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ICLEI South Asia E-News

June 2018



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

Greetings!

The month of May has been full of actions across South Asia. We have achieved a milestone with the launch of The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) regional chapter in South Asia. Indian cities of Surat and Gangtok are the recent ones to join the commitment.

Besides, our team has initiated the European Commission funded Urban LEDS II project in Bangladesh and met national government representatives and city Mayors and officials. A Project Advisory Group will soon be constituted.

This month has also seen a lot of activities in the Indian cities. We have successfully installed four Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AAQMS) in Udaipur under the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) funded CapaCITIES project. These stations will help the city plan for measures to reduce air pollution.

The Climate Resilient City Action Plan and the water augmentation study for Rajkot, developed under the CapaCITIES project, were showcased at the Government of Gujarat's Sujalam Suflam Jal Abhiyan conservation mission.

We are also happy to announce our new business address in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Read on to know more.

Latest developments



Udaipur Mayor Inaugurates AAQMS under CapaCITIES Project

One of the four AAQMS established in Udaipur was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Mayor Mr. Chandra Singh Kothari at Sukhadiya Circle in presence of Mr. Keshar Singh Sisodiya, Ward Councilor and Dr. Shirish Sinha, Deputy Head, SDC. Apart from Sukhadiya Circle, three other sensors have been installed at Hadi Rani Circle, Police Station near Pratap Nagar Circle, and Suraj Pol Circle. These stations will help in continuous air quality monitoring. The data is available on the Udaipur Municipal Corporation website and on Aurassure – an Android application which can be installed to check pollution measurement on smart phones.

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Solapur Holds its First RURBAN SLD under IAdapt Project



The First RURBAN Shared Learning Dialogue (SLD) in Solapur under the International Development Research Centre funded Integrated Rural Urban Water Management for Climate Based Adaptations in Indian Cities (IAdapt) project was facilitated by ICLEI South Asia. This is the first time rural and urban stakeholders were brought together to identify climate vulnerable sectors related to water resources. A state level RURBAN

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meeting was also organised in Vijayawada by our project partners.

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GCoM Launches Regional Chapter in South Asia to Help Build More Climate Resilient Cities

The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM), an international coalition of city leaders committed to raising the global ambition for climate action, launched the South Asia regional chapter in Delhi. ICLEI South Asia is one of the partner organisations of the GCoM which aims to support the efforts of cities in India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to reduce GHG emissions and become more climate resilient. The Indian cities of Surat and Gangtok are the new signatories to the GCoM.

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Workshop on 'Moving towards Sustainable, Energy Efficient, Urban Mobility in Emerging Cities'



The Asia LEDS Secretariat, hosted by ICLEI South Asia, supported by the SDC, facilitated participation of national government representatives from Bhutan, Sri Lanka and India in the workshop on 'Moving towards Sustainable, Energy Efficient, Urban Mobility in Emerging Cities', in Singapore. The workshop aimed at mobilising the cities to move towards sustainable and energy efficient urban mobility.

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SDC and Swiss Expert Visit CapaCITIES Cities

Dr. Shirish Sinha, Deputy Head, SDC visited CapaCITIES project city Siliguri and met with the Mayor. He also visited the new sites identified for installation of AAQMS and inspected the progress of the SUNYA initiative in wards 2 and 17. Read more

Mr. Stephan Textor from Textor Engineering Ltd. visited Coimbatore. He conducted a review of the project on movement of openly dumped waste at the landfill site in the city, carried out measurement of the landfill gas emissions from Vellalore site, and designed a master plan for the Vellalore waste treatment and disposal site along with ICLEI South Asia and municipal staff. Read more

ICLEI South Asia joins hands with WWF for Public Green Awareness Event in Panaji



ICLEI South Asia and WWF-India , in collaboration with the Corporation of the City of Panaji (CCP), organised the 'One Planet Streets for All' event in Panaji to reinforce the idea that everyone has a right to use roads, irrespective of their mode of transport - motorised or non-motorised. A Cyclothon was also

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flagged off by Shri Vithal Dayanand Chopdekar, Hon'ble Mayor of the CCP.

