



# ICLEI East Asia Secretariat Annual Report 2015

# CONTENT

3	Greetings
4	About us
5	Governance
6	Highlights of 2015
10	Programs & Projects
13	Strategic Development
15	Knowledge Sharing
17	Our Staff

# GREETINGS

## from the Regional Director

Year 2015 has been a momentous year for cities. The new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations, which address the increasingly important role played by cities in achieving sustainable development beyond 2015, by making our cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. Meanwhile, in the landmark Paris Agreement unanimously approved by 185 nations at COP21, local and subnational governments are recognized as essential actors in fast tracking transformative actions in the urban world to tackle climate change.

Cities from East Asia are continuously driving change towards sustainability. ICLEI East Asia has been closely working with East Asian cities to support local actions, encourage local initiatives and showcase local achievements through various programs and activities along with enhanced capacity in the region.

We have expanded partnership with institutions and governmental agencies in the region, and welcomed new member cities to our global network. We continue to implement projects and programs, and launched new initiatives to serve regional needs.

Following the official launch of Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program in October 2014, the program has moved onto its second stage- local scenario exercise, during which local governments are provided with assistance to assess the potential of their local renewables, and conduct technical scenario analysis on possible pathways to achieve the goal of securing 100% renewable energy supply in the near future.

EcoProcura® China 2015 forum was held in Guiyang in June 2015. The forum gathered around 80 government officials, experts, business and NGOs representatives from China, Japan, Korea, Finland and Germany to share information, knowledge and experience on green public procurement. The Green Public Procurement Partnership was launched at the forum jointly by ICLEI EAS, Eco-Forum Global, China Business Council for Sustainable Development, China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC), The Sustainable Consortium and the 10 Year Framework Program of UNEP.

Together with ICLEI USA Office, we launched the California-China Urban Climate Collaborative (CCUCC), a long-term multilateral knowledge exchange program between cities in California and China to find practical and feasible solutions to reduce carbon emission and to advance clean energy economy. The program was officially launched at a side event hosted jointly by ICLEI EAS and ICLEI USA in September 2015 during the US-China Climate Leaders Summit in Los Angeles. Through the program, cities will receive tools and technical support, access to a panel of leading experts and networking opportunities to drive emission reductions through proven climate action planning processes and technology solutions.

We organized the first Resilient Cities China Forum in partnership with Chinese Society for Urban Studies, focusing on urban resilience and water management (Sponge City) in November 2015 in Zhuhai. The forum provided a platform for city officials, water experts and business representatives from China and Europe to exchange knowledge and experience in managing urban water and enhancing climate resilience at the local level, in relation with China's "sponge city" initiative.

While more than half of the world's populations are living in urban areas, cities are in the center of global efforts in combating climate change and advancing sustainable development. With the leadership and commitments presented by East Asian cities, we are more confident to work with our members and partners to tap new opportunities and contribute to regional sustainability.



**Shu Zhu**

Regional Director and China Representative  
ICLEI East Asia Secretariat





# ABOUT US

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) is the world's leading network of over 1,000 cities, towns and metropolises with the mission to promote global sustainability through local actions. Over 20% of the world's urban population benefit from our work, which is global in scope and impact, yet local in implementation.

## ICLEI East Asia Secretariat

ICLEI East Asia Secretariat (EAS) is the newest regional secretariat of ICLEI established in October 2012. Hosted by Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG), EAS supports over 80 Member cities in the East Asia region, covering Greater China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia.

Our mission is to promote local actions for global sustainability and support cities to become sustainable, low-carbon, resilient, ecomobile, biodiverse, resource-efficient and productive, healthy and happy, with a green economy and smart urban infrastructure.

## Membership

Globally, ICLEI's membership has grown to around 1,000 local governments in 86 countries over the past 25 years. In East Asia, ICLEI has 88 members from Greater China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia.

Our latest member is Guiyang City. Located in Southwestern China, Guiyang is the provincial capital of Guizhou Province, with a population of around 4.7 million. The city's achievement in implementing ecological civilization has been widely recognized in the country. After the approval from China's National Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Government of Guizhou Province, the city officially joined ICLEI in January 2016.



Guiyang City signed a letter of intent to express its interest to join ICLEI in November 2015 during a visit to Berlin, Germany.

