# Annual REPORT





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#### ICLEI SOUTH ASIA NETWORK

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Local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 2,500 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. Our members and team of experts work together through peer exchange, partnerships and capacity building to create systemic change for urban sustainability.

At ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, South
Asia (ICLEI South Asia) — we are a group of more than 70 professionals, including, climate change specialists, civil engineers, ecologists, energy managers, environmental engineers, environmental planners, power systems engineers, transportation engineers and urban planners. We work together to support South Asian cities on multiple aspects of sustainable development. We aim to build and serve a regional network of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in regiona and global sustainability through local initiatives.

# 6 countries

We work in India,
Bangladesh, Bhutan,
Maldives, Nepal
and Sri Lanka. We
have also worked
with national and
local governments in
Cambodia, Indonesia,
Malaysia, the
Philippines, Thailand
and Mongolia.

# HANSA PATEL Chairperson ICLEI South Asia

### Message from the Chairperson

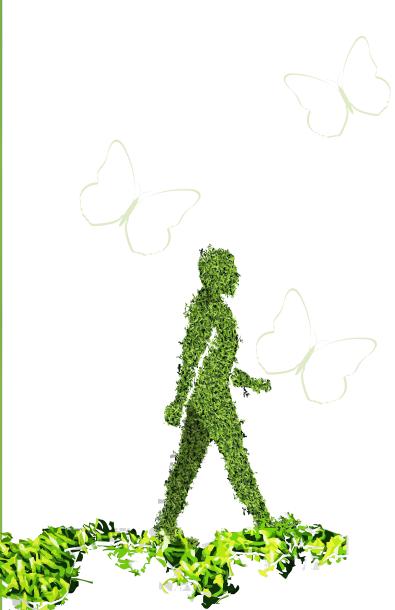
We are living through life-altering times. The choices cities, communities and countries make today on transport, infrastructure, energy, food and so many other sectors will determine whether the world can become climate resilient and also live sustainably tomorrow.

City planners should approach development models with a sense of caution, and choose projects that are best suited to the geographic and demographic conditions in their areas, and consider whether the adoption of horizontal development or vertical development would be the best fit there. This process also requires knowledge partnership for keeping up with the progress happening in other clusters.

Such extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. And I am proud of the progress we at ICLEI South Asia have made in providing sustainable solutions, plans and strategies for our communities and member cities. The lifting is heavy, requiring hard work and out-of-the-box thinking, but what makes it worthwhile is the hope that doing them now will create a better tomorrow.

In the past year, we have impacted policy matters, programme strategies, people's lifestyles and community practices. We have supported cities to develop Climate Resilient City Action Plans, implement waste segregation, prepare cooling plans and heat-resilient plans, and address issues of landscape degradation, biodiversity conservation, water management and transport modernisation, among several others. We are also proud to be a technical and knowledge partner of Urban 20, an engagement group on city governance under the aegis of the G20 during India's year-long presidency of the premier forum.

All this has been made possible because of the strong network of partnerships and connections with donors and stakeholders that we are continually fostering. On that optimistic note, I am pleased to present the Annual Report containing our activities for the financial year 2022-23. I welcome everyone's support and guidance in our future endeavours.



# GINO VAN E

### **Message** from the Secretary General

The world is at a critical inflexion point and facing multiple crises. As countries accelerate economic activity in the aftermath of the pandemic, carbon emissions continue to rise. Food and energy supplies have been affected by the war in Ukraine, in addition to the geopolitical tensions that it has given rise to. And a recent study shows that 6 out of 9 planetary boundaries to maintain Earth's stability and resilience have been breached by human activities.

At the same time, there are significant tailwinds for international cooperation on sustainable development, which is one of the most important bulwarks against continued shocks. And, as one of the world's leading networks of cities driving climate action, ICLEI has been at the forefront, promoting alliances and collaboration over sustainability and resilience initiatives. Our member cities are spearheading the transition to a net zero, greener world with energy efficiency measures, nature-based solutions, local climate action, and alliances with peer cities and public and private institutions, to mention just a few ambitious initiatives.

