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ICLEI South Asia E-News

May 2016



Emani Kumar
Deputy Secretary
General, ICLEI and
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Greetings!

I am happy to share that we have just organised a workshop on district energy systems, with an aim to build and assess potential for such systems in Indian cities. The workshop, conducted in Gujarat, after rapid assessments in five cities of India, comes as an assurance that ICLEI South Asia has been successful in assisting cities to strengthen their capacities on renewable energy.

Besides, we have just finished assisting the City of Panaji, Goa in developing its revised sustainable Smart City Proposal, with active involvement from local stakeholders and citizens. We are hopeful that the city will make it to the Smart City Mission list that is likely to be announced by the Government of India very soon.

Also, to strengthen ICLEI's involvement in India's Smart City Mission, we shall be supporting the 2nd Smart Cities India 2016 expo. The 2nd edition of the expo will witness, for the first time, the Smart Cities Awards, Mayor's Conclave and Smart Transport India. Besides, we have also recently participated in conducting the formative evaluation to enhance climate resilience for Gorakhpur, an Indian city much vulnerable to floods.

ICLEI's family continues to grow bigger. Since Bhagalpur from Bihar has just joined ICLEI as a Member city, we welcome them and look forward to a fruitful collaboration.

Beyond the boundaries of India, we are actively pacing up the transition as the new secretariat for Asia LEDES Partnership to make green growth an achievable dream for the continent. We are also looking forward to the Asia LEDES Forum, set to be organised next month.

This newsletter also offers you a perspective on sustainable development, from the mayor of Gangtok, a capital city in the northeast of India.

Enjoy reading more!

Latest developments

[Joint workshop held in Rajkot to assess potential](#)

for district energy systems

ICLEI South Asia, in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), has organised a one-day workshop on district energy systems in cities. Organised in Rajkot, the workshop aimed to provide technical assistance and build capacities of local governments and stakeholders in India to develop replicable modern district energy systems, particularly focusing on district cooling that can be further scaled up across the country.

[Read more](#)



Enhancing climate resilience in Gorakhpur city

ICLEI South Asia and RUAF Foundation (Resource Centers on Urban Agriculture and Food Security) have undertaken a formative evaluation of the "Enhancing Climate Resilience of Gorakhpur city by Buffering Floods in the City" project. Both the project and the evaluation were supported by Rockefeller Foundation, with the project being implemented under the Foundation's Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) programme.

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Asia LEDS holds webinars to share knowledge on energy tools

The Asia LEDS Partnership, along with LEDS Global Partnership's Energy Working Group, has been holding webinars to spread the word about its toolkits and to share some case studies. While a webinar on Long range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) System focussed on cases from Vietnam and Indonesia, the one on Geospatial Toolkit (Gst) brought to fore how Vietnam's Thanh Hoa Province made use of the tool to assess local renewable energy potentials.

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Towards building resilience: vulnerability assessment and ground-truthing in Kurseong and Gangtok

ICLEI South Asia recently organised the 2nd Shared Learning Dialogue (SLD), in collaboration with Kurseong Municipality (KM) and Gangtok Municipal Corporation (GMC). The workshops that were a part of the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) project, supported by Rockefeller Foundation, undertook vulnerability assessment due to climate change.

[Read more](#)

Pune hosts the energy fair under Earth Hour City Challenge

Pune Municipal Corporation just hosted a one-day renewable energy fair with the objective to raise awareness about the use of renewable energy and energy conservation measures. The event was organised by ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability South Asia, in collaboration with World Wide Fund (WWF) India. Also, about 150 students participated in the poster drawing competition organised as a part of awareness programme..



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Shimla releases GHG inventory prepared with support from ICLEI

The Municipal Corporation of Shimla recently launched the Green House Gas (GHG) inventory for Shimla town, prepared under the urban Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDs) project of ICLEI South Asia, funded by the European Union commission and UN habitat. The report points out that the largest Green House Gas (GHG) emission in the city was owing to transport.

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ICLEI assists Panaji in its bid for Smart City Mission



ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability South Asia has been happy to assist the City of Panaji to develop a sustainable Smart City Proposal, with active involvement of local stakeholders and citizens. The project involves the preparation of the Panaji Smart City Proposal based on the mission guidelines and through extensive citizen consultation process.

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Bhagalpur city from Bihar joins ICLEI's network

Bhagalpur, popularly known as silk city and situated on the southern bank of the Ganges in the Indian state of Bihar, has successfully become an ICLEI member. The City has recently been shortlisted by the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, to be developed as a Smart City under its flagship "Smart City Mission" and to be transformed through Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme.

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Meet Shakti Singh Choudhary, Mayor of Gangtok, Sikkim



Shakti Singh Choudhary, Mayor of Gangtok, Sikkim, India, shares how the hill city is introducing measures that can help the city become more liveable, without hampering its livelihoods and ecology. Problems in hills are very different from those in other areas... Through

workshops and other initiatives, ICLEI has been sharing the experiences that add to our capacity, says Mr Choudhary.

[Edited excerpts from his interview](#)



Asia LEDS Forum 2016: Financing Implementation of Priority Mitigation Actions

The Asia LEDS Partnership, to be held from June 27 -29, will convene LEDS leaders from across Asia for three days of regional exchange and action planning on mobilizing finance to support countries in implementing priority mitigation actions. The forum aims to help member countries better understand the level of financing needed for implementing priority actions, financing sources, policy instruments, and financing instruments.

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2nd Smart Cities India 2016 to showcase smarter solutions for a better tomorrow



In order to support Government of India's smart cities mission, Exhibitions India is organising the 2nd edition of the Smart Cities India 2016 expo to be held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from May 11-13, 2016. The event that will witness, for the first time, the Smart Cities Awards, Mayor's Conclave and Smart Transport India forum, is being supported by ICLEI South Asia.

[Read more](#)



- [The New Urban Agenda: Bringing urban development back to sustainability track](#)
- [Mayor of Bonn invites to Resilient Cities 2016](#)
- [Municipal Finance Conference on 31 May at Metropolitan Solutions 2016](#)

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ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is the world's leading association of more than 1000 metropolises, cities, urban regions and towns representing over 660 million people in 86 countries. ICLEI promotes local action for global sustainability and supports cities to become sustainable, resilient, resource-efficient, biodiverse, low-carbon; to build a smart infrastructure; and to develop an inclusive, green urban economy with the ultimate aim of achieving healthy and happy communities. ICLEI promotes local action for global sustainability and supports cities to become sustainable, resilient, resource- efficient, biodiverse, low-carbon; to build a smart infrastructure; and to develop an inclusive, green urban economy with the ultimate aim to achieve healthy and happy communities.

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