

MEDC RESILIENCY TOOL PROFILE

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR CLIMATE ACTION

- **Ambitious** | setting goals and targets toward real, progressive action
- **Inclusive** | involves partnerships with governments, other communities, and other stakeholders from planning through implementation
- **Fair** | shares responsibility and benefits equally across the municipality
- **Comprehensive & Integrated** | both sectoral and cross-sectoral, involving regional initiatives and varying degrees of governance
- **Relevant** | supports local efforts and focuses on solving challenges that residents are facing
- **Actionable** | cost effective and realistically implementable
- **Evidence-based** | utilizes scientific data as well as qualitative community input to inform decision-making

The Local Governments for Sustainability, or ICLEI (formerly the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) is a network of professionals focused on sustainable urban development and systemic change related to climate action. These professionals work across many different sectors, branches of government, and within non-governmental organizations. By involving professionals across different disciplines, ICLEI is able to produce comprehensive and robust strategies for cities to implement.

ICLEI has provided [Guiding Principles for Climate Action Planning](#) as well as a [Climate Neutrality Framework](#) to assist communities in defining and implementing targeted actions for creating a more resilient future; these strategies can easily be incorporated into your next Comprehensive Plan or Climate Action Plan. We know city staff are busy, and taking on new challenges like climate action planning can be daunting – thankfully capacity building is a central aspect of ICLEI! This means that professionals who are well-versed in this topic can assist your community with local benchmarking and developing realistic, actionable strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving circularity in your city's waste stream, motivating behavior change, and more. Their tools and resources can not only assist your first efforts toward climate action, but ICLEI can provide city staff with the training needed to continue to plan with sustainability at the forefront of all future efforts. Their services and resources include:

- Training and education materials for *staff and community members* to be able to communicate on the impacts of climate change;
- Greenhouse gas inventories to understand current carbon consumption;
- Goals, targets, and strategies for achieving change;
- Infrastructure vulnerability assessments, and;
- Energy transition pathways.

ICLEI has already partnered with 13 Michigan communities and counting. Learn more about how to get involved [today](#).

