



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **LGMA National signs partnership with ICLEI Oceania**

LGMA National is pleased to announce a collaborative new partnership with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Oceania. The partnership will connect governments and share questions and solutions on the issues of global environment and sustainable development issues.

“We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ICLEI Oceania in recognition of the long-term partnership between our organisations and to further strengthen our role in the global network of local government professionals addressing challenges associated with climate impacts, extreme weather and natural disasters at the local level,” said LGMA National Chief Executive Lauren Oakey.

“This is a great opportunity for local governments in Australia to learn from each other and from leading sustainability practitioners in the public sector, and to share best practice.”

Dr Cathy Oke, City of Melbourne Councillor and Chair, ICLEI Oceania Regional Executive Committee welcomed the signing of the MoU. “The partnership with the LGMA will open up opportunities for our associations to undertake collaborative work in our region and especially with Pacific Island local governments and assist them to build their capacity to respond to extreme weather related events and the impacts of climate change”.

#### **Background information**

ICLEI was founded in 1990 as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. ICLEI Oceania is legally represented by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives – Australia/New Zealand Limited. Since the mid -1990s Australia’s city governments have been introducing policies and signing international agreements that seek to reduce the contribution of metropolitan areas to global warming. Australian local governments have been part of an international push by local and regional governments encouraging national governments to look to local experiences when discussing a new climate agreement. They argue that an increase in systematic capacity building and resources on the local level will dramatically help local actions and measures that can build a stronger international climate agreement.

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