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ICLEI South Asia E-News

September 2023



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

Dear Readers,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and high spirits as we bring you the latest updates from our end. In our continuous pursuit of sustainability and climate resilience, I'm excited to share a noteworthy update, building upon the foundation set by our previous communication that covered the launch of the Climate Resilient City Action Plan (CRCAP) in Ahmedabad.

Ahmedabad has long been a pioneer in sustainable urban development, and now, with the CRCAP, it continues to lead the way, setting new standards for cities across the region aspiring to achieve climate resilience. The Ahmedabad model serves as a shining testament to the power of collaborative efforts in fostering holistic and sustainable development.

Notably, we launched the CRCAP at the Urban 20 Mayoral Summit held in the city in July, a milestone moment that showcased Ahmedabad's commitment to global sustainability. Furthermore, we continue to share the learnings from this groundbreaking initiative with various stakeholders. Just recently, we conducted a stakeholder consultation in Hyderabad to discuss the CRCAP and Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (LBSAP). Similarly, at another workshop focused on climate action planning and climate finance in Ahmedabad, we disseminated the CRCAP methodology, vision, and targets to a diverse group of participants, including government officials.

In this edition, we showcase in-depth case studies, insightful webinars, a blog in Hindi, and updates from cities across the region, and hope that these nuggets of knowledge will not only inspire but also provide valuable lessons for other cities in our network and beyond.

Furthermore, we are thrilled to announce important upcoming events and initiatives, including the UrbanShift Asia Forum 2023, scheduled to take place in New Delhi as well as a National Workshop on Increasing Accessibility of Climate Finance to be organised in Dhaka, Bangladesh, later this month. Both these events will serve as a platform for experts, policymakers, and practitioners to exchange knowledge and best practices in addressing regional urban challenges and solutions within an ever-evolving climate landscape.

Our commitment to fostering regional cooperation remains steadfast. We are actively involved in collaborative projects within the South Asian region and neighbouring countries, such as Malaysia, to address sustainable development on a broader scale.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and unwavering dedication to the ICLEI South Asia network. Together, we have the power to build a brighter and more sustainable future for all.

Warm Regards!

Latest developments

Stakeholder Consultation Focuses on Strategies for City Climate Action Plan and Urban Biodiversity

ICLEI South Asia is providing technical assistance to the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) in developing the CRCAP and the Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (LBSAP) for Hyderabad. In this regard, a stakeholder consultation was jointly organised with GHMC to stride towards net zero climate action planning and mainstreaming biodiversity conservation.



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CapaCITIES Workshop Calls for Prioritising Sectors, Leveraging Carbon Markets

The climate action planning and climate finance workshop organised jointly by ICLEI South Asia and South Pole under the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation funded CapaCITIES project was inaugurated by Mr. Kiritkumar Parmar, Hon'ble Mayor of Ahmedabad, and Mr. Praveen Chaudhary, IAS, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation. The workshop highlighted financing opportunities that can be leveraged by local governments to achieve climate resilience and net zero emissions.

[Read more](#)

Action Plan to Protect Noida Biodiversity on the Anvil

ICLEI South Asia is developing the LBSAP for Noida city with support from HCL Foundation. As city residents play a vital role, their perspectives were documented in a detailed consultation carried out with 12 Resident Welfare Associations in the city that identified 11 critical ecosystems.

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Virtual Study Tour Offers Window into Surat's Visionary E-Bus Initiatives

Surat city's initiatives aimed at achieving a fully electric public transport bus fleet by 2025 represent a remarkable technological transition which has been documented in a virtual study tour, as a part of the Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative's (TUMI) E-bus Mission. The virtual study tour covers six modules highlighting various aspects of e-bus deployment.

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Malaysia GCAP Forum Highlights Actions Needed for Building Resilient Cities

The Ministry of Economy of the Government of Malaysia and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), with support from ICLEI South Asia, and in association with ICLEI South-East Asia and the Indonesia-Malaysia- Thailand Growth Triangle Joint Business Council organised the National Forum on Green City Action Plan on August 7, 2023 in Ipoh, Malaysia. The Forum brought together key stakeholders, policymakers, urban planners, environmental experts, and local authorities to deliberate on crucial initiatives for creating greener and more resilient cities in Malaysia, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Urban95: Capacity Building Workshop Puts Focus on Scalability, Sustainability

Under the second phase of the Urban95 programme, supported by the Bernard van Leer Foundation, a capacity-building workshop was organised on August 17, 2023, in Udaipur, focusing on the issues of scalability and sustainability in projects.

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ALP Webinar Spotlights Tools, Case Studies on Speeding up Local Energy Transition

The Grid-Scale Energy Community of Practice of the Asia LEDS Partnership organised a webinar on August 11, 2023, to emphasise the importance of "Accelerating Local Energy Transitions: Tools and Case Studies." Experts from various sectors discussed guidelines and case studies that support local governments in facilitating local energy transitions.

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बच्चों के लिए अनुकूल पार्क...

बच्चों के लिए अनुकूल पार्क: भविष्य के लिए आज का निवेश



इस तेज़ी से शहरीकृत होती जा रही दुनिया में, छोटे बच्चों के लिए डिजाइन किये गए पार्कों और सार्वजनिक स्थानों के महत्त्व को कम करके नहीं आँका जा सकता। ये स्थान उस नींव के रूप में काम करते हैं जिस पर हमारा आने वाला भविष्य सीखता है, खेलता है और बढ़ता है। पार्क और सार्वजनिक स्थानों को इस से पहले छोटे बच्चों के अनुकूल बनाने की आवश्यकता महसूस नहीं की गयी, किन्तु विभिन्न अध्ययनों से जब ये स्पष्ट हुआ कि बच्चे के जीवन के शुरूआती कुछ साल उसके आने वाले जीवन को सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित करते हैं और बच्चा इन्हीं शुरूआती सालों में सबसे ज्यादा सीखता- समझता है; तब से घर के बाहर सार्वजनिक स्थानों को छोटे बच्चों के लिए सुन्दर, सुरक्षित, सहज और सुगम बनाने के प्रयास शुरू हुए हैं।

[Read more](#)

Events

UrbanShift Asia Forum

URBAN SH/FT

At UrbanShift's first forum, senior representatives from cities in India, China, and Indonesia will meet with international organizations and the private sector to exchange knowledge on regional urban challenges and solutions.

Date: September 25 – 28, 2023
Venue: New Delhi, India

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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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