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ICLEI South Asia E-News

January 2022



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

Dear friends,

It's another year and another chance for all of us to 'get it right' and build skills of resilience. At ICLEI South Asia, we continue to devote our expertise towards meeting the region's environmental and developmental challenges. We promise to share more engaging stories, reports and photos related to our work in our newsletter and hope that you continue to like the content we provide.

In this edition, we bring you news about the development of Illustrated Natural Asset maps for the cities of Jammu and Srinagar, conservation strategies for Goa's urban *khazans* or saline flood plains, and an investment case for Kochi's mangroves and *pokkali*, an ancient farming practice. There are also reports on two new projects that focus on improving air quality in Delhi-National Capital Region and on mainstreaming climate action in three cities of Andhra Pradesh.

I hope you enjoy this edition. Thank you for your continuing support and encouragement.

Latest developments

[Investment Case Prepared for Kochi's Pokkali Fields, Mangroves](#)

An investment case on nature-based solutions, focusing on mangroves and *pokkali* in Kochi, has been developed under the INTERACT-Bio project, supported by Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMU). *Pokkali* is an ancient organic farming practice, where one season of paddy cultivation using a unique saline tolerant rice variety is alternated with another season of prawn culture in the water-logged coastal regions of Kerala.

[Read more](#)



Air Quality Project to Help Delhi-NCR Breathe Easier

Four municipal corporations in the Delhi-National Capital Region will receive technical assistance in developing generic actions to improve air quality. Under ICLEI South Asia's new project on 'Building City Leadership on Clean Air Action in Delhi-NCR', supported by Clean Air Fund, the East Delhi Municipal Corporation, Municipal Corporation of Gurugram, Meerut Municipal Corporation and South Delhi Municipal Corporation will also be supported in exploring potential partnerships to design and implement pilot projects.

[Read more](#)

Illustrated Maps to Detail Abundant Natural Capital of Jammu, Srinagar

Illustrated Natural Assets Maps are being developed for the cities of Jammu and Srinagar, as part of the BMU supported INTERACT-Bio project. The map will help to communicate the significance of urban biodiversity to citizens and tourists. Field visits have been completed, and the natural assets of the cities have been mapped on the Geographic Information System (GIS) platform.

[Read more](#)



Goa's Urban *Khazans*: Initiative to Focus on Conservation Strategies

ICLEI South Asia, with support from Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, has initiated a project on conserving the centuries-old *khazans* of Goa, which not only protect their surrounding areas from the influence of the sea, but also provide the people of Goa their staple 'fish curry and rice'. In this regard, experts and practitioners brainstormed on *khazans* and the

ecosystem services they provide at a workshop in Panaji, ahead of preparing a strategy and action plan.

[Read more](#)

Andhra Pradesh: Project to Improve Mainstreaming of Climate Action in 3 Cities

Three cities in Andhra Pradesh - Vijayawada, Kakinada and Tirupati - will receive assistance in mainstreaming climate considerations into the planning, financing and delivery of their urban services, under a new project launched by ICLEI South Asia, with support from the Children's Investment Fund Foundation. The cities will also be supported in improving their Climate-Smart Cities Assessment Framework rankings over the next two reporting cycles, and in developing bankable projects on low-carbon and climate-resilient development in priority sectors.



[Read more](#)

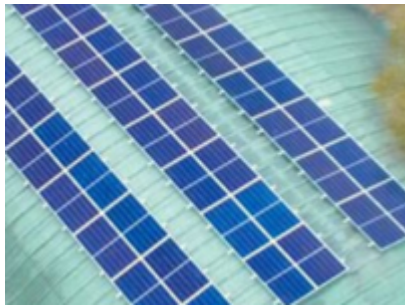
जाने कहाँ गए वो किताबों के दिन



कल बस किसी ने जब कहा कि किताबें पढ़ने का वक़्त नहीं मिलता तो घर की अलमारी में रखी किताबों की याद हो आई। लगा, अभी इन्हें इकट्ठा कर कहीं, इत्मीनान से बैठ कर किसी भी पन्ने से पढ़ने बैठ जाऊँ। ऑफिस में बैठ कर इस तरह की बात करना थोड़ा विरोधाभासी है किन्तु यह भी सच है कि शायद हम सभी इन्हीं किताबों के भीतर बनते-बिगड़ते रहते हैं। विलियम स्टायरन ने एक बार कहा था कि “एक अच्छी किताब के कुछ पन्ने आपको बिना पढ़े ही छोड़ देना चाहिए ताकि जब आप दुखी हों तो उसे पढ़ कर आपको सुकून प्राप्त हो सके।” गूगल और मोबाइल के इस दौर में, जब बहुत कुछ आपको “ऑन-स्क्रीन” उपलब्ध है, लोग किताबों के पन्नों की उस गंध को भूलते जा रहे हैं। हमारा अंदाज़ -ए-बयां आजकल “फेसबुक-इन्स्टाग्राम-लिंकडइन” हो चला है, पर किताबें आज भी खुद को पन्ने दर पन्ने खोलकर सब कुछ बयाँ कर जाती है! मुनव्वर राणा लिखते हैं,

[Read more](#)

Events



Webinar on Outcomes of Urban LEDS-II

Looking back at the achievements and challenges of the Urban LEDS-II project, the webinar will also discuss the next steps that are needed to take us to the next level of transformative climate action in cities. Join us on the 26th of January 2022, 9:00-10:00 (CET); 13.30-14:30 (IST).

[Register here](#)

ICLEI World Congress 2021 – 2022: The Malmö Summit

Join the Congress onsite in Malmö or virtually to learn about innovative strategies and cutting edge solutions in sustainable and equitable urban development, exchange good practices, get inspired and connect beyond borders with leading experts and sustainability champions from around the globe. The summit will be held from the 11th to the 13th of May 2022. Registrations are open now.



ICLEI World Congress
Malmö, Sweden • 2021 - 2022

[Register here](#)

More from ICLEI across the globe

- [Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity Awarded to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy](#)
- [Cities' Climate Commitments Outperform Nations on Ambition](#)

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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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[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

