



Looking Beyond the Cohort: What's Next?

Caroline Dickey, ICLEI USA

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**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

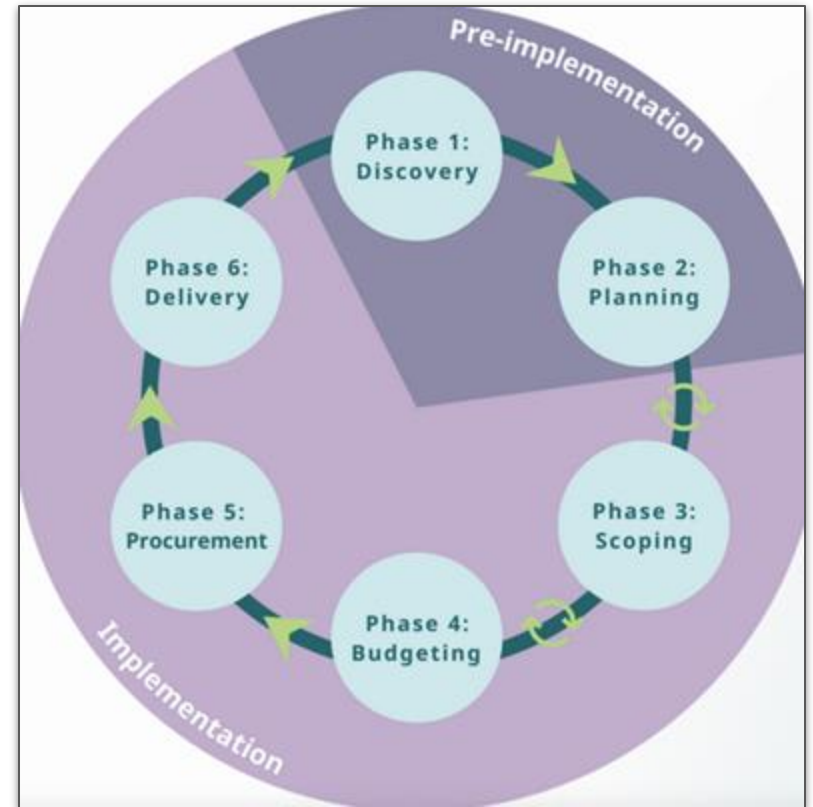
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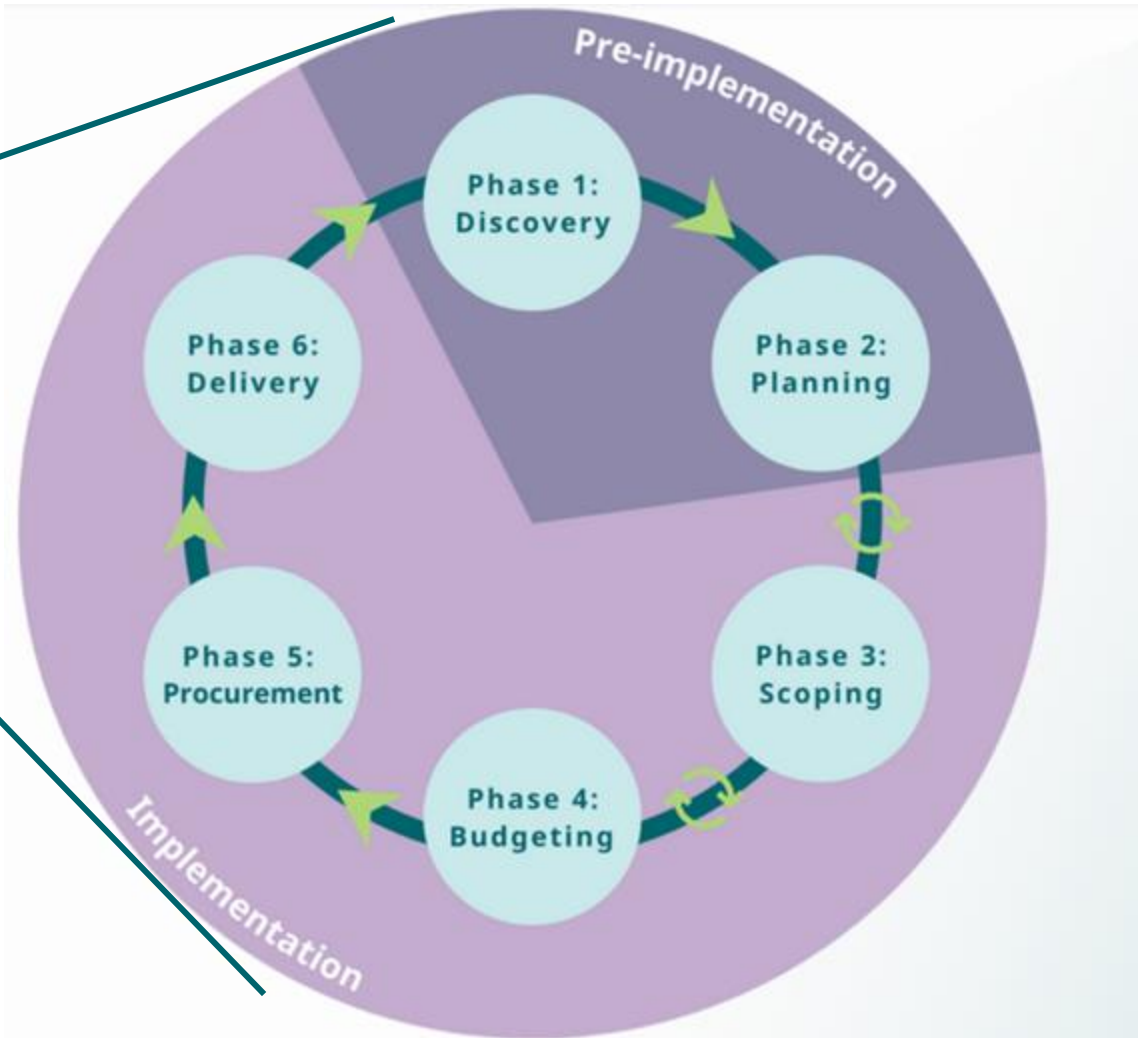
You've done a ton of hard work and completed (or are close) to completing a CAP!

