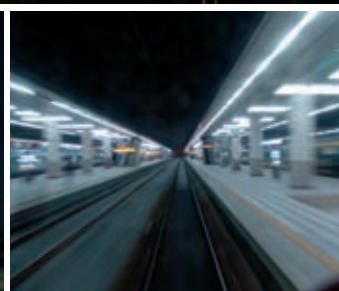
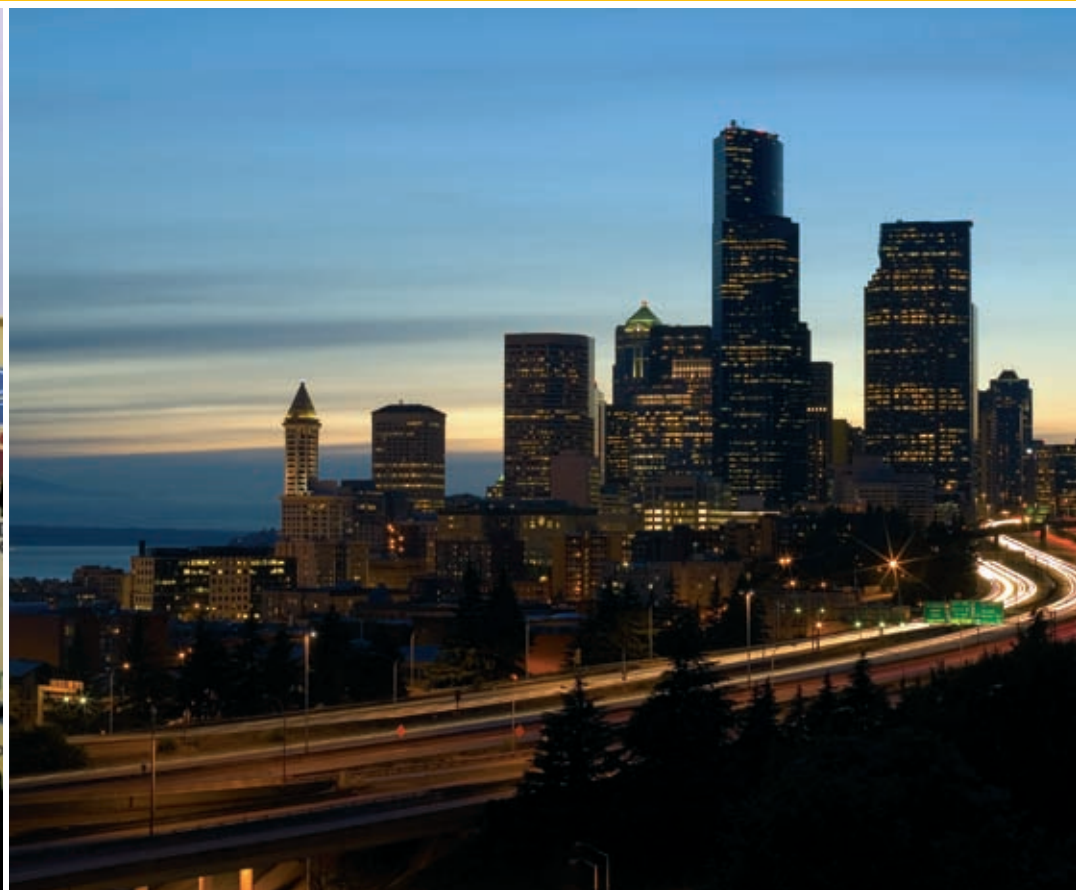


RAPID ACTION RADICAL SOLUTIONS

Connecting Leaders

ICLEI World Congress & Annual Report 2008-2009



www.iclei.org

ICLEI
Local
Governments
for Sustainability

Congress Highlights / ICLEI Facts & Figures

Monika Zimmermann, ITC Director presents Facts from the World Congress

- 600 participants from 51 countries participated in “Connecting Leaders” – ICLEI’s first World Congress in North America.
- The ICLEI World Congress 2009 was a joint project of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and the host City of Edmonton. Teams from both sides worked and planned for 30 months for the arrival of over 600 delegates from around the world.
- Edmonton’s River Valley is one of the longest urban river valley parkland in North America at 7,400 hectares. There are 22 major parks and over 150 kilometres of trails to walk, cycle, snowshoe, and cross-country ski on!
- The Edmonton Climate Legacy has resulted in the establishment of an ICLEI carbon offset fund whereby ICLEI Member local governments will be able to apply for co-funding of municipal mitigation projects.

Congress Highlights

A Diverse Group of Experts and Leaders

Over 600 delegates from local governments, international agencies, national governments, and the business community came together in Edmonton. These leading political decision makers, researchers, and managers identified opportunities to strengthen and advance the sustainability achievements of local governments. The purpose of the event was to foster the exchange of ideas among innovative and leading local governments and to help them in forming their strategies. With a focus on concrete action and measurable results, the World Congress resulted in a joint call for rapid action and rapid solutions.

Critical, Cross-cutting Issues

The numerous sessions, seminars, workshops and events addressed a broad range of sustainable development and urban issues. How can local governments most effectively address climate change, water and biodiversity? How can we prioritize sustainability in the face of economic difficulties? Read on for specific results!

Practical Examples and Learning

The purpose of the event was to foster the exchange of ideas among innovative and leading local governments and to help them in forming their strategies. With a focus on concrete

action and measurable results, the World Congress provided local government participants with tools, operational mechanisms, and practical support.

Connecting and Exchanging

The Congress provided a platform for interaction and strengthened the connection between ICLEI Members and United Nations agencies, governments, financing institutions, NGOs and other partners. During the Congress interactive small-group discussions, regional meetings and round tables created opportunities for interaction and networking.

Mobile Workshops and Social Events

Social activities provided opportunities to mix business and pleasure. Participants also had the opportunity to go beyond conference venue through mobile workshops that explored sustainable practices around Edmonton.

ICLEI Facts & Figures (as of December 2009)

- 1,098 Members representing over 400 million people
- 14 offices on 5 continents
- 223 staff
- Global Budget of over 16 million USD (22% increase from 2008)
- Doubling of members, staff and projects in three years (2006-09)

“The City of Edmonton has done a wonderful job... we, from all over the world, are delighted to be here”

Congress Participant

“Peak everything is happening. While it is a global scenario it has local manifestation... For cities, the benefit of acting is overwhelming. An idea once unfolded will grow any way and cannot be put in a box once again.”

*Mathis Wackernagel
Executive Director
Global Footprint Network*

www.iclei.org/worldcongress2009



*Monika Zimmermann, ITC Director and
Barry Anderson, Chair of the Local Host Committee for the ICLEI World Congress 2009*

Letter from ICLEI's President and Vice President



David Cadman,
ICLEI President, Councillor,
Vancouver, Canada



Martha Delgado-Peralta
ICLEI Vice President, Secretary of Environment
Mexico City, Mexico

What a thrill to welcome the ICLEI World Congress to our home continent! We could not have hoped for a more gracious and welcoming host than the City of Edmonton. Each delegate felt at the same time at ease in the city and also felt the buzz in the air when so many friends and colleagues from around the world gathered to share and learn from each other. Our congratulations and gratitude to the City and the local host committee for pulling off such an extraordinary event!

Action on sustainability has never been more urgent. Evidence is overwhelming that our food supplies, the vegetation surrounding us and the water supplies we depend on will soon be stressed beyond repair. Temperatures are increasing, sea levels are rising, weather patterns and storms are intensifying and our urban world is rapidly expanding. We have reached a defining moment in history and are capable of prodigious achievement, but must accelerate our pace now.