## ICLEI's 88 East Asian Members include:

### China

Guiyang City  
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 Government  
Yokohama City

### South Korea

Ansan City  
Anyang City  
Asan City  
Bucheon City  
Busan Metropolitan City  
Buyeo County  
Changwon City  
Cheongju City  
Cheongyang County  
Chungcheongnam-do Province  
Daegu Metropolitan City  
Damyang County  
Dangjin City  
Dobong-gu Municipal Government  
Eunpyeong-gu, Seoul City  
Gangdong-gu Municipal Government  
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-gu Municipal Government  
Nam-gu, Incheon City  
Namyangju City  
Nowon-gu Municipal Government  
Osan City  
Pohang City  
Pyeongchang County  
Sejong Special Self-Governing City  
Seocheon County  
Seodaemun-gu Municipal Government  
Seogwipo City  
Seongbuk-gu Municipal Government  
Seongnam City  
Seoul Metropolitan City  
Siheung City  
Suncheon City  
Suwon City  
Taeon County  
Uiwang City  
Ulsan Metropolitan City  
Wonju City  
Yeongju City  
Yeosu City  
Yuseong-gu Municipal Government

### Mongolia

Ulaanbaatar City



# GOVERNANCE

ICLEI is constituted as a membership association that receives its mandate from its Member cities, local and regional governments and municipal authorities.

## Global Governance

ICLEI is governed by its Members through a global Council by way of representative democracy. The Council adopts every three years a Strategic Plan with a six-year scope, has the right to amend the Charter, and elects the Global Executive Committees (GexCom).

The GexCom represents ICLEI members at the global level, generally before global and international institutions. Chaired by the President, it is composed of up to six appointed members and representatives from the nine Regional Executive Committees (RexComs). So far, ICLEI has established eight RexComs which serve as the regional representation and policy-making body of the Members in the region.

At ICLEI World Congress 2015, Mayor Won-Soon Park of Seoul City was elected as the President of ICLEI for 2015-2018, along with First Vice President Mayor James Nxumalo (Durban, South Africa), and Vice Presidents Mayor Miguel Angel Mancera (Mexico City, Mexico) and Mayor Pekka Sauri (Helsinki, Finland).



Former ICLEI President David Cadman officially handed over his legacy to Mayor Park at ICLEI World Congress 2015 hosted by Seoul City.

## East Asia Regional Executive Committee

The 2015-2018 East Asia RexCom has been officially established following an election in December 2014. On 28 June 2015, the East Asia RexCom convened its annual meeting in Guiyang, China. Hosted by Eco-Forum Global (EFG), the meeting was held on the closing day of the EFG Annual Conference, where EAS also organized the sub-forum “EcoProcura® China 2015: Green Public Procurement”.

During the meeting, members of the East Asia RexCom reported the activities, achievements and progress in membership recruitment and program development over the past year, and discussed ICLEI’s emerging role and work in China.

### The East Asia Regional Executive Committee is composed of four 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**  
Executive Director, Eco-Forum Global, Beijing, China  
Committee Member, holding the thematic portfolio of China Development



**Gyong-Gee Liu**  
Vice Mayor, Seoul Metropolitan Government, Republic of Korea  
Vice Chair, holding the portfolio of Regional Cooperation



**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





# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015

## ICLEI World Congress 2015

Every three years, ICLEI Members and partners gather at ICLEI World Congress to showcase their actions, launch new commitments, and discuss strategies for the following years. Held on April 8-12, ICLEI World Congress 2015 was hosted by Seoul City – the first time in 20 years for ICLEI to hold its World Congress in Asia. Over 2,800 participants attended the congress, including representatives from 250 local governments. Some of the landmark outcomes and highlights from the five-day congress include:

### Seoul Declaration

Over 100 mayors, ICLEI Members, congress participants, partners and other local government leaders adopted the “Seoul Declaration”. Outlining the priorities of ICLEI, the declaration provides a framework for actions aimed at local governments committed to global urban sustainability.

### Compact of Mayors

35 cities announced their intent to comply with the Compact of Mayors, the global coalition and city leaders preparing for the impacts of climate change. Compact cities from the East Asia region include: Kaohsiung, New Taipei, Taichung, Tainan, Taipei, Hiroshima, Kitakyushu, Tokyo, Toyama, Yokohama, Changwon, Seoul and Suwon.



Mayors from around the world gathered at ICLEI World Congress 2015 to show their commitment in advancing urban sustainability through local actions.

## Promise of Seoul

Mayor Won-soon Park and representatives of Seoul civil society and business announced the Promise of Seoul, a covenant for the megacity to take significant action against climate change. Consisting of 36 tasks across 10 components, including the target to reduce the city's greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030 from 2005 levels, the document was approved by 10 million Seoul residents.

## ICLEI Strategic Plan 2015-2021

Endorsed by ICLEI GexCom, the ICLEI Strategic Plan 2015-2021 guides ICLEI's priorities for future actions according to the 10 Urban Agendas. Translating this global strategy into their self-identified local priorities, 54 Korean ICLEI Members adopted the Korea Initiative 2015-2018. Each of the policy priorities has action plans to facilitate the implementation.