In the South Asia region, one of the most vulnerable to climate shocks, we are supporting cities to become part of the solution by spreading ideas, fostering innovation, strengthening capacity, improving awareness among elected representatives, administrators and citizens, and developing a greater capacity to deliver basic services sustainably. I commend ICLEI South Asia for its leadership, commitment and culture that celebrates people, performance and purpose. I look forward to the years ahead and am excited about what we can achieve together.

### **Message** from the Executive Director

The fiscal year 2022-23 was an inspiring time for resetting and planning new goals. As the global economy was recovering from the pandemic, it was time for our cities to renew and accelerate action on their commitments to resilient and sustainable urban development. In support, we launched exciting initiatives, made forays into new cities and regions, strengthened staffing and programmes, and reached out to a broader swathe of stakeholders and communities. This report underlines the past year's achievements, advanced through our mission to accelerate solutions for achieving sustainable development and climate resilience.

We implemented over 35 projects in six countries during the reporting period. We redesigned approaches for meaningful collaboration, locally and internationally, and started working in new areas of work such as wind power, urban cooling, climate-resilient agriculture and worked towards mainstreaming gender and equity in city-led action. In a first in this country, culminating an intense activity-driven year in the EcoLogistics project on clean freight, we supported three cities in developing and implementing clean freight roadmaps. In line with ICLEI's net neutrality framework, for countries in the region, we developed this region's first customised and

EMANI KUMAR
Deputy Secretary
General, ICLEI,
and Executive Director,
ICLEI South Asia

comprehensive methodology for developing net zero climate resilient city action plans. We also supported local governments across South Asia and South-east Asia to develop their Climate Resilient and Green City Action Plans, conserve and document their biodiversity wealth, promote low-emission and green mobility, reimagine urban planning, promote sustainable plastic waste management approaches and align their development plans with national and global climate commitments towards net zero emissions.

We are working in close collaboration with the state governments of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu to support state-wide scale up of climate actions. Alongside other ICLEI offices in Asia, we initiated and are supporting a Leadership group on Clean Transport with nine countries in the Asia Pacific. We incorporated a broad range of strategies and perspectives in the knowledge products we developed, which included compendiums, policy briefs and assessment frameworks, among several others, and engaged in dialogue with high-level regional groups for closer collaboration over common challenges.

One of the other highlights of the year was our contribution to the Urban20 activities in India, under the aegis of India's G20 presidency. As a technical partner, ICLEI South Asia supported the host city Ahmedabad and the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) in planning, convening and conducting several meetings on the key themes of the U20, including the U20 Sherpa Summit.

In retrospect, ICLEI South Asia hand-held over 55 cities in addressing sustainably their immediate challenges, while also laying the foundations and paving the way for robust and resilient growth in the future. We worked with support from a multitude of donor agencies and partner organisations and individuals; our success is your success. We envisage that cities and regions will continue to raise their ambitions in the near future and jointly we will avert and overcome climate and other challenges that are knocking at our doors.

## The ICLEI South Asian REXCOM 2021 -2024

One of the governance bodies for ICLEI, the South Asian RexCom, or Regional Executive Committee, is the regional representation of ICLEI members in South Asia. It consists of five members and three advisors elected for the 2021-2024 period.

#### **REXCom MEMBERS**



A. H. M. Khairuzzaman (Liton) Mayor, Rajshahi City Corporation, Bangladesh

Portfolio: Low-Emission Development



Ashok Byanju
President, Municipal
Association of Nepal, Nepal
Portfolio: Circular Development

#### **Special Advisors**



Satya Kaundal Mayor, Shimla, India



Atishi Marlena
MLA from Kalkaji, Delhi;
Chairperson of Delhi Assembly
Committees of Ethics,
Environment and Education,
Delhi Government, India
Portfolio: Nature-Based Development



Ugyen Dorji Mayor, Thimphu Municipality, Bhutan Portfolio: Urban Reforms



Sunil Uniyal Mayor, Dehradun, India

#### **JOIN US!**

Local governments, and associations of local governments

Please visit our website: 

