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ICLEI South Asia E-News

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*Greetings readers!*

The first few months of 2015 have been extremely remarkable for us. We received a great response at Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2015 where more than 300 people from around 100 cities from across the globe came together to discuss and collaborate on building a more resilient future. The Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities Report has been recently launched – marking the beginning of the green growth era in Indian Cities; and also a Policy Review report to address efficiency in the Urban Built Environment has been released. Ward no. 23 in R.S Puram in Coimbatore, India, set a record of generating one tone manure using the recyclable dry waste produced by residents and much more. We are proud of our cities' achievements, one city's achievement is another one's inspiration!

We have also released our Annual Report for 2013-14, highlighting myriad initiatives and stories of change. This year will also be witnessing many noteworthy events such as the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, ICLEI World Congress 2015, Resilient Cities Congress Bonn and more. More information is available below.

Happy reading!

## Voices from ICLEI South Asia

### Replicating Green Pilgrimage Network's knowledge to strengthen the base for HRIDAY

Our colleague Rakesh Bhagavatula writes about how the takeaways from the now concluded Green Pilgrimage Network – India chapter and ICLEI South Asia's previous experience in working with pilgrim cities can help in National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) and can act as an essential base to go deeper into the study of the pilgrim cities.

[Read more](#)



## Local sustainability actions



### Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities - Report launched!

Indian cities are growing at a rapid pace and local governments face enormous challenges in providing urban infrastructure and services that match the growing demand sustainably while ensuring good quality of life for its citizens. To address these myriad challenges, ICLEI South Asia and the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) with support and technical inputs from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) have launched a report on Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities.

[Read more](#)

### Rajkot takes a leap towards a greener lifestyle with the Green Energy Fair

As part of the global Earth Hour City Challenge (EHCC) and the associated people's choice campaign called [We Love Cities](#), a Green Energy Fair was organised jointly by Rajkot Municipal Corporation, WWF-India and ICLEI-South Asia in Rajkot, India. The fair was aimed towards promoting simple and practical renewable energy solutions that individuals and institutions could adopt to shift to a greener lifestyle.



[Read more](#)



### New records and replications - Coimbatore makes progress!

Ward no. 23 in R.S Puram in Coimbatore, India, where the SUNYA – Towards zero waste in South Asia project has been implemented, has set a record of generating one tone manure using the recyclable dry waste produced by residents. Inspired by this success, residents of Bharathi Park, Coimbatore, led by Bharathi Park Ladies Association have now begun the process of segregation of waste at source by launching the SUNYA project.

[Read more](#)

## Latest from our projects

### Pune, Rajkot and Thane in the run for WWF's Earth Hour City Challenge 2015

Pune, Rajkot and Thane are among the three Indian cities that will compete to bag the title of Global Earth Hour Capital in WWF's Earth Hour City Challenge (EHCC) 2015. A total of 50 cities from across 17 countries have entered the final round. All the three finalist Indian cities have made progressive efforts in adopting renewable energy and promoting initiatives that contribute to building a sustainable city.



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### ICLEI South Asia releases Policy Review report to address efficiency in the Urban Built Environment

The building sector is one of the major consumers of energy in Indian cities. The smallest unit of the built environment is the building, which links up to other buildings and urban. ICLEI South Asia has recently released a Policy Review report which is the outcome of a review exercise funded by the Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation during 2014 to map the range of policies that impact urban built environment and review existing linkages and integration in approach.

[Read more](#)

### Expand your knowledge about urban mobility - E-learning with SOLUTIONS

E-learning opportunities on numerous themes such as public transport, city logistics, transport infrastructure, integrated planning and more, are now being offered under the European Union funded Sharing Opportunities for Low carbon TransportAtION (SOLUTIONS) project as part of the project initiatives. The SOLUTIONS courses are intended for professionals working in the field of urban mobility who wish to expand their knowledge and share their experiences with participants from around the world.



[Read more](#)



### Now a study that provides a hands-on approach for implementing Urban NEXUS solutions

GIZ GmbH and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability are pleased to announce the publication of their joint study, “Operationalizing the Urban NEXUS: Towards resource efficient and integrated cities and metropolitan regions”. The study is founded on pioneering experiences from cities all over the world that have recognized the crucial interlinkages between sectors such as water, energy and food – now commonly understood as the “Water-Energy-Food security NEXUS”.

[Read more](#)

### Exploring solutions and developing new trends at the Michelin Challenge Bibendum

Representatives from Cochin, India and Matale, Sri Lanka, under the European Union funded Sharing Opportunities for Low carbon Urban transportAtION (Solutions) Project, had an opportunity to explore next generation mobility solutions and smart commuting in

cities by participating in the 12th edition of the Michelin Challenge Bibendum held in Chengdu city, China.

[Read more](#)



### Uniting towards Urban resilience in Asia-Pacific

The days from 11-13 February 2015 marked the beginning of a revolution in the history of Asia-Pacific's resilience building process. More than 300 participants from around 30 countries and more than 100 cities came together at Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2015, organised by ICLEI South Asia, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and the World Mayor's Council on Climate Change, to dialogue and collaborate on various aspects of urban resilience and the need to move towards building a more resilient future.

[Read more](#)

### Sustainable Solutions for an Urban Future – ICLEI World Congress 2015

Happening on 8-12 April 2015 in Seoul, South Korea, the ICLEI World Congress 2015 will gather the most innovative practices and pioneering solutions of ICLEI Members and partners to demonstrate that a transition to a globally sustainable future is possible. ICLEI World Congress 2015 will have five days of inspiring discussion on sustainable solutions for an urban future from an esteemed line-up of speakers from numerous organisations and cities.



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### Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

The Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction will be held from 14 to 18 March 2015 in Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan. Several thousand participants are expected, including at related events linked to the World Conference under the umbrella of building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters. The Conference will be convened at the highest possible level, including Heads of State of Governments and other representatives, and will result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document.

[Read more](#)

## Publications

[Annual Report 2013-2014](#)

The year 2013-14 has been a remarkable year for ICLEI South Asia. Our Annual Report for that time period is now out – showcasing new initiatives, new areas of work and numerous inspiring stories of change from across the South Asian region.

[Read more](#)

## Snippets from ICLEI's world

- [ICLEI World Congress host Seoul plans to cut emissions](#)
- [Launch of Report: "District Energy in Cities: Unlocking the Potential of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy"](#)
- [ICLEI's Deputy Secretary General Speaks on City Region Food Systems](#)
- [ICLEI Member Bristol embarks on year as European Green Capital](#)

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### About ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

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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