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ICLEI South Asia E-News

May 2017



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

Greetings!

The first few months of 2017 have seen many of our initiatives gaining momentum, and even reaching crucial milestones. Work on the new agenda of biodivercity has also been initiated. I am happy to share that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has extended its full support to our initiative on mainstreaming biodiversity across city-regions in India.

ICLEI South Asia has always believed in raising awareness and building capacities to make cities more sustainable. To this effect, we have signed Memoranda of Understanding with the local governments of three cities to build and improve their engagement, managerial and technical capacities for implementing and evaluating city-based projects.

With the aim of taking forward the efforts towards integrated rural-urban water management, all project partners came together in Chennai, in April, to formulate a detailed plan for the on-ground implementation of the same.

In Bangladesh, an engagement building grant of Rockefeller Foundation, administered by ICLEI South Asia is supporting community to build flood resilience in the city of Kushtia.

Read on to know more about our work and two sustainability champions associated with ICLEI South Asia!

Latest developments



Model and satellite cities identified for INTERACT-Bio

The model and satellite project cities in India for the INTERACT-Bio: Integrated sub-national action for Biodiversity project - funded by BMUB - have been identified. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also extended its full support to the initiative that aims at fostering synergies between climate protection and biodiversity to achieve the overall goals of the Convention on Biological Diversity and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

Change. The city of Kochi in Kerala is the model city and the cities of Mangaluru in Karnataka and Panaji in Goa are the satellite cities in the project.

[Read more](#)

Implementation partners meet to begin activities on integrated rural urban water management

To initiate implementation of the Integrated Rural Urban Water Management for Climate Based Adaptations in Indian Cities (IAdapt), supported by International Development Research Centre, Canada, a partners' meet was held at IIT Madras, Chennai. The two-day meeting was attended by all project partners - ICLEI South Asia, Athena Infonomics, IWMI and IIT Madras. Partners presented learnings from earlier work that they have done, which can be used for this project. A detailed action plan for the three year project has been developed for implementation of the project.



[Read more](#)



PROMISE: ICLEI South Asia signs MOU with 3 cities

ICLEI South Asia has recently signed Memoranda of Understanding with the local governments in the city of Karnal, Warangal and Jabalpur for "Promotion of Inclusive, Sustainable Growth and Diversity to Strengthen Local Governments" (PROMISE to strengthen Local Governments). Funded by European Commission, the project will build a tool to strengthen the engagement, managerial and technical capacities of Urban Local Bodies to partner and jointly implement and/or evaluate outcome-based projects in the city.

[Read more](#)

IAP used to develop resilience strategies for Ramgad Watershed

The ICLEI ACCCRN Process, which was developed by ICLEI, with support from the Rockefeller Foundation, particularly for local governments, has now been used by the Kumaon University, Nainital, to develop the resilience strategy in the Ramgad watershed area near Nainital. The Process Toolkit that has been successfully used for 40 cities in South and South East Asia has been used at the watershed level successfully showing the flexibility of the toolkit as to range of use.



[Read more](#)



Workshops held in Kushtia, Bangladesh under ACCCRN small grants programme

Two workshops were held in Kushtia Municipality of Bangladesh, under ACCCRN's Engagement Building Small Grants Fund, in April 2017. The fund is provided by the Rockefeller Foundation and facilitated by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia, in Kushtia, to improve the living conditions of about 4,000

slum people of Gorai Ashroyan Phase-2 area. The project will support construction of roads and drains; conduct stakeholder workshops and raise awareness among community members on impacts of climate change.

[Read more](#)

ICLEI South Asia represents BEA at 3rd Sustainable Energy for All Forum in New York

Over 1,000 high-level representatives from different governments, businesses, civil societies and international organisations gathered in New York City, from April 3-5, 2017 for the 3rd Sustainable Energy for All Forum. ICLEI South Asia, in its capacity as the technical lead for Rajkot Municipal Corporation under building efficiency accelerator programme, represented at the forum for the initiative supported by World Resources Institute.



[Read more](#)

Actors of change



From trash to treasure: Shakti Singh Choudhary, Mayor of Gangtok, talks about the challenge of waste

"If we all could understand that waste is our own liability and we should deal with it, every city can become much cleaner," says the Mayor as he talks about the city's initiatives to manage waste and generate revenue from it.

[Read more](#)

Meet Anandhan Subramaniam: a sustainability champion at ICLEI South Asia

"ICLEI South Asia has always supported knowledge sharing between Indian cities and cities from other countries to promote learning from best practices, capacity building, and more. This has really impacted the way people perceive energy and climate change," says Anandhan Subramaniam as he talks about ICLEI South Asia's role in the energy sector.



[Read more](#)

Event

CapaCITIES @ 3rd Smart City India 2017 Expo



ICLEI South Asia's flagship project on Capacity Building Project on Low Carbon and Climate Resilient City Development in India (CapaCITIES) is being presented at the Smart City India expo, from 10-12 May, 2017. Supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), CapaCITIES is working in four partner cities – Coimbatore, Rajkot, Siliguri and Udaipur – and aims at achieving a lower greenhouse gas

emission growth path and increasing the resilience of select Indian cities to climate change.

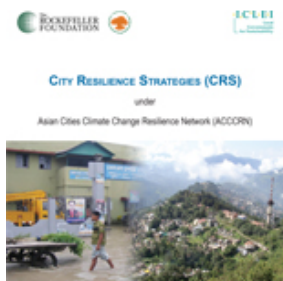
For more information on project, visit <http://capacitiesindia.org/>

[Click here](#) to know more about the annual expo

Publication

All you need to know about Asia LEDS Partnership

This year, the Asia Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) Partnership is focussing to work with member countries to strengthen financial, technological, and institutional capacities for implementing LEDS. Take a look at the project [brochure](#) and a [factsheet](#) that provide a glimpse into why the movement is needed now, more than ever before, and the identified opportunities and upcoming activities.



Package of City Resilience Strategy Briefs

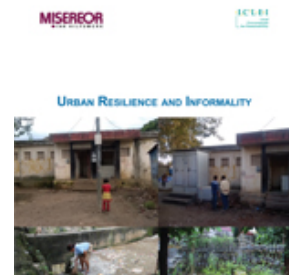
Under the ACCCRN project, supported by Rockefeller Foundation, City Resilience Strategies (CRS) have been prepared for 20 cities in India and Bangladesh. Brief outlines of the CRS of the cities have been published to give information on the risks and vulnerabilities of the project cities and their resilience interventions.

[Read more](#)

Case study on resilience and informal settlements

Under the Misereor supported project on Climate Resilience and Informality, ICLEI South Asia has developed case studies for the project cities giving their problem statements, solution baskets and pilot interventions on building climate resilience in urban informal settlements.

[Read more](#)



More from ICLEI across the globe

- [“We Cannot Do This Alone”. Building Resilience Is A Collective Business – Final Thoughts From Resilient Cities 2017, held in Bonn, Germany.](#)

ICLEI South Asia Secretariat

Ground Floor, NSIC Bhawan
NSIC-STP Complex, Okhla Industrial Estate
New Delhi - 110 020, India
Tel. +91-11 4106 7220
Fax +91-11 4106 7221

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

General inquiries: [iclei-southasia\(at\)iclei.org](mailto:iclei-southasia@iclei.org)
Website: southasia.iclei.org

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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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ICLEI - South Asia
Ground Floor
NSIC-STP Complex, Okhla Industrial Estate
New Delhi, Delhi 110020
IN

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