

## ICLEI East Asia Secretariat Annual Report 2014



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# GREETINGS

## From the Founding Director

East Asia continues to be the world's most thriving region. ICLEI is proud to have enlarged its presence and capacity to support East Asian cities in their sustainability efforts and to engage them in our programs.

The ICLEI East Asia Secretariat has launched two programs this past year.

The Energy-safe Cities East Asia program works with three cities each from China, Japan and South Korea and one Mongolian city to explore with which currently available technologies and at what costs the cities could transform their urban energy systems to become low-carbon, low-risk and resilient – practically 100% renewable – by the year 2030.

True, it is an ambitious approach, but how can we make a difference if we are not ambitious? After one and a half year of preparations we have launched the program with a first experts symposium held in Beijing in October 2014.

As a precursor of a Green Public Procurement program for Chinese cities we have organized EcoProcura® China 2014, an international symposium in Beijing that brought experts from the Chinese government, international organizations, Chinese as well as foreign cities together for an exchange of information, practices and experiences.

We have been present at key events in China and spurred attention to resilience in urban planning and management and brisked up the discussion on car-centered urban development by calling for EcoMobility-oriented planning.

I am pleased to introduce Mr. Shu Zhu as the new Regional Director who will lead the East Asia Secretariat in Seoul from April 2015 on. With an education in agri-business, mass communication and comparative local development, Mr. Zhu brings experience as journalist and editor of People's Daily, Acting Director and Senior Program Officer of the Greater Tumen Initiative, and Director of Government Relations at Telstra China.

Mr. Zhu will at the same time serve as ICLEI's China Representative based in Beijing. Under his leadership, ICLEI is poised to establish a presence in China this year.

After three years of setting up the office, forming a capable team, forging strategic partnerships, and developing initial programs, I will hand over ICLEI East Asia Secretariat to Mr. Zhu with great confidence in his leadership and drive.

Seoul, in February 2015

**Konrad Otto-Zimmermann**  
Founding Director  
ICLEI East Asia Secretariat

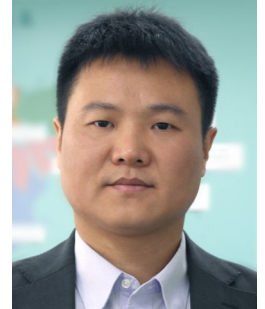


# GREETINGS

## From the Regional Director

ICLEI is playing an increasingly important role in fostering sustainability in East Asia. With a well-functioning East Asia Secretariat, ICLEI continues to enlarge its presence in the region through collaborating with East Asian cities and delivering practical programs highlighted in this report.

It is a true honor for me to assume the Regional Director role at the ICLEI East Asia Secretariat and to lead the creation of a formal presence in China. A strong and stable foundation has been built in past years under the leadership of the Founding Director, Mr. Konrad Otto-Zimmermann. I would like to pay tribute to his strong commitment and contributions to the Secretariat from its creation to today's full operation.



Despite the great achievements in economic growth, the region is facing critical challenges in sustainable development. Many East Asian local governments are firmly committed to promoting sustainability, and some have been actively working with organizations like ICLEI in relevant areas to address challenges and drive changes. We are pleased to be part of the process to share our expertise and experience.

Building on the existing success, the Secretariat will further explore program opportunities and extend partnerships with key stakeholders in order to meet the expectations and needs of East Asian cities to become more sustainable and resilient.

Beijing and Seoul, February 2015

**Shu Zhu**

Regional Director

ICLEI East Asia Secretariat



# OUR PROFILE

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is the world's leading network of over 1,000 cities, towns and metropolises committed to building a sustainable future. We represent over 20% of the world's urban population.

## ICLEI East Asia Secretariat

Stepping into its fourth year of operation, the ICLEI East Asia Secretariat (EAS) is the newest regional secretariat of ICLEI established in October 2012. Our mission is to promote local actions for global sustainability and support cities to become sustainable, resilient, resource-efficient, biodiverse, low-carbon; to build a smart infrastructure; and to develop an inclusive, green urban economy with the ultimate aim of achieving healthy and happy communities.

