

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **EcoLogistics Principles are launched to transform low-emission urban freight transport**

Bonn, Germany (7 October, 2020) - ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability (known as "ICLEI") launches [Eight EcoLogistics Principles](#) that local governments can follow to lead the transition to sustainable urban freight for livable cities.

The COVID-19 crisis has caused unprecedented disruptions for the freight sector, upending global freight volume demand and ripping through supply chains. However, it has also highlighted the importance of logistics operations that bring us goods and there has never been a better moment for cities to reflect on the critical issues concerning the urban freight sector and envision a more sustainable and people-centered mobility ecosystem. Clean, safe and efficient freight is essential to every aspect of life in a city, especially in times of crisis.

EcoLogistics promotes the transportation of goods by giving priority to health, safety, low-emission, and people-centered urban development. It encourages circular and regional economies while limiting the impact of freight transport. The EcoLogistics Principles aim to inspire and support governments at all levels to transform their urban freight systems through collaborative efforts in stakeholder engagement, technologies, policies and land use planning.

Globally, urban freight represents up to 25% of urban vehicles, takes up to 40% of motorized road space, and contributes to up to 40% of urban transport-related CO2 emissions. The EcoLogistics Principles set out how cities can work together to address challenges posed by urban freight such as air pollution, carbon emissions, congestion and road accidents, to ensure low emission solutions are sustained and enhanced over time, scaling up good practices. Sustainable delivery options using non-motorized vehicles and electric vans can improve efficiency and performance of urban freight. Integrating freight into land-use planning can ensure that deliveries are planned into development from the start. The Principles also show how cities should protect land for logistics and provide adequate infrastructure to support consolidation for urban deliveries.

Online shopping is increasing year on year. Advances in technology make just-in-time deliveries possible. These principles bring together guidance to raise customer awareness of the impact of delivery options and encourage behavioral change. To embrace a sustainable urban freight future, governments can also set up training programs for logistics jobs and to make informed decisions in a responsive urban freight transport system.

*"Freight transport and logistics have never been more vital for cities than in these unprecedented times" says ICLEI Secretary General Gino Van Begin. "The EcoLogistics Principles will chart the way to promote clean, sustainable, efficient, and safe urban freight, helping cities to cut emissions and achieve a sustainable future."*

*"We are facing a "new normal," in which urban freight has a crucial role to play in achieving sustainability goals and reducing GHG emissions. This requires active engagement and support of both the public and private sectors. The EcoLogistics Principles are building collaborative and long-term alliances designed to support real sustainable freight solutions" says Patricia Calderón Peña, Executive Director of Despacio.*

*"Driven by ICLEI's vision of EcoLogistics, Taoyuan is implementing innovative logistics-related programs and initiating partnerships with the private sectors to drive our transition to a smart, low emission, people-centered city" says Wen-Tsan Cheng, Mayor of Taoyuan City. "As the Chair of the EcoLogistics Community, Taoyuan municipality endorses the EcoLogistics Principles, which exemplify concrete practices to help cities build sustainable urban freight systems."*

Cities around the world are working with ICLEI through the EcoLogistics project and the EcoLogistics Community and can use these principles as a guide to implement sustainable urban freight planning and policies.

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## **NOTE TO EDITORS**

### **About ICLEI's EcoLogistics initiative**

EcoLogistics promotes transportation of goods by giving priority to health, safety, low-emission, and people-centered urban development. It encourages circular and regional economies while limiting the impact of freight transport. Through the EcoLogistics initiative, ICLEI aims to transform the urban logistics scene in cities through effective regulatory, planning and administrative instruments at all levels of government. By highlighting urban freight as a priority area for local, regional and national governments, ICLEI strengthens institutional capacity through multi-stakeholder participation and encourages a multilevel governance approach to urban freight policy.

Find out more at <https://sustainablemobility.iclei.org/ecologistics-initiative/>

### **About ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability**

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (known as "ICLEI") is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development. Our Members and team of experts work together through peer exchange, partnerships and capacity building to create systemic change for urban sustainability.

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