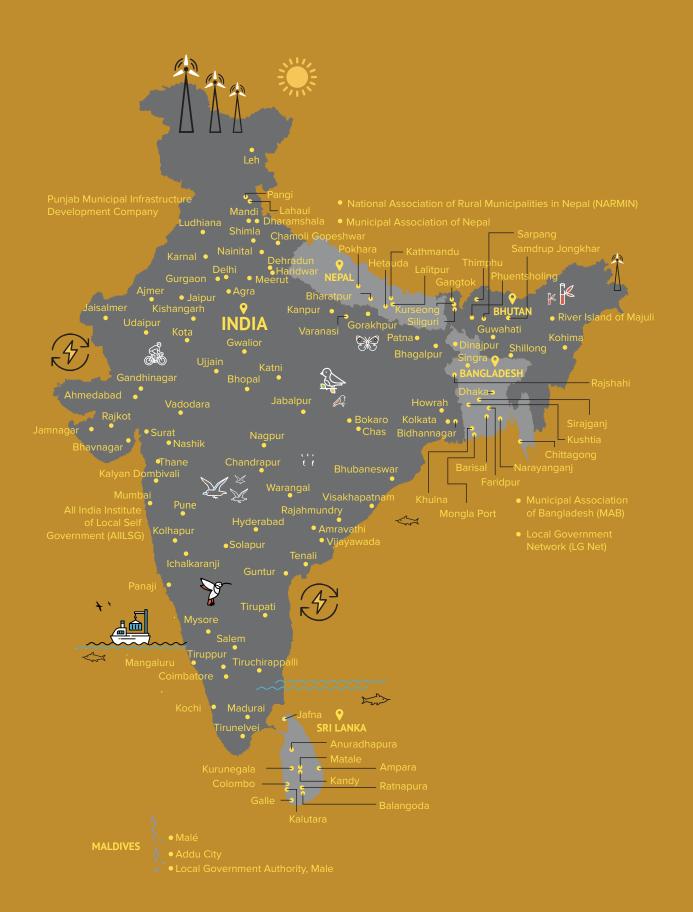
http://southasia.iclei.org/our-members/join-us.html
or write to us at: 

membership@iclei.org



#### **ICLEI South Asia**

is now a network of more than 100 local and regional governments. We encourage more cities to join our network. Please visit https://iclei.org/en/join.html or write to us at membership@iclei.org







#### Low Emission Development Pathway

We supported more than 30 cities in South Asia and Malaysia in enhancing climate resilience (climate change mitigation and adaptation together); adopting low-carbon freight strategies, green transportation and more efficient energy systems; reducing air pollution, strengthening resilience of urban systems; and developing green city action plans; convened and continuing to engage with a multi-country Leadership Group on Clean Transport Actions, partnered with the Government of Philippines to develop a multi-pronged strategy to promote low carbon and energy efficient development and with collaborated with Chinese Taipei in promoting smart grid technology applications, besides advancing regional cooperation.

We assisted the governments of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu in several state-level initiatives to build climate resilience, and eight Indian partner cities in the preparation of climate action plans and implementation of quick-win, co-financing and bankable initiatives under the CapaCITIES project.

We supported the Climate Change Department of Gujarat in the development of bankable projects such as the Aggregate Offsite Captive Solar for Apartment Households in Gujarat, and Through this pathway, we promote development strategies that help local and regional governments embark on the road to climate neutrality, by reducing carbon emissions and pollutants and building energy efficient and climate-neutral infrastructure and operations. We support cities to adopt green energy and green mobility, apply nature-based solutions, mainstream climate resilience and give priority to peoplecentred solutions.



>35 cities in six countries supported in enhancing climate resilience



prepared pre-feasibility reports for actions in key sectors; gave technical support for awareness building activities at the state level; and provided support for climate-change related research and engagement with various institutions.

