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ICLEI South Asia E-News

January 2017



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Greetings!

Year 2017 has begun with a clear message that we, along with the local and subnational governments, must continue to play a critical role in advancing sustainable actions for the cities. While the past two years have led to adoption of some key agreements that strengthen the role of local authorities in fighting climate change in various ways, now is the time for cities to entrench governance that is inclusive and visionary for their citizens.

Amid all these insights, ICLEI South Asia also intends to focus more on integration of climate mitigation and climate adaptation for improved urban resilience, among its other areas. To this regard, while we are concluding some projects, many new initiatives have been launched.

The team has completed developing city resilience strategies for 20 cities of the region. In mobility sector, Udaipur Municipal Corporation and partners have received a special recognition for their work with ICLEI South Asia, under Smart Cities Mission. Besides, our work on integrated urban water management continues with two new pilots on waste collection and composting being initiated.

Meanwhile, our activities on building resilience in informal settlements in four cities across India, Philippines, and Indonesia and developing holistic waste management plan for an Indian city have come to a conclusion. We look forward to further collaboration with these cities. Beyond cities in South Asia, we have also kicked off an effort to develop sustainable urban development framework for Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand region.

The newsletter highlights candid discussions with a sustainability champion of ICLEI and the Mayor of Jaisalmer city in India.

Enjoy reading more!

Latest developments

190 ULBs in Rajasthan pledge to transform into cleaner and smarter cities

In a conference held in Udaipur, Rajasthan and inaugurated by Honourable Chief Minister Smt.



Vasundhara Raje, and attended by eminent speakers, state level representatives from Gujarat, city representatives from Rajasthan and experts from the private sector shared their experiences and innovative approaches for achieving the objectives of the Swachh Bharat Mission. The workshop also marked the closure of UNEP supported project 'Holistic Waste Management Action Plan for Kota'.

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Jaisalmer and Kishangarh work towards an integrated waste management system under AdoptIUWM project

ICLEI South Asia has promoted segregated waste collection in two wards of Jaisalmer and Kishangarh over the last six months. As a next step under the European Commission funded AdoptIUWM project, both the cities have now undertaken composting to manage wet waste in two wards each.



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ACCCRN: 20 City Resilience Strategies developed for cities in India and Bangladesh

City resilience strategies have been developed for 20 cities in India and Bangladesh using the ICLEI ACCCRN Process (IAP) under the ACCCRN – Translation and Scaling Up Project supported by Rockefeller Foundation. The IAP tool helped to assess the vulnerabilities of the cities' fragile urban systems, recognize climate risks to these systems, and identify vulnerable actors and areas in the city that need to be addressed in a resilience strategy.

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Efforts to bring resilience to urban informalities in Asia conclude

Supported by Misereor, the Urban Informality and Resilience project focussed on research to understand the situation in four cities of Asia and and develop the problem statements, thereby getting into innovative thinking to develop solution baskets. Pilot implementation was also initiated in two of the four cities.



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Bangladesh cities learn more about ICLEI ACCCRN Process as tool to strengthen urban resilience

The "First National Annual Conference on Urban Resilience" was organised in Dhaka from December 17-19, 2016 where ICLEI South Asia conducted a parallel session on 'Building Community Engagement to Enhance Urban Resilience', with support from Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB). The session highlighted the benefits of active stakeholder

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engagement in urban resilience building with the help of the ICLEI ACCCRN Process toolkit.

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Sustainable Urban Development Framework for three countries

ICLEI South Asia, with support from Centre for IMT-GT Cooperation (CIMT), is developing a Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) Framework for the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle. Efforts are being made to identify sector priorities. The first workshop in Songkhla, Thailand confirmed seven priority sectors.



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Special recognition



Udaipur Municipal Corporation awarded for best practice on mobility

The Volvo Sustainable Mobility Awards India has recognised the Udaipur Municipal Corporation for a best practice on mobility that includes implementation of the street redesign, prioritizing pedestrians, parking management and modern roundabouts for improved safety in the city of Udaipur in 2016. The projects were implemented as a part of handholding support to the Smart City Plan provided by ICLEI South Asia, along with Sandeep Gandhi Architects and with support from Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation.

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Actors of change

Meet Mrs. Kavita Khatri, Mayor of Jaisalmer city in India

"There is nothing called 'waste'. We understand that our efforts can help inculcate this school of thought in our citizens as well," says the Mayor as she talks about cities' efforts in managing waste, thus contributing to the cause of water management in the city located in the desert state of India.



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Ankit Makvana, a sustainability champion and project officer at ICLEI South Asia

"Rajkot has set an example for other cities to move towards sustainable development and energy efficiency in line with regulatory planning process," says Mr Makwana as he talks about his experiences in the state of Gujarat.

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Upcoming event

Enabling Private Sector Clean Energy Investment in Southeast and South Asia

&

Convening Private Sector Investment in Climate-Smart Commodity Production in Southeast Asia

In March 2017, USAID, the Asia Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDS) Partnership and collaborating partners will host two workshops in Bangkok, Thailand on clean energy and private sector climate investment in Southeast and South Asia. This event is the second workshop of the series and will focus on the land-use sector and climate-smart commodity production.



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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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