The over 1000 Member cities that make up ICLEI have heard the call, taken on responsibility for current and future citizens and committed to action. These Members who have gathered in Edmonton have highlighted that they are:

- At the international level, championing the role of cities in addressing global environmental challenges;
- Using ICLEI's *ecoBUDGET* system to plan, monitor, and report consumption of natural resources within the municipality;
- Using software developed by ICLEI to measure greenhouse gas emissions and address their sources;
- In Europe and Latin America, they participate in the ICLEI EcoProcura campaign to integrate ecological purchasing principles in their processes;
- Working on water conservation and showing significant achievements, for example in drought-affected Australia; and
- Endorsing ICLEI's global "Local Action for Biodiversity Initiative".

In Edmonton we reunited with colleagues and made new friends from around the world; it was a delight to see the ICLEI network has grown and strengthened. We look forward to welcoming you all to the special World Congress in 2010 and the next regular one in 2012, and why not challenge ourselves again to double membership in those coming three years!

Letter from Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel

Thank you for coming to Edmonton! Our city – our province's capital – was honoured to be the host of ICLEI's World Congress 2009; the passion and enthusiasm that you brought to the city resounded through the halls of the Shaw Conference Centre and the streets of Edmonton!

We hope that you came away from the Congress with best practices to share with your councils and administrations back home and that you also went home with sustainability examples from around Edmonton that can be replicated in your communities. Edmontonians are proud of our commitment to sustainability and I hope that we shared this with all of you.

As a new member of the Executive Committee, I am excited to be more actively involved with ICLEI and help further ICLEI's activities both within Canada and internationally.

Thank you for your commitment to local action on sustainability and thank you for making Edmonton a part of that.



Stephen Mandel,
Mayor of Edmonton

Secretary General Editorial

Rapid Action, Radical Solutions are Needed



Konrad Otto-Zimmermann
Secretary General

Cities and local governments operate in a rapidly changing world. Human expansion and concentration happen at enormous pace: every minute, the world population increases by 141 people – 6.2 million per month. Urbanization continues, and by 2030, up to two thirds of humanity may be living in cities and towns.

Global environmental change proceeds similarly fast: Every 20 minutes, a plant or animal species becomes extinct. 884 million people have inadequate access to safe drinking water. 3900 children die every day from waterborne diseases. The concentration of carbon dioxide in the air is at the highest level since 800,000 years and is forcing a massive human-made greenhouse effect on Earth. Sea level has risen by approximately 15 to 20 centimeters during last century; another 50 to 150 centimeters are expected this century. The human species consumes more than the ecosystems on earth can replenish each year.

Human response to these global changes accelerates at an unprecedented pace, too, and yet is far from being sufficient. The world's global governance finds itself in a race against global environmental changes. Decision makers have to learn how to take precautionary action under conditions of uncertainty. The negotiation process towards a post-2012 climate agreement has gained a speed which is unprecedented for global political and governance processes, and yet falls short of binding commitments to deeply cut greenhouse gas emissions.

Economic growth since industrialization has been based on burning fossil fuel while releasing the carbon into the atmosphere. Governments and businesses are unleashing action to move towards low-carbon economies.

ICLEI was created in 1990 to halt the degradation of global ecosystems through concerted, multi-local action. As an early mover, ICLEI has over the last 19 years:

- set global agendas for local communities;
- instigated environmental networking and cooperation between cities around the globe;
- driven a culture change toward participatory governance;
- linked local governments to global policy processes and multilateral environmental agreements;
- guided cities on action on climate change, water and biodiversity management.

What ICLEI once piloted has now become mainstream. How do we then define our role in the next six or ten years?

Our strengths as Members and partners perceive them:

- our mission and drive
- our bottom-up energy and movement
- our foresight and creativity
- our convening power
- linking local action to global policy
- our expertise and tools

make us determined to stay leaders and to connect with leading partners from the international community, science & technology, business, and civil society to effectively help cities, counties and metropolitan regions become eco-efficient and resilient.

Our assumption is that even if all of ICLEI's Members performed like the most advanced ones, and if we extrapolated their efforts into the future, we would not reach a sustainable level of communities' resource consumption and pollution, i.e. cities with a sustainable ecological footprint. Experts confirm what all of us feel: the pace of global environmental change, the trends of degradation of ecosystems services globally, and the overshoot of the human footprint on Earth require an acceleration of our efforts. At the 2009 World Congress in Edmonton, our worldwide Membership has therefore concluded:

We must act more rapidly, and go for more radical solutions.



Protecting Urban Biodiversity

ICLEI's biodiversity program assists local governments in their efforts to conserve and sustainably manage biodiversity. This is in recognition of the important conservation role local governments have as the level of government most directly responsible for implementation, and of the necessity of healthy and functioning biodiversity for the delivery of services to citizens.

Launched in 2006, the highly successful three year pilot project Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) involved 21 cities globally, representing 6 continents, 15 countries, 54 million inhabitants and a variety of different ecosystems. At the 2009 ICLEI World Congress, the ICLEI Council officially adopted LAB as a global ICLEI program with the immediate aim of expanding it beyond the 21 pilot cities.



In May 2008, the 8th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity took place in Bonn, Germany. Biodiversity in the context of local government reached an important milestone at this conference. ICLEI, the City of Bonn and the Service Agency Communities in One World organized a parallel event, the Mayors' Conference on Local Action for Biodiversity. The conference served to promote the role of local authorities in conserving biodiversity in an increasingly urbanized world. Mayors and decision-makers from local governments convened to demonstrate their commitment to biodiversity. Together, they submitted the "Bonn Call for Action" to the Ministers participating in the COP high-level segment and requested a multi-level partnership for the global improvement of biodiversity. This initiative led to an official acknowledgment of local governments' role in the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UN-CBD) and led to CBD Decision IX/28, encouraging the Parties (national governments) to promote the engagement of cities and local authorities.

The biodiversity sessions at the 2009 ICLEI World Congress focussed on the cooperation between ICLEI and other organisations such as



Kobie Brand,
Regional Director, ICLEI Africa

the Secretariat of the UN-CBD and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Examples of progressive and innovative biodiversity management from around the world were presented at the Congress and showcased a diverse range of cities including Edmonton (Canada), Sao Paulo (Brazil), Seoul (Republic of Korea), Barcelona (Spain), Walvis Bay (Namibia), Brussels (Belgium), Cape Town (South Africa), Montreal (Canada), and King County (U.S.A.). The Durban Commitment, which is a commitment and model by local governments for local governments to protect and enhance biodiversity at the local level, was a point of reference in each session. Mayors from 21 local governments have signed the Durban Commitment.

www.iclei.org/biodiversity



Urban Nature

Immediately prior to the 2009 ICLEI World Congress the Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) Project Team partnered with the City of Edmonton to hold the second international Urban Nature Forum. The forum provides an engaging platform for local governments, their partners and communities to meet, and to share and exchange experience, science and new directions in the field of biodiversity in the context of local government. Urban Nature was done with strong support from the City of Edmonton and other partners which included IUCN, the Secretariat of the UN-CBD, UNESCO, the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Stockholm Resilience Centre, and the City of Montréal. The importance of this event was indicated by the caliber of the opening speakers: Edmonton's Mayor Stephen Mandel, ICLEI President David Cadman, and UN-CBD Executive Secretary Ahmed Djoghlaif. The Forum was attended by LAB local governments and others, and focused on sharing lessons and discussions on: the role of international organisations; innovative approaches by local governments around the world; collaboration across spheres of government; and various specific topical issues. The occasion was also used to present and discuss the Singapore Index on Cities' Biodiversity, a set of biodiversity indicators that LAB helped to develop.



CCP Milestones

- One:** Conduct a baseline emissions inventory and forecast
- Two:** Adopt an emissions reduction target for the forecast year
- Three:** Develop a Local Action Plan
- Four:** Implement policies and measures
- Five:** Monitor and verify results

Protecting the Climate, Reducing Emissions & Using Renewable Energy

ICLEI's Climate Program, consisting of the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign (climate change mitigation), Climate Resilient Cities (climate change adaptation) and Local Renewables (climate change solutions) was launched in 1993 and has since continued to evolve as one of ICLEI's core activities. Today, approximately 1,000 local governments participate in the core CCP Campaign, integrating climate change into their decision-making processes.

