



December News 2022



Seasons GREETINGS And Happy New Year

Offices will be closed Dec. 23 - Jan 3

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News

A mission for biological diversity



COP15 on the [UN Convention on Biological Diversity](#) has been held in Montréal this month where nations adopted an all-important [10-year global agreement to protect and enhance biodiversity](#).

This is the only UN convention with a built-in local government role. ICLEI has held a concurrent [Summit for Subnational Governments & Cities at COP15](#) and has been such a buzz to join hundreds of local government delegates so committed to protecting and enhancing nature and biodiversity for their communities.



Cr. Amanda Stone, Chair of the ICLEI Oceania Regional Executive Committee and other delegates in attendance at the COP15 Convention on Biodiversity in Montréal Canada. [Read more.](#)

COP27 in Review



The 27th Conference of Parties (COP 27) brought people from all over the globe to once again discuss climate change impacts. Some of the key foci during the two-week session were nature and biodiversity, our fragile food systems, and the need for faster adaptation and greater resilience to our changing climate. Read more below:

- [In a historic move, nature takes center stage at COP27](#)
- [Adaptation and resilience at COP27: Priorities for implementation](#)
- [At last, COP27 spotlights Food Systems](#)

Become a Founder of the CitiesWithNature Academy

There are still a limited number of places for interested councils, please contact the [ICLEI Oceania office](#) to explore this opportunity.

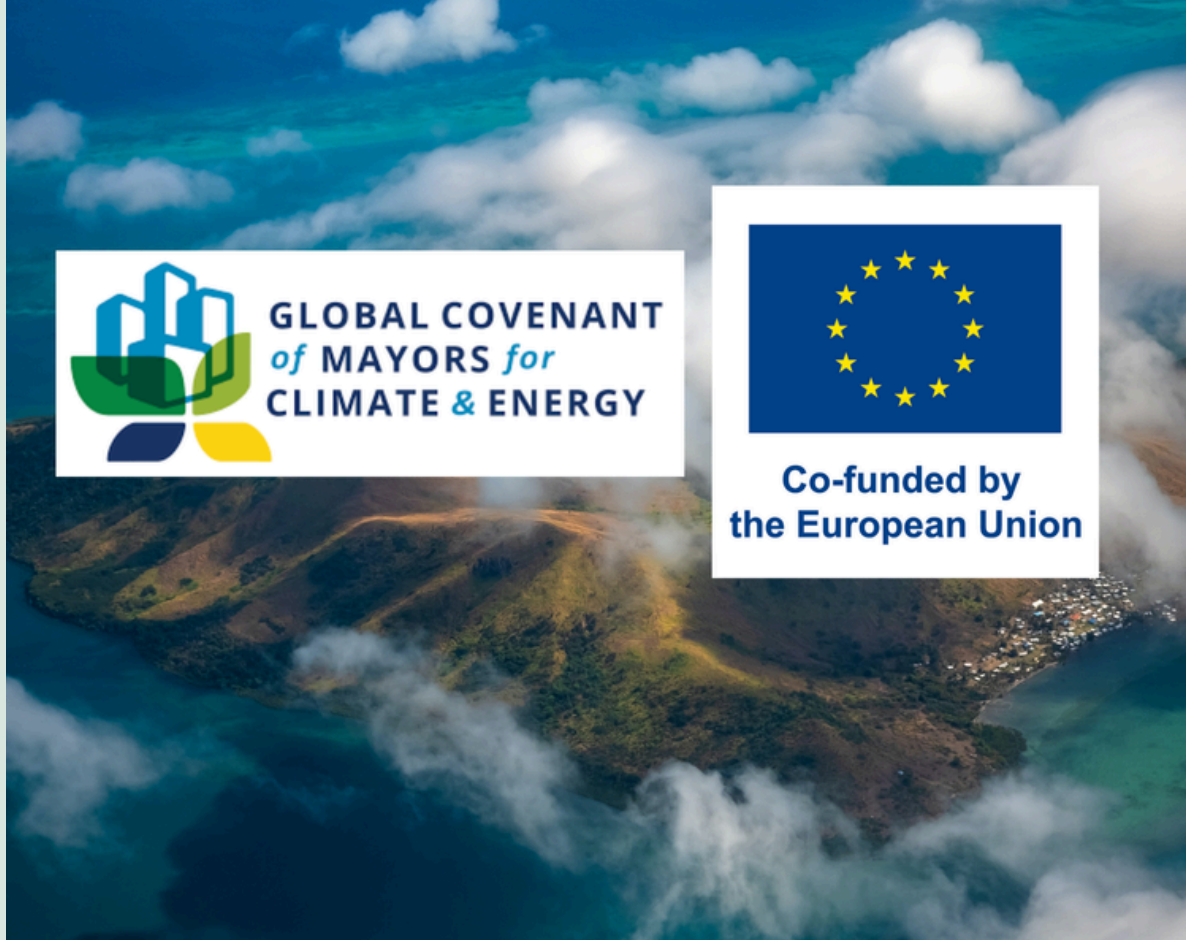
Expressions of interest are now being considered from Australian councils interested in being part of a small Founders cohort for the new [CWN Academy](#). The Academy will be an opportunity for councils to co-design and use resource materials for:

- Councillors and Executive Management
- Practitioners and Professionals
- Community members

Based on extensive research of Nature Based Solutions in Australia and on the [Biodiversity Convention \(COP15 in Canada this month\)](#), the Academy will connect councils with thought leaders, international best practices and research.

For more information contact: ICLEI Oceania Director Steve Gawler Steve.Gawler@ICLEI.org or Program Consultant Helaine Stanley helaine@226strategic.com.au

Meeting the challenges of the Pacific



ICLEI Oceania, as the regional secretariat of the [Global Covenant of Mayors](#) for the Oceania region, is supporting the current Global Covenant mission to the Pacific Islands. Steve Gawler, ICLEI Oceania Regional Director, has been part of the team visiting the Solomon Islands and Fiji to talk with national government representatives and several towns and cities selected to receive technical assistance funded by the [European Union](#) to prepare Climate Action Plans. [Read more.](#)

Councils shaping the global nature agenda



Biodiversity is declining worldwide and is projected to continue or worsen if action isn't taken. That was the theme of the recent CitiesWithNature Webinar "Councils shaping the global nature agenda" which brought over 100 people from around the world to learn how the CitiesWithNature Action Platform and the newly launched CitiesWithNature Academy can amplify local government actions. [Watch the webinar](#)

Welcoming new Oceania signatories to the Global Covenant of Mayors



The [Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy \(GCoM\)](#) has grown by great strides in the Oceania region and now includes the membership of councils of Labasa, Savusavu and Lautoka City. Islands are some of the world's most vulnerable populations to climate change's impacts, but they can benefit the greatest from support from the global community and programs like GCoM. As the region's secretariat to the Global Covenant of Mayors, [ICLEI Oceania](#) welcomes these new signatories.



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