## Enhanced cooperation with Chinese local governments and partners

- **High-level address:** The Congress was opened by key speakers including Xinsheng Zhang, President of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Executive Chairman of Eco-Forum Global; and Tie Li, Director-General of China Center for Urban Development (CCUD).
- **Cities' presentations:** Dongguan and Guiyang cities presented their development stories at the sub plenary on urban China, while Guangzhou shared its experience in driving innovation through the city's BRT system.
- **Experts' insights:** The congress's first sub plenary was dedicated to exploring China's new type of urbanization and eco-civilization. Chinese experts who had shared their views on stage include: Tie Li, Director General of CCUD; Hailong Li, Deputy Director of Eco-City Planning and Construction Center under the Chinese Society for Urban Studies (CSUS) and Deputy Secretary General of China Eco-city Council; Alex Zhang, Executive Director of Eco-Forum Global (EFG) and Member of ICLEI GexCom; Patrick Ho, Deputy Chairman and Secretary General of China Energy Fund Committee and Ying Chen, researcher at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS).

Dajian Zhu, Professor and Director at Tongji University's Institute of Governance for Sustainability shared his experience in research and city cooperation at the sub plenary on partnerships, while Junyang Li, Secretary General of International Energy Conservation Environmental Protection Association (IEEPA) shared his opinion in the sub plenary on air quality.

- **MoUs with Chinese partners:** ICLEI has signed three MoUs with partners at the congress, including: CSUS, EFG and Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation (GIUI).

To provide Chinese participants with more information about ICLEI's work and engagement with Chinese cities, EAS organized a China Briefing session shortly before the congress opened on 8 April.

## New initiatives, networks and partnerships

Three major initiatives and networks were launched: CityFood, 100% Renewable Energy ICLEI Network, and the Global Lead Cities Network on Sustainable Public Procurement. Furthermore, 11 MoUs between ICLEI and relevant partners were signed at the congress.



Launched by Seoul, the Promise of Seoul represents the city's determination and ambition in reducing carbon emissions.



Xinsheng Zhang, President of IUCN and Executive Chairman of EFG signed a MoU with ICLEI Secretary General Gino Van Begin at ICLEI World Congress 2015.



Tie Li, Director General of CCUD, shared his insight on urbanization cooperation between China and Korea at ICLEI World Congress 2015.



Mayor Baocheng Yuan of Dongguan City shared his city's development experience and vision in driving sustainable growth.





## COP21 Climate Summit

ICLEI welcomes the landmark Paris Agreement unanimously approved by 185 nations at COP21. The Agreement represents the commitments of nations to curb the trajectory of current and future global greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, with the intent to pursue a 1.5-degree target. Through this inclusive agreement, local and subnational governments are recognized as essential actors in fast tracking transformative action in the urban world.

Besides negotiating on behalf of local governments, ICLEI puts local actions on global stage by showcasing achievements by cities through various side events, particularly the Cities and Regions Pavilion – TAP 2015, where over 200 projects from around the world were displayed.

### China session: International dialogue on low carbon city development

Hosted by EAS and facilitated by Shu Zhu, Regional Director of EAS and ICLEI's China Representative, the China session on low-carbon city development saw lively exchange between representatives from local governments, including Jiangsu Province, Guangzhou City, Qingdao City, Zhenjiang City (China), Heidelberg (Germany), Bristol (UK) and California State (USA). Franzjosef Schaffhausen, Director General of Climate Policy, European and International Policy of the BMUB; and Zhaoli Jiang, Deputy Director General of NDRC's Climate Department shared their insights on promoting cities cooperation at the local and global levels.

### Cooperation in China Pavilion

**Accelerating Peaking in Developing Countries:** Along with NDRC's Domestic Affairs Division Department of Addressing Climate Change and Rocky Mountain Institute, ICLEI co-hosted a session on the use of low-carbon development strategies to achieve GHG emissions peaking goals in developing countries on 2 December. The session was moderated by Zhaoli Jiang, Deputy Director General of the Department of Climate Change of NDRC. ICLEI Deputy Secretary General Monika Zimmermann delivered a keynote speech and facilitated knowledge sharing with cities from other countries. ICLEI



Representatives from Chinese and foreign local governments presented their experience in pursuing low-carbon development at the China Session organized by ICLEI at COP21.



Left to right: Zhaoli Jiang, Deputy Director General of the Department of Climate Change of NDRC; Monika Zimmermann, Deputy Secretary General of ICLEI World Secretariat and Shu Zhu, Regional Director of ICLEI East Asia Secretariat and China Representative.



also invited Mayor Marcio Lacerda ,City of Belo Horizonte, Brazil to speak at this session; other Chinese speakers included Yande Dai, Deputy Director of Energy Research Institute at NDRC; Jiankun He, Professor at Tsinghua University; and Ji Zou, Deputy Director General of China's National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation.