ICLEI provides local governments with information, tools and technical assistance on how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the local community. The CCP enables local authorities to contribute significantly to national efforts for greenhouse gas reduction – as well as to reduce their own costs for energy. The achievements of the CCP have also led to the development of new initiatives on the standardization of local GHG emission inventories and renewable energy tools while at the same time helping to further local governments' climate advocacy. Local governments participating in the Campaign commit to undertake and complete five performance milestones. The CCP methodology provides a simple, standardized way of acting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to monitor, measure, and report performance.

ICLEI Oceania

In 2008, 238 Australian councils, representing approximately 84 per cent of the Australian population, participated in ICLEI's CCP campaign. Of these, 184 councils reported cutting their energy costs by USD 18.5 million and reducing their emissions by 5.2 tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent (CO₂-e) – equal to taking more than one million cars off the road. The reported emission reductions by CCP councils in Australia has increased by 20 per cent between 2007 and 2008.

In New Zealand, 34 councils participated in the Communities for Climate Protection programme. The *Communities for Climate Protection – New Zealand Actions Profile 2009* calculates the total reported and quantifiable emission reductions from participating councils to be more than 440,000 tons CO₂-e; this means an ongoing annual abatement of 146,938 tons CO₂-e.

ICLEI Canada

The CCP Campaign – run in Canada in partnership with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities as the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Campaign – worked with over 170 participating local governments in 2009. The 2009 PCP Annual Measures Report summa-

izes the impact of local governments' activities in climate change mitigation. The report not only quantifies the tangible improvements that Canadian local governments are making in reducing their greenhouse gas emissions but also builds capacity within the local authorities to measure, monitor and verify those emissions. The 2009 report found that Canadian municipalities have significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions and achieved substantial cost savings. The 2009 Annual Measures Report demonstrates the success Canadian local governments have had in reducing GHG emissions. It is available on ICLEI's CCP Campaign website.

Local Renewables

Closely related to the CCP program is the Local Renewables Initiative, through which ICLEI supports and strengthens local governments in the promotion, generation, and supply of renewable energy and energy efficiency in the urban environment; focusing on the roles and responsibilities of local governments as the driving force for innovation and investment in their communities. The project is funded by the German Ministry of Development Cooperation.

ICLEI South Asia has worked with the Indian cities of Bhubaneswar, Nagpur and Coimbatore to design three model communities committed to the creation of local policy to encourage energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources. To raise awareness of renewable energy solutions, ICLEI and the cities set up resource centers to provide information on energy efficiency and alternatives to fossil fuels. In addition, ICLEI South Asia carried out energy status and carbon emissions inventories of cities and some pilot projects with the aim of promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in Indian cities. Activities ranged from installing solar water heaters in public hospitals to energy retrofits on buildings, temples, streetlighting, etc.

Similar projects have been initiated in Latin America aiming to create an international network of model communities and link it to other relevant organizations concerned with renewable energy. In Brazil, ICLEI's Latin America

and Caribbean Secretariat also works with municipalities to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy. For example, the City of Betim set up the first Renewable Energy Reference Centre in Latin America. The center has now developed into an essential source of information on renewable energy and energy efficiency, raising awareness among the local population on how to reduce their energy usage and providing examples of renewable energy solutions.

Since 2007, ICLEI with the City of Freiburg (Germany) has hosted a series of annual Local Renewables conferences to inform and mobilize local governments and their partners about the potential of generating and using renewable energy at the local level. Local Renewables Freiburg 2009 focused on urban policy and planning for the post carbon age, green buildings – a cornerstone of sustainable cities, and investing in the future.

Climate change was one of the priority issues of the World Congress. Sessions focused mainly on ICLEI's CCP and Local Renewables programs, which touched upon the importance of reporting and monitoring GHG mitigation activities; and the responsibility cities must take to implement the use of renewables at the local level. Success stories were shared by Mexico City (Mexico), Barcelona (Spain), and Copenhagen (Denmark).

Additionally, participants were given the opportunity to look at future challenges of climate change as they relate to the CCP program. Delegates agreed that essential elements in any new program must include ambitious targets, a joint framework and consistent measurement and reporting requirements. Delegates accepted the invitation by UNEP to partner on the Climate Neutral Network regarding the involvement of cities, ICLEI and UNEP will launch the Climate Neutral Cities network within the larger Climate Neutral Network. Finally, it was decided that through strong collaboration with ICLEI's regional offices, the Bonn based Cities Climate Center will take a more active role in the design, implementation and dissemination of further ICLEI action on climate change.

www.iclei.org/climate

Local Government Climate Roadmap

The Local Government Climate Roadmap, a process initiated at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 13) in Bali, December 2007, served to work towards a strong and comprehensive post-2012 global climate agreement that recognizes the role of cities and local governments in climate protection. The Roadmap process, facilitated by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, ensures that the global local government associations UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments), C40, Metropolis and the World Mayors Council on Climate Change (WMCCC) cooperate with regional and national local government associations to increase visibility at the UN climate negotiations, develop joint messages and positioning on key issues, and express these to national governments, the UN, media and other stakeholders.

The Roadmap process has brought local governments together at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP13) in Bali, December 2007. At the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 14) in Poznan, December 2008, ICLEI organized the Local Government Climate Sessions to discuss the role of cities in the implementation of a new global climate agreement. The Climate Sessions culminated in the presentation to the Conference of Parties of a draft text for a decision on cities, local authorities and climate change. The Roadmap brought local governments to Copenhagen (Denmark) during the negotiation phase of COP15, December 2009.

ICLEI has been present and will be present at all intermediate UN negotiating talks to advocate for the recognition of the key role that Local Governments play when it comes to the implementation of a strong and comprehensive post-2012 global climate agreement.

ICLEI organized and facilitated a UN side event at COP 15 and set up a Local Government Climate Lounge to provide a continuous advocacy presence to its Members and contributing partners in Copenhagen.

More info at:
www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap
climate-roadmap@iclei.org



Participating in the roundtables and focus groups

“Cities, Local Authorities are ready to be part of the change, we want to be part of the change, we want to transform our cities, but we cannot do it if the national governments refuse to be partners with us.”

David Cadman, ICLEI President, Councillor, Vancouver, Canada

Preparing for Climate Change by Reducing Vulnerability

A rapidly changing climate accompanied by higher temperatures, faster coastal erosion and frequent storms is putting cities at risk. Adaptation is action taken to cope with these impacts; tackling existing problems and anticipating future changes. Examples of such actions are adapting building standards for future extreme weather conditions and developing community response plans for health risks associated with climate change.

Policy and decision-making that addresses climate change impacts must respond to the inherent complexity and uncertainty of this issue, and requires a high level of sophistication from risk management approaches and strategic planning processes. ICLEI activities in Climate Change Adaptation vary around the world and are tailored to the legislative needs and climatic conditions of each location.

In 2008, ICLEI USA, together with King County (WA) and the Climate Impacts Group has developed the guidebook 'Preparing for Climate Change' (2007), using a 5-milestone framework for adaptation planning. To steer the direction of the offices newly created Climate Resilient Communities Program, ICLEI USA has formed a Climate Resilient Communities Advisory Group to assist in designing the new program.

ICLEI's Canada Office, in 2008, completed a pilot project with three communities (St. John's, Greater Sudbury, Delta) to test the ICLEI/King County/Climate Impacts Groups climate adaptation guidebook 'Preparing for Climate Change'. Additionally, a review of adaptation actions in Canadian municipalities was carried out. In 2009, the office embarked on a project to develop a specific guidebook for adaptation planning for Canadian municipalities.

In 2009, ICLEI Oceania developed a 'Local Government Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit' which uses a risk and opportunities management framework to address the impacts of climate change. The Toolkit is the basis for ICLEI Oceania's new capacity-building program called Adaptive and Resilient Communities, which was launched in July 2009. Additionally, the office has been involved in a series of Local Government Leadership Forums to bring together council representatives and scientist to learn about planning for the impacts of climate change.

