

ICLEI South Asia Annual Report

April 2014 - March 2016



From the Chairperson



Hansa Patel

Chairperson, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia

I am very pleased to be associated with ICLEI South Asia for the last 10 years as its chairperson. Local governments are the strongest body for any country as they are closest to the citizens. Today, I can proudly say that peer-to-peer learning and sharing of good practices through various platforms and projects that we provide to enable local governments are among the biggest benefits for both ICLEI South Asia and its more than 60 Member cities. By bringing cities together on platforms like Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress, we are constantly and successfully helping members exchange knowledge and ideas.

We are proud to see associated cities adequately recognised and empowered for all the work they have done to fulfill the common dream of sustainable living places. In this journey, we have also seen many elected representatives from municipal bodies emerging as leaders who have not only envisioned changes in their cities but have also initiated programmes to realise their vision. We have also received extensive support from regional and national governments. Here, I particularly want to mention the District Energy Project where ICLEI South Asia has been helping cities, including Rajkot in my home state of Gujarat, to understand their potential for using district cooling systems to provide cooling for existing commercial and residential buildings and large hospitals. I appreciate the support that the project has received from the Minister of State for Energy & Power, Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat. We hope that we would be initiating similar projects and activities to promote low-emission development in other cities across the region.

Now, as I see the ICLEI South Asia family becoming stronger with many new Members joining the network each year, I am pleased as the executive advisor of All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG) that we were one of the pioneer Members of this network. I am sure that we would continue to see more and more cities from the region join hands with ICLEI to tread the path that leads to a better, sustainable world for all.

From the Secretary General



Gino Van Begin
Secretary General, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

The years 2014 and 2015 have been landmark years for all of us in many ways. While 2014 generated discussions around global sustainability agreements, 2015 marked the adoption of several of these.

The Paris Agreement approved at COP21, in December 2015, affirms the importance of engagement of all levels of government in fighting climate change. Before this, in March 2015, nations adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction that sets global targets for substantial reductions in disaster losses, with guidelines for empowering local authorities and communities to develop local disaster risk reduction strategies. 17 Sustainable Development Goals were adopted in September, including the urban-specific Goal 11 to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable”. Goal 11 comprises specific targets to reduce vulnerability and disaster losses, while increasing the resilience and adaptive capacity of urban spaces and populations by 2030. The adoption of the goal is a clear indication that cities have to be at the forefront of efforts aimed at international and local implementation of SDGs.

2016 is all set to be the year that will forge new partnerships for ICLEI, which as the leading sustainability network will continue to advocate the importance of cities in enforcing the frameworks. The year will also see agreements like Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador, in October, and the 13th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Cancun, Mexico. These global agreements hold special importance for the South Asian region that is undergoing urbanization at an unprecedented pace. This is where ICLEI South Asia can play a crucial role in helping cities become more sustainable and liveable. Besides, ICLEI urges national governments to empower local and subnational governments through new financial mechanisms, thereby putting local action at the heart of the global movement for sustainable development.

Therefore, I call upon more and more cities in the region to join our network and accelerate implementation of the global agreements in the region.

From the Deputy Secretary General



Emani Kumar
Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
Executive Director, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia

South Asia, the region that is home to about two billion people, is one of the most vulnerable regions across the globe. With constantly increasing concentration of both population and economically and socially vulnerable assets, South Asia is becoming increasingly prone to climate stresses like urban flooding, heat waves and loss of biodiversity. The earthquakes in Nepal and Afghanistan and the urban floods in India are a clear indication that development across this region needs more attention than ever. These disasters also establish the fact that countries' response to the environment-related challenges will depend on how urban administrations and local governments prepare to adapt to changes in the future.

Since its inception in 2005, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia has been collaborating with cities to help them build strategies and action plans that focus on making development as sustainable as possible. Our projects that span across solid waste management, eco-mobile transport, climate change mitigation, resilient infrastructure, among others, have successfully helped cities advance towards holistic development.

The Government of India's recent Smart City Mission is another opportunity for associations like ICLEI to step in and build more collaboration with city governments. With a focus on infrastructure, land use planning, transport, architecture, more use of information technology, citizen-friendly local government and making cities less vulnerable to disasters, the scope for involvement through the Mission is immense.

I am also happy to share that taking forward the Resilient Cities Congress series that is hosted every year in Bonn, Germany, we have successfully conducted two such regional meets in Asia Pacific in 2015 and 2016. The overwhelming response that the First Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress received in Bangkok in 2015 encouraged ICLEI South Asia to collaborate with the government of Malaysia to host a Congress in the World Heritage City of Melaka this year. While the 2015 Congress was inaugurated by the Governor of Bangkok, the 2016 meet was attended by dignitaries from across Malaysia, including the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia and the Chief Minister of Melaka.

Additionally, we are also excited to partner with new donors and are grateful to them for their trust in the association. While projects on district energy systems, low-emission urban development strategies, improving heritage cities, and building greenhouse gas inventories for cities across India and Southeast Asia have been successfully implemented in the past two years, we are now geared up for new partnerships on smart cities, building resilience in Asian cities, holistic waste management and many others in the upcoming year.

I thank everyone associated with ICLEI for your cooperation and support in helping us to fulfill the dream of sustainable cities for all and I hope that you all would continue to stand by us in the years to come.



CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION

ICLEI South Asia, New Delhi

**PARTICIPATED IN THE FOLLOWING RECORD EVENT:
The Largest recycling lesson was attended by
12,994 participants and was organized by
Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation (India),
in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India, on 5 August
2015.**



OFFICIALLY AMAZING

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About ICLEI

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is the world's leading network of cities, towns and metropolises committed to building a sustainable future. By helping cities become sustainable, low-carbon, resilient, biodiverse, resource-efficient, healthy and happy, with a green economy and smart infrastructure, we impact over 25 percent of the global population.

We are a high-energy, flexible movement of local governments working together in national, regional and international arenas. We are supported by commitment processes, performance frameworks, programmes, networks, strategic alliances and centres of excellence.