But now what?

**Let's talk
implementation!**







Monitoring Plan



Describe the next steps in the process to implementing and monitoring the progress of your action plan. This may include further outreach efforts, additional feasibility studies that may need to be taken, identification of funding sources, and identification of key partners that will be required for successful implementation.

While some of the actions within the [Jurisdiction]'s Local Government Operations Climate Action Plan are well underway, over the coming months, [Jurisdiction] will engage with stakeholders through a Climate Action Planning Task Force to prepare for any prerequisite or additional actions needed to begin Plan implementation.

These prerequisite actions include:

- Gathering bids for contracted services and equipment.
- Making necessary changes to local policies or existing programs, including staffing.
- Describe the steps you intend to take immediately to kick off your programs, and provide ways for [Jurisdiction] staff to become involved with the Climate Action Plan.

Describe how often you will be checking the progress of your strategies and objectives, as well as how often you will update the GHG inventory or vulnerability assessment. An example monitoring plan is described below.

Establishing a monitoring process enables [Jurisdiction] to track the impacts of the actions included in the plan and compare estimated impacts to what is actually achieved in terms of energy savings, renewable energy production, and GHG emissions reduction. Assessing the implementation status of the

You may have already started this work in your CAP!

Table 8: Monitoring Status

Monitoring Report Component	Action Reporting	Full Reporting
Overall Strategy: Reporting any changes to initial strategy as well as updated information on human and financial resources	Yes	Yes
GHG Emissions Inventories: Provide updated energy consumption and GHG emissions data for the reporting year	No	Yes
Mitigation and Adaptation Action Plans: Report the implementation status (completed, in progress, on hold) of key actions and update their impacts	Yes	Yes

This section starts on page 26 of the template.

