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ICLEI South Asia E-News

August 2018



Emani Kumar
Deputy Secretary
General, ICLEI and
Executive Director,
ICLEI South Asia

Greetings all!

I would like to begin by thanking all our readers for subscribing to our newsletter and encouraging us to do a better job. Like every month, ICLEI South Asia has done some very meaningful work through our various ongoing projects in different cities that we are proud of. With support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Rajkot Municipal Corporation (RMC), we have successfully installed the 145 kilowatt (kW) power grid connected Solar Photovoltaic System in Rajkot with an aim to reduce GHG emissions.

We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) for implementing the second phase of our Urban LEDS project on accelerating climate action in Nagpur through formulation of low emission development strategies. The project is being implemented in Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia, South Africa, Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Rwanda and India. It is supported by the European Commission, and will be implemented by the UN-Habitat and ICLEI.

In addition, we have initiated a new project in Goa on developing People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR) with support from Goa State Biodiversity Board. You will find the details in this edition below.

This is not all, read on to know more updates from other cities. And do keep a lookout for our next e-news to know about the Urban Nexus training workshop for Integrated Resource Management in the Framework of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, National Institute of Urban Affairs and ICLEI South Asia.

Happy reading!

Latest developments



Solar Photovoltaic System Inaugurated in Rajkot

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Vijaybhai Rupani, inaugurated a 145 kilo watt power (kWp) grid connected Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) System installed at the Aji Water Treatment Plant during the Smart City Expo in Rajkot. This pilot project is implemented under the CapaCITIES project, supported by SDC and co-funded by RMC. The installation of the SPV System will generate around 211,700 units electricity per year, which is equivalent to 25 percent of the total power consumption in the plant. This has a potential to reduce 174 tons of CO₂ equivalent GHG emissions, from the shift to renewable energy from conventional energy.

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ICLEI South Asia Signs MoU with NMC for its Urban LEDS II Project



An MoU has been signed by ICLEI South Asia with NMC for implementing Accelerating Climate Action through the Promotion of Urban Low Emission Development

Strategies (Urban LEDS II) project, supported by the European Commission. Under the project, a GHG emission inventory for Nagpur will be developed for the last three to five years based on the determined energy use. Thereafter, based on the identified critical sectors, implementable low carbon solutions and strategies will be suggested. The project is being implemented by the UN-Habitat and ICLEI in India, Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia, South Africa, Lao PDR and Rwanda.

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IIHS Team Visits Siliguri to Study Impact of Climate Change on Migration

The Indian Institute of Human Settlements (IIHS) is carrying out a study on the impact of climate change on migration under the CapaCITIES project of SDC. As part of this study, a team from IIHS visited the city of Siliguri. During the visit, interviews with migrants and focus group discussions with females from migrant families in wards 20, 24 and 46 were conducted to understand the reasons behind the shift. This information will be used to develop a policy document on migration in Siliguri which will be presented to the city officials.

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ICLEI South Asia Organises Shared Learning Dialogue in Kota Kinabalu



A Shared Learning Dialogue (SLD) with the Dewan Bandaraya Kota Kinabalu (DBKK) and local stakeholders was organised to assess climate vulnerability of the urban systems of the city. The SLD was attended by officials from various departments of DBKK responsible for urban planning, transport, water, solid waste, sewerage among others, as well as representatives from universities, NGOs and institutions. The main objective was to assess the fragility of the urban systems of the city, present the climate risks for Kota Kinabalu to the participants, conduct a vulnerability assessment of the fragile urban systems through the climate lens, identify vulnerable areas and vulnerable populations that are impacted by these high risk sectors. Based on these inputs it is aimed to identify and prioritise resilience interventions.

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CapaCITIES Project Presented at TIA Summit 2018

ICLEI South Asia participated at The India Advantage (TIA) Summit 2018 held at Bengaluru. In a session focused on NGOs and Institutions, Mr. Ashish Rao Ghorpade, Deputy Director, ICLEI South Asia, spoke about CapaCITIES: The Pathway Towards City Climate Resilient Development. Mr. Ghorpade discussed the approach adopted for developing climate action plans and identifying quick wins in the four project cities - Siliguri, Coimbatore, Udaipur and Rajkot.

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First Shared Learning Dialogue Organised in Udaipur



As part of the CapaCITIES project, an SLD was organised with local stakeholders and municipal officials of Udaipur which aimed at identifying the vulnerable urban systems of the city and the impact that climate change will have on the same. Climate fragility statements developed were extensively discussed and risk assessment of the same was carried out. From the meeting, three vulnerable urban systems - transportation, sewerage and solid waste management were identified by the stakeholders. In order to build resilience in these systems, city specific interventions will be developed which will feed into the Climate Resilient City Action Plan for Udaipur.