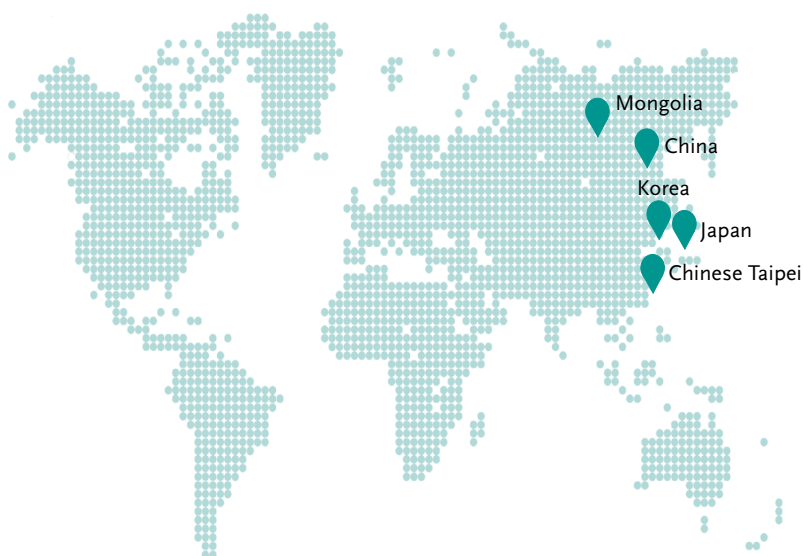
EAS supports over 80 Member Cities in the East Asia region, which comprises of Greater China, Japan, Mongolia, North Korea, and South Korea.

## Membership

ICLEI's membership in the East Asia region has grown over time in phases. After the establishment of ICLEI Japan Office in 1993, batches of Japanese local governments joined our global association between 1993 and 2000, followed by a steady growth of Korean membership between 1995 and 2015. The opening of a Japan Office and a Korea office were results of increased memberships to be serviced in these countries as much as these offices recruited more Members.

A batch of Chinese Taipei local governments joined between 2006 and 2014. Only single local governments from China joined ICLEI for a few years each, and it was indeed a hen-and-egg challenge for ICLEI to recruit Members without being present in the country, or to establish an office without having fee-paying Members in China. We expect our pro-active opening up to Chinese cities' participation in ICLEI's global network over the past years to result in a growing Chinese membership. Ulaanbaatar City, following its participation in the East Asian Low-carbon Cities Forum organized by EAS at the EcoMobility Congress in 2013, joined ICLEI in 2014 as ICLEI's first Mongolian Member.

### ICLEI's 82 Member Cities in the East Asia region include:



#### China

Shenyang City

#### Chinese Taipei

Taichung City  
Yunlin County  
Chiayi City  
Hsinchu County  
Hsinchu City  
Kaohsiung City  
Pingtung County  
New Taipei City  
Tainan City  
Taoyuan City  
Taipei City

#### Japan

Aichi Prefecture  
Hiroshima City  
Iida City  
Itabashi City  
Kawasaki City  
Kitakyushu City  
Kyoto City  
Kyoto Prefecture  
Kumamoto City  
Musashino City  
Nagoya City  
Saitama City  
Sapporo City  
Sumida City  
Sendai City  
Tokyo Metropolitan  
Yokohama City

#### Mongolia

Ulaanbaatar City

#### South Korea

Ansan City  
Anyang City  
Asan City  
Boryeong City  
Bucheon City  
Busan Metropolitan City  
Buyeo City  
Changwon City  
Cheongju City  
Cheongyang City  
Chungcheongnam-do  
Province  
Daegu Metropolitan City  
Damyang County  
Gangdong-gu  
Gangneung City  
Gangwon-do Province  
Gapyeong County  
Gimpo City  
Gumi City  
Gwacheon City  
Gwangju Metropolitan City  
Gyeonggi-do Province  
Gyeongsangnam-do Province  
Gyeryong City  
Hadong County  
Hoengseong County  
Incheon Metropolitan City  
Inje County

