

ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection® Frequently Asked Questions

What is ICLEI?

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives is a non-profit international association of local governments dedicated to addressing environmental problems through local actions.

What is the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign?

Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign is an ICLEI program assisting cities and counties in reducing the pollution that causes global warming.

How many cities and counties participate?

As of August 1, 2001, 110 cities and counties in the United States and over 400 worldwide are participants in Cities for Climate Protection Campaign. The program began in 1994.

How does a jurisdiction join CCP?

Any city, county, or town can join the CCP by passing a legislative resolution or, less commonly, by making an executive proclamation. ICLEI can provide you with a sample resolution.

What do participating jurisdictions do?

Participants in the CCP commit to reduce local emissions that contribute to global warming. The process consists of working through five CCP milestones:

- 1) Conduct a local emissions inventory and forecast of greenhouse gas emissions
- 2) Adopt an emissions reduction target
- 3) Draft an action plan to achieve the target
- 4) Implement the action plan
- 5) Evaluate and report on progress

How do jurisdictions benefit from CCP?

Cities and counties in the CCP not only reduce global warming pollution, but also cut traffic, save money, clean the air, and improve quality of life in their communities.

CCP participants have access to a national and worldwide network of local governments acting to protect the climate through innovative and proven projects.

ICLEI develops and provides case studies, training workshops and other publications and learning opportunities, as well as offers occasional competitive grants.

ICLEI staff assist with the emissions inventory and connect you with government and other resources.

How much staff time does CCP require?

An existing staff member in a department such as Energy, Planning, Public Works, etc. usually takes on the work of CCP and acts as staff liaison to the campaign. How much time is required will vary with the size and complexity of your local government and the pace at which you choose to complete the milestones.

How can we find staff assistance?

Most CCP participants have used existing staff to complete all of the work. However:

Some participants have hired a local student intern excited to work on a city-wide emissions inventory and help devise an action plan. ICLEI can provide a sample job description as well as tips on finding and working with an intern. Work study and course credit can make student interns cost effective.

Some cities and counties have hired a local energy or environment expert as a consultant.

A few participants have received grant funding; ICLEI can also offer suggestions on seeking grants.

How do we do an emissions inventory?

The CCP staff liaison, intern, or consultant collects relevant data on local transportation, waste, and energy consumption. ICLEI provides forms for collecting data and software for conducting the emissions inventory. The software computes emissions numbers as well as co-benefits such as cost savings and criteria air pollution prevention. This inventory establishes a baseline.

How do we develop our emissions reduction plan?

ICLEI provides new cities and counties with a "Toolkit" which will guide you in detail through the CCP milestone process and will help you identify emissions reduction ideas and strategies. Samples of action plans prepared by other CCP local governments are also available from ICLEI.

What happens to our Plan?

The action plan helps cities and counties design a local strategy, but CCP focuses on taking action. CCP participants implement concrete pollution cutting measures, quantify the benefits, and track success in meeting targets in an ongoing fashion.

How much does CCP cost?

Joining CCP is free and does not require being a member of ICLEI. However there are benefits to ICLEI membership and many CCP local governments do choose to become members of ICLEI. E.g. The emissions analysis software license costs \$475 for non-ICLEI members and \$240 for ICLEI members.

What about joining ICLEI?

ICLEI member-jurisdictions pay an annual membership fee that depends on their population. Members attend worldwide forums, receive discounts on workshop and other fees, have access to all ICLEI resources and programs, and participate in steering ICLEI.

To learn more about
ICLEI and the Cities
for Climate Protection
Campaign,

visit our web site at
www.iclei.org/us, or
contact us at 510.540.8843.