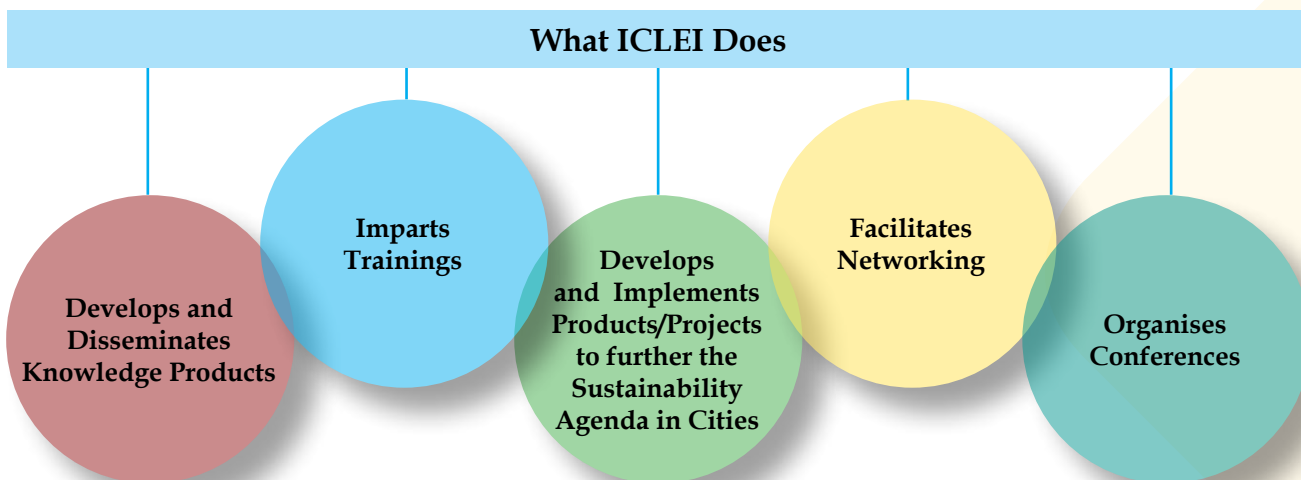
ICLEI South Asia

ICLEI South Asia, the South Asian arm of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, aims to build and serve a regional network of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in regional and global sustainability through local initiatives.

Over 10 years, ICLEI South Asia has emerged as a strong and vibrant local government association with a membership base of over 60 Member cities.

We enable cities to contribute to global action on sustainability through a number of local solutions like: developing action plans on low carbon growth, raising awareness about sustainable urban development, including water, sanitation, transport and energy, supporting municipalities to manage resources efficiently, strengthening North-South and South-South cooperation and building urban resilience.

The South Asia office that started with Delhi now has a Southern Centre based in Hyderabad, two state offices in Coimbatore and Thane and a few project offices across India. Our staff includes urban planners, energy managers, environmental planners, transportation engineers, ecologists and environmental engineers who bring a varied capacity to support cities across the region on multiple aspects of sustainable development. Our expertise is available on consultative as well as advisory basis. We also foster our services through a network of affiliated external experts. We support our work through expert advisory/consultancy services based on specific methodologies, instruments and software tools in the fields of energy auditing, climate safe technologies, renewable energy, ecomobility designs, solid waste management, biodiversity conservation, capacity building on resilience, and environmental resource management.



Our Mission

To build and serve a worldwide movement of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in global sustainability with special focus on environmental conditions through cumulative local actions.

Our Vision

ICLEI envisions a world of sustainable cities that confront the realities of urbanization, adapt to economic and demographic trends and prepare for the impacts of climate change and other urban challenges. This is why ICLEI unites local and regional governments in creating positive change through collective learning, exchange and capacity building.

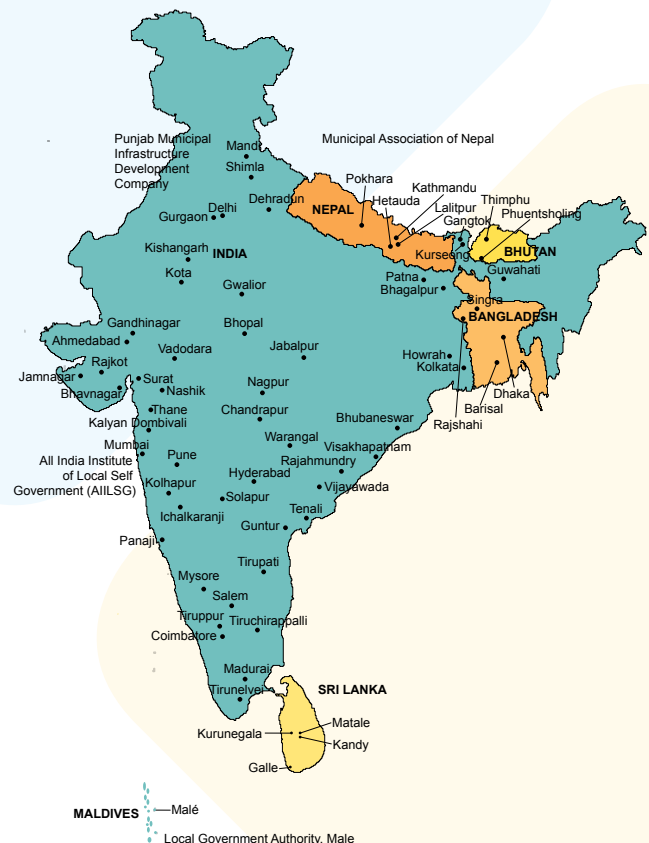


Membership

Over 11 years, ICLEI South Asia has emerged a strong and vibrant local government association, with a membership base of over 60 cities in the region. In the last two years, many new Members have joined ICLEI.

We Welcome Our New Members:

- Kishangarh - July 2014
- Panaji - August 2014
- Ichalkaranji - January 2015
- Kurseong - August 2015
- Dehradun - August 2015
- Solapur - December 2015
- Mandi - March 2016
- Samdrup Jongkhar - April 2016
- Punjab Municipal Infrastructure Development Company (PMIDC) - September 2014
- Local Government Authority, Male - March 2015



10 Years of ICLEI South Asia

In 2015, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia successfully completed 10 years of its eventful journey.

It was in 2001 when ICLEI started its operations in the South Asian Region as a project office of ICLEI USA. Four years later, in April 2005, the organisation was legally registered as the South Asian Secretariat of ICLEI. Ms. Hansa Patel, Executive Adviser of AILSG, Professor Asish Kumar Maitra, Former Director, School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi, and Emani Kumar, Project Director, CCP India came together to constitute a forward-looking Board of Trustees.

