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**ICLEI South Asia E-News** 

March 2023



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

Dear Members and Friends of ICLEI South Asia,

I am thrilled to share with you exciting news about the recent U20 Sherpa meeting held in Ahmedabad, India under the G20 summit in February. The meeting brought together representatives from cities across the world to discuss key issues and challenges related to sustainable urban development. I had the privilege of representing ICLEI South Asia at the meeting and engaging with global leaders in the field of urban sustainability. The discussions and exchanges at the meeting were truly inspiring, and I am proud to say that ICLEI South Asia played a significant role in the proceedings as the technical partner.

As you know, India will be hosting the G20 summit this year, and this presents a unique opportunity for our country to lead the global agenda on sustainable development. We at ICLEI South Asia have been working tirelessly with our member cities to make urban areas more sustainable and liveable. Our approach is based on the principles of integrated, participatory, and evidence-based decision-making, which helps us to identify and implement solutions that are tailored to local needs and context.

Time and again we have been recognised as one of the leading organisations in the region for promoting sustainable urban development. Here, you can read about our climate action and biodiversity work in Vadodara, which received much applause by several stakeholders. Our efforts towards capacity building, advocacy, and community engagement have been acknowledged by local and international organisations, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team.

In the coming months, ICLEI South Asia will continue to focus on

fostering partnerships and collaborations with various organisations and stakeholders, while exploring new avenues for growth and impact. Our goal is to expand our reach and impact, and to provide support to more cities and communities in South Asia.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement, and I look forward to working with you to create a more sustainable future for our cities and communities.

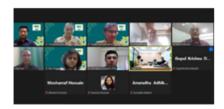
### Latest developments

### Climate Mainstreaming: SDC Delegation Visits Rajkot's E-Bus Depot, Solar Plant

Representatives from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) visited Rajkot to understand how the city is trying to improve its public transport system and implement other climate-resilient measures with support from the CapaCITIES project. They visited the city's electric bus charging depot and the Aji water treatment plant's 145 kWp solar photovoltaic plant.



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### Regional Scoping Webinars Focus on Country-Specific Priorities under CDKN

ICLEI South Asia organised Regional Scoping Workshops titled "Understanding Regional Needs and Priorities for India, Nepal, and Bangladesh" in collaboration with local knowledge partners and stakeholders. The webinars, organised as part of the Climate and Development Knowledge Network – Accelerating Inclusive Action project, aimed to identify the explicit demands for evidence/action on the priority action areas of gender and social inclusion, ecosystem-based adaptation and climate finance.

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### **CRISC Workshops Build Capacities of Satkhira, Sirajganj in Meeting Sustainability Goals**

Representatives from the municipalities of Satkhira and Sirajganj in Bangladesh identified development challenges such as waterlogging, draining, floods and overpopulation during a series of capacity-building workshops organised by ICLEI South Asia. The workshops aimed to enhance the capacity of their local government institutions, and were held as part of the Climate Resilient Inclusive Smart Cities project, being executed in Bangladesh by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.



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## ICLEI South Asia Supports Bihar in Developing Its First-Ever Low Carbon Action Plan for Waste Sector

The Government of Bihar has committed to transforming itself into a Net Zero State by 2070. To this end, ICLEI South Asia is supporting the state government in strengthening its waste management profile by formulating a Low Carbon Action Plan for the waste sector with a detailed GHG emission inventory and forecasting for the waste sector.

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### City Biodiversity Index Reports for Indore, Bhopal Released

The City Biodiversity Index reports for the cities of Bhopal and Indore, developed by ICLEI South Asia, were released by the Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board at a function in Bhopal. The reports have been developed in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India.



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### Urban95: Workshop Focuses on Child-Friendly Components in Project Design

The second capacity building workshop under the Urban95 programme Phase 2, held in Udaipur, focused on improving understanding of the conceptual design and feasibility involved in a project cycle and how objectives are framed. Organised in collaboration with the Udaipur Municipal Corporation, it is part of a series of five workshops that aim to help the city in integrating child-friendly Urban95 principles in all urban built environment projects.

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#### **Udaipur Anganwadi Gets a Colourful Makeover**

A series of child-friendly interventions have transformed an anganwadi centre at Manoharpura in Udaipur into a model Urban95 programme anganwadi. The project team implemented interventions such as painting of shapes, colours and numbers on the floor of the anganwadi, installation of an interactive pulley-based solar system, sanitation and safety measures to encourage regular attendance by children and to increase enrollment at the anganwadi.



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### Urban 20 Inception Meeting: ICLEI South Asia Provides Technical Support in Ahmedabad

The city of Ahmedabad hosted the inception meeting of the sixth edition of Urban 20 (U20), an engagement group under the Global 20 (G20) forum on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of February, 2023. ICLEI South Asia provided on-ground technical support to the city of Ahmedabad as one of the technical and knowledge partners.

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# आधी आबादी का पूरा जज़्बा



मार्च का मिहना.... सुबह-शाम की गुनगुनी सर्दी के बीच दिनभर की गर्मी। पलाश के फूलों से लेकर होली की दस्तक। मौसम की इस करवट के बीच मिहलाओं के हकों की बात करता त्यौहार "मिहला दिवस" भी इसी महीने की ०८ तारीख को आता है। दुनिया भर की मिहलाएं और मिहलाओं के हकों की बात करने वाले लोग -साथी इसे बड़ी धूमधाम से मनाते हैं। इस बार इस मिहला दिवस पर दिक्षणी राजस्थान की ०३ ऐसी मिहलाओं की कहानियां, जिन्होंने खुद के संघर्ष से आने वाले वक़्त में मिहलाओं को एक नयी दिशा दी। इन कहानियों के किरदार आप-हम जैसे ही सामान्य है; किन्तु उन्होंने अपने हौंसलों को इतना बुलंद रखा कि आज सैकडों मिहलाएं उनसे प्रेरणा लेकर आगे बढ़ रही हैं।

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### Online course



### TUMI E-Bus Mission Online Course: Digitalizing E-**Bus Projects**

Learn how to plan, procure and achieve improved operations efficiency of e-bus with digital tools. The ecourse also considers the data-sharing challenges that transit agencies experience with the operators.

Enroll now!

### More from ICLEI across the globe

- The 100% Renewables Cities and Regions Network and Energy Compact
- **Sustainable Energy Transition Strategy**

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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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