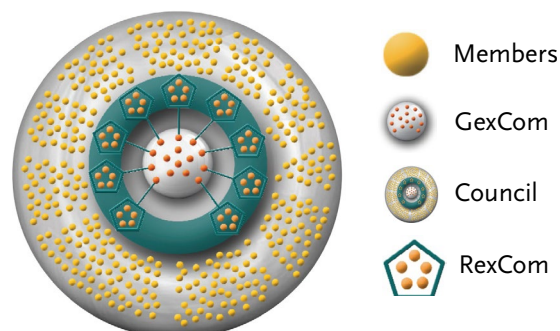
Jeju Special Self-Governing  
Province  
Jeongseon County  
Jeonju City  
Jongno District, City of Seoul  
Namyangju City  
Nowon-gu, City of Seoul  
Osan City  
Pyeongchang County  
Sejong Special Self-Governing  
City  
Seochon County  
Seodaemun-gu, City of Seoul  
Seogwipo City  
Seongsu District, City of  
Seoul  
Seongnam City  
Seoul Metropolitan City  
Suncheon City  
Suwon City  
Taejeon City  
Ulsan Metropolitan City  
Wonju City  
Yeosu City  
Yuseong-gu, City of Daejeon

# GOVERNANCE

The constituency of ICLEI is formed by local governments which are its Members. These Members elect their Regional Executive Committees (RexCom), which make up the ICLEI Council. The ICLEI Council has the power to elect the Global Executive Committee (GexCom), revise the ICLEI Charter and establish the overall policy direction for the organization.

## Global Governance

ICLEI Members are represented by the Global Executive Committee (GexCom) at the global level. It is composed of nine regional representatives and up to six appointed members, and is chaired by the President.



## East Asia Regional Executive Committee

The ICLEI Regional Executive Committee for East Asia (EA RexCom) serves as the regional representation and policy-making body of ICLEI Members in the East Asia region. Following the EA RexCom election in December 2014, the 2015-2018 EA RexCom has been officially established.

## Annual EA RexCom Meeting in Kyoto City, Japan

In November 2014, the EA RexCom convened its annual meeting in Kyoto City, Japan. All offices in the region attended and reported their achievements and program development. They also discussed ICLEI's emerging role and activities in China. Members of EA RexCom also participated in the International Environment Symposium hosted by Kyoto City on 5 November 2014. During the city session, they discussed how city-to-city cooperation could drive and promote sustainable low-carbon city development in the East Asia region.

At the end of the symposium, the *Kyoto Declaration for Sustainable Low-Carbon City Development through Partnership in East Asia* was adopted. Highlighting the common challenges such as climate change and the environmental impacts brought by urbanization faced by cities across the East Asian region, the declaration affirmed the need for closer cooperation and deeper discussion on the realization of sustainable low-carbon cities in East Asia through partnerships at the local and subnational levels.

### The East Asia Regional Executive Committee is composed of five members and one advisor:



**Daisaku Kadokawa**  
Mayor, Kyoto City, Japan  
Chair, holding the thematic portfolio of Low-carbon Development and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation



**Alex Zhang**  
Chief Executive Officer, Eco-Forum Global, Beijing, China  
Committee Member, holding the thematic portfolio of China Development



**Hyo-sung Jung**  
Vice Mayor, Seoul Metropolitan Government, Republic of Korea  
Vice Chair, holding the portfolio of Regional Cooperation



**Shyh-fang Liu**  
Senior Municipal Consultant, Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei  
Committee Member, holding the thematic portfolio of Disaster resilience and climate



**Tae-Young Yeom**  
Mayor, Suwon City, Republic of Korea  
Committee Member, Representative to ICLEI Global Executive Committee, holding the thematic portfolio of Transportation



**Professor Hironori Hamanaka**  
Chair, ICLEI Japan Office  
Advisor, non-voting member on ex-officio

# STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

The ICLEI East Asia Secretariat promotes global sustainability by building a committed membership of cities and local governments in the region to achieve tangible improvements in urban sustainability through programs and projects, partnerships and capacity building.