**Enterprise Day & Shenzhen Time:** Shenzhen introduced its low-carbon development at the session and a MoU signing ceremony was held between EAS, Shenzhen Development and Reform Commission, and Shenzhen Low-Carbon Development Foundation. The partnership focuses on the cooperation in establishing an International Low-carbon Clean technology Demonstration and Communication Platform.

Besides, Roman Mendle, ICLEI Smart Cities Program Manager joined a dialogue on Low-carbon Development: City and Enterprises on 3 December; and Maryke Van Staden, ICLEI Low Carbon Cities Program Manager made a presentation to introduce Freiburg's Carbon Emissions Reduction Measures on 5 December.

### **First Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement (GLCN on SP) Annual Summit**

Ten participating cities, including Auckland, Cape Town, Denver, Ghent, Helsinki, Oslo, Quezon, Rotterdam, Seoul and Warsaw gathered at COP21 to hold the first GLCN on SP annual summit. Driven jointly by Seoul Metropolitan Government and ICLEI, the network aims at promoting global sustainability through accelerating the implementation of sustainable purchasing worldwide. EAS will support the liaison between Seoul City and ICLEI European Secretariat, which will serve as the secretariat of the network.



Delegates from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, at Cities and Regions Pavilion - TAP2015 at COP21.



EAS signed MoU with Shenzhen Development and Reform Commission and Shenzhen Low-Carbon Development Foundation at COP21.



Representatives from the ten GLCN on SP participating cities at the first annual summit held at COP21.



Above: (Right) Seoul Mayor Won-Soon Park with (left) Bristol Mayor George Ferguson and Bonn Mayor Asok Sridharan at the Cities and Regions Pavilion - TAP2015 during COP21.

Left: Led by Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, mayors from around the world expressed their commitments in taking ambitious climate actions at Climate Summit for Local Leaders at COP21 on 4 December 2015.

# PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

ICLEI supports cities to pursue urban sustainability through programs and projects developed under the 10 Urban Agendas.

## Green Public Procurement

### EcoProcura® China 2015: Green Public Procurement

EcoProcura® China is EAS's flagship conference on green public procurement (GPP). Following the success of the first EcoProcura® China 2014 held in Beijing, "EcoProcura® China 2015: Green Public Procurement" was held in Guiyang during the Eco-Forum Global Annual Conference on 28 June as a sub-forum. The sub-forum gathered around 80 participants, including government officials in charge of public procurement, experts, business and NGOs representatives from China, Japan, Korea, Finland and Germany.

The sub-forum was consisted of keynote presentations and panel discussions, and it provided valuable information, knowledge and experience on China's legal and policy framework on GPP and implementation, good practices from Shanghai City, Inner Mongolian Municipality, Helsinki City and Korea, ICLEI's global program on promoting GPP and the 10 Year Framework Program on SPP led by UNEP.

The **Green Public Procurement Partnership** was launched at the end of sub-forum jointly by EAS, EFG, CBCSD, CEC, TSC, the 10YFP and UNEP. Aiming at providing a platform for international exchange of experience and knowledge on GPP, the partnership welcomes all Chinese local governments, organizations and businesses interested in GPP to join.



Speakers and city representatives gathered at Eco-Procura® China 2015 held in Guiyang in June 2015.

### Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Development (GLCN on SP)

The GLCN on SP is a group of 10 cities committed to drive a transition to sustainable consumption and production by implementing sustainable and innovation procurement. All participating cities act as ambassadors of sustainable procurement to lead to a resource efficient, low carbon and socially responsible society.



Launched at the ICLEI World Congress 2015 under the leadership of Seoul City, Chair of the network, the GLCN on SP currently has 10 members, including Seoul, Auckland, Cape Town, Denver, Ghent, Helsinki, Oslo, Quezon, Rotterdam and Warsaw. The network held its first summit at the occasion of UNFCCC COP21 in Paris. ICLEI European Secretariat (ES) will serve as the network's secretariat, responsible for its establishment and operation, while EAS will provide support in liaising between Seoul City and the ES.

## Low Carbon City

### Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program

Following the program's official launch at the expert symposium held in October 2014, the program has moved onto its second stage- Local Scenario Exercise. In the second stage, local governments are provided with assistance to assess the potential of their local renewables, and conduct technical scenario analysis on possible pathways to achieve the goal of securing 100% renewable energy supply in the near future.

Korea is taking the lead in implementing the second phase of the program currently. On 10 April 2015, a MoU was signed between Jeonju City, ICLEI Korea and Local Agenda 21 regarding their cooperation in the program; a similar MoU was signed between Inje County, ICLEI Korea and EAS on 16 June 2015.

