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ICLEI South Asia E-News

November 2017



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

Greetings!

The past month has been remarkable for us in terms of our work in different cities across the nation. The visit of a high level delegation from Melaka, led by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Melaka to our Delhi office added a feather in our cap.

We have conducted the first city level dialogue in Rajkot under the CapaCITIES project which is supported by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The dialogue was aimed at creating awareness on low carbon and climate resilient city development, and witnessed active participation from around 60 stakeholders from diverse backgrounds.

Under the INTERACT-Bio project we organised the first stakeholder consultation in Kochi. This event was attended by over 90 stakeholders and saw active participation in the group work and discussions. A dialogue with school children in Kochi has also been initiated to communicate the significance of biodiversity conservation. A series of activities are planned with schools in this regard.

The Asia LEDS Partnership (ALP) Secretariat participated in the 'NDC Dialogue' organised by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Government of Sri Lanka in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme, Global Environmental Facility and the ALP. This helped the LEDS GP and the ALP to understand the status of NDC implementation in Sri Lanka better, for future technical assistance.

In addition, preparations for the Asia LEDS Forum 2017 – 'Catalyzing Support for NDC Implementation in Asia' (5th-6th of December) and the 3rd Asia-Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation - Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress 2017 (RCAP 2017) (7th-8th of December) are in full swing. We look forward to seeing several of you at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in December.

We are also very pleased to announce the newly elected Regional Executive Committee (REXCom) for ICLEI South Asia. We have five proud elected members from different countries in the region now, as well as three very active advisors to the REXCom and look forward to working under their guidance.

For more on this and our other work, read on.

Latest developments



First City Level Dialogue in Rajkot as Part of CapaCITIES Project

The first City Level Dialogue in Rajkot was organised as part of the CapaCITIES project. The aim of the dialogue was to create awareness on low carbon and climate resilient city development, provide an opportunity to discuss existing urbanisation challenges and identify possible solutions. The workshop offered a unique platform to discuss and showcase various initiatives already being undertaken by Rajkot Municipal Corporation, and understand the potential of various mitigation and adaptation related interventions for Rajkot.

[Read more](#)

Communicating Biodiversity Conservation in Schools of Kochi

As part of the INTERACT-Bio project, funded by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), an initiative has been commenced to communicate biodiversity conservation with school children in Kochi, Kerala. A set of activities - presentation on global biodiversity hotspots and significance of biodiversity, quiz competition, inter-school drawing and bio-craft competitions and development of school biodiversity registers, have been planned for the participating schools. ICLEI South Asia also participated in an awareness generation event for school teachers in Kochi, organised by Kerala State Biodiversity Board. In the event, ICLEI South Asia expressed willingness to support schools in developing school biodiversity registers by extending technical support to schools.



[Read more](#)



Stakeholder Consultation in Kochi

Under the INTERACT-Bio project, a stakeholder consultation was organised in Kochi by ICLEI South Asia, with support from Kochi Municipal Corporation. The one-day consultation identified how the project could impact the city through interventions with a strong biodiversity focus, ultimately tying into essential services provided and how horizontal and vertical integration for effective management of natural resources could be achieved.

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Melaka Chief Minister Visits ICLEI South Asia Office in Delhi

A high level delegation from the state of Melaka, Malaysia, headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister YAB Datuk Seri Ir. Hj. Idris bin Hj. Haron paid a visit to the ICLEI South Asia office in Delhi. The Hon'ble Chief Minister and members of his delegation were briefed

about the present work of ICLEI South Asia as well as upcoming events that ICLEI South Asia is involved in such as the COP 23 in Bonn in November and the ALP Forum and RCAP 2017 in Vietnam in December.

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Source Segregation Initiated Successfully in Two Wards in Udaipur under the CapaCITIES Project

As part of the CapaCITIES project, supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, ICLEI South Asia along with other partners initiated source segregation of waste in two wards in Udaipur. In a bid to improve the existing municipal solid waste management practices in the city, Udaipur Municipal Corporation aims to introduce and institutionalise the process of collection and transportation of segregated waste in the city to meet the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and also the larger goals of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

[Read more](#)

Developing Holistic Waste Management Strategy for Varanasi

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and ICLEI South Asia signed a Small Scale Funding Agreement with the objective of developing a holistic waste management strategy for Varanasi. Two-day meeting with city officials, private operators and other stakeholders along with officials from UNEP, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and ICLEI South Asia was conducted in Varanasi. The objective of the meeting was to introduce the project and discuss the scope of activities to ensure that expectations of the city and objectives of the project are in sync with each other. The ICLEI South Asia team will train and guide sanitary staff for conducting quantification and characterisation of waste in ward no. 21.

