

Dialogue 4

Local Action in China to Implement the Kunming-Montreal Framework

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Interact-Bio

Interact-Bio is implemented by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, with support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) through the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The project aims to enhance the use and management of nature in fast-growing cities and their surrounding regions, particularly in the Global South, by promoting nature-based solutions and their benefits.

It helps governments at all levels integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into core urban functions such as spatial planning, land-use management, infrastructure design, and local economic development. The project also supports city-regions in identifying and leveraging the value of nature to deliver essential services and economic opportunities, while safeguarding the ecosystems on which these benefits depend. This contributes to more resilient and sustainable urban development.

In China, the project is managed and implemented by the ICLEI East Asia Secretariat through its Beijing Office.

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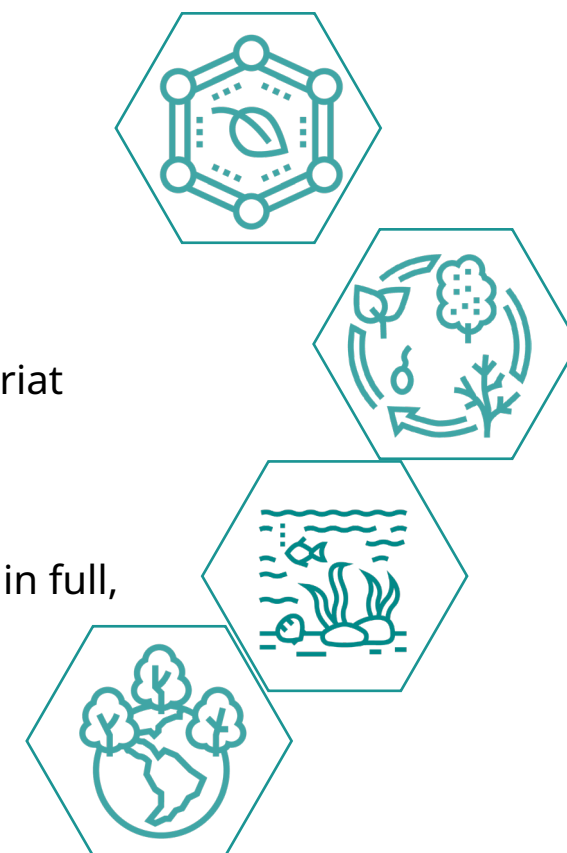
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On 25 October 2024, the Local and Subnational Governments (LSNG) event was held in the Multistakeholder Auditorium, with three sessions focusing on cities in Africa, South America, and China respectively. The session for Chinese cities was hosted by the ICLEI East Asia Secretariat on the theme 'Local action in China to implement the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework' supported by INTERACT-Bio. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Ninghe District of Tianjin, Beijing City and Kunming City shared their progress and achievements in biodiversity conservation and ecological civilisation building, and demonstrated the efforts and effectiveness of Chinese local actions in promoting the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Framework. At the same time, international cities and regions such as Yokohama and Kobe in Japan and the Waterberg District in South Africa were invited to participate in the exchanges, which promoted interactions between local governments in China and abroad in the promotion of biodiversity conservation and the synergistic implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Framework.

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Kin-Fung Chan, Assistant Director (Conservation), The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government

Kin-Fung Chan introduced Hong Kong's Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan which is applicable to the entire society. Hong Kong will launch this 10-year action plan in 2025, focusing on mainstreaming conservation, capacity building and partnerships for biodiversity conservation. Hui Bing, Mayor of Ninghe District, Tianjin, highlighted the conservation experience of the Ninghe Qilihai Wetland, one of only three remaining wetlands of ancient coast in the world, in which he emphasised that humans share the same ecosystem with wildlife and the Earth is our common home. The case of the Qilihai Wetland protection and restoration in Ninghe District shows that there can be a win-win situation for ecological protection, urban development, and economic development.



Bing Hui, Mayor of Ninghe District, Tianjin

Liu Wei, Director of the Pollution Control Department, Beijing Municipal Ecology and Environment Bureau, introduced in detail the concrete measures taken and remarkable results achieved by Beijing in synergising pollution control and carbon emission reduction, and promoting urban biodiversity conservation, which fully demonstrated Beijing's strong commitment and outstanding achievements as the capital and international city of China in realising harmonious coexistence between human beings and nature. He Landi, Director of the Ecological Research Center, Kunming Institute of Ecological and Environmental Sciences, introduced the work and initiatives carried out by Kunming, which were to continue the achievements and consensus of COP15 and to promote the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Framework. She also presented the Kunming Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2024-2030).

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Wei Liu, Director of the Pollution Control Department, Beijing Municipal Ecology and Environment Bureau

Nobuaki Sekine, Director of Strategic Planning Division, Green Environment Bureau, Yokohama, Japan, and Precioustone Raputsoa, Municipal Manager of Waterberg District, South Africa, shared the practices and cases of Yokohama City and Waterberg District in biodiversity conservation respectively, and explored effective methods and paths to synergistically promote the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Framework with Chinese cities and international guests.

During the panel discussion, several experts expressed their professional views on how to cooperate for the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Framework. Zhang Yingyi, Founder & Secretary General, Zhilan Foundation, shared the experiences and challenges they have encountered in the biodiversity conservation cases. Atsushi Okada, Director of Natural Environment Division, Environment Bureau, Kobe, Japan, presented the results of biodiversity conservation in Kobe City. Rong Canzhong, Conservation Supervisor, Mangrove Conservation Foundation, summarised the insights of urban biodiversity and gave constructive advice. Chang Jiang, Researcher and Director of Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Research, emphasised that enhanced cooperation among multiple stakeholders, including local governments, could play a more important role in the CBD process.

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During the event, the ICLEI East Asia Secretariat released outcomes such as the Local Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (LBSAP) Guide, the Biodiversity Finance Guide, the Cities Biodiversity Assessment Index (CBI), and the Cities Biodiversity Alliance Platform. These outcomes will serve as important technical support and tools, platform resources to support cities (regions) to carry out biodiversity assessment, monitoring and planning, as well as to provide services and support for biodiversity-related project financing. The Cities Biodiversity Alliance platform will endeavour to build links of communication and cooperation among cities to promote biodiversity mainstreaming and synergistic action among stakeholders.



Outcomes by ICLEI East Asia Secretariat

Through sharing insights and best practices, the event aimed to inspire global stakeholders to work together to contribute to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Framework.



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