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ICLEI South Asia E-News

June 2022



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

Dear readers,

Welcome back to our monthly news feed. I am happy to share that the month of May was full of big moments for ICLEI South Asia. Our teams from India and Bangladesh, along with several other delegates, participated in the ICLEI World Congress 2022 that was held in Malmo, Sweden. The conference was special in many ways – it was the first international in-person event for us since the beginning of the pandemic, and South Asia made a mark with a good representation. ICLEI Vice President Ms. Atishi Marlena, Hon'ble Municipal Commissioners of the cities of Panaji and Shimla, and Hon'ble Additional Commissioner of Pune, as well as representatives from Bangladesh, spoke about the sustainable initiatives being taken in their respective cities. ICLEI South Asia also organised several sessions at the Congress and launched a few publications under the EcoLogistics project, the details of which feature in this edition.

Back in Delhi, we launched the 'Building City Leadership on Clean Air Action in Delhi National Capital Region' project during a workshop, in which officials from the Municipal Corporations of Delhi, Gurugram, and Meerut discussed the way forward for implementing actions to reduce air pollution in the region. In other important developments, Rajkot made us proud yet again by winning the One Planet City Challenge for the 4<sup>th</sup> time for its climate initiatives under the CapaCITIES project, while Shimla Municipal Corporation approved the Low Carbon Action Plan for Urban Freight developed by us.

Under the 'Developing Plastic Waste-Free Cities' project, a joint team from ICLEI Southeast Asia and ICLEI South Asia visited the city of Jambi, Indonesia, for an assessment of the plastic waste management system there, while an ICLEI South Asia team met Surat city's Municipal Corporation officials. The visits would help in the formulation of a

plastic waste management strategy and action plan. We also conducted various activities and workshops under the Urban95 programme in Udaipur and the IFWEN project in Panaji.

To mark International Biodiversity Day, we launched beautiful ecosystem service-based cards that have interesting information about some common trees found in Kochi and Panaji cities. The cards, designed under the INTERACT-Bio project, have made quite a splash on social media. Finally, but importantly, we bring you yet another heart-warming blog in Hindi. Do send us your feedback and don't forget to follow us on social media for daily updates.

Happy reading!

## Latest developments

### Project Launched To Support Cities in National Capital Region to Breathe Clean Air

ICLEI South Asia launched the project "Building City Leadership on Clean Air Action in Delhi National Capital Region" during a workshop held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2022. The project, supported by the Clean Air Fund, aims to support the Municipal Corporations of Delhi, Gurugram and Meerut to build their leadership towards improving air quality.

[Read more](#)



### Rajkot Becomes National Winner of One Planet City Challenge for 4<sup>th</sup> Time

Rajkot city has bagged the 'One Planet City Challenge' title for the 4<sup>th</sup> time. The city participated in the 2022 challenge with support from the CapaCITIES project, funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The city won the challenge after demonstrating a comprehensive approach to climate initiatives.

[Read more](#)

### Urban95, CapaCITIES Initiatives Get Special Mention at District Level Event 'Samvad' Held in Udaipur

ICLEI South Asia's Urban95 programme and CapaCITIES project were praised for their exemplary initiatives during a "Samvad" event in Udaipur, held from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2022. The Urban95 programme received praise from Deputy Director of Integrated Child Development Services Shri Pankaj Dwivedi for enhancing the early development of children by revitalising urban spaces, while Udaipur Municipal



Commissioner Shri Himmat Singh Barhath highlighted several CapaCITIES initiatives in the city.

[Read more](#)



### EcoLogistics: Shimla Approves Low Carbon Action Plan for Urban Freight

The Low Carbon Action Plan for Urban Freight for Shimla was approved by Municipal Corporation Shimla during a meeting with stakeholders held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2022. The design concept of the pilot under the EcoLogistics project, funded by Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) through the International Climate Initiative, was also presented during the meeting.

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### Workshop Highlights Opportunities, Sustainable Transitions in Food, Water and Energy Sectors

The final workshop under the IFWEN project was held in Panaji for dissemination of project learnings. The project examined capabilities and enabling factors that support the implementation of food, water, and energy nexus approaches that use Green and Blue Infrastructure. Participants from 10 Indian cities attended the event.



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### Cards on Ecosystem Services Provided by Trees Launched

On the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity, ICLEI South Asia launched 10 attractive ecosystem service-based tree cards, featuring some common trees of two Indian cities - Kochi and Panaji. The cards have been developed under the INTERACT-Bio project, which is supported by BMU, Germany through the International Climate Initiative.