The climate adaptation and resiliency sessions at the 2009 World Congress focussed on local adaptation, resilience to climate change and local climate action in the "low-carbon" economy, post-2012. Experiences with ICLEI's various climate adaptation campaigns offer many

lessons, and a lot has been learned from the Cities for Climate Protection campaign over the last fifteen years. These lessons need to be applied across all levels of government, reaching beyond current ICLEI Members to include the broader global community.

Amongst the notable highlights of the sessions were achievements of various ICLEI regional offices in their climate related work: ICLEI Oceania has seen widespread success with its Adaptive and Resilient Communities Program and Toolkit; ICLEI Canada has a new pilot project and upcoming Canada wide guidebook; and ICLEI Southeast Asia is involved in the Partnership for Urban Risk Reduction program. The cities of Delta (Canada), Melbourne (Australia), Itabashi (Japan), Dresden (Germany), and Durban (South Africa) shared their success stories.

Continued development of integrated approaches to climate change is important and will be an exciting challenge for ICLEI and local governments.

The ICLEI Council also endorsed a project of convening all stakeholders for an annual global forum on cities and adaptation to climate change in Bonn, Germany with the first edition Resilient Cities 2010 taking place from 28 – 30 May, 2010."

www.iclei.org/adaptation



EcoMobility: Reducing Dependency on the Private Car

EcoMobility indicates an integrated form of sustainable mobility that combines the use of non-motorized and energy-efficient means of transport with the use of public transport, reducing car dependence for urban mobility.

By founding, hosting and supporting the Global Alliance for EcoMobility, an international cross-sectoral partnership committed to EcoMobility, ICLEI is providing a strong contribution towards promoting EcoMobility worldwide.

ICLEI has mainly focused on spreading and consolidating the concept of EcoMobility among local and global policy-makers, business representatives and users.

To pursue this, ICLEI has produced promotional material; conducted research work, prepared a series of factsheets; and participated in international events on sustainable transport.

At the World Congress, EcoMobility was one of the thematic areas explored in both the formal sessions and roundtable breakouts. The topic focused on the importance of infrastructure, education, and safety, while highlighting initiatives from cities around the world.

A major theme in the sessions was the imple-

mentation of a successful EcoMobility strategy. Participants highlighted that no city can become 'ecomobile' without making an important investment in infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians. Education and citizen awareness campaigns were also discussed as fundamental components of a successful EcoMobility strategy.

Discussions underlined local governments' interest in sustainable transportation as exemplified in the many initiatives that are already happening both in developed and developing countries. Given the strong desire to exchange ideas on sustainable transportation and more specifically on cycling, participants to the sessions urged ICLEI to consider extending the current EcoMobility campaign to provide an exchange platform for cities on transportation related issues.

Several city initiatives were highlighted during the sessions:

The City of Changwon, Republic of Korea has been making major investments in infrastructure for cycling and in education and awareness campaigns. Changwon also offers economic incentives to increase bike use (reduced insurance rates for people who cycle to work). The objective is that by 2020, 20% of the population will use bikes as their main



means of transportation within the city (the 2008 rate was 8%).

The City of Tilburg, Netherlands, identified the negative side effects of increased cycling: theft of bicycles and parking in non-appropriate places (i.e. in 2008, 3600 bicycles were illegally parked and removed from the city center). There is a need to invest in bike parking facilities that will decrease the number of thefts. Therefore, Tilburg is investing in guarded parking facilities in the city center (600 new places open since the beginning of 2009).

The City of Koprivinka, Croatia pointed out the need to invest in green spaces (giving the streets back to people), remove barriers in buildings for people with reduced mobility, and offer intensive educational programs.

www.ecomobility.org



World Congress Mobile Workshops –

The mobile workshops during the World Congress gave Edmonton an opportunity to showcase its local sustainability initiatives. Both community-based and municipally managed projects and programs were visited; taking participants out into the city and region of Edmonton to explore local sustainability in action. The sharing of best practices and local initiatives is essential to broader efforts toward sustainable community development; encouraging learning and knowledge-sharing between cities, regions, and countries. The travelling workshops were organized by theme as follows:

Biodiversity

With 490 native boreal and prairie plant species, over 150 species of birds and almost 50 mammal species, Edmonton is rich in biological diversity. The three tours explored Edmonton's river valley, nature centre, and remnant ecosystems. The river valley is the largest urban park in North America, connecting 18,000 acres of river valley through a series of trails and water access points, providing species habitat, conservation, recreation and educational opportunities. The tour addressed the challenges this presents in working with a public and privately owned land base.

Edmonton is home to North America's first municipal nature centre, where delegates visited the City's only wildlife rehabilitation shelter and nature-based school programs. The tours also explored conservation partnerships between government and non-profit organizations by visiting rural sites of two remnant ecosystems, a natural wetland and a peatland area; before returning to the City to visit parkland areas that have been recovered from other uses.



Sustainable Urban Development

Three tours focussed on built form and sustainable development, exploring leading-edge design and technologies and discussing innovative approaches to constructing green buildings. Delegates were taken to a net-zero energy residence, and experienced two of Edmonton's efforts to transform into a more compact, attractive and sustainable city by visiting an inner city neighbourhood working to become sustainable, walkable and inclusive; and another neighbourhood that is a model of how smart growth, new urbanism and green technologies can be used to convert former land uses (in this case a military base) into a LEED certified neighbourhood.

One of the tours examined how the adaptive reuse of buildings can help reduce environmental impacts and provide opportunities for small businesses to reduce their carbon footprints; by minimizing the use of virgin resources and creating less construction waste. Other sustainable workplace initiatives, such as green transportation incentives and waste management were also showcased.

Waste Management

This workshop highlighted both the challenges and the innovative solutions that Edmonton has developed to deal with solid waste by taking delegates on a tour of the Edmonton Waste Management Centre, North America's largest collection of sustainable waste processing and research facilities. The Centre includes a materials recovery facility, North America's

largest co-composting plant, a landfill gas recovery system, an e-waste recycling facility and a construction & demolition waste recycling operation. Edmonton has achieved some of North America's highest voluntary participation rates in recycling and waste reduction.

Water

Edmonton has one of North America's most progressive wastewater treatment facilities, the Gold Bar Plant, situated within a park in the river valley, with breathtaking views of the entire site and the valley. The water workshops focused on creative approaches to managing municipal water and waste water systems with tours of Edmonton's innovative treatment facilities; and discussions around the challenges and opportunities of maintaining smaller streams in an urban environment. A few different natural, disturbed, and engineered sites were visited throughout the city to demonstrate the City of Edmonton's stormwater management initiatives. Delegates also had the opportunity to discuss their community's water management experiences with other delegates and local and international experts.



Environmental Emergency Management

To ensure an effective and coordinated response to an event or disaster, the City of Edmonton has established the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). There are over 300 staff from city departments, partnering organizations and agencies that are trained to staff the EOC during a major incident or disaster. An effective environmental emergency management program must include a regular training and exercise program. Delegates learned how Edmonton works with the Province to ensure the safety of the community. There was also a round table session where current mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery programs were discussed.

Urban Sustainability in Practice

Urban Mobility

A joint venture between the City of Edmonton and the community, with support from Transport Canada, ICLEI, and the Global Alliance for EcoMobility, Parkallen is the first EcoMobility community demonstration project in Canada. Participants travelled by light rail transit to the host community, where they learned about various sustainable transportation initiatives underway in the City. They then visited the neighbourhood and looked at some of the activities and physical changes that have been undertaken to create a uniquely Canadian ecoMobile neighbourhood demonstration project. The day also included presentations and a discussion with local and international experts about the challenges and opportunities of creating an ecomobile neighbourhood. At the end of the afternoon participants cycled back to the conference centre via bike routes and the river valley trail system.