The first project to introduce ICLEI to South Asia was the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP), funded by USAID, which helped assess and inventorize carbon emissions in 18 cities of India. Before the conclusion of the CCP Project, *ecoBUDGET* Asia, a project funded by the European Union, was initiated in Guntur in Andhra Pradesh, India. This project introduced the *ecoBUDGET* tool developed by ICLEI to help local governments prepare a framework for political decision-making, geared towards sustainable local development. Local Renewable Model Communities Network Project, funded by BMZ-GTZ also began in 2005 aiming to promote use of renewable energy in cities. Gradually ICLEI South Asia expanded its area of work to issues such as energy, solid waste, sanitation, water, environmental management, monitoring and evaluation, urban transport and urban resilience. Through the years, the organisation has gradually developed working relations with the various ministries of India, including the Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, and Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change. Various multiyear and multi-country projects were undertaken over time and ICLEI South Asia has opened a Southern Centre in Hyderabad as well as state offices in Coimbatore and Thane and several other project offices across the country.

In 2012, ICLEI South Asia organised the Cities for Life Summit in Hyderabad as a side event to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 11th Conference of the Parties (CBD COP 11) that was attended by 150 local governments from all over the world. In 2015, ICLEI organised the first Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress in Bangkok, Thailand which builds on the Resilient Cities Congress in Bonn organised each year, expanding the series to the Asia Pacific region. ICLEI South Asia is poised to expand its reach to other local/regional and national authorities and networks. Our vision is also to create a strong network of partners in the region to further the cause of sustainable development, in all its multiple facets.



The ICLEI World Congress

Every three years, ICLEI organises an international congress for its Members, partners as well as other cities. This is a key event for all ICLEI Members and a golden opportunity for partners and non-members to gain a better understanding of ICLEI and its achievements. It provides mayors, local government politicians and staff, representatives from international agencies, national governments, donors and other partners the opportunity for peer exchanges, knowledge-sharing, capacity building, on-site visits and exhibits.

The last ICLEI World Congress was held in 2015 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Titled “Sustainable Solutions for an Urban Future”, the Congress was attended by 2,800 participants, including representatives from 250 local governments worldwide.

“The ICLEI World Congress 2015 is a landmark event for the ICLEI community, coinciding with our 25-year anniversary as the world’s leading membership association for local sustainability. At the time of ICLEI’s creation in 1990, the concept of sustainability was still in its infancy. Today, making our cities sustainable and resilient is acknowledged as a key global issue and is seen as a political necessity worldwide,” said Gino Van Begin, Secretary General, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability.

The Congress discussed issues such as collaborative actions by cities and small island states and increased presence of women leaders in sustainability.

Key Outcomes

- The Seoul Declaration – a document that sets out a clear path to global urban sustainability – was officially adopted by ICLEI World Congress participants, ICLEI Members, partners, and other local governments.
- 36 cities announced their intent to comply with the Compact of Mayors – the global coalition of Mayors and city leaders preparing for the impacts of climate change.
- Demonstrating ambition at the local level, the ICLEI President and Mayor of Seoul Park Won-soon launched the Promise of Seoul, which committed Seoul to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent by 2030 from 2005 levels.
- ICLEI launched three new major initiatives and networks: City Food, the 100% Renewable Energy ICLEI Community, and the Global Sustainable Public Procurement Network, bringing together cities to develop innovative actions in these new global areas.
- ICLEI signed 11 MoUs with partner organisations, while Seoul signed 15 MoUs with other local governments, emphasizing city-to-city partnership and technology transfer.



ICLEI South Asia Regional Executive Committee 2015-2018

A governance reform at ICLEI since 2012 now enables the establishment of a governance body for ICLEI at all regional levels, called the Regional Executive Committee (RexCom) that serves as the regional representation and policy making body of the Members in this region. Representatives from each of the RexCom as well as five portfolio members constitute the Global Executive Committee (GexCom) that represents Members at the global level.

The South Asian RexCom has eight members elected from the regional membership representing the South Asian ICLEI members. It was established in 2015, with representatives from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka. Kinlay Dorjee, Mayor of Thimphu, Bhutan is its representative at the GexCom. The RexCom Members are often called upon to various meets to drive, promote and represent their portfolios on behalf of ICLEI South Asia.

RexCom Members of South Asia



Kinlay Dorjee
Mayor, Thrompon
Thimphu
Municipality, Bhutan
Portfolio: Urban
Reforms



Hilmy Mohamed
Mayor, Matale,
Sri Lanka
Portfolio: Biodiversity



Shamim Al Razi
Mayor, Singra
Municipality &
Secretary General,
Municipal Association
of Bangladesh
Portfolio: Climate
Resilience



P. Rajkumar
Mayor, Coimbatore,
India
Portfolio: Green
Infrastructure



Farhad Suri
Former Mayor,
Municipal
Corporation of Delhi;
Leader of Opposition -
South Delhi Municipal
Corporation, India
Portfolio: Urban
Reforms



Ranjit Chavan
President, All India
Institute of Local Self-
Government, India
Portfolio: Climate
Resilience











Doramani Paudel
President, Municipal
Association of Nepal;
Co-President, UCLG
ASPAC, Nepal
Portfolio: Resource
Efficiency and Climate
Resilient Cities



**Dr. Md. Matiur
Rahman**
Chief Health
officer, Barisal
City Corporation,
Bangladesh
Portfolio: Resource
Efficiency

Highlights for ICLEI South Asia

-  **Guinness Record for ICLEI South Asia:** In 2015, ICLEI South Asia was recognised for its contribution and participation in the “largest recycling lesson” which was attended by 12,994 participants and organised by Coimbatore Municipal Corporation, Tamil Nadu, India.
-  **Government of India Recognition to ICLEI South Asia:** ICLEI South Asia is empaneled by the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India under three of its flagship schemes – Smart Cities Mission, Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana, and Swachh Bharat Mission. ICLEI South Asia is providing handholding support to selected cities to work on projects for mobility and built environment under the Smart Cities Mission.
-  **A Regional Congress Series on Adaptation Initiated:** In 2015, the Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific Congress was organised in Bangkok, building on the success of Resilient Cities Bonn series. In 2016, the regional Congress was held in Melaka, Malaysia, reaffirming our commitment towards building resilient cities.
-  **Introducing District Energy Systems to Indian Cities:** For the first time in India, ICLEI South Asia is exploring the potential and feasibility of adopting district energy systems in cities. Assessments in cities indicated scope for deploying district cooling systems in areas with institutional, commercial and residential mixed-use development; indicating that load diversity and scale are critical factors.
-  **Asia LEDS Partnership – ICLEI is the New Secretariat:** In partnership with ICLEI Southeast Asia and ICLEI East Asia, ICLEI South Asia has been awarded the management of Asia LEDS Partnership (ALP). The ALP is a voluntary regional network of individuals and organisations from the public, private, and non-governmental sectors active in designing, promoting, and/or implementing low emission development strategies (LEDS) in Asia. In 2016, the ALP Secretariat organised the annual Asia LEDS Forum in Hanoi, Vietnam.
-  **Innovative Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Tools Launched:** In the last two years, ICLEI produced a graphic booklet on climate actions for urban local bodies, IEC material for children on WASH and ACCCRN toolkit.
-  **New Sectors of Work:** In the last two years, ICLEI South Asia started work in new areas including water resource management at city level and watershed level, integrated planning for urban resilience development addressing climate mitigation and adaptation and capacity building of urban local bodies for inclusive developmental planning.
-  **Working with New Partners:** In the past two years, ICLEI South Asia forged new partnerships with two UN agencies - UNEP and UNDP, two multilateral financial institutions – World Bank and ADB, international partners such as ARUP, United Kingdom; British Deputy High Commission Kolkata, India; Melaka Green Technology Corporation, Malaysia; and MISEREOR, Germany; as well as national agencies like Goa State Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited.