## Partnerships

To explore new opportunities for cooperation and drive synergies, EAS seeks to strengthen long-standing ties and build up partnerships with key organizations and ICLEI Member Cities. Some of the organizations we have forged or strengthened partnerships with include:

- China Business Council for Sustainable Development (CBCSD)
- China Center for Urban Development (CCUD)
- Chinese Society for Urban Studies (CSUS)
- Eco Forum Global (EFG)
- Green Technology Center - Korea
- Korea Business Council for Sustainable Development (KBCSD)
- Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)
- World Bank China Office
- World Green Design Organization (WGDO)

## Building ICLEI's presence in China

### Membership and Participation package for Chinese Cities

EAS has developed two avenues for Chinese cities and local governments to engage in ICLEI activities: to join ICLEI membership, or to subscribe to the global network of cities on a three-year basis. Both membership and participation options are open to any Chinese cities' municipal governments and administrative management bodies of new towns and eco-cities against an annual fee.

Participation offers Chinese cities:

- An international platform for exchange of solutions and experiences
- Enhancing the city's visibility and international recognition
- Capacity building
- Participation in technical support programs such as Resilient Cities, Urban Environmental Management, EcoMobility, Green Public Procurement, as well as environmental awareness-raising and education

### Building strategic partnerships in China

In order to maintain and enhance partnerships with Chinese partners, the Founding Director of EAS has participated in, and delivered speeches at, important international events organized by our Chinese key partners:

- Eco-Forum Global annual summit in Guiyang, July 2014
- The 5th China (Binhai Tianjin) International Eco-city Forum & Expo and 2014 (the 9th) Conference on Urban Development and Planning in Tianjin, September 2014
- China International Forum on Sustainable Urban Development 2014 "Towards Smart and Low-Carbon Cities" in Guangzhou, November 2014



Right to left: Deputy Director General of CCUD Aijun Qiu, Director of ICLEI Korea Office Yeonhee Park, ICLEI East Asia Secretariat Founding Director Konrad Otto-Zimmermann at China International Forum on Sustainable Development 2014 held in Guangzhou in November 2014.

EAS staff presented at relevant international events in China to share knowledge and promote ICLEI's activities:

- Environmental Labelling and Sustainable Consumption; 20th Anniversary of China Environmental Labelling in Beijing on 23-26 September 2014
- 14th Conference on the League of Historical Cities in Yangzhou on 2-5 September 2014
- 2014 China Yangzhou World Canal Cities Expo in Yangzhou on 25-27 September 2014

EAS staff attended relevant international events in China to promote ICLEI's activities and explore partnership opportunities with relevant organizations:

- Seminar on Building Clean, Honest and Efficient Governments hosted by Yangzhou on 26 September 2014
- The 9th conference on Urban Development and Planning in Tianjin on 23-24 September 2014
- 2014 China International Friendship Cities Conference and Guangzhou International Urban Innovation Conference in Guangzhou on 27-29 November 2014

Bilateral meetings and exchanges have been held with a number of Chinese cities and organizations, including:

- Chinese cities: Baoding, Huangshi, Tianjin Binhai, Yangzhou, Yixing, Zhenjiang
- Sino-Singapore Eco-city Tianjin



Baoxing Qiu, President of CSUS and Former Vice Minister of China's Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development at the 9th conference on Urban Development and Planning in Tianjin, on 23-24 September 2014.



# PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

The ICLEI East Asia Secretariat has launched two programs this past year: the Energy-safe Cities - East Asia Program and EcoProcura® China Program.

## EcoProcura® China Program

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is increasingly being recognized as a key driver and an effective mechanism to achieve broader strategic sustainable development goals. With the aim of supporting Chinese local governments to improve local actions on GPP, EAS started developing the GPP program for Chinese cities since 2013 based on ICLEI's 18 years of experience in supporting cities to implement GPP.