Local Food Systems

With communities around the world facing rising food costs, sustainable, local food production is a critical component in overcoming this challenge and strengthening resiliency within the community. This workshop explored the environmental, economic and social aspects of local food production through a panel discussion and visits to local examples of how Edmonton is “growing” food security. Discussions looked at how lessons learned from Edmonton can be applied in other communities worldwide? Participants learned from local producers, distributors and academics about some of the challenges and opportunities associated with the transition to a more local, resilient food economy.



Community Engagement

This community workshop showcased some of the emerging and established projects and programs for stakeholder engagement currently operating in Edmonton. Participants learned first-hand about the origin, logistics, opportunities and implications of some of Edmonton's most successful community engagement programs. From recognition of grass roots, community based programs; attendees gained a strong perspective on how to engage their own communities back home. Some of the topics covered between participants, Edmontonians and international experts were on replicable factors and best practices that could be applied by local governments around the globe.



Managing Water Resources Sustainably

The Water Program focuses on local government policies and practices that manage water resources in a sustainable manner; meeting human needs for water supply and sanitation for current and future generations. Since more sustainability can be achieved through integrated and cyclical approaches to water management, ICLEI works with its partners to scale up such approaches, thus reducing consumption and avoiding or significantly decreasing pollution to water resources.

The ICLEI Oceania Secretariat currently manages the largest local government level water program worldwide, providing support and technical information to participating councils. Through this, councils can incorporate water quality protection and water conservation into their daily operations. As of May 2009, 121 Australian councils participated in the Water Campaign™. In 2008, 24 participating councils reported implementing a total of 381 water management actions, including innovative irrigation solutions, drinking-quality



water substitution, and community education; thereby ensuring water resource conservation and the delivery of improved water quality to communities. Through these actions the councils managed to save almost 1.7 gigalitres of water – equalling a total of 670 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Two main projects were successfully completed by ICLEI in Africa in 2008. The ICLEI European and Africa Secretariats carried out the *LoGo Water* project to support local governments in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) with Integrated Water Re-

sources Management (IWRM). Eight councils in South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique and Zimbabwe participated in the project, which took the Limpopo River basin as a pilot basin and generated information and guidance material on IWRM specifically tailored for local governments in the SADC.

In 2008, in collaboration with ICLEI's World Secretariat, ICLEI Africa concluded a three-year capacity building programme on *Integrated Governance in Water and Resource Management*. The aim of this initiative was to ensure equal access to water and sanitation services in Uganda's Entebbe Municipal Council and Jinja Municipal Council and Zambia's Lusaka City Council, Chililabombwe Municipal Council, Chongwe Municipal Council and Chibombo Municipal Council. ICLEI worked with local officials in these communities to expand their knowledge of methods and processes for the management of local water resources. This involved compiling inventories of existing water consumption, conservation measures and water quality, as well as identifying targets



on how to improve results in these areas. Together with ICLEI, officials developed local action plans for reaching these targets, including monitoring and evaluation of the progress. As a result of the programme, each city has policy and methods in place for ensuring water conservation, quality and availability. People living in these communities now have access to water and water losses are minimized.

During the water sessions at the 2009 World Congress water management links were made between various practices, many of which are within the grasp of cities to easily implement. Examples include green roofs; the formation of learning alliances as a way of making knowledge public and including the point of view of various stakeholders in the decision-making and planning processes; establishing catchments to curtail the continually exacerbating impacts of deforestation for urban development, which results in flooding; and undertaking flood risk assessments throughout the development process, since flood risk management plans alone will not prevent floods.

Knowledge and skill sharing, and public education were identified as highly important in managing urban water resources. To conclude, participants found that effective water management is dependent on participation of the community and citizens, as they play an important part in both the problems and the



solutions; and for solutions to be successful, they need to be tailored to the needs of each community.

Some innovative practices highlighted by ICLEI Members include an environmentally-friendly desalination process in Gran Canaria, Spain that links water supply, renewables (wind energy), and agriculture; and a Carbon-Free Water' system in Sonoma County, USA, which will supply its customers with Carbon Free Water completely powered by renewable sources by 2015. Suwon City (Rain City), Korea is striving to achieve water self-sufficiency by incorporating rainwater-using facilities into newly constructed buildings; and establishing rainwater storage and underground infiltration facilities.

ICLEI will continue to serve as a facilitator to help cities achieve increased political leadership to bridge watersheds, municipal boundaries and administrative departments; making water policy more transparent and creating a peer learning network.

www.iclei.org/water





Creating More Sustainable Consumption Patterns

ICLEI's Sustainable Procurement Program assists public authorities in realizing the potential for sustainability through existing processes and activities related to procurement. Sustainable procurement is thinking carefully about what you buy, buying only what you need, purchasing products and services with high environmental performance, and considering the social and economic impacts of a purchasing decision.

ICLEI works closely with public authorities at the local, regional and national level to create more sustainable consumption patterns. As the main driver, operating in Europe and Latin America, the Procura+ Sustainable Procurement Campaign is an initiative designed to support public authorities in implementing sustainable procurement and to promote their achievements. To date there are 29 Procura+ participants represent a population of over 25 million. ICLEI provided them with a manual that outlines management processes, legal guidance as well as purchasing criteria for six product groups. In addition, ICLEI continues to manage the Procura+ Exchange a trilingual information and exchange mailing list for all professionals working in or with public authorities to share their sustainable purchasing know-how and to broaden their expertise. The Exchange currently has over 230 people participating.

Further networking and exchange on best-practice takes place at the annual Procura+ Seminars. The last one on 'smarter engagement with the market' took place in Birmingham in November 2008. The Procura+ Seminar was an opportunity for the 56 participating

local and regional government representatives from across Europe to learn and exchange experiences on how to make smarter purchasing decisions and reduce their cities' energy and CO₂ emissions. The seventh EcoProcura Conference took place in Reykjavik, Iceland in March 2009. It brought together over 220 delegates to discuss how sustainable public purchasing practices can make a substantial contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

ICLEI's European Secretariat has developed sustainable procurement guidelines and technical specifications for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). In 2008, ICLEI compiled purchasing guidelines for IT, office equipment in UNEP's regional offices. Additional guidelines for stationary, furniture as well as cleaning products and services followed in 2009. ICLEI was also contracted by the European Commission to develop a training toolkit for green public procurement.

At the 2009 World Congress, session themes focussed on how to drive sustainability through procurement; success stories and the future of sustainable procurement; identifying obstacles to sustainable procurement; and how to support the global roll-out of Procura+. Suggested steps forward are:

- Working with Young Municipal Leaders and encouraging them to shape sustainable procurement practises in their local governments;
 - Co-operating closely with businesses and their associations, using the potential of sustainable procurement to act as launch customer for new innovative products and services, contributing to an acceleration in market uptake of e.g. highly energy efficient solutions and social responsibly produced products and services; and
 - Further developing a global expert directory, increasing exchange and knowledge transfer via the Procura+ Campaign.
- Many local government examples were highlighted in the procurement sessions. For example, in Barcelona, Spain there are two sustainable procurement initiatives currently underway; one addresses clean vehicles through a mix of procurement tools such as early market engagement and diversification of the vehicle fleet using biofuels, natural gas and electric drive while the other establishes dialogue with companies to move toward socially conscious and sustainable supply chains. In Penrith, Australia a revolving fund from savings through life cycle costing and the use of green products has been established to support other sustainability initiatives.
- In Calgary, Canada the monitoring and reporting activities are seen as crucial and vital to keep sustainable procurement ongoing and secure support from politicians and decision makers in the government.

Assisting Local Authorities in Sustainability Management and Urban Governance

Together with regions, cities and towns worldwide, ICLEI's Sustainability Management & Governance Program develops and applies instruments to integrate sustainability principles into municipal decision-making. Triple Bottom Line (TBL) and *ecoBUDGET*® are two key sustainability management instruments available to ICLEI Members.