Some of the Key Components to Implementation Planning & Success

- Scoping - identifying the *who, what, and how*:
 - ◆ budget (including grant opportunities!), timeline, staff/capacity needs, procurement, equity, and other logistics
- Creating accountability within your team/staff/etc.
- Identifying opportunities and needs for cross-departmental collaboration
- Monitoring plan and how the public (or other relevant stakeholders) will be updated on progress

2023



The Ambition Gap *From Intent to Implementation in Local Climate Action*

POLICY BRIEF

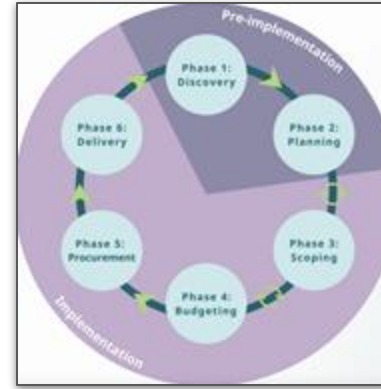


Key Challenges...

and how to get ahead of them

Finding #1:

Local Governments can get stuck in a “failure-to-launch” cycle.



Recommendation:
Move beyond planning and invest more time and resources into implementation of climate action.

Finding #2:

An unprecedented amount of federal investment is being directed to climate action. Successful deployment requires acknowledgement of local governments' agency and capacity.

Recommendation:

Acknowledge and assess the municipality's existing agency and capacity in order to improve alignment, access, and deployment of fiscal resources.

Finding #3:

Major credit rating agencies are moving toward climate-informed ratings for local governments, but few cities feel prepared. Non-financial performance ratings, such as environmental social governance (ESG) measures and climate risks, are influencing financial ratings agencies' assessments of municipal fiscal health.

Recommendation:
Evaluate and communicate the financial implications of climate change and include them in municipal financial models and budget documentation.

Finding #4:

Local governments are not using all of their existing financial and policy capabilities to support climate action.

Recommendation:

Improve the integration and alignment of budgetary and staffing resources and policy tools to be consistent with execution of climate plan objectives.

Finding #5:

Cooperation between financial officers and sustainability officers is largely not happening but is essential to realizing municipal decarbonization.

Recommendation:
Create collaboration structures between financial officers and sustainability officers that align with the climate action plans and annual fiscal decision-making.

Finding #6:

Local governments are in need of increased cross-departmental collaboration on climate action.

Recommendation:

Assess existing government powers and human and financial resources, in order to leverage opportunities for partnerships with other government agencies in their municipality that align with climate plans.

Finding #7:

Special ingredients do exist for climate action plan implementation success. Municipalities have unique tools available to them to address climate change, but they require a bespoke support approach.

Recommendation:
Create collaboration structures between financial officers and sustainability officers that align with the climate action plans and annual fiscal decision-making.

Spectrum of Climate Implementation Readiness

Formative

Advanced



Leadership Support	<input type="checkbox"/> No engagement Management 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Management has been engaged or briefed 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Management has requested information or action 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Management is seeking or pursuing resources or policy development 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Management has approved budget resources and assigning responsibilities for delivery 5
Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> No recognition of the role(s) of government 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited understanding of departments and services 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ability to identify critical services and resources 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Understanding of key people and decision process 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Ability to navigate budget and policy making process 5
Capacity: Staffing	<input type="checkbox"/> No assigned staff 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 staff assigned to acting on determined projects 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Cross Department communication is functional and occurring 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple departments and agencies are engaged and assigned responsibilities 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear demonstration of cross department capabilities to execute identified project 5
Capacity: Fund-alignment	<input type="checkbox"/> Zero budget available 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Budget resources or program budget in development 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Budget resources are identified and integrated into budget cycle 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Budget reflect and are approved by governing body 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources are budgeted and allocated 5
Community Involvement	<input type="checkbox"/> No community engagement has occurred 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Community has been notified of project 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Community's input has been solicited and meaningfully incorporated 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Community members are active stakeholders in project development 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Community members are co-investors or co-developers working towards delivery 5
Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/> Project has no partners 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Project is working to identify potential collaborations 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Key partners are identified and being engaged 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Partners are engaged and co-creating program delivery design 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships have a formal agreement and outline of expectations 5

Wrap-Up & Questions



ABOUT ICLEI



ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability 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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