As a precursor of a GPP program for Chinese cities, the EAS has organized EcoProcura® China 2014, an international symposium in Beijing that brought experts from the Chinese government, international organizations, Chinese as well as foreign cities together for an exchange of information, practices and experiences.

## Achievements in 2014

**EcoProcura® China 2014: International Symposium on Municipal Green Procurement:** Held from 30 to 31 October 2014, the symposium was created to explore how ICLEI's expertise and programs can be shared with Chinese cities to support implementation of city-level GPP. More than 60 participants attended the symposium, including representatives from Tianjin City, Yixing City and Jiangsu Province, as well as government officials from China's Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Finance, and the Procurement Center of the National People's Congress.

Consisting of a partners meeting, presentations, discussions and networking, the symposium saw a fruitful exchange between local governments and experts. Some key topics highlighted in the symposium included:

- GPP policies and procedures, legal and institutional framework and monitoring
- Costs and benefits of GPP
- Evaluation and verification of green products
- GPP practice at the local level

For more information on the symposium, please read the *EcoProcura China 2014 Symposium Report* available on the EAS website.

## Way forward in 2015

EAS is working closely with Eco-Forum Global in developing further strategies for deepening ICLEI's GPP program in China. In 2015, our plan is to develop the concept for a Chinese Cities' Green Procurement (CCGP) program as the first ICLEI program to be carried out in China.



Representatives from Chinese national and local governments and international experts on GPP gathered at EcoProcura® China 2014 in Beijing.



Right to left: Wenping Yao, Deputy Director General of the Technologies Department of China's Ministry of Commerce and Zhai Qi, Deputy Secretary General of China Business Council for Sustainable Development at EcoProcura® China 2014.

## Energy-safe Cities - East Asia Program

The Energy-safe Cities East Asia program is ICLEI's first regional program focusing on the East Asia region. Working with three cities from China, Japan and South Korea and one Mongolian city, this multi-stage and multi-year program aims to aid local governments in East Asia to explore with which currently available technologies and at what costs the cities could transform their urban energy systems to become low-carbon, low-risk and resilient – practically 100% renewable - by the year 2030.

### Achievements in 2014

The Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program was launched with the Energy-safe Cities Expert Symposium in Beijing on 28-29 October 2014. The symposium convened 11 local governments from China, Japan, Mongolia and South Korea, and drew over 70 participants, including over 30 regional and international experts in energy sustainability. The participants engaged in an interactive dialogue on various aspects of urban energy transformation in local governments in East Asia, such as the current status and challenges of energy sustainability, and the latest technologies for renewable energy. For more information on the symposium, please read *Energy-safe Cities East Asia Expert Symposium Report* available on the EAS website.



The Energy-safe Cities Expert Symposium in Beijing on 28-29 October 2014 marked the launch of Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program.