ICLEI developed *ecoBUDGET*, an environmental management system that applies principles and routines of financial budgeting to the management of natural resources. To assist local authorities in the implementation of *ecoBUDGET*, ICLEI has produced manuals, guides, databases and templates. ICLEI launched the *ecoBUDGET* Guide for Asian Local Authorities which assists officials in implementing principles of sustainable management in their processes. The guide results from the *ecoBUDGET* Asia initiative which served to transfer experience with *ecoBUDGET* in European cities to municipalities in Asia.

Local governments are stewards of their municipality's natural, built, social and economic capital. To effectively care for and manage these assets, they need to ensure planning, reporting and decision-making adequately address all spheres in an integrated way. Two programs were conducted in Australia to assist councils integrate sustainability dimensions into their planning, reporting and decision-making processes. In 2008, twenty-one Australian councils participated in the Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Capacity Building Program,

and eight public agencies participated in the Sustainability Reporting Alliance. Councils took part in a range of workshops, covering topics such as sustainability review, sustainability planning and indicators, and sustainability reporting. During the year, ICLEI Oceania also developed a Sustainability Integration Assessment Tool for Local Governments.

Together with a number of other partners, ICLEI's European Secretariat ran the initiative 'Managing Urban Europe 25'. Through practical work with local and regional governments that included training, capacity building and applied research, the project has introduced a model of integrated management for local and regional sustainability to 25 cities and regions in Europe. A virtual library was created with handbooks, guidance papers and checklists in multiple languages.

ICLEI seeks to build sustainable communities and cities by enabling local governments to achieve just, secure and healthy environments. ICLEI's Latin America and Caribbean Secretariat worked with communities in El Salvador and Ecuador to address social aspects of sustainability and trained over 100 representatives from police to civil society organizations. As a result of the program, observatories for public safety were established that track, monitor and evaluate crimes and violence as well as accidents.

The sustainability management and governance sessions focussed on the potential synergies between an integrated local sustainability management approach on the one hand, and participatory governance practices and Local Agenda 21 on the other, in order to establish continuous sustainable development across cities and regions. They reviewed two of ICLEI's main programs, Local Agenda 21 (LA21) and Sustainability Management; exploring how they might work together if merged into a program for Local Sustainability. Would there be any merit in combining the best of both LA21 and sustainability management tools to integrate environmental management into the social and economic development of cities?

The main approach discussed by delegates was the introduction of cyclical sustainability management (the ICLEI 'Sustainability Cycle') consisting of regularly updated baseline reviews, set targets, and forged political commitment. Likewise sessions touched on the importance of streamlining implementation, monitoring, and reporting in a way that incorporates business and public with an integrated and reliable common set of indicators.



Ludwigsburg, Germany has started reforming its administrative process, based on 11 central development themes based on public participation. These themes now define the structure of both the local government's departments and the municipal budget, which allows a maximum of transparency and easy monitoring of the local development.

The grassroots government in Ryde, Australia looks at community expectations to influence council decisions in achieving a triple bottom line approach to address social aspects in relation to sustainable ecological development.

For sustainable development to be effective citizens must be involved in sustainability management practices. Governments must realize the importance of urban processes, specifically in places with rapid urbanization and incorporate sustainability education into all municipal processes.

www.iclei.org/smi
www.ecoBUDGET.org



Mathis Wackernagel,
Global Footprint Initiative

2008/2009 ICLEI Conferences,

Throughout 2008 and in 2009, ICLEI organized international conferences on topics linking local governments to sustainability. The most notable event was the World Congress 2009, with the following as other examples:

ICLEI North American Regional Congress | Local Action Summit

14 – 16 May 2008
Albuquerque, U.S.A.

More than 400 representatives of local governments from across North America met to discuss topics such as adaptation to climate change, international collaboration for climate action and energy efficiency, and to participate in planning exercises and training sessions. Recipients of ICLEI's Milestone Awards for progress in the CCP 5-milestone methodology were honored at the Climate Oscars Dinner. The City of Santa Rosa, California, was awarded the 2008 Climate Innovation Invitational for its Aquatic Biomass to Fuel project.

www.icleiactionsummit.org

Mayors Conference Local Action for Biodiversity

26 – 28 May 2008
Bonn, Germany

This parallel event to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity COP-9 served to promote the role of local authorities in conserving biodiversity in an increasingly urbanized world. Over 150 local government representatives from over 30 countries convened to

demonstrate their commitment to biodiversity. Together, they submitted the "Bonn Call for Action" to national government Ministers participating in the COP high-level segment.

www.iclei.org/bonn2008

Halla International Environmental Forum

18 June 2008
Jeju Island, Republic of Korea

Over 500 representatives of local governments, NGOs, academia and private companies joined the forum to discuss strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

www.iclei.org/korea

Local Government Climate Sessions

9 – 11 December 2008
Poznan, Poland

This parallel event to the UN Climate Change Conference COP-14 brought together local government officials with representatives of national governments and international bodies to discuss the role of cities in the implementation of a new global climate agreement. More than 400 participants attended the Sessions which culminated in the presentation to the Conference of Parties of a draft text for a decision on cities, local authorities and climate change.

www.iclei.org/poznan2008



Local Renewables Freiburg 2009

27 – 29 April 2009
Freiburg, Germany

Representatives from local governments, non-profit organizations and the private sector convened in Freiburg to discuss urban policy and planning for the post carbon age, green buildings, and investing in a sustainable future. Several of the finalists of the European Green Capital Award, including the two first European Green Capitals, Stockholm and Hamburg, gave presentations about the promotion of Local Renewables within their cities.

www.local-renewables.org/freiburg2009

For a complete list of past and future events organized by ICLEI around the world, please visit our website at: www.iclei.org



ICLEI World Congress 2009

Workshops, and Publications

Supporting the sustainability activities of local governments involves providing materials that combine knowledge about processes in local government with environmental expertise. ICLEI provides and develops expertise through tools and publications which provide a framework for local authorities to plan, implement and evaluate their sustainability activities. The following are a few examples:

Green Meeting Guide 2009

To assist organizers and hosts of small- to medium-sized meetings in greening their events, ICLEI, in cooperation with UNEP, developed the Green Meeting Guide 2009. The guide provides an introduction to greening meetings, a practical checklist with detailed greening recommendations for the day-to-day preparation of a meeting and a section on climate neutrality offering some proposals for offsetting greenhouse gas emissions generated by a meeting.

ecoBUDGET – An Introduction for Mayors and Councillors

A concise brochure on *ecoBUDGET* published by UN-HABITAT, UNEP and ICLEI, focusing on a developing country context. The brochure introduces the concept of integrated resource management and the advantages of *ecoBUDGET* to local decision makers, offering practical support to Mayors and Councillors in becoming true resource managers.

ecoBUDGET Guide for Asian Local Authorities

ICLEI's offices in South Asia, Southeast Asia and Europe in collaboration with the municipalities of Bologna (Italy), Växjö (Sweden), Guntur (India) and Bohol Province (Philippines) produced the *ecoBUDGET Guide for Asian Local Authorities*. ICLEI launched the guide to assist Asian officials in implementing principles of sustainable management in their decision-making processes. The guide results from the *ecoBUDGET* Asia initiative which served to transfer experience with *ecoBUDGET*ing in European local governments to ones in Asia.

Surveys of Local Climate Actions in Japan

The ICLEI Japan Office annually conducts surveys of local climate action and publishes the results, trends and analyses of local initiatives in Japan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The 2008 survey reported a total of 360 actions taken by local governments across Japan. By compiling the survey of emission reduction measures, ICLEI Japan provides local govern-

ments with examples of successful activities which also serve as an incentive for additional municipalities to initiate similar measures. Similar reports are published by other ICLEI offices around the world.

Local Government Operations Protocol

In 2009, building upon 16 years of experience through the CCP Campaign, ICLEI has developed the first version of the International Local Government GHG Emissions Analysis Protocol (IEAP) that follows the principles from the GHG Protocol of World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD). The Protocol sets a global standard for the inventory of greenhouse gas emissions from both government operations and community actions. Similarly, ICLEI USA collaborated with a consortium of environmental organizations to publish the US supplement of IEAP which is called Local Government Operations Protocol (LGOP).

Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant (CAPPA)

The Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant developed by ICLEI USA assists local governments in planning measures to reduce emissions associated with their municipal activities. The tool provides a comprehensive collection of emission reduction strategies, based on which municipalities are able to develop a customized emission reduction plan. The beta-test version of CAPPA was launched at the 2008 Local Action Summit in Albuquerque, New Mexico. More than 100 ICLEI Members signed up to beta-test the model.

Green Public Procurement (GPP) Training Toolkit

The training toolkit delivers an introduction into the concept of green public procurement (GPP); sets out the immense potential of GPP to improve environmental impacts of consumption and production patterns and provides examples of GPP implementation in practice.

ICLEI Canada Case Study Series

The case study series seeks to profile the work of municipalities across Canada to assist in the sharing of knowledge throughout Canada and globally. The series covers topics ranging from land use management to urban governance and will aim to provide an overview of best practices with lessons learned from the initiatives. Existing case topics include: sustainable transportation, emergency response, and sustainable procurement.



*Davie Pearson,
Ontario Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation*

For a complete list of publications released by ICLEI around the world, please visit our global website at www.iclei.org

World Congress Roundtables Report

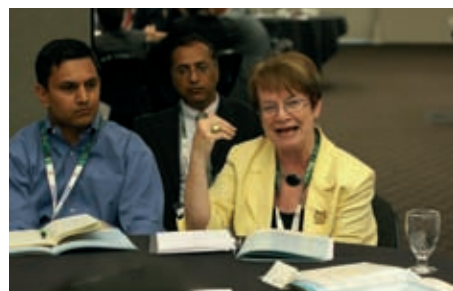
Underlining the importance of meeting in small groups with peers, the 2009 World Congress incorporated a new discussion element into the program to assess how global challenges can be translated into parameters for local action. Participants chose one of several roundtables according to a variety of themes. Each discussion was facilitated by a table host and attended by a rapporteur researcher to ensure that important outcomes were captured for feedback into the Congress. Each table discussed the same key questions:

- How will global developments impact our local community?
- How do we arrive at a localization of global scenarios?
- Have our planning processes been far-reaching enough? and
- Are our current frameworks for strategic planning and management up to the challenge?

The Mayor and CEO roundtables saw municipally elected officials reflect on the appropriateness of governance, policy making and management systems and practices for addressing the challenges of urbanization and peak resources under themes of: Managing Our Footprint; Localizing Global Scenarios; The Value of Ecosystems; and Large Cities & Metropolitan Areas.

An additional 13 roundtable sessions occurred simultaneously where participants joined experts from the business, academic and NGO sectors to examine the global scenarios presented at the morning plenary and look at their implications for cities and communities. These sessions addressed the same aforementioned questions and focussed on broader issues of long-term planning; climate change adaptation; various implications of urban development, sustainability and eco-footprinting; and how cities will meet the challenges ahead. Discussions in each group reached a consensus that action, leadership, persuasion and motivation based on the best available knowledge are keys for successful transitions towards sustainability.

To compliment and build upon discussions and ideas raised in the roundtable sessions, the final parallel sub-plenaries focused on "local solutions for tomorrow". The themes addressed were governance and planning solutions for an integrated eco-city approach; mobility; building and construction; energy; local viable economies; and low carbon societies in Asia. These sessions translated global challenges into local opportunities by delving into advanced solutions and discussing how ICLEI and its approaches can provide guidance.



Mark Roseland,
Simon Fraser University

Researchers' Symposium

As a side event to the Congress, delegates involved in research activities or interested in the interaction between research and policy were invited to participate in the ICLEI Researcher Symposium. The symposium, organized by the University of Alberta, brought together over 50 established researchers in the field of local sustainability in a series of plenary presentations and two roundtable sessions where participants broke-out into smaller groups for facilitated discussion.

Topics addressed at the research symposium included:

- Research and teaching on the public health implications of ecological integrity;
- The challenge of making urban areas more sustainable through new urban development and how governance can shape such urban development;
- Research on how cities vary in their need to respond to the issues of climate change and peak oil;
- Social factors affecting development and sustainable use of resources; and
- Past and present lessons regarding research and local action for sustainability.

Resulting from the Symposium, participating researchers brought forward an item to the ICLEI Council announcing that funding was available for a provisional researchers network on local government sustainability and the secretariat would be housed within the University of Alberta. Researchers also expressed an interest in having the researcher symposium play a bigger part in the next ICLEI World Congress.

Local Motion Report: Edmonton and the World Congress

One of Edmonton's many notable achievements in sustainability is Local Motion a pilot project with the Global Alliance for EcoMobility and ICLEI. Supported by Transport Canada, Edmonton received funding for the community pilot project that aims to promote flexible work hours and alternative modes of transport, such as walking, cycling, public transit and carpooling in a demonstration neighbourhood in the city. This unique collaboration between the City and the neighbourhood of Parkallen to transform that neighbourhood into an EcoMobile community is the first of its kind in the world. The month long community demonstration project, was hosted in the Parkallen community to set an example for other cities around the world. The project encouraged the use of travel options which are healthy, accessible and flexible, good for the environment and encourage vibrant and livable neighbourhoods.

The community was highly involved in the design of the project, which included:

- A Local Motion launch party
- Bike Try It Library at the Parkallen Community League rink shack
- Eco-Kids @ the Park Spring playground program
- Local Motion Tool Kit with information, incentives and prizes
- Wednesday Walks
- Workshops and "Learn To..." programs
- School programs and events: Walking School Bus, Phys-ed activities
- Weekly "take back the street" road closures
- Saturday morning bike convoys to the market
- Sidewalk art & banners

The Local Motion project was highlighted during the World Congress with a visit to the Parkallen Community during one of the mobile workshops, where participants engaged with a resident of the neighbourhood and actively participated in ecomobility themselves, taking light rail transit to the community and cycling back to the conference centre.



Edmontonians Engage in Sustainability

EcoVision Edmonton is the vision for an environmentally sustainable city. *Go Green! It's Our Nature* is the theme of a campaign to encourage citizens to take more environmentally friendly actions to reduce Edmonton's environmental footprint; encouraging teamwork between residents, businesses and the City.

In conjunction with the ICLEI Congress, a Community Program supporting community-based initiatives, events and activities raised awareness and engaged Edmontonians in sustainability. These environmental themed events and activities included art exhibits, science and technology awards programs, a bicycle rally, musical performances, a speaker series, educational outreach, a neighbourhood green challenge and a commuter challenge, just to name a few.

"*That's Edmonton for You!*" featured a collection of new songs about sustainable community, collaboratively composed and performed by leading members of Edmonton's indie rock scene. There was also a free afternoon of new music on Sunday, June 14 at Louise McKinney Riverfront Park, just next to the Congress venue.



Eco-footprint Challenge Winners

Peter Chapman and fiancée Katie Barnett were the lucky winners of a draw for a one-year lease of a Toyota Prius Hybrid from the City of Edmonton's Zerofootprint Edmonton Challenge. The Prius was the grand prize in the challenge created by Mayor Stephen Mandel to encourage Edmonton citizens to improve their environmental footprint. Peter and Katie have made a number of environmental changes in their everyday lives and plan to have a "green" wedding by purchasing power and carbon flight offsets, using organic cotton and using recycled metals in Peter's wedding ring.

Future Projects and Partnerships

ICLEI embarked on several new projects at the 2009 World Congress, moving forward in its efforts to help local governments achieve their goals in working toward global sustainability.

ICLEI's four regional offices in Asia announced the formation of ICLEI Asia, a unit to serve Asian local governments. Currently 10% of ICLEI Members are in Asia, yet they represent 39% of the total population served by ICLEI worldwide. The concept of ICLEI Asia will be developed throughout 2009.

