



## SESSION DESCRIPTION

# E1 ICLEI Oceania and sub-national governments collaborating to accelerate climate action

## Panel

**Date:** Friday, 27 April, 2018

**Time:** 14.30–16.00

**Rooms:** S01-02

**Language:** English

**Contact:** Bernie Cotter

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**Organized by:** ICLEI Oceania

## OBJECTIVE

Since the Paris Agreement, cities around the world are mobilizing to take accelerated action to tackle climate change. And so are subnational states and regions. The sweet spot occurs when these two levels of government are able to join forces to align their efforts and give clear and powerful leadership to their communities. This session shows how several sub-national governments in Australia and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy are strongly aligning to provide a framework for measurable action to meet community and legislative targets.

The session presented a brief case study of the State of Victoria's climate change commitments, including the Take 2 Pledge Program and recently adopted Climate Change Act. The Take 2 Pledge program isn't just for local government. It is also a program for government operations, businesses and the community and has already attracted over 8,500 pledge participants. A brief case study from the Australian Capital Territory (Canberra) will also be presented to show how a "City-State" can drive zero net emissions.

The panel also considered:

- how the Victorian sub-regional "Climate Change Alliance" clusters are providing the engine room for climate innovation with members councils.
- encouraging adoption of science-based target setting at the local level to complement state or national targets

## OUTCOMES

Participants gained a greater understanding of:

- how the framework of the Global Covenant can increase the effectiveness alignment subnational programs
- how comprehensive climate change programs when underpinned by robust legislation can drive whole of community change and achievement of ambitious targets
- how state and local governments can align their climate targets and action to contribute to achievement of the Paris Climate Agreement:
- how encouraging the adoption of science-based target setting can complement state or national targets



## METHODOLOGY

- Introduction and welcome remarks by the facilitator. **(10 minutes)**
- Panel discussions. **(3 x 10 minutes)**
- Questions by and discussion with the audience. **(30 minutes)**
- Wrap up and closing remarks. **(10 minutes)**

## CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator	<i>Steve Gawler, Regional Director, ICLEI Oceania, Melbourne, Australia</i>
Panelist	<i>Stephanie Ziersch, Director, Communities and Climate Change, Sustainability Victoria, Melbourne, Australia</i>
Panelist	<i>Geoffrey Rutledge, Deputy Director-General, Sustainability and the Built Environment, Australian Capital Territory Government, Canberra, Australia</i>
Panelist	<i>Cesar Carreño, Senior Project Officer, Low Carbon Team, ICLEI World Secretariat, Bonn, Germany</i>
Panelist	<i>Alexi Lynch, Business Manager, Ironbark Sustainability, Melbourne, Australia</i>

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### **Further recommended reading**

IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5): <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/>

Johannesburg GDS 2040: [http://www.joburg.org.za/gds2040/gds2040\\_strategy.php](http://www.joburg.org.za/gds2040/gds2040_strategy.php)

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