To prepare for the scenario building and to set targets for the following activities, a few workshops were held with the cities, including a start-up workshop held on 19 and 20 June in Inje County, and a workshop for local activities at Jeonbuk Federation for Environmental Movement in Jeonju



A MoU of cooperation was signed between Inje County, EAS and ICLEI Korea Office. Right to left: Inje County Mayor Soon-sun Lee, Director of ICLEI Korea Office Yeon-hee Park and EAS Consultant Rahul T. Vaswani representing EAS Regional Director and ICLEI China Representative Shu Zhu, who co-signed the MoU.



City on 17 November 2015, where EAS was invited to participate and contribute. Meanwhile, experts and ICLEI Korea are working together to collect feedbacks to finalize the scenario reports, which will contain the analysis of current energy supply and demand condition in the cities, forecast on future consumption, and suggestion on possible transformation pathways to a low-carbon, low risk and resilient system based on the goals defined locally. The implementation of the second phase of the program in Korea is partially supported by the UK Prosperity Fund.

### California-China Urban Climate Collaborative (CCUCC)

CCUCC is a long-term multilateral knowledge exchange program between cities in California and China to find practical and feasible solutions to reduce carbon and air pollution, and to advance clean energy economy. The program was conceived in close coordination with the State of California led by CalEPA and the California Energy Commission and the Office of California Governor Jerry Brown as a strategy to implement a series of MoUs between California, provincial leaders and NDRC.

The program was officially launched at a side event hosted jointly by EAS and ICLEI USA in September 2015 during the US-China Climate Leaders Summit in Los Angeles. The event was attended by high-level representatives from NDRC, Shenzhen City, California State and local governments, as well as industries and non-profit organizations. Through the program, cities will receive tools and technical support, access to a panel of leading experts and networking opportunities to drive emission reductions through proven climate action planning processes and technology solutions. A few Californian and Chinese cities will make up the initial cohort, and will be selected by using multiple indicators and detailed research and analysis.

In addition, a delegation of government official from China's Ministry of Environmental Protection, Jiangsu Province, Changzhou, Nanjing, Suzhou and Wuxi participated in an air quality training workshop hosted by ICLEI USA in October 2015.

**Current status:** So far, three Chinese cities including Guiyang, Jilin and Shenzhen, have confirmed their participation in the program. They have also identified areas of specific interests. A few other Chinese cities have also expressed strong interests in joining the program. From the side of California, three cities are officially onboard, including Sonoma County, Riverside and Richmond. A few experts and associations have also confirmed their participation. A summary report for the first stage of the program is under preparation.

**Way Forward:** In 2016, CCUCC will move forward to its second stage. EAS and ICLEI USA will work together in facilitating cities to participate in one-to-one city peering and thematic capacity building workshops to enhance sharing of knowledge and needs, and exchange of practices.

### Sustainable Urban China Conference at Metropolitan Solutions 2015

Working together with ICLEI World Secretariat, EAS invited and facilitated a big Chinese delegation formed by national and local government officials, business representatives and experts to participate in ICLEI Sustainable Urban China Conference at Metropolitan Solutions held in Berlin in May 2015. The delegation was led by Aixing Han, Deputy Director General of Department of Energy Efficiency in Buildings, Science and Technology from China's Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Development (MoHURD), who also introduced China's new type of urbanization and the opportunities for Sino-German cooperation in the areas of urban agglomeration, eco-cities, small towns, urban waste treatment, building efficiency, smart cities, etc. Representatives from Chengdu City, Haimen City, Zhangjiakou City, Chongli County and Huailai County attended the conference.



Participants toured Los Angeles' Cleantech Business Incubator as part of the side event organized by ICLEI during the US-China Climate Leaders Summit.



Delegates from Shenzhen attended ICLEI's side event held during the US-China Climate Leaders Summit.



Aixing Han, Deputy Director General of MoHURD's Department of Energy Efficiency in Buildings, Science and Technology introduced China's new type of urbanization and the opportunities for Sino-German cooperation at Metropolitan Solutions 2015 held in Berlin.

## Resilient City

### Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific Congress 2015

EAS invited representatives from Gui-an New District (China) and Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia) to attend ICLEI's first Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand in February 2015. Focusing on urban resilience and climate adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region, the congress was an extension of the annual global Resilient Cities Congress held in Bonn, Germany, since 2010.

### The 4th Local and Regional Authorities Conference at the 7th World Water Forum

EAS supported the organization of the 4th Local and Regional Authorities Conference, held on 13-14 April in Gyeongju as part of the 7th World Water Forum. Over 250 local government representatives, international organizations from 26 countries joined the conference. The conference concluded with two major outcomes: Adoption of the 'Daegu Gyeongbuk Water Action for Sustainable Cities and Regions', the strategy document acknowledging the importance of local governments and their role in water issues and calling for collaboration with central governments to work on water challenges more effectively; and launch of Korea's Pilot Project 'Sustainable Watershed Management of Urban Areas' aiming at strengthening the collaboration among the central ministries, and between the central and local governments in water management, expanding citizens' participation, and connecting the regional areas with the world.