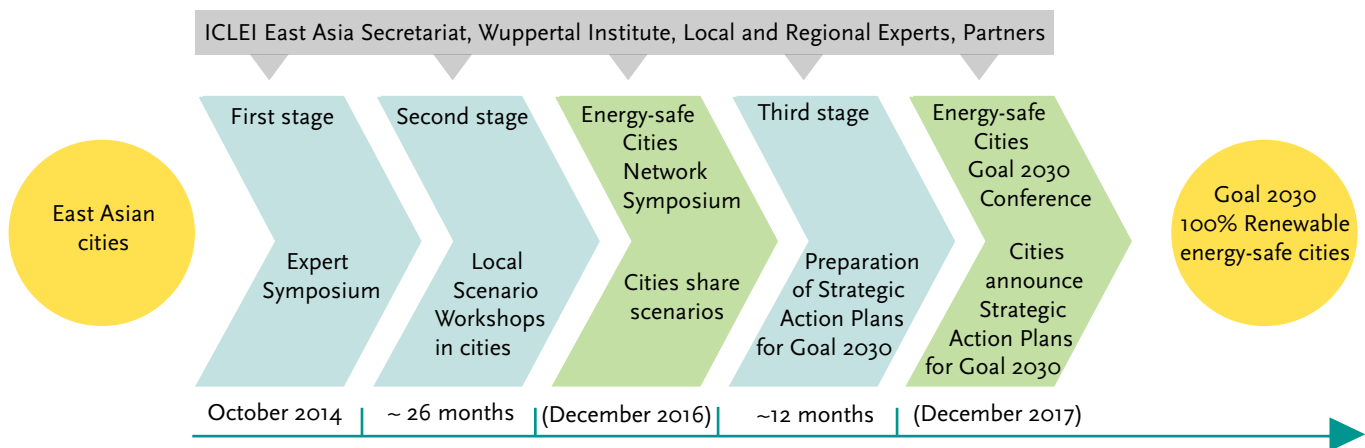


Fig: Energy-safe Cities - East Asia Program

### Way forward in 2015

The Energy-safe Cities - East Asia Program has now entered into its second stage — the Local Scenario Exercises that will be conducted in each participating local governments with the support of ICLEI country offices, and EAS's technical partners, such as Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Energy and Environment. In this exercise, a local scenario workshop will be conducted in each participating local government, where, employing a back-casting approach, the cities will be assisted in building technological scenarios for attaining 100% renewable energy supply systems by the year 2030.

### ICLEI World Congress 2015

The ICLEI World Congress 2015 will take place on 8 - 12 April 2015 in Seoul, Republic of Korea under the subtitle "Sustainable Solutions for an Urban Future". The role of EAS has mainly been inviting Chinese cities and speakers to participate in the congress and coordinating any China related matters during the congress. To prepare for the congress, EAS has sent out invitations to Chinese cities and Chinese speakers. EAS also prepared the Chinese-language program and communications materials for Chinese participants.

### Resilient Cities East Asia/ China

In 2014, talks have been held with CCUD and CSUS to discuss the introduction of ICLEI's Resilient Cities program into China. EAS also explored partnership opportunities with CSUS at Resilient Cities 2015 in Bonn. Our plans for 2015 is to conduct and publish survey on urban resilience issues and work in East Asia.

# CAPACITY BUILDING

ICLEI supports local governments to implement local climate actions and advance sustainability by building local capacity. We share knowledge and provide technical consulting, information services and training.

## Knowledge Sharing

In 2014, ICLEI EAS shared its knowledge and experience with local governments in the region on various topics:

### Green Public Procurement

EAS organized the EcoProcura<sup>®</sup> China 2014: International Symposium on Municipal Green Procurement in Beijing, China from on 30-31 October 2014, and promoted the concept of GPP at the 20th Anniversary of China Environmental Labelling in Beijing, China, on 23-26 September 2014.

### Green Urban Economy

ICLEI presented its “Green Urban Economy” initiative at the Northeast Asian Mayors’ Forum “Sustainable and Inclusive Cities” in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on 18-19 August 2014.

### Local Governance

EAS spoke on the topic of “Building clean, honest and efficient government” at the 2014 China Yangzhou World Canal Cities Expo in Yangzhou, China, on 26 September 2014.

### Low-carbon City/ Green City

In collaboration with Kyoto City, Japan, EAS co-organized and presented at the Kyoto International Environment Symposium 2014 on “Sustainable Low-Carbon City Development through Partnership in East Asia” in Kyoto City, Japan on 5 November 2014. At the 2014 City Climate Leadership Action Conference in Taipei City, Chinese Taipei, on 17 November 2014, EAS also spoke on the theme “Green Cities – East Asia”.

### Urban Energy Transformation

ICLEI EAS organized the Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program Expert Symposium in Beijing, China from 28 to 29 October 2014. The program was also introduced to Chinese cities at the 14th Conference on the League of Historical Cities in Yangzhou, China, on 2-5 September 2014.



Daisaku Kadokawa, Mayor of Kyoto City at the Kyoto International Environment Symposium.



Members of the EA RexCom and the Directors of ICLEI's offices in the region participated in the International Environment Symposium hosted by Kyoto City on 5 November 2014.



The Energy-safe Cities Expert Symposium held in Beijing in October 2014 provided a platform for East Asian cities and international experts to exchange knowledge and solutions on urban energy transformation.

