

Our next steps towards a sustainable urban world

ICLEI Communiqué to the local, subnational, national and global community
on the New Urban Agenda

Habitat 3, Quito, Ecuador, 14 October 2016

1. We, the representatives in the ICLEI Network of 1500 cities, towns and regions have come together at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat 3) to endorse the adoption of the “New Urban Agenda” by our nations.
2. We welcome the New Urban Agenda and its comprehensive guidance on integrated sustainable urban and territorial development; the commitment to enhanced engagement with local and subnational governments; and new concepts like the ‘Right to the City’.
3. Through the adoption of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for Financing Development, the “Paris Climate Agreement”, and, now, with the New Urban Agenda, our nations set bold, new impetus to achieve planetary, globally inclusive, sustainable development in the next 15 years.
4. Since 1992, the ICLEI Network has localized the vision of sustainable development through Local Agenda 21 processes and similar local sustainability planning in thousands of cities, towns and regions worldwide. We have demonstrated how our local action can drive global progress and debates. We have learned that the ways we plan, operate and govern our urban areas impact all: urban, rural and global citizens as well as our global environment.

The global spread of the models and achievements of our pioneer cities are needed now more than ever.

5. The ICLEI Network is fully committed to implement and advance the New Urban Agenda, the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable development and the SDGs, in particular SDG 11 on sustainable, resilient, inclusive and safe cities, as well as the Paris Climate Agreement to make our own commitments a worldwide reality. We will use these universal frameworks to lead change in our jurisdictions. Our ambition is to support our Members to be motivators, accelerators and multipliers to *deepen* comprehensive local sustainability action as well as *expand* it to even more cities, towns and regions. Our responses will count globally.
6. We will build a global roadmap on new urban sustainability for the next 15 years, using the 10 Urban Agendas of the ICLEI Network as well as the New Urban Agenda, the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable development, the Sustainable Development Goals and SDG 11, and the Paris Climate Agreement as follows:
 - 6.1 With our 10 Urban Agendas and the related methods, tools, capacity building, solution gateways, communities and networks in the ICLEI Network, we will continue to equip our Members and their partners worldwide and we will spread our local solutions to common challenges such as rapid urbanization, fossil-fuel driven climate change, and growing societal inequality.

- 6.2 We will expand our ambitious, integrated and multi-stakeholder approaches and involve thousands more cities, towns and regions towards achieving urban sustainability and the goals of the new multilateral frameworks. We will support these cities, towns and regions to initiate and strengthen own Urban Agendas mechanisms.
- 6.3 We are highly committed to work in partnership with all sectors such as our researchers, private sector, financial institutions, civil society and national governments. Local Sustainability Alliances can be mechanisms to intensively include stakeholders and citizens in local transformation processes.
- 6.4 Our ICLEI Network will lead and support at least 20 cities each year to demonstrate exemplary integrated and long-term sustainability in local and regional decision making. We will establish a mentorship group of “top performing cities”, and connect members of this group in one-to-one partnerships with a “performance partner city”. We will act as pioneers and examples that encourage replication.
- 6.5 ICLEI will act as training and capacity building engine. We will reach out to many local and regional governments around the world each year and involve them in peer-to-peer exchanges and knowledge transfer with our Members. We are eager to support the establishment of global hubs for urban sustainability training.
- 6.6 We will urge our central governments to implement the New Urban Agenda by providing us with country specific supportive frameworks quickly. Our ICLEI Network will link with national and sub-national enabling frameworks and push for vertical integration to raise ambitions and accelerate actions. We need strong urban development policies, legislation, incentives, financial mechanisms, and national lead cities programs.
- 6.7 We will report on our commitments and actions so as to encourage replication, demonstrate transparency and prove our collective impact. We report to the carbonn Climate Registry and demonstrate our collective impact through the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy. We will work closely with the next UN Secretary General, the United Nations Environment Assembly and the High-Level Political Forum. Our goal is that the whole process will conclude with an enhanced engagement of local and regional governments in the global governance of sustainability.
- 6.8 In undertaking the above actions in the ICLEI Network, we reaffirm our commitment to reach 30% of the global urban population by 2030 and 50% by 2050. All cities, towns and regions are invited to join us in this path. We will come together at the ICLEI World Congress 2018 in Montréal, Canada in June 2018 to take stock of our progress and continue charting our path.
7. This Communiqué has been informed by the “Seoul Communiqué 2016 for the New Climate Regime”, delivered by Mayor of Seoul and ICLEI President Park Won Soon at the Seoul Mayors Forum on Climate Change on 1 to 2 September 2016.

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