For the Climate Change Department, we assessed the "Plastic Waste Collection Scheme for Self-Help Groups" in Gujarat and identified next steps for accessing plastic credits from the voluntary market. Technical support was provided for awareness activities conducted as part of the "Panchamrit for Climate Change: Youth Outreach Fortnight" organised in September 2022, in which more than 44,000 students were trained in various climate-related issues.

In Tamil Nadu, integrating the Basket of Solutions (BoS) developed under the project, we assisted in the drafting of the Tamil Nadu Urban Livability Framework, which evaluates all the urban local bodies (ULBs) in the state across 108 parameters spread over 13 thematic areas. This framework will now be used to assess the performance of ULBs on a continuous basis. Thirty of the 38 parameters of the BoS have been incorporated into the framework.

We also assisted the Office of Directorate of Municipal Administration in integrating climate-related parameters in the Disbursement Linked Incentives for the World Bankfunded Tamil Nadu Climate Resilient Urban Development Programme.

We prepared the strategically important Compendium of GHG Emission Inventories for Tamil Nadu (Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli), which was launched at the Tamil Nadu Climate Summit by the Additional Chief Secretary (Environment, Climate Change and Forests).

#### SUPPORTING CITIES

At the city level, Simplified CRCAPs have been prepared for Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Tirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli,

and these have been approved by their municipal corporations. Comprehensive CRCAPs (Towards A Net Zero Future by 2070) are under preparation for Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Rajkot, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli, Udaipur and Siliguri.

CapaCITIES Phase II supported the cities to successfully apply for and receive funds through various programmes/ challenges initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), including India Cycles4Change Challenge, Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework, Urban Outcomes Framework, Eat Smart Cities Challenge, Nurturing Neighbourhood, Street4People and Transport4All.

Udaipur was one of 11 Indian cities to win the Street4People challenge, for which we supported the city in planning and executing pedestrian-friendly spaces. We also prepared for Udaipur a City Water Balance Plan and a City Water Action Plan, which were important submissions for receiving funds from the Government of India's AMRUT mission.

We also focused on providing additional support to the partner cities to access the 15th Finance Commission's performance-linked grant based on improvement in air quality, IEC and awareness activities under Swachh Bharat Mission, and capacity building of local stakeholders and city officials.

Pre-feasibility report for a quick-win project of minimum 200kW opportunity charging station for electric buses along with a 100kWp grid-connected solar PV for Ahmedabad city has been prepared and discussed with the concerned departments. Consequently, Ahmedabad has also proposed opportunity charging stations for e-buses at five more locations under the 15th Finance Commission's air quality-linked grant.

#### **BUILDING CAPACITY**



Net Zero CRCAPs being developed for Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Rajkot, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli, Udaipur and Siliguri



Gujarat and Tamil
Nadu supported in
the development of
several state-level
initiatives, including
the drafting of the
Tamil Nadu Urban
Livability Framework



Eight project cities assisted in the development of quick-win initiatives, pre-feasibility reports and co-financing projects and to successfully apply for various programmes and challenges initiated by Government of India



Compendium of GHG emissions inventory developed for Tamil Nadu



Two training workshops on climate change action plans, modelling and specific sectoral interventions were conducted for officials from all 8 cities

A quick-win project on the Miyawaki methodbased urban forest has been implemented at Chhani lake in Vadodara. The city has proposed to develop Miyawaki urban forests at 75 more locations, based on a PPP mode. In Udaipur, we are providing handholding support to the city municipal corporation for the scale-up of a Miyawaki forest pilot being implemented at Mohta Park.

A co-financing project called Rajkot Green Mobility Programme, linking various state and national government schemes/ benefits, has been approved by the Rajkot Municipal Corporation. It proposes to provide electric autos to 100 beneficiaries, who will each receive INR 30,000 to avail easy loans under the Government of India's Mudra Loan Scheme; 20% of the total approved loan amount would be provided as additional subsidy by the Gujarat Government under the Bajpayee Bankable Yojana.

Technical support was also provided to Rajkot for developing an application for geo-tagging of trees, as well as its City Biodiversity Index and Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (LBSAP), and to Udaipur for developing its LBSAP.