## Publications and Multimedia

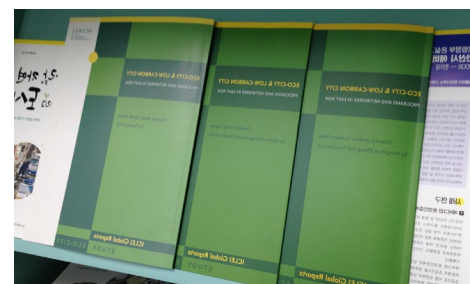
EAS has commissioned and compiled the **ICLEI Global Report: Eco-city and low-carbon city programs and networks in East Asia**. Authored by Mr. Mingshun Zhang, Mr. Tze-Luen Lin, Ms. Michie Kishigami and Ms. Naoko Ikeda, the report is consisting of three country studies on Greater China (People's Republic of China and Chinese Taipei), Japan and Korea. The findings of the three volumes offer an overview of relevant programs and networks in the East Asia region, and are of great interest to those concerned with sustainable urban development. The country studies can be downloaded for free from the EAS website.

To capture the highlights of the two international events organized by EAS in China in 2014, we have also produced two symposium reports: **Energy-safe Cities East Asia Expert Symposium Report** and **EcoProcura® China 2014 Report**. The digital version of the reports are available in Chinese, English, Japanese and Korean on the EAS website.

To promote the concept of EcoMobility in China, EAS has produced the **EcoMobility World Festival DVD**. The DVD contains Chinese-language versions of the video films “A city goes ecomobile”, “Showing the future today”, and “The streets of Suwon”, which document the idea, planning, implementation and outcomes of a unique, first-of-its-kind mise-en-scène of future urban mobility. During the EcoMobility World Festival, 4,500 residents of a neighborhood in Suwon City removed their 1,500 cars from the area and adopted an ecomobile lifestyle for an entire month in September 2013. The videos are also available online on the EAS website.

The **EAS website** has been regularly updated in in English, Chinese, and Korean. The Japanese and Mongolian versions of the website will become available in 2015.

To share the news about the activities of ICLEI and its East Asian Members, a quarterly **Chinese-language e-newsletter** has been launched and shared with Chinese cities and ICLEI's Chinese partners.



The ICLEI Global Report: Eco-city and low-carbon city programs and networks in East Asia consists of three country studies: Greater China, Japan and Korea.



The EcoMobility World Festival Chinese-language version DVD contains three videos documenting the month-long festival in Suwon City in 2013.



# OUR STAFF

The ICLEI East Asia Secretariat team consists of staff with roots from the East Asia region and have good command of English and East Asian languages, as well as knowledge in urban sustainability.

## Founding Director



**Konrad Otto-Zimmermann**

Konrad has led the establishment of the EAS team and the development of ICLEI's programs and operation in the East Asia region. He was the Secretary General of ICLEI from 2002 to 2012. As Chairman of ICLEI Urban Agendas, he guides the development and implementation of ICLEI's program strategy globally. Prior to this he held leading positions at ICLEI Europe based in the City of Freiburg, Germany, the Federal Environmental Agency in Berlin, and was involved in the "Black Forest" Environmental Management Project.

## Regional Director



**Shu Zhu**

Shu is the Regional Director of ICLEI East Asia Secretariat and also serves as ICLEI's China Representative. With an education in language and literature, mass communication and local development, he has extensive experience and knowledge of international development and regional cooperation. Previously, he held leadership positions at the Greater Tumen Initiative (GTI), an intergovernmental mechanism supported by UNDP, where he led the expansion of the organization and its program activities to foster and deepen the multilateral cooperation among Northeast Asian countries. He was also a seasoned journalist and editor at the People's Daily and a senior manager at Telstra.

