

# Commission for Environmental Cooperation

In 1994 Canada, Mexico, and the United States signed the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC) as a parallel agreement to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

The **Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC.org)** supports the cooperative environmental agenda of the three countries to protect North America's environment and the health of its citizens.

*Three countries. One environment.*

[www.cec.org](http://www.cec.org)



# Research and Publications

## Improving Green Building Construction in North America (2008 - ...)



**MODELS FOR  
LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT  
SUPPORT**  
<http://bit.ly/1rOWskQ>

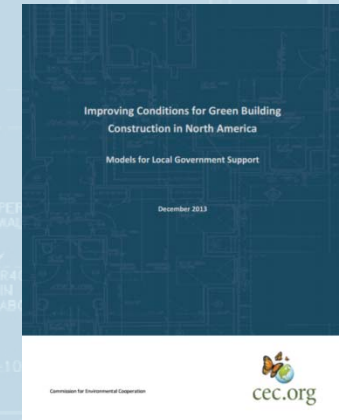




# Local and Regional Policies

## Common program elements

- Energy benchmarking
- Energy audits and retro-commissioning
- Incentives
- Certification
- Building labeling
- Financing



## Elements of *emerging* programs

- Sustainable neighborhood planning—eco-districts & smart growth
- Green financing authorities
- Bundling different elements into one policy instrument
- Greenhouse gas emissions tracking, reporting, & disclosure
- Challenge programs for “greenest,” most sustainable, most livable city



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# Local Policy Models

## Portland, Oregon

Five eco-districts. Lloyd—the most robustly developed—has a full-time staff person, an active commercial energy efficiency retrofit program, and promotes the city's Sustainability at Work program.

## Connecticut Energy Finance Investment Authority (CEFIA)

Dedicated financing authority to support green building and clean energy technologies.

## City of Chicago's Green Permit Program

Expedited permitting and reduced fees for commercial projects that comply with specific green requirements, earn LEED certification, and adopt at least one more upgrade from a menu.

## British Columbia Climate Action Charter

Local government signatories track and report annually on community carbon emissions through Carbon Energy Emissions Inventories.



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# ZNE Policy & Program Work

<http://netzeroenergycoalition.com/summit>



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