

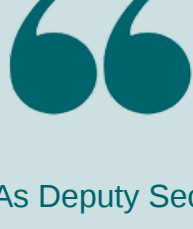


Newsletter

May, 2024



Message from the interim Regional Director, Kobie Brand



As Deputy Secretary General of ICLEI, I feel very privileged to be taking on the temporary role of interim Regional Director for the ICLEI Oceania Office while we undertake a comprehensive revitalisation of ICLEI across the Oceania region. Since assuming this role in January 2024, I am fully committed to strengthening our work and partnerships across the Oceania region, as well as building and leading an extended, dynamic and multi-talented team while in this position. I'd also like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt congratulations to both the new RexCoM and the Company Management Board, and express special gratitude to the City of Melbourne for continuing to host our growing ICLEI Oceania team in our beautiful, centrally located offices in the heart of Melbourne, a city at the forefront of sustainability innovation which inspires many others across the region and indeed, globally.



Welcoming our new Regional Executive Committee (RexCom) and Board

In January this year, ICLEI's nine Regional Executive Committees were announced after an 8-month globally executed election process. The ICLEI Regional Executive Committees each represent one of the nine ICLEI regions worldwide, and together make up the ICLEI Council that represents ICLEI's global subnational Membership. As part of this process, ICLEI Oceania's new Board was also elected and inaugurated.

[Welcoming our new RexCom](#)



ICLEI to enter into a renewed MoU with ALGA to strengthen multi-level governance

The Board of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) recently approved a second memorandum of understanding (MoU) with ICLEI Oceania. The MoU, which is key to strengthening the existing partnership with Australia's peak local government body, identifies mutual priorities from ICLEI's five core development pathways and ALGA's strategic priorities over the next couple of years to maximise the economic, environmental and social well-being through collective local action across Australia.

[Read more](#)

Expanded ICLEI Oceania meets with its key climate partners



In March, the expanded ICLEI Oceania team, including ICLEI Deputy Secretary General, Ms Kobie Brand, had the pleasure of hosting a number of representatives from its Australian partners, with the aim of sharing information and exploring synergies. These partners included Better Futures Australia (BFA), an active alliance of peak body climate advocacy groups, Climateworks Centre (Monash University), and the Melbourne Centre for Cities (University of Melbourne).

[Read more](#)

