

ICLEI's Contribution to Achieving the SDGs

1. Cities Role in Achieving the SDGs
2. ICLEI's Overall Initiatives
3. ICLEI's Major Activities

October 14, 2025
Kazu Takemoto
Chair, ICLEI Japan

1. Cities' Role in Achieving the SDGs

1. To effectively implement the SDGs, it is important to **localize** them in each country.
2. Since more than half of the world's population lives in urban areas, cities have brought a variety of challenges (poverty, health, environmental pollution, welfare and employment). At the same time, **cities have a wide range of opportunities and potential capacities** to address these challenges toward achieving the SDGs.
3. Pioneering cities will be able to serve as **a driving force** in contributing to achieving the SDGs by sharing their advanced experience and knowledge.



2. ICLEI's Overall Initiatives

**2500+ LOCAL
AND REGIONAL
GOVERNMENTS**

**ACTIVE IN
125+
COUNTRIES**



1. ICLEI facilitates city-to-city cooperation to create a sustainable urban world and plays a key role in realizing system-change in urban areas through collective efforts of its member cities.
2. ICLEI brings a strong urban component to national and global policies on sustainability and translates these policies into action.
3. ICLEI provides the academic community with the platform to communicate with practitioners such as local government officials who have rich experiences in addressing local challenges.

2-(1) ICLEI's Scope and Approach



**ZERO EMISSION
DEVELOPMENT**



**NATURE-BASED
DEVELOPMENT**



**EQUITABLE
DEVELOPMENT**



**RESILIENT
DEVELOPMENT**



**CIRCULAR
DEVELOPMENT**

These pathways are a framework for designing **INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS** that balance the patterns of human life and the built and natural environment. It is the basis for sustainable urban development that considers the complexity of urban systems. The pathways encourage **HOLISTIC THINKING** to ensure that ICLEI optimizes its impact.

2-(2) Advocacy by ICLEI



ICLEI is fully involved in a number of international frameworks and agreements.

UNFCCC-
COP:

ICLEI is the focal point of Local Government and Municipal Authorities (LGMA).

CBD-COP

ICLEI is leading the discussions under the major group of local and subnational governments.

UN-
Habitat

Organizing Urban Ministerial Meeting during UNFCCC-COP

Urban 7

G7: ICLEI is the secretariat of Urban 7 (U7).

3 ICLEI's Major Activities

→ 3-(1) Climate - COP29



UNFCCC/COP29
@ Baku, Nov. 2024



3-(2) Urban 7



@ Tokyo, March 2023



@ Kobe, April 2025

3-(3) Contribution to IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities by ICLEI



Expert Workshop & Public Seminar
@ Yokohama, March 2025



Summary

1. Cities are confronted with a wide spectrum of complex challenges, at the same time, they also have unique opportunities and capacities to address them. With their innovative potential and direct connection to citizens, cities are at the forefront of efforts to localize and realize the SDGs.
2. In recent years, international networks of cities and local governments such as ICLEI have gained growing recognition for their pivotal roles. Through its global platform, ICLEI enables cities to exchange experiences, share best practices, and learn from one another. It serves as a vital channel to bring the collective wisdom and voices of cities into international policy-making processes.
3. It is increasingly essential for cities to contribute to scientific communities such as the IPCC by consolidating and sharing a variety of their best practices, accumulated knowledge and practical experiences, which must be indispensable in advancing decarbonized and sustainable future.



**Looking forward to working
together with you toward our
common goal, realizing a de-
carbonized and sustainable future**



LinkedIn account

Thank you