Our Agendas

ICLEI's work pursues 10 agendas, designed to support Member cities and local governments in their efforts towards sustainability. These agendas have not only contributed towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), they will also play a significant role in achieving the recently-announced 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Presently, ICLEI South Asia is working on seven of these agendas as detailed in subsequent sections.



Sustainable City Agenda

A sustainable city is biodiverse, lowcarbon, resilient and resource-efficient, and is marked by green economy and smart infrastructure.

Through various projects, ICLEI South Asia contributes to the agenda by promoting strategic, inclusive developmental planning, action planning through environmental assessments of urban services, and promoting a nexus approach to resource management. ICLEI South Asia contributes to mainstreaming and building capacity on the use of appropriate and environment-sensitive management instruments to achieve poverty alleviation.

Snapshot of Projects under the Agenda

Environment Management Action Plan for Urban Transformation

Funded by World Bank, UKaid and Australian Aid (AusAID)

- In this project, ICLEI South Asia conducted a study to assist the cities of Ludhiana and Amritsar in Punjab identify issues with the existing urban services and local environment and scout potential for improvement in future.

Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY)

Funded by Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India

- ICLEI South Asia, along with IHCN-F and DRONAH, is working to preserve and revitalise heritage assets in three heritage cities (Amaravati, Ajmer and Badami) under the HRIDAY scheme. As a city anchor, ICLEI South Asia is responsible for planning, advising, and supporting the City Mission Directorate for successful implementation of the scheme.

PROMotion of Inclusive, Sustainable Growth and Diversity to Strengthen Local Governments (PROMISE)

Funded by European Union

- PROMISE, a recently acquired project, promotes inclusive developmental planning by building the capacities of the Urban Local Bodies to plan, conduct, manage, evaluate and actively involve local communities in infrastructure improvement projects in four cities.

A Plan to Revive Heritage City of Andhra Pradesh

Amaravati, the capital of Andhra Pradesh, known for the Amaralingeswara Swamy temple, Mahachaitya Stupa and Dharanikota Fort, was currently facing severe infrastructural challenges.

Today, Amaravati is all set to transform into an important heritage destination with financial assistance under the HRIDAY Scheme of Ministry of Urban Development, that started in 2015 and focuses on holistic development of heritage cities. ICLEI South Asia has supported the mapping of heritage assets, assessment of the current status of tourism and urban infrastructure around them and developed an action plan for their improvement. The Rs 47.25 crore plan for Amaravati, prepared by ICLEI South Asia & Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCNF) has been accepted by the Ministry of Urban Development. While inaugurating the implementation of the pilot projects, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh said “the whole world is looking at Amaravati. This place will become a popular tourist destination”.

The funds are being used for pilot projects to improve access to Dharanikota Fort, Amaravati Pond, Mahachaitya Stupa, Amaralingeswara Swamy Temple, Kalachakra Museum, Dhyana Buddha Statue and Zamindar Bungalow, along with the development of a Heritage Park, and a heritage walkway of 2.5 kilometres. ICLEI South Asia is hopeful that the implementation will contribute to the holistic development of the city of Amaravati.



Low-carbon City Agenda

Low-carbon, low-emission or even carbon-neutral cities, are signposts on the road to sustainability and global climate change mitigation. Through capacity building programmes, partnerships with State Governments, expertise and technology transfer, and various tools and guidelines, ICLEI South Asia is helping cities measure their carbon emissions to support low carbon action planning, and promoting the use of sustainable, renewable and efficient energy.

Snapshot of Projects under the Agenda

Status Review of Efficiency in the Urban Built Environment

Funded by Climate Works Foundation

- Through this short-term project, ICLEI South Asia developed an assessment report that highlights overlaps in 27 policies, regulations and codes that impact urban built environment covering themes of land, energy, water and transport currently in play for the built sector at the national level.

Promoting Low Emission Urban Development Strategies in Emerging Economy Countries (Urban LEDS)

Funded by European Union

- This four year initiative concluded in 2016. The project was implemented in eight cities across different regions to support the promotion of low emission urban development and created two model cities in India, Rajkot and Thane, showcasing development and implementation of low carbon development strategies. International knowledge exchange and training workshops helped six satellite cities to embark on low emissions urban planning, by supporting development of city level GHG emission baselines and assessing techno-economic feasibility of implementing specific LED actions.

Preparing GHG emissions Inventory and Climate Action Plan for Melaka State and Constituent Urban Local Authorities

Funded by Melaka Green Technology Corporation

- ICLEI South Asia developed a GHG emissions inventory and priorities for a climate action plan for the Melaka State and its four constituent urban local authorities. Trainings were conducted for the officials of Green Tech Corporation of Melaka and four Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in Melaka State to build capacity for assessing baseline climate performance and to measure progress and mitigation impacts of proposed prioritized actions. The GHG emissions inventory for Melaka state was compiled with the help of the Harmonized Emissions Analysis Tool *plus* (HEAT+) that is compliant with the Global Protocol for Community Scale GHG Emissions (GPC V 2.0) and is customized for Malaysia.

Building Capacities at the Local Level for Effective Energy Efficient Building Code Enforcement

Funded by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

- The initiative assessed capacity-building needs of cities in the state of Tamil Nadu in India to implement the national Energy Conservation Buildings Code (ECBC). This was followed by a set of trainings in Chennai and Coimbatore for officials of local governments and development and planning authorities to introduce them to the Code to enable them to enforce it.