The Local Action for Biodiversity program officially moved beyond its pilot project stage to be adopted as a global ICLEI Program, with the ICLEI Africa Secretariat appointed to lead the initiative and facilitate ICLEI international coordination. ICLEI will work in close cooperation with the IUCN in further planning, developing and implementing the biodiversity program, and will continue to partner with the UN-CBD Secretariat.

Another significant highlight included the approval of the Global South resolution. A proposal was put forth to the ICLEI Council to improve its effectiveness as a global movement, association and agency for the local governments of the Global South. This proposal proposes the following: ICLEI regions from the Global South grow their ICLEI membership and activities; the ICLEI World Secretariat actively pursue opportunities for annual regional meetings of its Global South members; the ICLEI Executive Committee ap-

points a Task Force to investigate the specific needs of Global South members and develop a Program and Plan of Action for the Global South, to be mainstreamed in the ICLEI Strategic Plan.

The United Nations Environment Programme and ICLEI will partner on the Climate Neutral Network (CNN) regarding the involvement of cities, ICLEI and UNEP will launch the Climate Neutral Cities network within the larger CNN. ICLEI is proud to share its 18 year experience in local climate action planning to motivate cities to go down the path towards climate neutrality."



The World Economic Forum's (WEF) Slim-City initiative began with the realization that the forum had a role to play in bringing all of the information around climate change discussions into a digestible format. In 2008 the WEF worked with ICLEI on a joint survey to find out which issues cities are most interested

in and what they would like more information on. This resulted in a set of cards highlighting existing best practices; where to find more information to move forward with initiatives; and suggestions to harmonize standards. The WEF has proposed three possible areas of collaboration with ICLEI, in continuation of the SlimCity initiative: 1) the digitization and distribution of card sets to facilitate discussion and idea generation among ICLEI Members; 2) use the card sets as a basis to develop and share solutions; and 3) continue engagement in WEF's Global Agenda Council on Urban Management to look at how global governance occurs.

Lastly, the Young Municipal Leaders gathering brought councillors, mayors, and leaders active in youth groups and political parties together to discuss the creation of a global network for Young Municipal Leaders as a means to empower Young Leaders to make change cities that contributes to tangible improvements in global sustainability. With support of the ICLEI World Secretariat, the network would develop and implement an action plan and program to engage young leaders in major international sustainability events; increase the voice of young leaders within ICLEI; consult young leaders on the development of ICLEI strategies and major projects; as well as increase the sharing of knowledge and best practices through the provision of links and exchange opportunities at the regional and global level.



Inaugural meeting of the Young Municipal Leaders Initiative

The 2009 Council Meeting – Setting a strategic course for ICLEI

On June 18 2009, the triennial meeting of the ICLEI Council was held in Edmonton, Canada. The meeting, chaired by newly re-elected ICLEI President David Cadman was attended by 115 Members. The meeting was held to set the strategic direction for ICLEI and offer an opportunity for Members to comment on and endorse the document *Cornerstone for an ICLEI Strategy 2009 – 2015*.

The ICLEI President opened the meeting by presenting the members of the newly elected Executive Committee 2009-2012:

David Cadman,
Councillor, Vancouver, Canada (President)

Martha Delgado Peralta,
Environmental Secretary, Mexico City,
Mexico (Vice President)

Stephen Kabuye,
Mayor, Entebbe, Uganda
(Immediate Past Vice President)

Per Bodker Andersen,
Mayor, Kolding, Denmark

Martin J. Chavez,
Mayor, Albuquerque, U.S.A.

Ra, Jin-Goo,
Vice Mayor, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Daisaku Kadokawa,
Mayor, Kyoto, Japan

Stephen Mandel,
Mayor, Edmonton, Canada

Peter Matic,
Councillor, Brisbane, Australia

Aniruddhe Mukerjee,
Secretary of Transport and Managing
Director, Gwalior, India

Jyrki Myllyvirta,
Mayor, Lahti, Finland

Marian Nieuwoudt,
Councillor, Cape Town, South Africa

Pam O'Connor,
Mayor Pro Tempore, Santa Monica, U.S.A.

Cathy Oke,
Councillor, Melbourne, Australia

Margaret Pageler,
Urban Sustainability Advisor, Seattle, U.S.A.

Hansa Patel,
Executive Director, All India Institute for
Local Self Government, India

Harvey Ruvin,
Clerk of the Courts, Miami-Dade County,
U.S.A.



ICLEI Members voting at the 2009 Council Meeting

Dieter Salomon,
Mayor, Freiburg, Germany

Eduardo Jorge Alves Sobrinho Martins,
Secretary Environment Sao Paulo, Brazil)

Kim, Yong-Seo,
Mayor, Suwon City, Republic of Korea

The meeting continued with a presentation on the strategic outcomes of the World Congress summarized in five key messages:

Radical change requires radical decision-makers! Radical means: faster, deeper, and more far reaching than anything we have done thus far!

Understand it, Localize it, Customize it, and Humanize it! Understand the global challenges, localize impacts and customize solutions, and humanize the global challenges so citizens feel that they too need to be part of a worldwide effort.

Integrated action - peak everything! The global crisis of "peak everything" requires us to look at all issues in an integrated way – water, energy, biodiversity, planning, land-use, waste, and governance.

Make the business case - make the political/election case! Money talks: this means that figures and financials can act as important rationales and justifications for sustainable strategic directions.

Behavioral changes and production patterns: change them! Balance democratic access to goods and services with their energy and resource efficiency.

At the Council Meeting, ICLEI Members endorsed ICLEI to take on several new projects, moving forward in its efforts to help local governments achieve their goals in working toward sustainability and expand the global network. Specific initiatives that were launched at the session include: the development of a Program and Plan of Action for the Global South, establishment of ICLEI's Biodiversity Program, creation of a Young Municipal Leaders Working Group, and the launch of ICLEI Asia. Specific information on these future projects and partnerships can be found on page 20 of this report.



Gino Van Begin,
Deputy Secretary General
Regional Director for Europe



Highlights from World Congress Social Events

Engaging conversations that began during the day continued into the evening social events that showed the best of what Edmonton had to offer. Participants were treated to the best of what Edmonton had to offer.

After a full first day of the Congress delegates were invited to an opening reception at the Convention Centre with the introduction of the 2009-2012 Executive Committee. Delegates mingled sampling local hors d'oeuvres and wines. On Monday, after an intense day of presentations and workshops participants gathered for a formal dinner hosted by the City

of Calgary and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. A fantastic meal was coupled with a selection of entertainment highlighting the multicultural nature of the Province of Alberta and Canada, ranging from African drummers to Ukrainian dancers to Scottish bagpipers the entertainment highlighted the diversity of the local community!

After being on the move Tuesday, participants gathered in Edmonton City Hall for a reception and presentation of the gifts to the City of Edmonton. Mayor Mandel was presented with an assortment of "ecomobile" gifts which were meant to underscore the city's unwaver-

ing commitment to sustainable transportation. Afterwards, delegates had the option of attending a special sustainability themed pecha kucha night merging creativity, sustainability and entertainment.

Wednesday's day of intense dialogue and roundtables ended with a trip back in time to Fort Edmonton. Participants were treated to sights from around the city, province and country.



Thank you... Merci...

ICLEI is particularly indebted to Stephen Mandel, Mayor of Edmonton for the gracious hosting of the Congress by his City. We also owe countless thanks to Barry Anderson, Manager of the Office of Environment and Energy for his unwavering commitment to making this Congress such a success. Likewise ICLEI would like to thank the entire Edmonton Local Host Committee for its commitment to bringing the Congress to Edmonton and all of the local sponsors who helped to make the Congress a reality. Finally, we would like to extend a very warm and heartfelt thank you to Chris Buerger, without whom the on-the-ground logistics could not have happened!

Likewise thank you goes to Monika Zimmermann and the entire staff of the International Training Centre for their continued work with the City of Edmonton in the many months and years, prior to the 2009 World Congress.

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