Prefeasibility analysis reports have been prepared for Ahmedabad on accessing carbon credits from waste-to-energy plants, the potential of accessing plastic credits from plastic waste collection/ recycling/ treatment, replacement of diesel buses with electric buses, and urban forests. Detailed analysis about accessing carbon credits by replacing diesel buses with electric buses has been prepared and submitted to the city.

In Tiruchirapalli, two knowledge and study centres are being developed as green buildings in a first for its public buildings, based on a feasibility study.

In Tirunelveli, technical assistance was provided for preparing a Solid Waste Management (SWM) Action Plan. Inputs from the plan are being considered for the preparation of Tirunelveli's SWM roadmap. The Tamil Nadu government has approved a 154 kWp Floating Solar Power Plant in Coimbatore, under the Nammaku Naame Thittam scheme, as a co-financing project. A 200 TPD BioCNG report under PPP mode has been prepared and submitted to the state government for further process.

## **URBAN 20**

We provided on-ground technical support to the Urban 20 (U20) chair city, Ahmedabad, as one of the technical and knowledge partners. U20 is one of the engagement groups under G20. The city of Ahmedabad hosted the inception meeting of the sixth edition of U20 on the 9th and 10th of February 2023. Resonating with India's G20 theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future', U20 Ahmedabad emphasised that actions at the city level can drive lasting positive global outcomes underscoring the interconnectedness of the world and our shared future. Over 100 delegates representing more than 40 cities and 30 partner institutions attended the event, which focused on drafting a roadmap for global change that will be driven by cities by minimising the gaps between policy and practice at all levels of governance.

We, as one of the technical and knowledge partners, supported the active participation of national and international cities, necessary preparations for the U20 event, and coordination between the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, MoHUA, Government of Gujarat, the National Institute of Urban Affairs and the U20 conveners for smoother execution of the event. We also developed a Capacity Building Framework for Local Governments: Infrastructure Financing for Cities of Tomorrow (Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable) with support from the Asian Development Bank for the Infrastructure Working Group of India's presidency of G20.



We are leading the Global Platform activities of the **UrbanShift** programme in India, under which we have started to build and strengthen institutional capacity of officials in Chennai, Pune and Surat, and the secondary cities of Agra and Pondicherry. We are offering them a suite of activities to strengthen their integrated urban planning strategies, such as application of nature-based solutions (NbS) to mitigate urban flood risks and strengthen ecosystems services, climate-resilient coastal zone development through lowemission, gender-inclusive mobility strategies and NbS, and advancement of green corridors and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. During the year, we released the project's Annual Report at the 27th Conference of the Parties in Egypt, onboarded the cities of Pune and Surat and identified their priorities. The project has strategic synergy with national missions like the Smart Cities Mission and Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India Scheme (FAME) Phase-II.

Under the **Building City Leadership on** Clean Air Action in Delhi NCR project, we developed land-use/ landcover maps for Delhi and Gurugram and aided them in organising awareness campaigns on air pollution. Our efforts at raising public awareness in two colonies in Delhi helped them to be declared zero-waste areas. We supported Meerut in collecting and compiling information for the PRANA portal on regulating air pollution in nonattainment cities, and the Swachh Vaayu Sarvekshan. We also organised capacity building training for city staff. The project is in line with the National Clean Air Action Plan (NCAP) and the 15th Finance Commission targets.



#### EcoLogistics: Legacy & Way Forward



Urban freight baseline and emissions ratified by city governments



Low Carbon City Logistics Action Plans prepared for Kochi, Shimla and Panaji approved by the city governments



Multistakeholder governance institutionalised in project cities



Demonstration project for electrification of LCVs. In Kochi, share of electric three-wheeler load carriers increased to 14% of total share.