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The Asia LEDS Partnership Secretariat Participates in Deliberations on Sri Lanka's Nationally Determined Contribution

The Asia LEDS Partnership (ALP) Secretariat was invited to participate and contribute to the 'NDC Dialogue' organised by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Government of Sri Lanka in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme, Global Environmental Facility and the ALP. The objective of the dialogue was to discuss the specific actions targeted and issues arising from the implementation of NDCs in Sri Lanka and necessary steps for further planning, development, and monitoring at both national and sub-national levels.

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ICLEI South Asia Assists Udaipur and Ludhiana to Tackle Urban Mobility Issues

ICLEI South Asia under the project 'Supporting Sustainable Urban Transport and Built Environment in four Smart Cities in India' is assisting Udaipur Municipal Corporation in building visually compelling streets between Rangniwas Chowk to Jagdish Chowk. This is being carried out on pilot basis by painting the parking areas and streets in a colour coordinated scheme. ICLEI South Asia is carrying out similar studies in Ludhiana.



[Read more](#)



ICLEI South Asia Forms Core Group Committees in Three Cities under the PROMISE Project

ICLEI South Asia formed core group committees in three out of the four project cities under the European Union supported project 'Promotion of Inclusive, Sustainable Growth and Diversity to Strengthen Local Governments' (PROMISE). The core group committees have been formed in Karnal, Ajmer and Jabalpur with an objective to monitor and guide the project activities in the city, facilitate interdepartmental coordination and nominate appropriate personnel for trainings and exchange visits to be organised under the project. The project teams in the cities are in the process of conducting meetings, surveys with the stakeholders at the ward level to understand the sector specific issues faced by the people.

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Actors of change

Meet Tikender Panwar, Former Deputy Mayor of Shimla

Mr. Panwar has dedicated himself to start a dialogue about the most pertinent sustainable development related issues in our country. He has volunteered to write weekly blogs for ICLEI South Asia to create awareness among the masses.

[Read blog](#)



Announcements

We are pleased to announce the results of the elections for [Regional Executive Committee \(REXCom\)](#) of ICLEI South Asia and like to thank all our members for taking part in the voting process. A total of 41 members from the South Asian region voted for the REXCom, and elected five members to it. The members elected are:

- **Mr. Kinlay Dorjee**, Mayor of Thimphu Thromde, Bhutan (portfolio allocated: Urban Reforms)
- **Mr. Ashok Byanju**, Vice President of MuAN, Nepal (portfolio allocated: Biodiversity)
- **Mrs. Nanda Jichkar**, Mayor of Nagpur Municipal Corporation, India (portfolio allocated: Resource Efficiency)

- **Mohamed Shafeeg Mahmood**, CEO of Local Government Authority, Maldives (portfolio allocated: Climate Resilient Cities)
- **Dr. Jaiman Upadhyay**, Mayor of Rajkot Municipal Corporation, India (portfolio allocated: Green Infrastructure)

Sheikh Mahtab Ali Methu, Mayor of Faridpur Municipality, Bangladesh; **Mohamed Hilmy**, Former Mayor of Matale Municipality and Director of Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities, Sri Lanka and **Mr. Asok Bhattacharya**, Mayor of Siliguri Municipal Corporation, India will be our advisors in the REXCom. The tenure of the newly elected REXCom is three years (2018 to 2021). Our heartiest congratulations to the members and advisors of ICLEI South Asia REXCom. We look forward to their active participation in guiding and shaping the path of ICLEI South Asia in the region.



Mr. Kinlay Dorjee



Mr. Ashok Byanju



Mrs. Nanda Jichkar



Mohamed Shafeeg Mahmood



Dr. Jaiman Upadhyay



Sheikh Mahtab Ali Methu



Mr. Hilmy Mohamed



Mr. Asok Bhattacharya

Upcoming events

[Asia LEDS Forum and Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress 2017](#)

The Asia LEDS Forum 2017 - "Catalyzing Support for NDC Implementation in Asia" on 5th-6th of December and the 3rd Asia-Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation - Resilient Cities Asia Pacific Congress 2017 (RCAP 2017) on 7th-8th of December will be organised in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. For registration and more information, please follow the links below.

[ALP Forum - Registration](#)

[RCAP 2017 - Registration](#)



More from ICLEI across the globe

- [COP23 kicks off, cities and regions ready for the full two weeks](#)

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

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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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New Delhi, Delhi 110016
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