ICLEI's growing presence in the Pacific

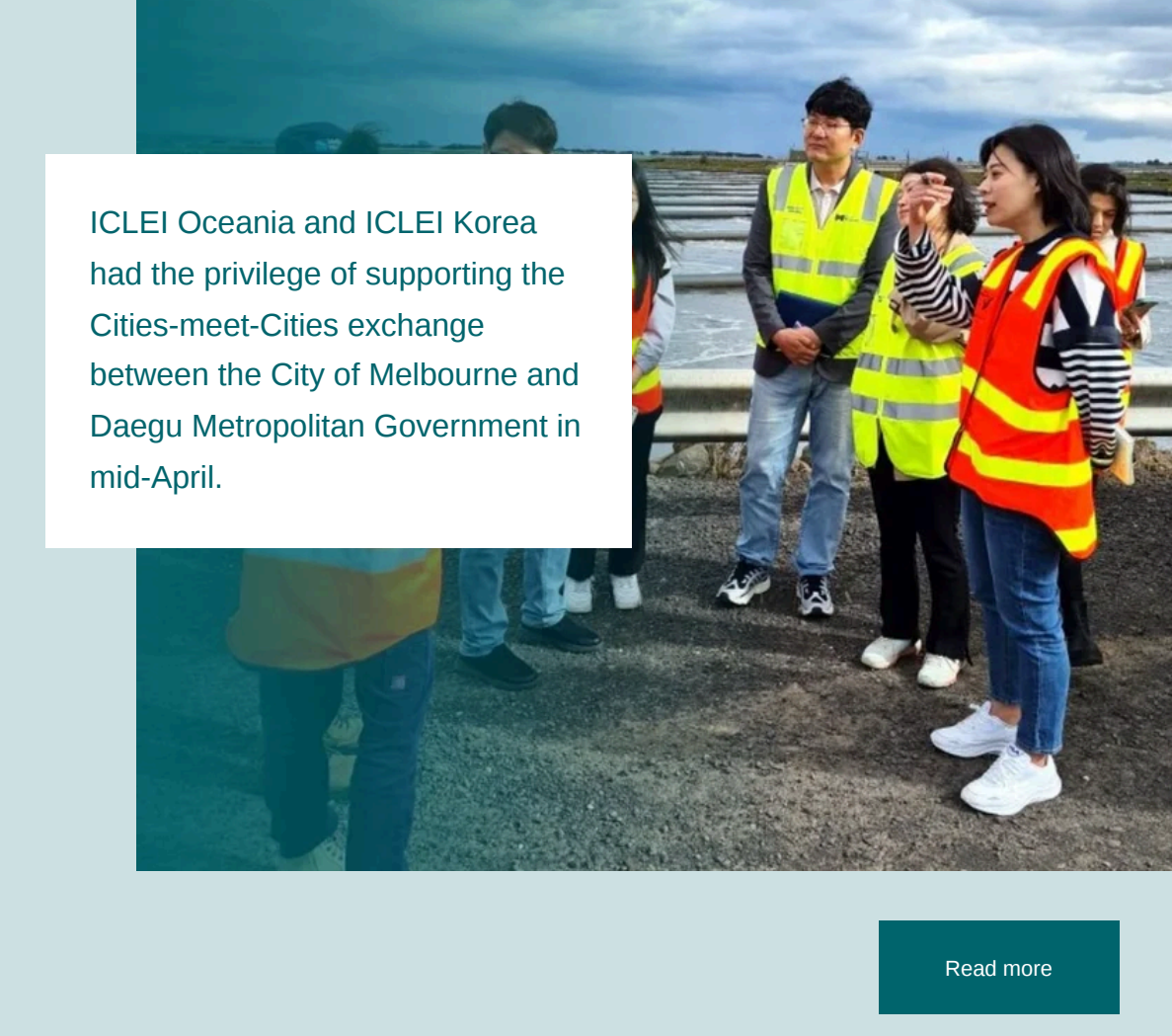


The Pacific Islands are harbingers of climate change, being some of the most vulnerable places in the world. However, they are tackling climate change threats head-on and finding new ways to build resilience to rising sea levels, water stress and food insecurity.

A growing group of Pacific towns and cities is working with ICLEI Oceania – as ICLEI Members, signatories to the Global Covenant of Mayors, and/or participants in ICLEI projects and events.

[Read more](#)

City exchange creates rich learning opportunity to share best practices



ICLEI Oceania and ICLEI Korea had the privilege of supporting the Cities-meet-Cities exchange between the City of Melbourne and Daegu Metropolitan Government in mid-April.

[Read more](#)

Partnerships and stronger regulation will help cities embrace the circular economy challenge

At ICLEI we advocate for and deliver projects that support the transition to a **circular economy**. Circular economy projects promote business models and economic behaviour patterns that commit to the value and utility of products, components, materials and nutrients for as long as possible in order to close material loops, thus minimising the use of resources and the generation of waste.

[Read more](#)



New **CitiesWithNature GUIDE** launched for urban ecosystem restoration. Access it [here](#).

Keep up to date with **CitiesWithNature** and **RegionsWithNature** by reading and signing up to the global **BUZZ newsletter**.

CitiesWithNature & RegionsWithNature





Join us at the **ICLEI World Congress 2024**
18-21 June • São Paulo, Brazil

[worldcongress.iclei.org](#)

ICLEI and the City of São Paulo, Brazil, invite local and regional government leaders and officials from around the world to participate in the ICLEI World Congress 2024. At this international four-day event, which runs 18 - 21 June 2024, local and regional governments can showcase, celebrate and exchange on the vision of a sustainable urban future.

[Read more](#)

Other key events

Global Events

10th World Water Forum, 18-25 May 2024, Bali, Indonesia.
Theme: Water for Shared Prosperity

UNFCCC 60th sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies Bonn Climate Change Conference, 27 May - 02 June 2024, World Conference Center Bonn

Daring Cities Bonn Dialogues (In person), 3-5 June 2024

The UN Summit of the Future, New York City, 22-23 September 2024

12th World Urban Forum, Cairo, Egypt, 4-8 November 2024

UNFCCC COP 29 Climate Change Conference, Baku, Azerbaijan, 11-22 November 2024

UN Convention on Biodiversity COP 16, Cali, Colombia, 21 October-1 November 2024

UN Convention to Combat Desertification COP 16, Saudi Arabia, 2-13 December 2024

Regional Events

A Climate Technology Roadmap for New Zealand: 21 May 2024, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm NZST, Innovation Studio, Auckland CBD, Auckland, New Zealand

4th Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference: 21-23 May 2024 in Apia, Samoa

Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly: 2-4 July 2024, National Convention Centre Canberra

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand's Impact Assessment Symposium on Nature Positive and Low Carbon Economy Transitions: 26 & 27 August 2024 in Brisbane, Queensland

Victorian Greenhouse Alliances Conference: 30 August 2024, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Global Nature Positive Summit: 8-10 October 2024, International Convention Centre, Sydney

Better Futures Forum Australia: 10-11 September 2024, Canberra & online

Introducing the ICLEI Oceania team

[Read our team bios](#)



Kobie Brand
Interim Regional Director



Steve Gawler
Director: International Programs



Sharin Govender
Senior Professional Officer



Luigi Zarro
Senior Professional Officer



Cara Horner
Senior Professional Officer



Michelle Preen
Interim Director: Communications



Kate Strachan
Special Advisor on Coastal Management



Thea Lamarque
Interim Communications Manager



Stephanie Babef
Interim Financial Manager



Marina Reyskens Lutz
Interim Coordinator: City Diplomacy & International Relations



[Visit our global ICLEI website here](#)

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