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ICLEI South Asia E-News

August 2015



Emani Kumar
Deputy Secretary
General, ICLEI and
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Greetings readers!

The past month has brought forth many interesting and remarkable activities, initiatives and achievements – 2 new members, advancements in resilience building in various cities – workshops, IEC materials, movies etc., Kochi’s solar city master plan being approved by the MNRE and more. This E-newsletter brings the above mentioned and much more to the forefront.

This E-newsletter also features Mayor of Dehradun, Mr. Vinod Chamoli, who talks about the initiatives in his city and their future plans. We are also proud to release the Congress Report of the first Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific Congress. There are also lot of events coming up in the next few months, read on to know more!

Happy reading!



Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2015 Congress Report now released!



The report summarises the key themes and messages, highlights and outcomes of the Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific 2015 – The 1st Asia-Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation, held in Bangkok, Thailand on 11-13 February 2015. [Read the full report here.](#)



Kurseong now an ICLEI member

Best known for its formidable league of tea estates and a rush of Raj-era boarding schools, Kurseong is a tiny and bustling hill town 32 Km south of Darjeeling, West Bengal and now is ICLEI’s newest member in the South Asian region.

[Read more](#)

Strengthening Local Urban Resilience Plans in South and Southeast Asia



Through the UNDP funded new project “Analysis of National and Subnational Disaster Loss and Damage Databases - Establishing a Linkage to Climate Change Impacts to Strengthen Local Urban Resilience Plan”, ICLEI South Asia will now be analysing the disaster loss and damage data for three country databases (Indonesia, Cambodia and Sri Lanka), with an aim to correlate trends in loss and damage from disasters reported at the national and subnational levels (in the database), with disasters and damage recorded at the city level.

[Read more](#)

Actors of change



Spotlight on Dehradun, India – An interview with Mayor Vinod Chamoli

"Dehradun is becoming more aware and active on sustainability actions. We are initiating various measures on energy saving, buildings, solid waste management and more for enhancing the overall quality of life in our city", says Mayor of Dehradun, India, Mr. Vinod Chamoli.

[Read more](#)

Latest from our projects

Towards developing a Climate Resilient Panaji



A shared learning dialogue, as part of the Rockefeller Foundation supported Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN), was recently held in Panaji city which aimed at discussing the sectors identified to be impacted by climate change. The City Corporation of Panaji is applying the ICLEI ACCCRN Process (IAP), a toolkit developed by ICLEI's South Asia and Oceania offices specifically for city governments to help them assess their vulnerabilities to climate change and to develop corresponding climate resilience strategies.

[Read more](#)



Solapur, now an ICLEI member, finalises pilot project sites for implementation as part of IUWM

Located in the south-eastern region of Indian state of Maharashtra, Solapur, also known as "The City of Martyrs" is now an ICLEI member. Solapur is also one of the 4 cities, across Rajasthan and Maharashtra, in which the European Commission funded project on Adopting Integrated Urban Water Management in Indian cities (AdoptIUWM) for capacity building and undertaking water sector reforms is being implemented since 2013. ICLEI South Asia is currently working towards implementation of 2 pilot projects to demonstrate the principles of Integrated Urban Water Management in Solapur city.

[Read more](#)

Launching IEC materials for building climate resilience in Kolkata



Under the 'Sensitisation Programme for Kolkata Municipal Corporation Councilors and Members of Mayor-in-Council on Climate Change' IEC materials developed by ICLEI South Asia for local councilors on climate resilience building were launched at training programme in Kolkata. These included the Bengali and Hindi versions of a graphic booklet specially designed for councilors and a poster on climate resilient action at the ward level to be displayed in ward offices.

[Read more](#)



Highlights of Kurseong, Gangtok and Panaji's journey towards building resilience

The Rockefeller Foundation funded Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN), has been working towards helping cities in improving their climate resilience and protecting themselves from projected impacts of climate change. ACCCRN cities from India, Kurseong, Gangtok and Panaji are advancing at a commendable pace towards making themselves more resilient and increasing their capacity to withstand, adapt and recover from climate change challenges.

[Read more](#)

Here comes the light: Kochi's solar city master plan now approved!



Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has approved the Rs. 696-crore master plan for the Kochi solar city project. The project is part of the Centre's ambitious scheme to develop solar cities in selected regions across the country. ICLEI South Asia was engaged by Kochi Municipal Corporation to prepare the solar city master plan report for the city. The master plan report was reviewed by a high level technical committee which looked at the various aspects of the solar city plan and has approved it.

[Read more](#)



For a safer future - Insights on climate resilience from India

A film released by the Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) and TERI India, in association with CDKN and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, [For a safer future - Insights on climate resilience from India](#), tells the story of "chronically flood prone" Gorakhpur district in Eastern Uttar Pradesh state. Here, nearly 70% of the population of the area is rural and sustained by agriculture.

[Read more](#)



Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific



The Sixth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific was held from 16 to 19 August 2015 in Malé, the Republic of Maldives, with the theme of "3R as an Economic Industry – Next Generation 3R Solutions for a Resource Efficient Society and Sustainable Tourism Development in Asia and the Pacific". Mr. Emani Kumar, Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia also introduced in the 'Strengthening the 3R Knowledge Base in Asia and the Pacific towards effective Monitoring and Implementation of 3R at Local

and National Level Plenary, the Zero Waste Initiatives prevalent in South Asia under ICLEI's SUNYA project.

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EcoMobility World Festival 2015

The EcoMobility World Festival 2015 will take place in Sandton, Johannesburg – the vibrant heart of South Africa – from 1-31 October. The Festival will offer a view of the City in the future, with active street life and social inclusivity, served by a sustainable transport system. The Festival will enable residents and visitors from across the globe to experience what a future, car-free precinct would look and feel like.

[Read more](#)

APUF 6 - Sixth Asia Pacific Urban Forum



The Sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum, convened by UNESCAP, will take place on 19-21 October 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia back-to-back with the High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting to Habitat III in the Asia-Pacific, to be convened by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on 21-22 October 2015. The Asia-Pacific Urban Forum is a multi-stakeholder meeting organized every 4-5 years in order to provide a platform for urban policy actors in the region to discuss emerging and critical urban development issues.

[Read more](#)



Re-energising Africa – SAIREC 2015

The South African International Renewable Energy Conference, to be held on 4-7 October, 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa, provides a global platform for government, private sector and civil society leaders to advance renewable energy. Convened by the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21), IREC is a high-level political conference series hosted by a national government.

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- [Transformative Actions Program receives over 100 applications!](#)
- [Cities in focus for UN Sustainable Development Summit](#)
- [Cities announce new partnerships and commitments at US-China Climate Leaders Summit](#)



- [Small Grants Fund to support resilience actions in India and Bangladesh](#)
- [Rajkot's bike sharing program - advancing towards low carbon mobility](#)
- [Making disaster planning a possibility for slums in South and Southeast Asia](#)

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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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