India Platform for GHG Emission Estimation and Analysis

Funded by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

- India's first independent annual greenhouse gas emissions estimate for years 2007-2012 was launched on July 15, 2015. ICLEI South Asia collaborated with four other institutions and independent experts to develop national GHG emissions estimates from energy, industry, waste; and agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) sectors. The data used to generate the estimates and final inventories are now available online on "GHG Platform India", accessible at <http://ghgplatform-india.org/>

Renewable Energy Efficiency in Buildings & Cities: Assessing Potential for District Energy Systems (DES) in Indian Cities

Funded by United Nations Environment Programme

- In this project, ICLEI South Asia conducted rapid technical assessments in five cities to understand the applicability of district cooling systems in the Indian context and shared the findings with local stakeholders. The programme will also conduct pre-feasibility assessments for one or two cities and build capacities of local governments to develop a replicable modern district energy approach, particularly for district cooling.

Earth Hour City Challenge (EHCC)

Funded by WWF

- EHCC is a global challenge amongst cities, providing them with an opportunity to report and demonstrate their best initiatives to combat climate change. ICLEI South Asia supported 13 cities in 2014 and 10 cities in 2015 to participate in the challenge and report their emissions, commitments, targets and actions through ICLEI's reporting platform called the carbonn Climate Registry (cCR), in a globally accepted format. In 2015, Thane city became the National Earth Hour Capital while in 2016, Rajkot won the title.

Development of Solar Cities

Funded by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India (GoI)

- The Solar City Master Plan for Cochin was prepared and presented to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE, GoI) on September 11, 2015, with a conditional approval received on January 19, 2016. Work has commenced on preparing the master plans for Mahabubnagar and Kakinada, while in Coimbatore, development of a solar city cell is underway to promote use of Renewable Energy (RE) and Energy Efficiency (EE) through awareness generation; the cell is a hub for RE/EE suppliers, users and local policy makers.

Rajkot's Journey Towards Low Carbon, Sustainable Development

Rajkot, a city in Gujarat, India has always taken bold and innovative steps towards sustainable growth. Rajkot's participation in the Urban LEADS project along with 36 other cities from 11 other countries has resulted in a landmark achievement of mainstreaming climate considerations into local level planning and policy actions.

Under the project, an empowered "Climate Core Team" and "Stakeholder Committee" were established by the Rajkot Municipal Corporation (RMC), with representation from various departments and various external organisations. The city has prepared its city level energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for the years 2009-13. Additionally, a Decentralised Wastewater Treatment System (DTS) was designed and implemented. Today, it treats sewage from 236 households, saving 4,000 kilowatt hours of electricity and 15 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year. 291 HPSV streetlights were replaced with LED lights, and a 20 kWh SPV system was installed in a RMC municipal school. Rajkot is one of the first cities in India to ratify, through a political resolution in August 2016, a carbon emission reduction target of 26 percent by 2019-20, as compared to Rajkot city's annual GHG emissions in the year 2012-13. All these developments demonstrate Rajkot's commitment towards low emission development through community engagement and visionary leadership.



Resilient City Agenda

Low-risk cities are relatively less vulnerable to climate change, natural and industrial disasters, and economic shocks.

While ICLEI South Asia works towards increasing cities' urban resilience through local adaptation planning, the exchange of information among cities in the region and beyond, capacity building on resilience actions by urban local bodies, linkages between resilience and informality are also key to its agenda. We have developed tools to enable cities plan and implement resilience strategies that respond to their specific identified vulnerabilities. One of the focus areas is to link the resilience strategies to financing opportunities and promote climate resilience as part of overall urban resilience. ICLEI South Asia encourages cities to exchange their experiences and learn from each other through national and international conferences such as the Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress.

Snapshot of Projects under the Agenda

Nashik Sustainable Urban Habitat Action Plan

Funded by GIZ

- This two-year project which concluded in 2014 addressed both climate mitigation and adaptation in the city of Nashik. An action plan was developed for the city after assessing its vulnerability using the ICLEI ACCCRN Process and preparing an inventory of its GHG emissions using the HEAT + tool. This is the first time that a holistic approach has been taken to develop a plan to deal with both climate mitigation and adaptation in a city in India.

Sensitisation Programme for Kolkata Municipal Corporation Councillors and Members of Mayor-in-Council on Climate Change

Funded by British Deputy High Commission, Kolkata

- In 2015, ICLEI South Asia conducted 17 sensitisation workshops for councillors and Members of Mayor-in-Council of Kolkata Municipal Corporation to showcase local action on climate resilience. As a part of the project, ICLEI South Asia developed a graphic booklet on climate change, a poster on do's and don'ts for urban climate resilience and a compendium of successful case studies on mitigation and adaptation to share with the councillors. A Green Ward Scheme was developed to promote healthy competition among the wards to take action on climate change within the city.

City Resilience Index

Funded by ARUP

- Piloting the City Resilience Index Tool, developed by ARUP in October 2015, ICLEI South Asia helped Shimla city to understand the range of systems and factors that contribute to its resilience and establish a benchmark from which to track the city's future progress. The tool assesses resilience across four dimensions – health and wellbeing; economy and society; infrastructure and environment; and leadership and strategy.

Through an intense two-week assessment, discussions and a workshop, qualitative and quantitative resilience indicators were identified for the city to get an overall resilience picture.

Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation Facility for Asia and the Pacific

Funded by USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific

- In this project, ICLEI South Asia carried out a financial capacity analysis for three cities: Mysuru, Bhubaneswar and Shimla as per the CIIP (City Infrastructure Investment Prioritisation and Programming) toolkit of Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA). Additionally, a guidebook on the adaptation-specific financing avenues for urban local bodies was developed and a pre-feasibility study for integration of drainage, solid waste and sewerage was conducted in Mysuru city.

Analysis of National and Subnational Disaster Loss and Damage Databases - Establishing a Linkage to Climate Change Impacts to Strengthen Local Urban Resilience Plans

Funded by United Nations Development Programme, Bangkok Regional Hub

- ICLEI South Asia analysed the disaster loss and damage database for three countries (Indonesia, Cambodia and Sri Lanka), with an aim to correlate trends in loss and damage from disasters reported at the national and subnational levels (in the database), with disasters and damage recorded at the city level. City level data collection on climate change and disaster patterns along with disaster preparedness, were carried out. City specific Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Change Adaptation (DRR – CCA) action plans have been developed for Ratnapura and Balangoda in Sri Lanka, Kampong Cham and Prey Veng in Cambodia and Surabaya and Banda Aceh in Indonesia.

