

ICLEI Global Executive Committee 2021-2024 Portfolios

Portfolios:

1. UN Spokesperson(s)
2. Climate Action and Low Emission Development
3. Global Multilateral Representation
4. Nature, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration
5. Resilient Development and Risk Management
6. Circular Development
7. Sustainable Circular Procurement
8. Innovative Financing
9. China envoy
10. Urban research on sustainability challenge solutions

Advisor Portfolios:

1. Equitable and People-centered Development
2. One Health
3. Sustainable Mobility

ICLEI Global Executive Committee Portfolios

1. UN Spokesperson (s)

This coming decade is full of vital milestones to deliver on Agenda 2030, from crucial action to reach the climate neutrality and the well below 2°C target of the Paris Agreement, to pivotal decisions in biodiversity and the kick-off the UN Decade of Sustainability Action, including 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is a critical moment to accelerate global action and seize the opportunities of the transformative power of the urban world, the success of which depend in part on the full engagement of local and regional governments driving powerful momentum, contributing to multilevel dialogues and collaborative action becoming the new normal in every community. The ICLEI GexCom portfolio representative will present ICLEI's proposals in these fora and follow the UN level negotiation items, as well as leading the ICLEI Member delegation attending regional and global UN events.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Yunus Arikan

2. Climate Action and Low Emission Development

ICLEI as the focal point of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency at the UNFCCC, observes intergovernmental climate negotiations and ensures effectively voicing the perspective of subnational governments in this global forum. Climate advocacy is a crucial area of ICLEI's work, aided by the carbonn Climate Center and its Registry where data is collected, analysed and aggregated. ICLEI's longstanding mandate to represent local and regional governments in this arena ensures global political representation at key international events, through ambassadors and political spokespeople for cities and regions. The GexCom portfolio will hold the lead political representational role with the

UNFCCC and other related entities, using messaging and data provided by ICLEI experts. The aim is to represent ambitious and leading subnational governments in the ICLEI Network, and support ICLEI's positioning on climate action, multilevel governance, and partnership. Furthermore, given the 1,400+ local governments that have declared climate emergencies and/or climate neutrality, and acknowledging that humanity's current measures are not sufficient to curb climate change, the ICLEI GexCom representative will also campaign for increased leadership by subnational governments in the transition to a climate neutral future. A variety of declarations are made on different levels and topics, differing in substance, depth and detail. ICLEI, collects these in its Registry, and with the support of the GexCom portfolio, will advocate for accelerated ambitious climate action, addressing climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience, and presenting ICLEI's recommendations in relevant fora.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Yunus Arikan and Maryke van Staden (supported by Cesar Carreno and Rohit Sen)

3. Global multilateral representation (i.e. GCoM, UCLG)

ICLEI not only represents local and other subnational governments on the global stage, but is also active in multilateral partner and institutional engagement, such as the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM) board. The representation undertaken is meant not only to advocate for empowering transformative change and increased ambition, but also spotlight the breath of ICLEI's work and expand existing collaboration with stakeholders, ministries and institutions. The GexCom portfolio representative shall support establishing multi-level collaboration, foster interconnectedness and showcasing ICLEI initiatives.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Yunus Arikan

4. Nature, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration

The new upcoming Global Biodiversity Framework will set humanity and the world on a new course of "Living in Harmony with Nature" as per the CBD adopted 2050 Vision. Local and subnational governments, their networks, partners and communities are pivotal collective actors in contributing to a strong inclusive Framework and in its subsequent delivery on the ground. As a leading network in this thematic area ICLEI is at the forefront, endeavouring to show tangible leadership at the advocacy, resource mobilization and implementation levels. The GexCom portfolio representative will therefore support advocacy efforts for an increased role of local/subnational governments, enhance the visibility of ICLEI within the Global Taskforce and UN processes, as well as help promote flagship programs – such as CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature – and technical projects (under IKI, H2020, GPSC). The GexCom holder will also be involved in fostering and maintaining strategic partnerships and creating global mobilization among local/subnational governments.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Kobie Brand (and Ingrid Coetzee)

