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ICLEI South Asia E-News

October 2021



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

Dear friends,

Looking out of the window, I see a clearer autumn sky in Delhi than it has been in the past few years. The unseasonal rainfall in the past month seems to have had an ameliorative effect on air pollution here, for the moment. Unfortunately, in several other parts of India and in Nepal, it is a completely different story, with intense rainfall causing flooding, landslides and loss of lives and property.

The frequency with which we are seeing such climate-related disasters has been prompting an increasing number of voices to call for urgent action. During the Asia LEADS Partnership Forum 2021 (ALP Forum), which ended last month, experts representing governments, the private sector and civil society warned that not enough is being done by countries to cut carbon emissions, and that the world is not likely to achieve climate goals by 2030. The Forum dissected the challenges for sectors such as energy, finance, transport and subnational governments, and made several recommendations for smoother energy transition, green finance, developing long-term low emission development strategies and improving transparency, among others. These would also be among the key discussion points at the 26th edition of the Conference of the Parties, which begins at the end of October.

This edition showcases the key discussions that were held at the ALP Forum, and also covers our activities in Gujarat and Warangal with regard to enabling battery energy storage systems and developing plastic waste-free cities, respectively. There is also a Hindi article on the adverse impact of deteriorating air quality on children’s health in Udaipur city.

Please do keep sending us your feedback and comments.

Latest developments

ALP Forum 2021 Calls for Upscaling Climate Ambitions in Decisive Decade for Achieving Paris Goals

The Asia LEADS Partnership Forum 2021, held in August-September, concluded with a call for countries to become more ambitious with their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and to "do better forward" to prevent the world from ending up with more emissions by 2030, as compared to current levels.

[Session Summaries](#)

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Stemming the Tide: Warangal's Fight against Plastic Waste Gets Big Fillip

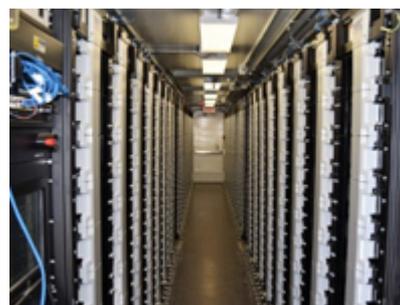
Warangal city's battle with plastic waste has received new stimulus with the signing of an agreement between the Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC) and ICLEI South Asia recently. As a first step after the signing of the agreement, ICLEI South Asia conducted a two-day training session for waste pickers, GWMC sanitary staff and women from self-help groups on the quantification and characterisation of waste, with a focus on plastic waste.

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ICLEI South Asia Initiates Study on Enabling Battery Energy Storage Systems in Indian Cities

Preliminary stakeholder consultations were conducted in Gujarat as part of an assessment study being undertaken in Surat and Rajkot on enabling large-scale battery energy storage systems in Indian cities. The study aims to assist power utilities and urban local bodies in overcoming technical barriers resulting from higher penetration of renewable energy and electric vehicles in the power sector.

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ये धुआँ बच्चों को बीमार-बहुत बीमार कर सकता है!

उदयपुर में वायु गुणवत्ता घटने से बच्चों पर पड़ रहा विपरीत प्रभाव



“०५ साल की विद्या (बदला हुआ नाम) को सांस लेने में तकलीफ होने पर उदयपुर के निजी अस्पताल में भर्ती करवाया गया।

जाँच में पता चला कि विद्या को क्रोनिक ब्रोंकाइटिस नामक बीमारी है। इस बीमारी में फेफड़ों में गंभीर सूजन और संक्रमण हो जाता है। अस्पताल के डॉक्टर इस उम्र के बच्चे में ब्रोंकाइटिस बीमारी को लेकर हैरान थे क्योंकि आमतौर पर क्रोनिक ब्रोंकाइटिस ४५ साल या उस से अधिक उम्र में होने वाली बीमारी है। यह बीमारी धूम्रपान या बहुत ज्यादा वायु प्रदूषण वाले क्षेत्र में रहने वालों को ज्यादा होती है। दिलचस्प बात यह थी कि विद्या के घर- परिवार में कोई भी व्यक्ति धूम्रपान नहीं करता और न ही उसके परिवार में पहले किसी को फेफड़ों से सम्बंधित कोई भी आनुवंशिक बीमारी की कोई हिस्ट्री थी। विद्या का घर पुराने शहर में ऐसी जगह है, जहाँ चढ़ाई होने और सड़क संकड़ी होने के कारण अक्सर जाम लगा रहता है और पर्यटकों से लदे टेम्पो (ऑटो) और निजी वाहन गुज़रते हैं।”

[Read more](#)

Events



KASpaces Regional Roundtable on Accelerating Progress and Equity in Education

After organising 13 national-level webinars across East, South-east and South Asia, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), in partnership with its partners, will be holding the first regional roundtable under its programme, Konrad Adenauer Sharing Political and Civic Engagements Spaces (KASpaces). The KASpaces roundtable aims to bring together the participants and partners of the national-level webinars held in various countries in the region to share their experiences and best practices used for providing quality education for all. There will be interactive and lively dialogues to get different stakeholders to engage with one another on how best to move their education systems forward, as per the theme “Accelerating Progress and Equity in Education”. The event will be held from the 22nd to 24th of November 2021, from 13:00-17:00 Singapore time.

Register here

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- [Financing Resilience to Combat Compounding Climate Hazards](#)
- [How Nature is Nurturing Livelihoods in Entebbe](#)

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About 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.

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