Subnational Learning Programme: Planning to Implementation

Funded by Climate Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)

- Nine CDKN Learning Partners were supported in developing “inside stories” of practical examples of resilience building initiatives, based on CDKN format. While the actual authors of the case studies were the CDKN learning partners, ICLEI South Asia helped to ensure high quality outputs. Learning workshops were organised in 2015 and 2016 where the “inside stories” were discussed to arrive at additional knowledge products.

Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN)

Funded by Rockefeller Foundation

- The project is helping to scale up the ICLEI ACCCRN Process toolkit that was developed in 2013 under Phase III of ACCCRN Project. It is using the toolkit to help 20 cities in India and Bangladesh develop city resilience strategies. Cities are supported in the vulnerability assessment of fragile urban systems and the impacts of climate change on the same. Shared learning dialogues are used to involve the local stakeholders to develop resilience interventions for the climate risks of the city. ICLEI South Asia is also trying to link the resilience interventions to possible funding mechanisms and existing or planned developmental projects to promote action on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA).

Urban Resilience and Informality

Funded by MISEREOR

- The project which commenced early 2016 assessed the urban developmental and resilience issues faced by the informal settlements in four cities across India, Philippines and Indonesia to develop problem statements across physical, social, economic and governance sectors. These statements were discussed at the Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress 2016 in Melaka Malaysia, with an aim to design solution baskets to improve resilience in these informal settlements. Pilot projects based on the solutions baskets are being implemented in the cities of Nashik and Quezon.

ACCCRN helps Bangladesh City Singra Become Resilient to Climate Vagaries

Singra is a newly established municipality located in the floodplain of Atrai and Gurnai Rivers of Bangladesh. In recent years, the city has witnessed an increase in frequency of climatic events like floods, droughts, heat/cold waves and seasonal storms (nor'wester, tornadoes). The geographic location and the unique characteristics of Barind land near the city are susceptible to such climatic events.

With the objective to help the city become more resilient, the ICLEI-ACCCRN Process assessed the city's vulnerabilities and developed interventions to improve the five urban systems in the city that have been identified as "fragile". These interventions will be incorporated into the City Resilience Strategy (CRS) for Singra. With support from the Rockefeller Foundation's Small Grants Fund (SGF), which is administered by ICLEI, Singra has developed a pilot project to reduce environmental risks of solid waste. The project aims at capacity building of concerned departments/officials, segregated collection of waste, reduction in waste disposal at landfill site, and its transformation into energy. Banning open dumping and implementing solutions for economic, social and climate benefits that are important to building a resilient city are also a part of the small grants programme. Presently, besides Singra, the ICLEI-ACCCRN Process is also being implemented in another six cities of the country - Barisal, Mongla, Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Sirajganj and Kushtia.



Resource-efficient and Productive City Agenda

Resource-efficient City goes beyond minimising the use of natural resources, is productive, competitive and sustainable.

ICLEI South Asia works with local governments, national governments, the private sector and civil society groups to plan and promote efficient urban services, such as efficient water and waste water use, biodiversity conservation, sustainable waste management and sustainable sanitation, thus improving health conditions, alleviating poverty and fostering the local economy.

Snapshot of Projects under the Agenda

SUNYA: Towards Zero Waste in South Asia

Funded by European Union

- The three-year project, running from 2012 and concluded in 2015, promoted 3R and zero waste in seven cities in South Asia. The project helped to develop zero waste management action plans for the partner cities and successfully conducted pilot projects in all seven cities on zero waste management and integration of informal sector in solid waste management systems. A two-day international conference was organised in Delhi in March 2015 where more than 25 cities from South Asia participated to discuss and debate on the municipal solid waste management practices in South Asia and possibilities of achieving zero waste status in South Asia cities.

Revision of the CPHEEO Manual on Municipal Solid Waste Management

Funded by GIZ

- The Central Public Health & Environment Engineering Organization (CPHEEO), Ministry of Urban Development (GoI) initiated the process of revising the CPHEEO Manual on Municipal Solid Waste Management (2000) in the year 2012. ICLEI South Asia was supported by GIZ as a key expert team, responsible for the revision. The ICLEI team collaborated with several international technical experts and the national technical expert committee constituted by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), Government of India, to advise the revision process. The final Manual was released by the MoUD, in August 2016.

Kota Holistic Waste Management

Funded by United Nations Environment Programme, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, International Environmental Technology Centre (UNEP DTIE IETC)

- ICLEI South Asia is preparing a holistic waste management plan for the city of Kota. The plan includes action plans for managing municipal solid waste, bio-medical waste and industrial waste in the city. A pilot project on door-to-door collection was initiated in one of the wards of the city as part of the action plan.

City Sanitation Plan for Nellore City

Funded by Nellore Municipal Corporation, Andhra Pradesh

- In line with the requirements of the Swachh Bharat Mission, ICLEI South Asia is supporting Nellore city in developing a city sanitation plan, leading to the development of a Detailed Project Report for Solid Waste Management. The plan focused on elimination of open defecation and manual scavenging, modern and scientific municipal solid waste management, and capacity building for behavioral change on sanitation. It will help to create an enabling environment for private sector participation for infrastructure development and operation and maintenance. ICLEI South Asia will help to develop an area based plan for a zero waste ward in the city.

AdoptIUWM: Adopting Integrated Urban Water Management in Indian Cities

Funded by European Union

- Started in 2013, this four-year project, has developed multi stakeholder platforms in the four project cities of Jaisalmer, Kishangarh, Ichalkaranji, and Solapur to formulate an IUWM-based action plan for the cities. As per the plan, ICLEI South Asia has also prioritised two pilot projects per city for implementation that will promote integrated water management and sanitation in the city. Capacity building programmes for municipal officials, sensitisation programmes for children and stakeholder consultations are being undertaken to generate awareness on the concepts of IUWM and undertake water sector reforms.

Linking Health and Sanitation in Rajasthan's Schools

Under the AdoptIUWM project, a school complex with two schools, in Raja Reddy slum of Kishangarh in Rajasthan, has been selected to construct toilets and promote WASH practices among the children of the school linking the initiative to country's Swachh Bharat Mission. With strength of almost 200, the schools face issues like open defecation within the complex due to a lack of infrastructural facility. Apart from sensitising children on WASH practices, slum communities are being mobilised for construction of household toilets and toilet blocks within school complex are being constructed or upgraded.