[Read more](#)



SUNYA Project Champions Appreciated in Coimbatore

To appreciate the activities and work done under the CapaCITIES SUNYA project in wards 22 and 24 of Coimbatore, a felicitation function was organised by ICLEI South Asia and the municipal corporation, where Mr. K. Arjunan, MLA, Coimbatore South Constituency along with Dr. Vijayakarhikeyan, IAS, Commissioner and Mrs. P. Gandhimathi, Deputy Commissioner, awarded Star Resident certificates to 45 inhabitants and Star Performer certificates to 12 sanitary workers. Similarly, four Star Campaigner certificates were awarded to the local associations. In addition to the certificates, the compost made out of ward 22 segregated organic waste was issued to the Star Residents. In addition, to implement the on-site composting, sites were identified in Corporation Park and Bharathi Park for treatment of garden waste under this project and construction work has begun.

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ICLEI South Asia Participates in Discussion on Waste Management in Mumbai



On the occasion of 70 Years of Swiss Indian Friendship, a panel discussion on 'Waste: A Problem or a Resource?' was hosted in partnership with the Consulate General of Switzerland and TARQ in Mumbai. Ms. Ritu Thakur, Manager, ICLEI South Asia presented about various initiatives on waste management that are being undertaken in the four cities under the CapaCITIES project. The discussion revolved around the nuances of plastic waste, electronic waste and various other challenges and potential solutions of waste management in India.

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Workshop on WASH Activities in Solapur's Haglur Village

As part of the International Development Research Centre supported Integrated Rural Urban Water Management for Climate based Adaptations in Indian cities project, ICLEI South Asia conducted training programmes on awareness and improvement of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in various schools in rural areas of Ekrukh micro catchment in Solapur. Awareness generation activities with the school children included training on WASH best practices, movie show and quiz on water conservation, and drawing competition. A workshop to promote WASH best practices and awareness on water management was conducted in a secondary school in Haglur village. Activities such as hand washing demonstrations, quiz on solid waste segregation, drawing competition on water management, hygiene and sanitation were carried out.

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Dehradun Students Encouraged to Adopt Ecofriendly Mobility Solutions



ICLEI South Asia and World Wide Fund (WWF) India, with support from Nagar Nigam Dehradun, organised an interschool drawing competition on "Sustainable Mobility for One Planet" in Dehradun under WWF funded One Planet City Challenge (OPCC) project. The idea behind conducting this event was to create awareness among the students about sustainable mobility and greener choices for the same. The initiative was conducted with support from the Department of School Education, Government of Uttarakhand.

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People's Biodiversity Register Project Begins in Goa

With support from Goa State Biodiversity Board, a new project on development of People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) in 10 villages in Goa has been initiated. As a technical support group, ICLEI South Asia will build capacity and support the Biodiversity Management Committees in these villages to develop the People's Biodiversity Registers.

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Blogs

Lessons in Sustainability from India's Past - Changing the Nature of Agricultural Practices



In the southwest coast of one of the southern most states of India lies the Kuttanad region - an area which is spread across the districts of Alappuzha and Ernakulam of Kerala. Here, Pokkali, a dying traditional practice of cultivating salt-tolerant rice varieties is being followed, writes Rithika Fernandes.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming events



Local Renewables Conference 2018

The City of Freiburg, the City of Basel and ICLEI Europe are organising the Local Renewables Conference 2018 which will take place from the 24th to 26th October, 2018 in Freiburg, Germany. Join leading and learning cities, policy-makers from European and national governments, businesses, research and finance institutions for the 9th edition of the Local Renewables Series. It will build on the success of previous conferences and will showcase practical and innovative examples of how to reduce energy and resource use, and make ideal use of energy sources and other resources in the region.

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Conference of the Parties (COP) 14



From the 17th to 29th of November, 2018, the United Nations will call on decision makers from more than 190 countries to step up efforts to halt the biodiversity loss and protect the ecosystems that support food and water security and health for billions of people. The UN Biodiversity Conference (14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity - COP 14) will be held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

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More from ICLEI across the globe

- [5 South American cities selected for ICLEI'S international project on sustainable urban freight](#)
- [National workshop debates alternatives to implement low carbon strategies in Brazilian cities](#)

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About ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

Over the years, ICLEI has grown to become the world's leading association of over 1,500 cities, local and metropolitan governments committed to building a sustainable future. ICLEI Members include local and regional governments of all sizes, municipalities, towns, cities and counties to mega-cities, prefectures, provinces, regions and city-states.

By helping our Members to make cities and regions sustainable, low-carbon, resilient, ecomobile, biodiverse, resource-efficient and productive, healthy and happy, with a green economy and smart infrastructure, the association impacts over 20 percent of the world's urban population.

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