPA.

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“Cape Town ... [you] were a magnificent, generous and charming host and ensured that each and every delegate enjoyed a wonderful stay. By hosting this Congress, the biggest and brightest ICLEI event to date, Cape Town showed that local action moves the world!”

**Gino Van Begin, Regional Director,
ICLEI European Secretariat**

* Source of Mayor Amos Maseko quote on back cover: JoNews Reporter, City of Johannesburg website (www.joburg.org.za)



“Whether we are from the developed or the developing world, our greater challenges are similar ... That is what really sets the tone at ICLEI – we can all teach each other and we can all learn from each other.” *

Amos Masondo, Executive Mayor of Johannesburg, South Africa and ICLEI Immediate Past President

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ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

is a worldwide association of local governments for sustainable development. ICLEI was founded in 1990 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York with the aim to achieve tangible improvements in global sustainability with special focus on environmental conditions through the cumulative impact of local action. Over 495 local governments from 67 countries have joined ICLEI, representing over 300 million people.

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