5. Resilient Development and Risk Management

A resilient city / region is able to anticipate, prevent, absorb and recover from shocks and stresses and to improve essential basic response structures and functions. Inherently, resilience planning encompasses many types of hazards (including climate change-related and human-induced ones), city functions, and sectors. The need for preparedness, flexibility and quick reaction to reduce vulnerability and risk is as prevalent as ever. Building resilience requires a cyclical assessment of a multitude of risks and responses; reducing people and assets' vulnerability and exposure to these risks; and increasing their resistance, adaptive

capacity, and emergency preparedness. This must include a whole-of-society approach (citizens, businesses, universities, communities). Resilient development is already the most wide-spread theme throughout the ICLEI network, with regional activities, projects and programs run out of nearly every ICLEI Office. ICLEI endeavours to continue its pioneering initiatives, using the Resilient Development methodology at the core of its work, and including the newly launched, *Daring Cities* event series. The GexCom portfolio holder will be the spokesperson at key events, the champion for relevant ICLEI initiatives and partnership building, including acting as an advisor to the ICLEI Resilience Group.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Maryke van Staden (interim - supported by Victoria Estrada)

6. Circular Development

Striving to achieve socio-economic progress for their constituents, cities consume 75% of global resources and are responsible for 50% of all waste produced. Many of these resources are finite, even renewable resources depend on regeneration and replenishment. In addition to sustainable procurement ICLEI has identified Circular Development a crucial theme where circular urban systems should be regenerative, where resource inputs waste and externalities are minimized by closing or slowing material loops. The GexCom portfolio representative will take on and help advocate for well-designed circular development projects, showcasing to cities and potential partners how socio-economic progress can be driven, which can also support job creation and local economies.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Burcu Tuncer

7. Sustainable, Circular and Innovation Procurement

This well-established portfolio aims to maintain ICLEI's position as a leading organization in sustainable, circular and innovation procurement, continuing its momentum and progress in rolling out the procurement program to more regions.

The GexCom portfolio representative will champion the topic, promoting ICLEI's work and key events, including the One Planet Network Sustainable Public Procurement Programme, Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement, Procura+ Conference 2021, among others. Beyond being the ambassador for ICLEI's procurement work, the GexCom portfolio holder will support in strengthening or establishing strategic partnerships, facilitate negotiation/interaction and/or fundraising efforts with high-level actors, as well as provide guidance on the direction of the portfolio work, and positioning it in other key policy areas.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Mark Hidson

8. Innovative Financing

ICLEI supports improved access to finance for local and other subnational governments. Finance is a key mechanism that can be used to achieve more socially and environmentally sustainable communities, also to scale up transformative, cross-sectoral and inclusive approaches. In this context the aim is to bring together key stakeholders involved in the financing and funding space to address public and private finance for local and subnational governments, and their community projects. There is a need for enhanced understanding on how to develop bankable projects, pitch these projects, and identifying relevant financing models. The different requirements from financing institutions, different terminology used, as well as different approaches to assessing the sustainability impact and financial benefits of a proposed project also require more guidance. ICLEI has engaged in access to finance through the TAP (transformative Actions Program) and by building partnerships across a

spectrum of financing agencies and technical experts in this field. The TAP has a substantial project pipeline of local projects seeking support, finance and investment. Further, ICLEI is a founding member of the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA), through which it also conducts joint advocacy. The GexCom portfolio representative will conduct finance advocacy, and show political leadership in engaging with key actors in positions to partner with ICLEI and finance local climate projects.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Eszter Mogyorósy

9. China envoy

China currently has one of the largest economies and populations in the world, with great impact in urban growth and potential in sustainable development. ICLEI endeavoured to build relationships in China since 2010 and has since opened an office in Beijing, expanded membership in China and establish institutional and strategic partner relationships with the support of a GexCom portfolio holder. The continuity of the portfolio would serve to further develop ties in China, extend membership, and enhance ICLEI's presence and key partner relationships. The GexCom portfolio representative will continue to aid in enhancing ICLEI's visibility, its strategic engagement and project implementation in China.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Shu Zhu

10. Urban Research on sustainability challenge solutions

ICLEI has a wide network of formal and informal relationships with research institutions, universities, think-tanks and private researchers. Wherever possible transferring expert knowledge into the hands of local and regional government leaders and practitioners.