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Students Attend Urban Biodiversity Workshop on International Biodiversity Day

A workshop on Urban Biodiversity, under the INTERACT: Bio project, supported by BMU, was organised for college and school teachers and students in Delhi. The event was held on International Biodiversity Day in collaboration with Department of Environment, Government of NCT of Delhi and Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Combating Climate Change. The participants were sensitised about the biodiversity in India, significance of urban biodiversity and steps they can take to conserve the same.

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ICLEI South Asia organises Session for City Leaders on Sustainable Transport for Smart Cities



ICLEI South Asia organised a City Leaders Round Table Meeting on Sustainable Urban Transport in Indian Smart Cities at the Smart Cities India Expo 2018. The session designed for city officials and leaders included presentations by Mr. Ashish Rao Ghorpade, Deputy Director, ICLEI South Asia and Mr. Sandeep Gandhi from Sandeep Gandhi Architects on smart mobility solutions in four cities, being worked on by ICLEI South Asia.

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ICLEI South Asia Presents Solutions to Address Water Management in Cities

Dr. Monalisa Sen, Programme Coordinator, Biodiversity, ICLEI South Asia participated in a session focused on Smart Solutions for Wastewater Management in Liveable Cities at the Smart Cities India Expo 2018. In her presentation, she emphasised on the need for innovation both in the form of equipment and hardware as well as innovation in the implementation process for better management of water resources and presented two case studies from the work being carried out by ICLEI South Asia.

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AIIB organises Workshops on Engagement with CSOs and NGOs



Stakeholder engagement workshops were organised by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with cooperation of ICLEI South Asia in Delhi and Mumbai to discuss the process and work of AIIB in India. The workshops reached out to CSOs and NGOs for the upcoming Annual Governors' Meeting of AIIB.

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CapaCITIES study on Water Resource Augmentation Showcased at Sujalam Suflam Jal Abhiyan Conservation Mission

The State Government of Gujarat launched India's biggest state level water conservation mission *Sujalam Suflam Jal Abhiyan* on Gujarat Foundation Day, 1st of May, 2018. The study conducted in Rajkot on assessing the potential for augmentation of local water resources through ground water/aquifer recharge, under the CapaCITIES project, was showcased at the event. The Climate Resilient City Action Plan for Rajkot was also showcased. Dr. Jaiman Upadhyay, Hon'ble Mayor, Rajkot Municipal Corporation with other officials also visited the exhibition.

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ICLEI South Asia Team Met National Government and Cities under Urban LEDS II Project



ICLEI South Asia team met with national government representatives, city Mayors and officials in Bangladesh, to finalise the project cities and initiate project activities under Urban LEDS II. The project was also introduced to senior officials from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the Planning Commission and the Local Government Division, and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the International Centre for Climate Change and Development. A Project Advisory Group will be constituted at the national level, both in India and Bangladesh to steer project implementation, with representation from other international partners.

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Announcements

GEXCom Elected Members Announced

We are pleased to announce that Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Utama Ir. Hj. Idris bin Hj. Haron Former Chief Minister, Melaka, Malaysia; Kinlay Dorjee Mayor, Thimphu, Bhutan and Mohamed Shafeeg Mahmood CEO, Local Government Authority, Maldives have been selected from the South Asia region in the GEXCom 2018-21. Find out about the members here.

Mayor Ashok Sridharan of Bonn Elected ICLEI President

Mayor of Bonn, Ashok Sridharan has been officially elected as <u>ICLEI President</u> for the 2018 to 2021 term. As ICLEI President, Mr. Sridharan will lead the ICLEI network of more than 1,500 local and regional governments transforming our urban world.

ICLEI South Asia Bangladesh Office Gets Business Address

ICLEI South Asia is delighted to announce a new business address in Dhaka, Bangladesh at: House - 27 (Level - 3), Road - 01, Block - A, Bashundhara R/A, Dhaka - 1212, Bangladesh

Upcoming events

ICLEI World Congress 2018

ICLEI World Congress 2018 will be hosted by the Ville de Montréal on the 19th to 22nd of June, 2018 in Montreal, Canada. At the Congress, the Cities Biodiversity Centre (CBC), scientists, urban planners, policymakers, conservationists and other key stakeholders will explore nature as a key tool for more sustainable urbanisation.



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More from ICLEI across the globe

• Quito is driving multilevel climate action through Talanoa Dialogue

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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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