Recommendations on city logistics submitted to Government of India and subsequently incorporated in National Policy

We wrapped up our one-of-a-kind **EcoLogistics** project, which aimed to promote low-carbon urban freight policies and practices, reduce congestion and deaths associated with urban freight, while improving social equity and reducing carbon emissions to help meet the NDCs. The city-wide urban freight baselines and emissions, and the Low Carbon City Logistics Action plans prepared for Kochi, Shimla and Panaji have been approved by their city governments. Additionally, substantial advocacy on our part resulted in synergy with city/state initiatives, including assistance for integrating urban freight as a mandate for the Kochi Metropolitan Transport Authority, and institutionalising the multistakeholder governance approach in the three cities.



We have initiated a project to support the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation in the preparation of a CRCAP, which will identify targets, strategies and interventions to help Hyderabad move towards net-zero GHG emissions and address local climate risks, while supporting India's 'net-zero by 2070' goal.



#### Moving Towards Zero-Carbon Buildings

Following the successful implementation of the Building Efficiency Accelerator (BEA) project in Nagpur, the city joined the 'Zero Carbon Buildings Accelerator' (ZCBA) programme to advance its goals and actions on decarbonisation of buildings. Under the programme, we supported the city to develop a Zero Carbon Buildings Action Plan to help realize its vision to make all its buildings as 'Net Zero Buildings' by 2050. This Action Plan includes strategies and actions to reduce GHG emissions in the context of choice of building materials, and how buildings are designed, built, managed and deconstructed. Additionally, a model request for proposal (RfP) document was developed, entailing suitable tender conditions to help integrate low carbon and green measures in Nagpur's future public building projects. The project's strategic outcomes are aligned with India's 2070 net zero emissions target and it is the first-of-its-kind roadmap for an Indian city that includes ZCB actions across a building's lifecycle.



An Action Plan was developed for Nagpur to help realise its vision to make all its buildings as 'Net Zero Buildings' by



It's the first-of-its-kind roadmap for an Indian city that includes ZCB actions across the building lifecycle.



It has linkages with roadmaps and policy initiatives like Nagpur's CRCAP, CSCAF, Eco-Niwas Samhita, Energy Conservation Building Code, Green Building Standards.



Under the Assessment of Google Environmental Insight Explorer (EIE) Data to Support Indian Cities on Low Carbon Mobility Transition project, the EIE tool's utility was examined to help track mobility patterns and resulting GHG emissions and to support low carbon mobility planning in Indian cities. A comparative analysis of the methodologies used for the existing GHG emissions baselines of four Indian cities – Udaipur, Rajkot, Coimbatore and Ahmedabad – and the emission estimates of the EIE tool's datasets was undertaken. The EIE tool, through its ability of aggregating and providing real-time mobility data, can support scientific and data driven climate action in cities. This was Google's first study on the subject in partnership with ICLEI South Asia in India, with potential for further collaboration to support city emissions inventories and sustainable mobility planning.

Under the **TUMI E- Bus City Mission Network**, we facilitated dialogues between cities, bus operators, financing Institutions and OEMS, provided hands-on support for e-bus deployment, assessed training needs, facilitated virtual trainings and study tour, recruited 11 cities into the TUMI network, provided a mix of virtual and physical trainings on collective procurement, financial planning and business models and digitisation of bus operations, which will increase operational e-buses to over 1500 from the current 500 in the network cities.

We conducted an in-depth study focused on Delhi and Kochi under the **Transforming the Adoption of E-rickshaws in Indian Cities** project and prepared a report with recommendations on operational and financial models for e-rickshaws, strict implementation of safety regulations and standardisation, and policy interventions to regularise e-rickshaws in Delhi. The project team also undertook financial feasibility of public charging stations with a focus on electric three-wheelers in Kochi.

We involved local governments and stakeholders in 10 cities to develop a comprehensive understanding of the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem, and developed City Information Notes on the EV status, challenges and barriers in EV transition and the way forward in these cities under the **Supporting Indian Cities To Take Leadership On Electric Vehicles** project. We also prepared roadmaps for EV transition in Rajkot, Surat and Kochi, as well as draft amendments to the Gujarat Development Control Regulations. The project team also assisted Rajkot and Kochi to develop action plans and financial strategy for municipal fleet electrification. The project contributed to the Transport NDCs and was aligned with the national target of achieving 30% EV deployment by 2030, and FAME-II.