## Staff in 2015



**Bonghee Son**  
**Strategy Manager**

Bonghee has been assisting the Founding Director to establish and develop EAS since 2012. Before moving to EAS, she worked at the ICLEI World Secretariat for more than two years to assist and manage various events and projects. She was involved in several ICLEI-organized events such as Future of Cities 2010 (Incheon), EcoMobility Changwon 2011 (Changwon) and ICLEI World Congress 2012 (Belo Horizonte). She also has experience of working as a women's right activist over six years at Korean Womenlink to improve gender equality in Korea.



**Hyeongkwon Sohn**  
**Regional Administrator**

Hyeongkwon is a secondee dispatched from Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG). He is responsible for the office management, governance and human resources of EAS. He has been working for SMG for 15 years and has been involved in various fields of city government, including environmental planning, transportation, new town development, housing and youth affairs. He has rich experiences in general affairs, accounting and budgeting and has taken up a variety of roles in different government divisions. Before joining ICLEI, he worked as a team leader at the Youth Affairs division at SMG.



**Hojeong Jang**  
**Finance Officer**

Hojeong is a secondee from the Seoul Metropolitan Government. She is responsible for the financial management of EAS. Before joining ICLEI, she has worked at SMG for five years in various divisions including public health, public communications and new media. She has also worked at the district office of Seoul's Songpa-gu, where she managed event organization and media relations.



**Qiaoqiao Xu**  
**Program Officer**

Qiaoqiao assists with the development and implementation of events and projects at EAS, particularly the Energy-safe Cities - East Asia Program. Before joining ICLEI, she has interned at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Bangkok where she assisted with the research and reporting on low-carbon cities. She was also involved in the carbon neutral project at Kawartha Land Trust in Peterborough, Canada.



**Nancy Ning**  
**Project Officer**

Nancy supports ICLEI World Congress 2015 and is responsible for EAS' relations with China. She first joined ICLEI as China Relations Assistant. She supported the program team and contributed to the establishment of partnerships with Chinese cities. Before joining ICLEI, she worked as field assistant at the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat in Seoul.



**Heeyun Yoon**  
**Project Officer**

Heeyun assists with the organization of the 4th International Conference of Local Regional Authorities (Daegu, South Korea, April 2015). She first joined ICLEI as a student intern, assisting the administration and finance team at EAS. She has a background in international relations and has participated in international exchange programs during her undergraduate studies.



**Shermaine Ho**  
**Communication and Knowledge Management Officer**

Shermaine is responsible for EAS' corporate communications. She designs and creates various communication products, maintains EAS' social media channels and reports on ICLEI's work in the region. Before joining EAS, she has worked at the ICLEI World Secretariat in Bonn, Germany. She also has experiences in humanitarian reporting, policy analysis and administration in Hong Kong, Thailand and Sweden.



**Rahul T. Vaswani**  
**Sustainability Consultant**

Rahul coordinates and develops the Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program which aims at building the capacity of local governments in East Asia for urban energy sustainability. He coordinates with ICLEI offices and institutional partners for the implementation of the program. Before joining ICLEI, Rahul has managed programs for water-energy efficiency, climate change countermeasure strategies, and environmentally sustainable development.



**Sambuu Bulgantamir**  
**Communications and Mongolian Relations Intern**

Bulgantamir is responsible for EAS' relation with Mongolia. He assists with the communication with Mongolian cities, and helps with the translation of EAS website, publications and other communication materials.

**Staff (departed)**



**Suggie Kim**  
**Regional Administrator (March 2013 - February 2015)**

Suggie Kim was a secondee from Seoul Metropolitan Government. During her time with EAS, she managed the regional governance, office operation, human resources and finance of EAS. She has over 20 years of experience in working in different fields of the city government of Seoul. Her specialty is international cooperation and relations.



**Youngsook Kwon**  
**Finance Officer (January 2014 - January 2015)**

Youngsook Kwon was a secondee from Seoul Metropolitan Government. During her time with EAS, she managed the accounting and financial reporting of EAS. She has worked at the SMG for seven years in the fields of transportation, strategic planning and external cooperation. She was also involved in managing the exchanges and cooperation between Seoul and North Korea regarding the management of related committees and funds.

## ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability East Asia Secretariat

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