EcoMobile City Agenda

An EcoMobile City is eco-efficient, low carbon and resilient. It is key to developing greener cities and economies. ICLEI South Asia is helping cities in the region develop and create smarter urban infrastructure through an integrated approach that aims at reducing emissions and increasing the use of local renewables, at raising awareness on the implementation of green building codes, and at laying the ground work for a shift to Non Motorised Transport (NMT).

Snapshot of Projects under the Agenda

Redevelopment and Regeneration Project of Nehru Place District Centre

Funded by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

- This short-term project that concluded in 2014 designed a redevelopment/regeneration plan for one of Delhi's prime commercial district centres – Nehru Place, with focus on public space improvement, through improving access and connectivity of the area within the city, parking management and area management. The plan is due for implementation by the Delhi Development Authority.

Transport Governance Initiative: A Toolkit

Funded by World Resources Institute (WRI)

- This project, which ended in 2016, helped to devise a framework to improve decision making processes in the urban transport sector of the country by studying the formal and informal structures of institutions responsible for shaping and implementing transport policies and plans for Delhi state and at national level. The framework is based on principles of Transparency, Accountability, Participation, and enhanced Capacity, also called TAP-C.

SOLUTIONS - Sharing Opportunities for Low Carbon Urban Transportation

Funded by European Union

- SOLUTIONS Project is a multi-year project that began in 2013. It aims to support the exchange on innovative and green urban mobility solutions between cities from Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Mediterranean. Capacity building, knowledge sharing and cooperation for the development of low carbon urban transportation between city of Cochin, India and Huangzhou, China were key outcomes of the project. ICLEI South Asia conducted a number of national and international workshops in Kochi, along with experience exchange visits for officials of the city to facilitate the capacity building and knowledge sharing.

Supporting Smart Urban Mobility and Built Environment in Indian Cities

Funded by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

- In this project, ICLEI South Asia is helping four cities (Jaipur and Udaipur in Rajasthan and Vishakhapatnam and Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh) to develop an action plan that showcases an integrated and comprehensive approach to address urban transport issues and promote sustainable built environment by implementing nationally recommended steps and strategies.

Redevelopment and Regeneration Project of Nehru Place District Centre

Planned in the 1960's, the Nehru Place District Centre of Delhi, over the years, has achieved prominence as an economically active business district. However, with footfalls from all over Delhi and even beyond, it witnesses massive congestion, pollution and encroachment. In a pilot initiative by ICLEI South Asia, and other partners, sustainable transport and place-making strategies were devised for the critical business district to serve as an example for implementation of urban renewal projects not only in Delhi but also in similar cities. Recently, the South Delhi Municipal Corporation has forwarded the project report to Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India as a comprehensive redevelopment strategy and the Delhi Development Authority has agreed to implement the interventions suggested by ICLEI South Asia, along with the South Delhi Municipal Corporation.



Sustainable Local Economy and Procurement Agenda

A sustainable local economy improves human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and natural resource scarcity.

As part of the agenda, ICLEI South Asia is working on sustainable green growth by assessing urban areas and their opportunities to integrate green growth in their development strategies.

Snapshot of Projects under the Agenda

Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities

Funded by Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

- The two-year project, initiated in 2013 in partnership with National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), assessed the landscape in small- and medium-sized cities, identified urban green growth principles, provided a scientific basis for cities to prioritise green growth projects and to integrate green growth into development targets. The findings were developed into a three-volume report that was launched on January 27, 2015 by Anand Bahl, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Urban Development and Rakesh Ranjan, Advisor (Urban Development and Housing), NITI Ayog.



Smart City Agenda

A smart city has embedded “smartness” into its operations, and is guided by the overarching goal of becoming more sustainable and resilient. It analyses, monitors and optimises its urban systems, whether physical (e.g. energy, water, waste, transportation and polluting emissions) or social (e.g. social and economic inclusion, governance, citizen participation), through transparent and inclusive information feedback mechanisms.

ICLEI South Asia is helping different cities under the Smart City Mission of Government of India to develop their proposals for the Mission as well as providing handholding support for ensuring sustainable and resilient features in proposals developed by them.

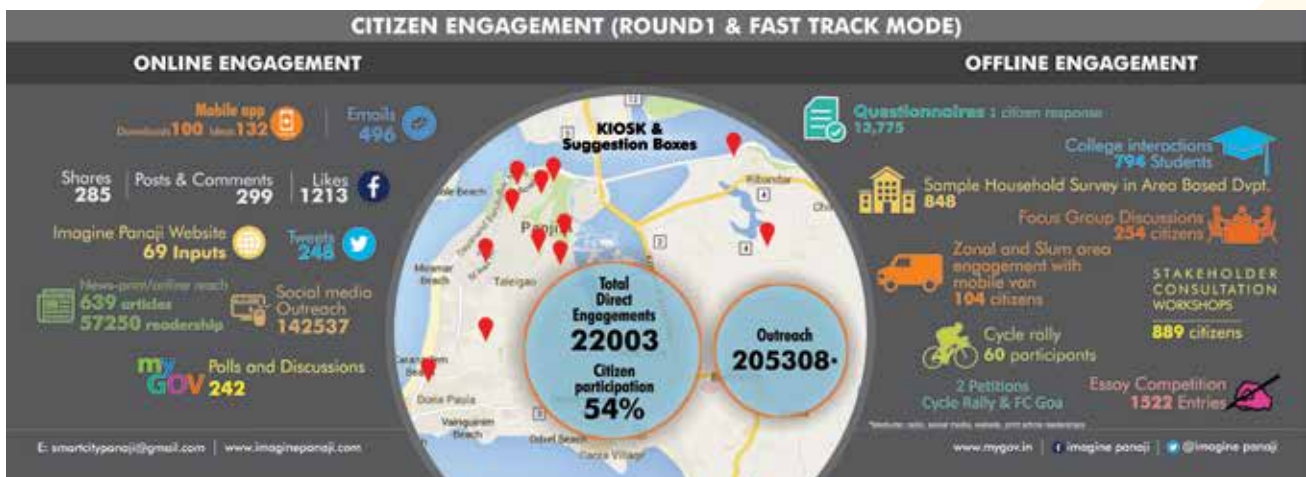
Snapshot of Projects under the Agenda

Preparation of Smart City Mission Plan and Proposal for Panaji, Goa

Funded by Goa State Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited

- In 2015, ICLEI South Asia prepared the Smart City Proposal for the City of Panaji which was selected by the Government of India for funding support under its Smart City Mission in 2016. In the proposal, the city identified five key thematic interventions for improving quality of life in the core city area for their area based proposal. Pan City solutions for Panaji complement existing and proposed infrastructure with smart solutions for the sectors of transport and solid waste management.