### Resilient Cities China Forum:

#### Sino-Europe Sub-forum on Resilient Cities and Water Management

EAS organized the sub-forum along with CSUS in Zhuhai, China on 5 November during the 10th International Conference on China Urban Water Development. Chaired by Shu Zhu, EAS Regional Director and ICLEI's China Representative, the sub-forum provided a platform for city officials, water experts and business representatives from China and Europe to exchange knowledge and experience in managing water issues and urban risks at the local level. It was a trial of bringing the concept of Resilient Cities into China, while sharing China's "sponge city" approach. Shenzhen shared its experience through the case of Shenzhen Guangming New Area; other participating cities included Dortmund and Datteln from Germany.



The 'Daegu Gyeongbuk Water Action for Sustainable Cities and Regions' was adopted at the 4th Local and Regional Authorities Conference in April 2015.



(Left) Lu Yu, Deputy Chief Engineer from Shenzhen Urban Planning Institute shared how her city translated the concept of "Sponge City" into practice at the Sino-Europe Sub-forum on Resilient Cities and Water Management in Zhuhai.



# STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

ICLEI East Asia Secretariat continues to build new partnerships with relevant government agencies, organizations and institutes to promote global sustainability through local, regional and global cooperation.

## Partnerships

EAS works closely with partners, including government agencies, local and international organizations, institutes and corporates to promote urban sustainability through exchange of knowledge, expertise and experience. In 2015, EAS has forged new partnerships with:

- ASEAN China Environmental Cooperation Centre
- Korean Business Council for Sustainable Development (KBCSD)
- Seoul Human Resources Development Center (SHRDC)
- Shenzhen Low-carbon Development Foundation
- Shenzhen Municipal Development and Reform Commission
- Tianjin Green Supply Chain Center

EAS has strengthened cooperation with long-standing partners including:

- China Business Council for Sustainable Development (CBCSD)
- China Center of Urban Development (CCUD)
- China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC)
- Chinese Society for Urban Studies (CSUS)
- Eco-forum Global (EFG)
- Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation (GIUI)
- Green Technology Center- Korea (GTC-K)
- Institute for Urban and Environmental Studies (IUE) of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)
- Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI)
- The Sustainable Consortium



(Right) Hailong Li, Deputy Director of CSUS' s Eco-City Planning and Construction Center signed a MoU with ICLEI Secretary General Gino Van Begin at ICLEI World Congress 2015.



ICLEI EAS held EcoProcura® China 2015 and East Asia Regional Executive Committee Meeting in Guiyang City in June 2015.

## ICLEI's presence in China

EAS has made significant progress in recruiting new Chinese members, building new partnerships, and deepening cooperation with existing Chinese partners in 2015.

### Membership

Guiyang officially joined ICLEI as a new member in January 2016 after obtaining the approval from the National Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Government of Guizhou Province. The city expressed interest in joining ICLEI in November during a visit to Berlin, where a letter of intent was signed between ICLEI and Guiyang. Discussion on membership is also underway between EAS and several other Chinese cities.

### Cooperations with partners

Through continuous meetings and cooperation with relevant government department and agencies on various events, EAS has also received recognition and support from the national and local governments. Key programs, projects and events organized by ICLEI with China focus in 2015 include:

- **ICLEI World Congress 2015:** EAS supported the organization of the sub plenary on Urban China, and was responsible for inviting and facilitating the participation of Chinese local government officials, experts, and organization representatives at the congress. Three MoUs were signed with Chinese partners including: CSUS, EFG and GIUI.



(First left) Konrad Otto-Zimmermann, EAS Founding Director and Senior Advisor, (third left) Shu Zhu, EAS Regional Director and China Representative and (second left) Alex Zhang, Executive Director of EFG facilitated the discussion at the Sub-plenary on China's urbanization at ICLEI World Congress 2015.

