

What if... your leadership on climate protection, and the leadership of your peers throughout the ICLEI network, could all be visually highlighted in one online location?

What if the emissions-reduction experiences of hundreds of cities, towns and counties could be captured and delivered to you in the form of one powerful advising tool?

What if we could take a little more of the guess work out of climate action planning?

Advancing Climate Action: New Tools & Opportunities

ICLEI-USA is looking forward. Awareness of the challenges and opportunities inherent in climate change, and support for climate action, is greater than ever. Along with this increased attention has come increased scrutiny. People everywhere – community members, the media, state and federal officials – are clamoring for solutions and for evidence that our local approach is working.

As always, ICLEI is taking responsibility for sharpening the cutting edge of local climate action. On behalf of local governments nationwide, ICLEI is developing new tools that will help you to save energy, reduce emissions and demonstrate the results of your achievements.

These tools represent tremendous opportunities for you and your peers to maximize the effectiveness of your local climate protection efforts. Over the next few months, we will need your help to build them. See below for descriptions of these new tools and what you can do to help.



New Web-based Local Climate Action Map

This summer, ICLEI will launch a new web-tool to better capture the climate protection leadership of your local government and all of your peers.

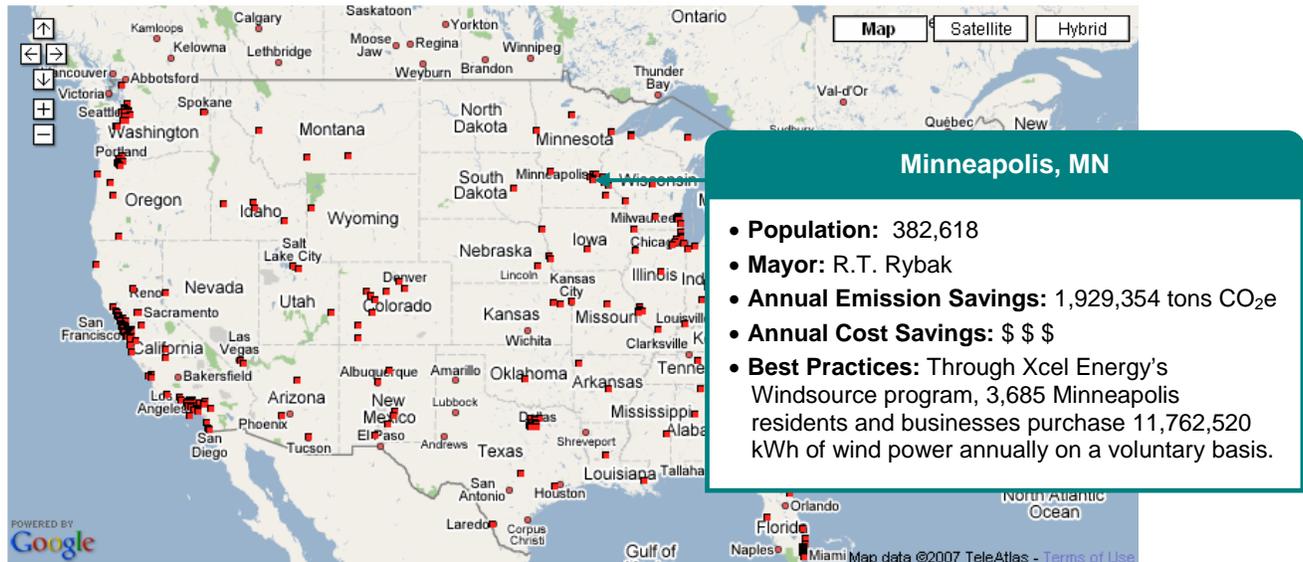
The Local Climate Action Map will publicly showcase your climate protection achievements. Using this tool, we plan to trumpet your successes to the media as well as other local governments, state and federal lawmakers, the EPA and other agencies with the intent of stimulating support for new local government climate protection activities. The map will be highlighted on our www.coolmayors.org website.

To populate this new web-tool, ICLEI needs to gather current information on the emissions reductions achieved to date from all participants of our Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) campaign. In addition, we will be looking for any available cost savings data, and examples of implemented actions to highlight. ICLEI staff will be eager to assist you in quantifying your achievements for inclusion on the map.

Together, we can show the world further evidence of the local climate protection progress you are creating every day.



Local Climate Action Map Example



All ICLEI member local governments will be shown on the map, as well as invited to display their achievements in emissions reductions and cost savings.

Shared Perspective: The New Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant

We know how difficult it can be to determine the best set of measures for meeting your local climate protection goals. What are your options? Should your climate action plan include a little of everything, or focus on key opportunities? How can you compare strategies as different as parking incentives, lighting retrofits and compost programs? Hasn't someone out there gone through this before?

ICLEI is developing a new decision support tool to help you take a little more of the guess work out of developing your local climate protection and air quality improvement plans.

The new Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant tool will help you to create a draft climate action plan based on your own inputs and the shared experiences of all of your peers throughout the ICLEI network. More than 100 emissions-reducing strategies will be profiled in the tool, each ranked against key decision criteria most commonly considered by local governments. We're putting the knowledge and wisdom of the ICLEI network in the palm of your hand.

We pride ourselves on offering you practical, state-of-the-art tools that add value to your climate protection activities. To create the Climate and Air Pollution Planning Assistant, we need each of you to contribute a little information based on your own experiences implementing climate protection strategies. The quality of service provided by this tool will be determined primarily by the insight you provide.

Let's make developing effective climate action plans a little easier for all of us.

We Need Your Help

In order to complete these new tools, we will need contributions from every ICLEI member local government. We are mindful of your time, and will make it as easy as possible for you to provide your insights. Over the next couple months, you will be contacted by an ICLEI staff person who will provide all the specifics.

These tools are *your* tools, and we salute your participation in their development. If we all contribute a little bit of time (less than ten hours) and a little bit of insight, the results will be powerful.

Thank you for leading the way.