Besides, ICLEI South Asia is also providing direct handholding support to four other cities - Jaipur and Udaipur in Rajasthan and Vishakhapatnam and Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh – for the implementation phase of the Mission.



Joining Hands with Other ICLEI Offices

ICLEI South Asia regularly collaborates with other ICLEI offices across the globe to leverage strengths within regional offices. We are working with our European Secretariat on a variety of projects dealing with integrated water resource management, climate mitigation and climate adaptation.

ICLEI South East Asia Secretariat and ICLEI Oceania Secretariat partner with us in several GHG emission inventorisation/reduction, climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction and urban resilience development projects.

ICLEI South Asia associates with all ICLEI offices across Asia and the Pacific to organise the Resilient Cities Congress in this region.

ICLEI Supports Melaka's Green Journey

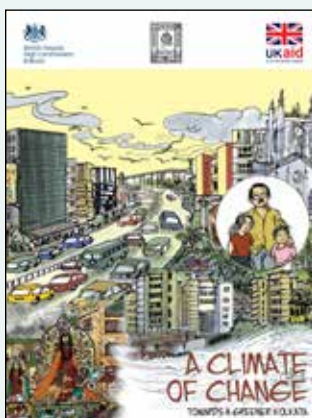
In 2010 the state of Melaka, located along the South-Western coast of the Malaysian Peninsula, established a vision to become a Green Technology City State, with a blueprint for actions up to 2020. This plan is part of the city's commitment to contribute to the national government's plan to reduce the carbon emission intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 40 percent by 2020, compared to its 2005 levels. In a move aimed at the same, a greenhouse gas emissions inventory that covers a wide range of sectors has been prepared by ICLEI South Asia along with ICLEI South East Asia Secretariat for Melaka state in Malaysia, using ICLEI's HEAT+ tool. The inventory will establish the baseline for Melaka's low emission development. Subsequently, preparation of a baseline GHG emissions inventory shall be undertaken for four Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) within Melaka State, followed by strategizing and implementing low carbon actions and monitoring and recording achieved emission reductions as a result of these actions.



Our Sincere Thanks to...

- Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI)
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- British Deputy High Commission, Kolkata
- Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- Climate Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)
- Climate Works Foundation
- Centre for Environment Education, India (CEE)
- Centre for Hindu Studies - Oxford University (The Bhumi Project), EcoSikh
- Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG)
- Clean Air Asia
- Danfoss, Empower (Dubai)
- Department for International Development (DfID)
- Department of Environment, Government of Delhi
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- Environmental and Planning Coordination Organization (EPCO)
- European Union (EU)
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- German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)
- Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
- Goa State Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (GSIDC)
- India Water Partnership (IWP)
- Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCN-F) and Development and Research Organisation for Nature, Arts and Heritage (DRONAH)
- Indo German Environment Partnership (GIZ-IGEP)
- Infrastructure Development Finance Company Limited (IDFC)
- Innovative Transport Solutions (iTrans) Private Limited (India)
- Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC)
- International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- Maharashtra Environmental Engineering Training and Research Academy (MEETRA)
- Melaka Green Technology Corporation (MGTC)
- Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India
- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India
- Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), Government of India
- MISEREOR
- National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
- Parisar
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP)
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Sandeep Gandhi Architects (SGA)
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- United States Department of State through the Asia-Pacific Partnership
- USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific
- WISIONS of Sustainability
- World Bank
- World Resources Institute (WRI)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- Wuppertal Institute - Germany

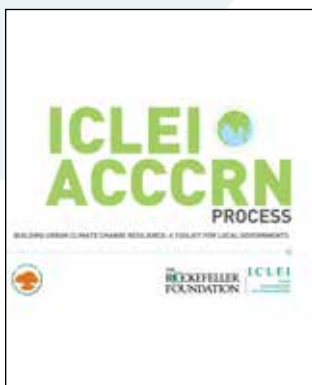
Our Publications



A Climate of Change - Towards a Greener Kolkata
This graphic booklet was developed as part of capacity building initiative for municipal councillors in Kolkata. It helps to understand the impacts of climate change and the need to address the same.



Melaka State Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory Report 2013
This report is a greenhouse gas emissions inventory, covering all the sectors across the community and government facilities for Melaka State, using ICLEI's HEATplus tool.



ICLEI ACCCRN Process
This toolkit, prepared as part of our engagement with the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network programme, aims at helping municipal governments develop City Resilience Strategies to cope with the growing impacts of climate change.



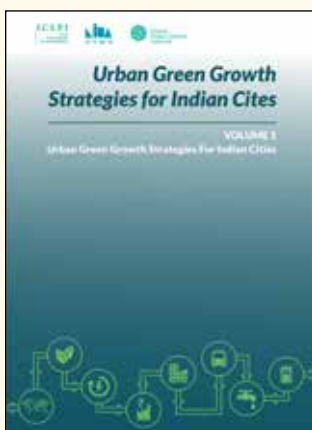
Disaster Risk Reduction - Towards Disaster Resilience
These city specific storylines developed for six cities as part of the Disaster Risk Reduction project, identify action points to help these cities address disaster risk reduction and climate change effectively.



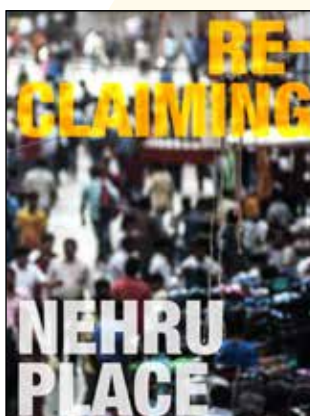
Status Review of Policies Influencing Resource Efficiency in the Urban Built Environment
This report assesses a range of 27 national policies that impact urban built environment covering themes of land, energy, water and transport. It reviews existing linkages, integration and overlaps in policies, regulations and codes in the built sector.



Informality and Resilience
These problem statements highlight the baseline situation of the informal settlement dwellers of four cities and identify problems in developing climate resilience in four cities in Asia-Pacific region.



Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities
This three volume report on "Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities" defines "urban green growth" in the context of urbanising India. It quantifies and communicates the benefits and potential of green growth strategies and informs the national policy conversations.



Re-Claiming Nehru Place
This report, acting as a conversation starter, focusses on the redevelopment of Nehru Place - a primary commercial district in New Delhi.



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