

Like 0

Share

 Tweet

Share

[Forward this message to a friend](#) | [Click to view this email in a browser](#)


ICLEI South Asia E-News

April-May 2020



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

Greetings readers!

ICLEI South Asia is proudly celebrating its 15th anniversary this year. Launched in 2005, ICLEI South Asia has grown over the years to become a network of more than 100 local and regional governments today. We continue to work together to support cities in South Asia and even beyond on sustainable development.

To mark the International Day for Biological Diversity that is celebrated on 22nd May every year, we are delighted to announce the launch of a comic book to spread awareness about biodiversity, its importance for our survival and the consequences of ignoring it. The book, which caters to both children and adults, features nature-based solutions that cities can adopt to build green infrastructure. Scroll down for the link to the comic book, and read and share if you like!

At ICLEI South Asia, we are continuing to help cities to meet the challenges they are facing while dealing with the coronavirus outbreak, and also to plan for the future. The article on urban freight describes how the association of the cities of Kochi, Panaji and Shimla with our EcoLogistics project helped them to deal with the massive disruptions in supply-chain networks, following the national lockdown.

We have also been reaching out to families, especially in Udaipur where we are implementing the Urban95 project, to find out how their children are coping with the enforced lockdown.

Under the Urban-LEDS II project, the model cities of Thane and Nagpur in India and Narayanganj and Rajshahi in Bangladesh are initiating technical assessments and pilot projects to advance their priority climate strategies and showcase climate action.

We have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kerala Institute of Local Administration to enhance climate resilience under the Climate Development Knowledge Network-Knowledge Accelerator project.

Besides these and other project updates in this edition, there are also blogs on climate resilience and some takeaways from the ongoing pandemic. Do give them a read.

Hope you enjoy this edition.

Latest developments



Multiple Stakeholders Help Cities to Put Supply Chains Back on Track

The national lockdown has impacted transport movement and market operations, delivering a massive shock to supply-chain networks of essential goods. Limited official communication, coupled with confused inter-state coordination and restrictions on vehicular movement led to a large number of freight vehicles getting stranded in several parts of the country. However, several key actors such as local governments, private firms, Indian Railways, kirana stores and the PDS system have played an important role in bringing some amount of order to the chaos.

[Read more](#)

Comic Book Conveys Significance of Nature-Based-Solutions to Combat Climate Change

Loss of biodiversity, particularly in urban areas, has several cascading and far-reaching consequences. Biodiversity provides ecosystem goods and services and also benefits such as flood control, water security, food security, improved human health, pollination, climate change mitigation, pollution control, livelihood generation and aesthetics. There is growing evidence that links loss of biodiversity and forests to zoonotic diseases through a complex web of interactions. A comic book has been developed to generate awareness about nature-based solutions to address these issues. Developed under the BMU supported INTERACT-Bio project, the comic book is aimed at a wide array of stakeholders, such as students, NGOs, officials and city leaders.



[Read more](#)



Urban-LEDS II Cities Commence Implementation of Climate-Resilient Actions

Urban-LEDS II cities in Bangladesh and India are moving ahead with their climate action planning, and are leading implementation of actions in the areas of biodiversity and green spaces, waterlogging and flood management, renewable energy and energy efficiency, and clean air.

[Read more](#)

Panaji's Illustrated Natural Asset Map Released

ICLEI South Asia has developed Panaji's illustrated natural asset map as part of the INTERACT-Bio project, which is supported by Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). The illustrated map portrays the biodiversity wealth and critical ecosystems of Panaji, and will support the city government in undertaking integrated planning and in raising awareness among citizens about urban biodiversity.



[Read more](#)



ICLEI South Asia Donates PPE Kits to Siliguri City

In these troubled and uncertain times, ICLEI South Asia is extending assistance to cities in the region in various ways to help tackle the pandemic, including through volunteer services and development of IEC material. Through the SDC supported CapaCITIES project, 100 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits have been donated to the Siliguri Municipal Corporation in the state of West Bengal, India.

[Read more](#)

Documenting Local Knowledge: Ichalkaranji Gets Its People's Biodiversity Register

The preparation of the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) for Ichalkaranji in the state of Maharashtra, India, has been completed. The process involved detailed biodiversity surveys, mapping of natural assets on the GIS platform, focus group discussions and key personnel interviews with knowledge holders to document the biodiversity wealth, along with the traditional ecological knowledge. Detailed photographic documentation has also been carried out.