- **EcoProcura® China 2015:** Green Public Procurement: EAS organized the sub-forum in cooperation with Guizhou Province, Guiyang City, CBCSD, CEC, EFG and others.
- **COP21:** ICLEI hosted a session on low-carbon development with support from the NDRC on 5 December, and co-hosted a session on achieving GHG emission peaking in development countries with NDRC on 2 December. EAS also invited and facilitated the participation of Chinese city delegates, as well as their presentation on the Cities and Regions Pavilion-TAP2015.
- **CCUCC:** EAS invited and facilitated Chinese cities to join the program. So far, three Chinese cities including Guiyang, Jilin and Shenzhen, have confirmed their participation in the program.
- **Sino-Europe Sub-forum on Resilient Cities and Water Management:** EAS organized the sub-forum along with CSUS during the 10th International Conference on China Urban Water Development, which was organized by CSUS, China Urban Water Association, Guangdong Province's Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and the Government of Zhuhai.
- **Sustainable Urban China Conference at Metropolitan Solutions 2015:** EAS invited and facilitated the participation of a Chinese delegation formed by local government leaders and representative from MoHURD, businesses and organizations at the conference.
- **EU-China Forum on Sustainable Urban Development:** EAS hosted the Session on Green Development & Low-carbon City session on 18 December, during the EU-China Forum on Sustainable Urban Development organized jointly by CCUD, NDRC and the Foshan City Government.



Shu Zhu, Regional Director and China Representative of ICLEI EAS facilitated the Session on Green Development and Low-carbon City at the EU-China Forum on Sustainable Urban Development in December 2015.



Shu Zhu, Regional Director and China Representative of ICLEI EAS chaired the discussion at Sino-Europe sub-forum on Resilient Cities and Water Management in Zhuhai in November 2015.



# KNOWLEDGE SHARING

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

## Knowledge Sharing

EAS shared its knowledge and expertise in forums, conferences and workshops organized by our partners and Seoul City. In 2015, we presented in the following events:

- China International Urbanization Forum 2015, Shanghai, 17-19 April
- China low carbon forum in Shenzhen, 18 June
- 2015 (the 10th) Conference on Urban Development and Planning, Guangzhou: EAS spoke on the session “Energy efficient and eco-friendly Urbanization in Germany and China” on 23 July, cohosted by the German Energy Agency Deutsche Energie-Agentur GmbH (dena) and the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MoHURD)
- Sustainable Development and business practices 2015 Green Supply China Forum, 22 October
- Working Group Meeting of the Sino-German Urbanization Partnership, Beijing, 12 November
- UN Conference on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change, Beijing, 13 November
- Seminar on ASEAN-China Partnership for Ecologically Friendly Urban Development, Beijing, 17-18 November
- Chengdu Workshop on Urban Sustainable Development and Biodiversity, Chengdu, 24 November
- Seoul International Organization Forum hosted by SMG on 27 May
- 1st Korea-China Experts Joint Workshop on Green Technology Workshop with GTC-K in Seoul on 27 August
- International Symposium: Communications for Safe Cities hosted by Seoul Metropolitan Government Research of Public Health and Environment (SIHE) in Seoul on 7 October
- North-East Asia Low Carbon City Platform session organized by UNESCAP East and Northeast Asia Office in Songdo on 15 December



EAS shared its experience in facilitating regional cooperation between cities at the 1st Korea-China Experts Joint Workshop on Green Technology Workshop organized by GTC-K in Seoul.



Shu Zhu, Regional Director and China Representative of ICLEI EAS introducing the work of ICLEI at Seoul International Organization Forum in April 2015.

## Cooperation with Seoul City

In 2015, EAS has strengthened its cooperation with Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG) through regular meetings, knowledge sharing, and partnering in events and projects. Some key activities EAS has worked closely with SMG in 2015 include:

- **ICLEI World Congress 2015:** EAS supported the organization of the congress by inviting and facilitating Chinese and Mongolian cities to participate in the congress. EAS also organized the Youth Model ICLEI World Congress 2015 in February with SMG to promote ICLEI World Congress 2015 held in April.
- **GLCN on SP:** EAS acts as the liaison body between ICLEI European Secretariat, the network's secretariat, and Seoul City, the Chair of the network.
- **Partnership with Seoul Human Resources Development Center (SHRDC):** In May, EAS signed MoU with SHRDC to promote cooperation between the two organizations, particularly in capacity building for local governments in the East Asia region.



EAS presented its workplan to Seoul Metropolitan Government and representatives from other international NGOs working in the field of urban sustainability in Seoul during a luncheon hosted by (left) Seoul Mayor Won-soon Park.

## Case Studies & Publications

**ICLEI Case studies: Urban Sustainability in East Asia** - To facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experience and expertise on urban sustainability between East Asian cities, and to showcase their achievements to cities worldwide, EAS is compiling a case studies series focusing on East Asian cities. The series will include new ICLEI case studies on Chinese cities, as well as translated case studies on ICLEI Member cities in English and East Asian languages. Some of the major themes covered by the series include: low-carbon cities, eco-cities, resilience and sponge city, green public procurement, ecomobility, transition to green economy, etc.

**EcoProcura 2015 Report** - To document the “EcoProcura® 2015: Green Public Procurement” sub-forum held in Guiyang, China, on 28 June 2015 during the Eco-Forum Global Annual Conference, EAS produced a forum report to capture the key learnings, outcomes and highlights of the forum. The report is available on EAS website in Chinese and English.