[Read more](#)

### Urban95 Learning Activity: Parents Discuss Challenges in Commuting with Young Children

A Participatory Learning and Action activity was conducted with parents and caregivers of children under the Urban95 programme being implemented in Udaipur city, supported by the Bernard van Leer Foundation. The activity aimed to examine the challenges faced by the parents while commuting with children on congested roads.





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### Understanding and Strengthening Plastic Waste Management Systems in Jambi and Surat

ICLEI Southeast Asia and ICLEI South Asia conducted an on-ground assessment in April 2022 of the existing plastic waste management system in Jambi, Indonesia, and Surat, India, as part of the 'Developing Plastic Waste-Free Cities' project, supported by the Alliance to End Plastic Waste.

[Read more](#)

## ICLEI World Congress 2022



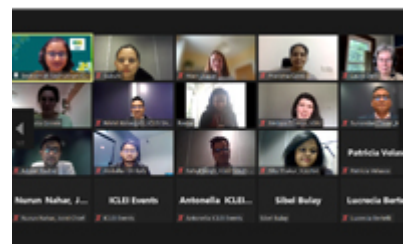
### ICLEI South Asia Organises Multiple Sessions, Launches Key Publications

ICLEI South Asia organised and participated in various sessions on gender and climate resilience, urban freight, nature-based solutions, and plastic waste management during the three-day ICLEI World Congress, held in the city of Malmo, Sweden. The conference was attended by local and regional government representatives from over 150 cities, towns, and regions. It provided an array of ideas on bringing sustainability and inclusivity to cities.

[Read more](#)

### CDKN Workshop Highlights Importance of Social Inclusion in Climate Resilience Planning

ICLEI South Asia organised a virtual session on 'Social Inclusion in Climate Resilience Planning' under the Climate Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) programme, to highlight innovative means and solutions for social inclusion in climate resilience.

[Read more](#)


### EcoLogistics: Low Carbon Action Plan for Urban Freight Launched

The Low Carbon Action Plan for Urban Freight, developed by the cities of Kochi, Panaji and Shimla, with support from ICLEI South Asia, was launched during the EcoLogistics session at the ICLEI World Congress in Malmo, Sweden. The Municipal Commissioners of Panaji and Shimla attended the event, along with city representatives from the United States of America, Sweden, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, Argentina and Colombia.

[Read more](#)

### Experts Discuss Solutions for Recycling, Managing Plastic Waste

ICLEI South Asia organised a virtual side event on 'Circularity to Overcome Plastic Waste Management Challenges' in which the issues and challenges arising from inadequate management of plastic waste were discussed. The session covered circularity concepts in plastic waste management through successful and replicable case stories of circular waste management from different parts of the world.

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### Session Highlights Importance of Nature-Based Solutions for Sustainable Urban Development

ICLEI South Asia, in collaboration with ICLEI World Secretariat and ICLEI Africa Secretariat, organised a session on 'Nature-based Solutions: Green Blue Strategies and Tools' at the ICLEI World Congress in Malmo, Sweden, which highlighted replicable innovative green-blue nature-based solution tools and strategies deployed in several cities of the world. It also highlighted the importance of integrating nature in land use, infrastructure, and investment planning since the conservation of natural ecosystems is the need of the hour.

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नानी की बातें और शहर के चबूतरे



कल ऑफिस से थोड़ा जल्दी फ्री हो गया तो नानी का हालचाल पूछने शाम को ननिहाल की तरफ स्टेयरिंग मोड़ दिया। नानी के साथ बैठना, पुराने उदयपुर की यादों में जीने जैसा है। जब नानी से यूँ ही बतिया रहा था तो सहसा वो पूछ बैठी कि आखिर मैं काम क्या करता हूँ ? मैं उन्हें सरल “मेवाड़ी” में अर्बन95 परियोजना के उद्देश्य समझाते हुए उदयपुर शहर को बच्चों के नज़रिए से बेहतर बनाने और उसके फायदे बताने लगा। जीवन के ८५ वसंत देख चुकी मेरी नानी ने अचानक मुझसे पूछा कि क्या तुम पुराने शहर के “चबूतरे” बचाने और नए शहर में उन्हें बनाने का काम कर रहे हो ?

[Read more](#)

## More from ICLEI across the globe

- [What Does the Malmö Commitment Mean to Malmö? Ultimately, A Good Life for All in a More Sustainable World](#)
- [Circularity. Together. At the ICLEI World Congress 2022](#)

### ICLEI South Asia Secretariat

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### Connect with Us:



### 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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