[Read more](#)



CDKN-KA Fosters Partnerships for Enhanced Climate Resilience in South Asia

ICLEI South Asia is partnering with prominent institutions and experts in South Asia under the Climate Development Knowledge Network-Knowledge Accelerator project, to enhance individual and collective actions that address climate change impacts and build effective adaptive and resilient strategies. The team is partnering with various organisations to develop knowledge products that are country-specific, nationally appropriate and determined, and are consistent and coherent with each country's development objectives, thereby increasing its credibility and usability.

[Read more](#)

ICLEI South Asia Signs MoU With Kerala Institute to Enhance Climate Resilience

The global nature of the challenges of tackling climate change and fostering sustainable development agendas calls for all possible cooperation between practitioners and institutions to ensure maximum outreach and accelerated building of adaptive and resilient strategies. With such an understanding, ICLEI South Asia and the Kerala Institute of Local Administration recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding under the Climate Development Knowledge Network-Knowledge Accelerator project.



[Read more](#)

Children, Caregivers Find Life under Lockdown a Challenging Experience

India continues to be under a national lockdown that was imposed in the third week of March to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. This length of time would be enough to test the patience of most people, but young children, who cannot fathom why they are being asked to stay indoors for weeks on end, are perhaps facing a particularly challenging time.

[Read more](#)

Blogs

Using Resilience Concepts in Disaster Response

Bedoshruti Sadhukhan looks at how responses to the coronavirus pandemic in Indian cities are helped or hindered by cities' underlying resilience – and what we can learn about bracing for future crises.

[Read more](#)

Five Takeaways from COVID-19 for Addressing the Climate Change Crisis

Keshav Jha of CDKN Asia considers how societies' responses to the coronavirus crisis can orientate them to more effective climate action in the long run.

[Read more](#)

Strengthening Local Capacities for Climate-Smart Agriculture – Insights from Nepal

Aastha Bhusal and Laxman Khatri from LI-BIRD, an NGO based in Nepal, share their first-hand insights on how farmers are gaining knowledge of climate-smart practices and boosting their communities' resilience in the country's Gandaki province.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming events

**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
JUNE 5, 2020**

**PHOTO CONTEST:
CELEBRATING THE BIODIVERSITY OF INDIA**

Last date of submission: June 2, 2020
Winners announcement: June 4, 2020

Prize: First prize of INR 9,000; second prize of INR 7,000 (2); third prize of INR 5,000; and consolation prizes of INR 500 (5) will be awarded

**SEND IN YOUR ENTRIES AT
ICLEI-SOUTHASIA@ICLEI.ORG**

FOR MORE INFO, CLICK HERE

Supported by:



based on a decision of the German Bundestag

Supported by:

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

INTERACT-Bio
Integrated action on biodiversity

ICLEI
Local Governments for Sustainability

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

Join us for a Webinar on

Significance of Biodiversity Conservation in Sustainable Urban Development

Date: 4 June 2020 | Time: 2:45 PM to 4:15 PM (IST)

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/#register/71688565293288208>

Results of the Photo Contest will be announced in the webinar

Opening Remarks

Panel Members

Dr. V. B. Mathur Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai	Ms. Binaben Jayendrabhai Acharya Hon'ble Mayor, Rajkot Municipal Corporation, Rajkot	Dr. Rajan Chedambath Head, Centre for Heritage, Environment and Development, Kochi	Mr. V. Krishna, IFS Additional Commissioner, Urban Biodiversity, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Hyderabad	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board, Goa	Mr. Emani Kumar Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI and Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia

Daring Cities 2020

In the light of the ongoing developments around the COVID-19 pandemic, ICLEI and the German City of Bonn are transforming Daring Cities 2020 into a virtual, global forum for urban leaders who are tackling the climate



emergency. Daring Cities 2020 will run from the 7th to the 28th of October 2020, offering an online array of high-level and visionary speaking sessions, a series of informative workshops and personal networking opportunities.

[Read more](#)

More from ICLEI across the globe

- [Restoring trust in public transport: the way forward](#)
- [The data gap: What we still don't know about urban freight](#)

ICLEI South Asia Secretariat

C-3, Lower Ground Floor
Green Park Extension
New Delhi - 110 016, India
Tel. +91-11-4974 7200
Fax +91-11-4974 7201

General inquiries: iclei-southasia@iclei.org
Website: southasia.iclei.org

Connect with Us:

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

[Join us on Facebook](#)

About ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments, supported by a team of global experts, driving sustainable urban development worldwide. Active in 100+ countries, we impact over 25 percent of the global urban population.

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.

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link:

[Unsubscribe](#)

ICLEI - South Asia
C-3, Lower Ground Floor
Green Park Extension
New Delhi, Delhi 110016
IN

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

vertical DELIVERED BY
response
Try It Free Today!