## Communications

### ICLEI East Asia Leaders Interview Series

At the occasion of ICLEI World Congress 2015, EAS interviewed a number of key East Asian city leaders, including mayors, government officials and experts in the field of urban sustainability from Greater China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia. The series is divided into three parts, in which these leaders shared their views and insights on global sustainability, the solutions used by their cities to tackle urban challenges, as well as the successful sustainability projects and achievements in their cities. The interview videos can be viewed with English and Chinese subtitles on EAS website.



### Website and other online platforms

During the year, EAS provided updates on ICLEI’s work and activities to its Members, partners and friends through various online communication platforms, including the website which is available in three languages (English, Chinese & Korean), e-newsletters and social media channels like Facebook, Twitter, Vimeo and Youku.



# OUR STAFF

The ICLEI East Asia team consists of staff with East Asian roots and have good command in English, East Asian languages and global knowledge on urban sustainability.



## **Shu Zhu, Regional Director, ICLEI's China Representative**

Shu is Regional Director of EAS and also serves as ICLEI's China Representative. He has extensive experience in sustainable development and regional cooperation. Previously, he held leadership position at the UNDP Secretariat for Greater Tumen Initiative (GTI), an intergovernmental economic cooperation mechanism between China, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation, where he led the successful expansion of the organization and its programs. He was also a journalist and editor at the People's Daily and a senior manager at Telstra. He holds an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master in Comparative Local Development from University of Regensburg, University of Trento and Corvinus University of Budapest.



## **Konrad Otto-Zimmermann, Senior Advisor, Founding Director**

Konrad provides advisory support in the development of EAS's activities. He 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. 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.



## **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 secondeed 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.



## **Kyungho Lee, Finance Officer**

Kyungho is a secondeed dispatched from SMG. He is responsible for the financial management of EAS. Before joining ICLEI, he has worked at SMG for seven years in various divisions, including the division on budget and support for small and mid-sized businesses.



## **Qiaoqiao Xu, Program Officer**

Qiaoqiao contributes to the EAS program team and coordinates the relations with Chinese partners. She contributes to the design and implementation of various regional and global initiatives like the on-going Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program and CCUCC. She also coordinates the relations with Chinese partners. Her previous work experience includes writing reports and conducting research in the field of low carbon cities at UNESCAP in Bangkok, Thailand; and supporting the carbon neutral project at Kawartha Land Trust in Peterborough, Canada.

**Nancy Ning, Project Officer**

Nancy supports various ICLEI projects and coordinates EAS's relation with Chinese cities. She has facilitated various ICLEI projects such as ICLEI World Congress 2015, EcoMobility Festival 2015 and Transformative Action Program 2015. She also supports the establishment of partnerships with Chinese cities. She is very interested in exploring the potential of inter-regional knowledge exchange in promoting sustainable development for cities. Before joining ICLEI, she worked as a field assistant at the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat in Seoul.

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

Shermaine is responsible for EAS's corporate communications and knowledge management. She designs and creates various communication products, manages various online communication platforms and social media channels, and promotes ICLEI's work in the region. She also manages the research and development of ICLEI case studies. Before joining EAS, she has worked at the ICLEI World Secretariat in Bonn, Germany. Her previous work experience include humanitarian reporting at UNOCHA in Bangkok, research at Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, and policy analysis and administration in Hong Kong.

**Kang Chen, China Relations Assistant**

Kang supports urban research and the implementation of projects related to China at EAS. His previous work experiences include supporting green growth programmes at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Geneva, conducting research on local informal economy with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Ethiopia, and participating in research projects related to urban sustainability issues in China (e.g., GI-REC).

**Yan Ying, China Relations Assistant**

Yan supports urban research and the organization and implementation of projects and events related to China. He has a background in urban sustainable development, and his work and research experience cover topics in urban sustainability in China, Korea and USA. He holds a master degree in Public Administration with a focus in Urban Policy. At ICLEI, Yan supports China projects through researching best practices, translating event material and communicating with stakeholders. Previously, he worked for the Carl Vinson Institute of Government as a Program Assistant and interned at the Carter Center.

**Departed Staff****Hojeong Jang, Finance Officer (January 2015-January 2016)**

Hojeong was a secondee from the SMG. During her time with EAS, she was responsible for financial management. 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.

**Rahul T. Vaswani, Sustainability Consultant (July 2014-January 2016)**

During Rahul's time with EAS, he coordinated and developed the Energy-safe Cities East Asia Program which aims at building the capacity of local governments in East Asia for urban energy sustainability. He coordinated 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.





## ICLEI East Asia Annual Report 2015

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ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is the world's leading network of over 1,000 cities, towns and metropolises with the mission to promote global sustainability through local actions.



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