ICLEI's approach to facilitating peer-exchange is predicated on the sharing of practice and experiences from local and regional governments. With the support of the global research community, research and studies can be revitalized into documents which both influence and reflect the cutting edge of scientific knowledge. The GexCom portfolio holder will serve as Chair to the ICLEI Urban Research Symposium, held at each ICLEI World Congress, advise on knowledge products providing the most end-user utility, support the creation of an ICLEI Research Community which reflects the breadth of disciplines required for an integrated approach to urban research, and advocate for increased collaboration between municipalities and research institutes, as well as support the overall ICLEI Research Strategy goals.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Maryke van Staden (supported by Pourya Salehi)

Advisor portfolios:

1. Equitable and People-centered development

ICLEI endeavours to pursue processes and patterns of inclusive development for all. This should safeguard the natural support systems for human life, secure access to food, water, clean energy, and sanitation, enable culture and education, as well as ensure clean air and soil, with the natural and built environment in and around cities improving livability and safety, mitigating disease, addressing poverty, and promoting human health and well-being. ICLEI recognizes the importance of sustaining human-centered, safe, and culturally vibrant societies, where diversity is woven into the social fabric. The aim is to build more just, inclusive urban communities. Many of these elements are embedded in ICLEI's thematic work, and the intent is to strengthen equitable and people focused elements. The GexCom portfolio representative will support ICLEI efforts in raising the profile of this pathway in sustainable development, and help find suitable donors to support the development of well-adjusted citizens that act and take on more ownership for their community's well-being.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Joseph Wladkowski (interim)

2. One Health

'One Health' is a UN-led integrated approach to designing and implementing programmes, policies, legislation and research in which multiple sectors communicate and work together to achieve better public health outcomes, particularly facilitating cooperation by global actors such as the WHO, FAO, the World Water Council and many other related organisations.

ICLEI as a leading sustainability network with connecting thematic areas of food and health in the context of urban communities, and in the midst of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025), local and subnational governments need to continue and expand their collective work in ways that serve all ICLEI pathways and overall strategic vision. The GexCom portfolio representative will participate in the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025), advocate strengthening SDG linkages between climate change, biodiversity, health, water and food, and adoption of "One Health" approaches, the existing CityFood network and related ICLEI initiatives. The GexCom portfolio advisor will also be involved in fostering strategic partnerships - including the WHO, FAO and related research community.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Kobie Brand (and Ingrid Coetzee)

3. Sustainable Mobility

Sustainable mobility has come to the forefront in many regions worldwide with integrated, socially inclusive and environmentally-friendly transport options becoming a higher priority for local/regional governments and citizens within growing cities. By enabling citizens and organizations to access goods, services and information in a sustainable manner, sustainable mobility supports citizens' quality of life, increases travel choices, promotes social cohesion, the importance of effective and safe public and non-motorized transport, as well as promoting the integrated use of all transport modes in a city / region. The ICLEI GexCom portfolio advisor is not only a key spokesperson at events, but an ambassador for ICLEI activities, tools, and initiatives; as well as a facilitator for partner and potential funder relationships, and an advisor on ICLEI's positioning and exploration of emerging trends in urban mobility. The GexCom portfolio advisor strengthens the image and content of ICLEI Sustainable Mobility and helps shape ICLEI's message in the field of sustainable mobility.

Assigned ICLEI Staff liaison: Tsu-Jui Cheng