Dear readers,

Welcome to our mid-year newsletter! I hope our members are enjoying the South Asian monsoon season. It is usually a much-awaited and celebrated event, but is now received with as much dread as relief, thanks to climate change and the associated risks of natural disasters. There are several mitigation actions being taken, but are they enough?

Maybe not, because the scale of the challenge is huge. However, the good news is that many Indian cities are on the right path, as the results of the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0 indicate. We are delighted to note that three of our CapaCITIES project partners - Ahmedabad, Rajkot, and Vadodara - partners in the CapaCITIES project – have been awarded 4 stars by the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0 for their climate actions. They have been awarded 4 stars out of 5 for their climate actions in several sectors. Coimbatore and Udaipur have received a 3-star rating. It is evident that the support extended by the CapaCITIES project Phase I to Rajkot, Coimbatore, Udaipur and Siliguri has helped to improve their climate performance.

Meanwhile, under our Urban-LEDS II project, Nagpur, which has received a 3-star rating, and Thane have completed their climate risk assessments. Climate Resilient City Action Plans are being developed for both cities, and will comprise sector-wise strategies that promote low emission development and address climate-related vulnerabilities.

We have also launched a new project, ‘Building City Leadership on Clean Air Action in Delhi National Capital Region,’ with support from the Clean Air Fund, to support four municipal corporations in improving air quality.

This edition covers all these developments, and also includes a blog on strengthening heat resilience in Indian cities and an article in Hindi on a survey of the causes of injuries being sustained by children in Udaipur. The survey's findings will be used to prepare a set of guidelines for child safety in the city under the Urban95 programme.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition!
Three CapaCITIES Project Cities Get Four Stars in CSCAF Rating

Ahmedabad, Rajkot, and Vadodara - partners in the CapaCITIES project – have been awarded 4 stars by the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0 for their climate actions. Coimbatore and Udaipur have received a 3-star rating. The CapaCITIES project, funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, provides technical support to eight cities to report to the CSCAF, prepare climate action plans and bankable projects, and implement climate-resilient interventions.

New Project to Support Delhi-NCR Municipal Corporations in Improving Air Quality

ICLEI South Asia, with support from Clean Air Fund, will help four municipal corporations to improve air quality, under a two-year long new project "Building City Leadership on Clean Air Action in Delhi National Capital Region (NCR)". The municipal corporations will receive support in developing action plans and approaches to improve air quality based on existing resources, and in exploring potential partnerships to implement pilot projects, among other activities.

Thane, Nagpur Complete Climate Risk, Vulnerability Assessments

The Indian cities of Thane and Nagpur have completed their Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessments (CRVA), with the support of the Urban-LEDS II project. Based on their greenhouse gas emission inventories and CRVAs, Climate Resilient City Action Plans are being developed for both cities to propose sector-wise strategies that promote low emission development and address climate-related vulnerabilities.

बहुत जरूरी है बच्चों की सुरक्षा पर बात करना

अर्घन95 टीम ने बच्चों में चोट लगने के कारणों का किया विश्लेषण
Strengthening Heat Resilience in Cities – Insight from India

There is an emerging need for heat-resilient city systems, and Indian local authorities are considering how to achieve this, report Shwetha Kutty, Mrunmayee Velukar and Priyesh Salunke of TARU.

Upcoming events

KASpaces Webinars: Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh

The sessions will focus on sustainable solutions of urban development, including issues of internal migration, climate resilience and sustainable transport, linked to SDG-11 and the COVID-19 pandemic. The event is jointly organised by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), Singapore. Bhutan: 22nd July from 10:30 am to 02:00 pm (Bhutan Time), Nepal: 27th July from 10:00 am to 01:30 pm (Nepal Time), Bangladesh: 29th July from 10:30 am to 02:00 pm (Bangladesh Time). Registration Links - Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh

More from ICLEI across the globe

- How ICLEI is helping cities and regions on their climate neutrality journey
- Cities Race to Resilience: A global campaign to catalyze resilient action
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ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network working with more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 125+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.

ICLEI firmly believes that sustainable cities are the foundation of a just and sustainable world. We create systemic change in urban areas through practical, integrated solutions and spark city-to-city and city-to-region connections. ICLEI brings a strong urban component to national and global sustainability policy and translates global policy into action. Through our collective efforts, ICLEI is building a sustainable urban world to shift the trajectory of global development.