We are the waste sector lead in the **GHG Platform India** consortium, which is a collective civil society effort to provide an independent estimation and analysis of

India's GHG emissions. During the year, we developed waste sector emissions estimates from 2016 to 2018 under Phase IV of the project, helping to extend the Platform's national and state-level GHG emissions database from 2005 to 2018. In addition, a briefing paper that highlighted opportunities for GHG emission reduction through low-carbon domestic wastewater treatment in urban areas was prepared. The project has direct relevance to India's national GHG inventory and NDC goals and will inform state-level efforts on GHG reduction.

In another project, **Climate Action Plans for Dhaka North** and South City Corporations, we are supporting the two corporations to prepare a Climate Action Plan that is aligned with the Paris Agreement, and guides both local governments towards net-zero emissions while concurrently addressing climate risks and vulnerability.



These efforts are aligned with Bangladesh's Five-Year Plan, SDGs, Paris Agreement, Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan, Nationally Determined Contributions, and Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100.

We supported the state government of Bihar in strengthening its waste management profile by formulating a Low-Carbon Action Plan (LCAP) for the waste sector, under the **Preparation of Bihar State** Waste Sector GHG Emissions Inventory and Action **Plan** project. The LCAP has a list of core and enabling actions for improving the solid waste and domestic wastewater management systems by 2030. A detailed techno-economic assessment note on biomethanation technology and a GHG emissions forecasting for Bihar's waste sector have also been developed. The LCAP feeds into key state policy documents and roadmaps such as the State Action Plan on Climate Change 2.0 and Vision Bihar 2047 and has synergy with several national and state initiatives and missions such as the Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and the National Mission for Clean Ganga.

As Technical Coordinator for Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) in South Asia, we convened webinars on climate action planning, holistic waste management, and heat stress management, and conducted a compatibility review of the six existing Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) against the requirements of the Common Reporting Framework. These six cities are Bhavnagar, Gandhinagar, Gangtok, Panaji, Surat and Vadodara. The review led to the identification of major gaps in the SECAPs with respect to GHG emissions inventories, Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA), target setting, and climate action planning.

The mapping of capacity building initiatives of all GCoM South Asia partners in the signatory cities was useful in identifying opportunities for collaboration, and in optimising resource allocations and time management. We prepared a report on 'Climate Finance in South Asian Cities: A Landscape Review', highlighting the governance and finance frameworks to mobilise local-level climate finance in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Technical support was provided to GCoM cities in South Asia on reporting to the CDP-ICLEI Track (official reporting platform of GCoM) to ensure visibility, recognition and GCoM badges to the cities. These cities were also supported in submitting Expressions of Interest and applications to project preparation facilities and financing

mechanisms, such as the GCoM Bankable Cities' Climate Projects, City GAP Fund and the Urban Transitions Mission.

We are supporting the development of **Green City Action Plans (GCAP)** for four Malaysian cities - Langkawi,

Penang Island, Kuching and Kota Bharu — under the

Malaysia GCAP Subproject 1, and the development of a

pipeline of quality infrastructure projects and capacity

building for each city.

Under the Asia LEDS Partnership, we held webinars on smart grid technology application and weather information application, in collaboration with Chinese Taipei, and webinars under the Building Energy Efficiency Community of Practice on the use of sustainable low-carbon building materials to achieve building decarbonisation and on accelerating building decarbonisation pathways. We organised the second roundtable of the Asia Clean Mobility High Ambition Leadership Group, which concluded with an agreement to form a regional cooperation hub, and to achieve regional and sub-regional visions of a transition towards net-zero emissions in transport systems through common technical trainings, peer learnings and collaboration.

We are helping the Philippines to achieve decarbonisation in Palawan Island by designing a plan to phase out diesel use, and providing other energy assistance such as reviewing the green hydrogen policy and developing an Excel-based tool for investment decision making in government buildings.

Under the **Urban System Gap Analysis for Srinagar and Jammu** project, we conducted a survey to identify the baseline status and gaps of the cities' urban systems such as water supply, sewage, solid waste, and transportation, and to recommend sector-wise



actions. The reports were released by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. Manoj Sinha on World Environment Day. The project had linkages with the Smart Cities Mission, NCAP and the National Action Plan for Municipal Solid Waste. We developed a white paper on **Institutionalising** Climate Change in Urban Governance and provided strategic recommendations to the Central government. These strategic recommendations are based on review and analysis of the governance framework for climate action planning and implementation of eight state action plans on climate change and 14 city climate action plans. Under the project, we collated information on urban climate change governance, identified institutional structures to facilitate the project activities, and governance structures and technical capacities to mainstream climate action. The project was aligned to the achievements of India's NDCs as well as the SDGs and the Paris agreement commitments.



#### **Funders**

- CapaCITIES-II Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- 2. Development of Climate Resilient City Action Plan for Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) GHMC
- 3. UrbanShift Global Environment Facility
- EcoLogistics Federal Ministry for the Environment,
   Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Germany)
   through its International Climate Initiative programme
- **5.** Battery Energy Systems to Enable Energy Transition in Indian Cities-- **New Venture Fund**
- **6.** Zero Carbon Buildings Accelerator **World Resources Institute**
- 7. Assessment of Google Environmental Insight Explorer (EIE) Data to Support Indian Cities on Low Carbon Mobility Transition -- Google LLC
- 8. TUMI E- Bus City Mission Network **German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**
- Transforming the Adoption of E-rickshaws in Indian Cities –
   Climate Works Foundation
- **10.** Supporting Indian Cities to Take Leadership on Electric Vehicles **New Venture Fund**
- 11. GHG Platform India Phase IV New Venture Fund
- **12.** Climate Action Plans for Dhaka North and South City
  Corporations **C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, Inc.**
- **13.** Preparation of Bihar State Waste Sector GHG Emissions Inventory and Action Plan **New Venture Fund**
- **14.** Technical Coordinator for Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy **European Commission (Via DAI)**
- **15.** Malaysia GCAP Subproject 1 **Asian Development Bank**
- Asia LEDS Partnership Alliance for Sustainable Energy,
   LLC
- Urban System Gap Analysis for Srinagar and Jammu –
   United Nations Development Programme
- **18.** Institutionalising Climate Change in Urban Governance **GIZ India**



communities on the critical ecosystems, surface temperature variations across the city, and threatened biodiversity in Kochi; a pictorial guide on the trees of Fort Kochi and Mattancherry; and a study on home gardens in the city. An investment case on pokkali - a farming practice in which one season of paddy cultivation using a unique saline-tolerant rice variety is alternated with another season of prawn culture - and mangroves was also prepared.

We supported the cities of Jammu and Srinagar in developing their Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans. The project is in alignment with the Convention on Biodiversity, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the National Biodiversity Action Plan.

Under different projects, we also assisted in the development of the City Biodiversity Index of Bhopal and Indore.

We also prepared the City Biodiversity Index and the Illustrated Natural Asset Map of Hyderabad, which were released by Hon'ble Shri K T Rama Rao, Minister of Municipal Administration and Urban Development of Telangana. The knowledge products were developed under a project that assessed the biodiversity, tree population and green cover of the area under the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation.

We are supporting the development of a strategy and action plan for urban khazan management in Goa under the **Need for** an Urban Policy on Khazans project. Khazans are saline flood plains in Goa's tidal estuaries that have been reclaimed over centuries with a complex system of bunds and sluice gates. We are also developing a geo-referenced map of khazans in and around Panaji, conducting a time series analysis of the changes in these khazans in the last 20-25 years, and preparing a peer-reviewed journal publication on the significance of khazans in building climate resilience of urban areas, besides other IEC materials. The plan that would be developed can be

replicated in other coastal urban areas in the region.

Under the **People's Biodiversity Register** in **Goa** project, we surveyed and completed the development of PBRs of 73 local bodies in the state. We documented the availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal and other uses, and any other traditional knowledge associated with them.

We completed a feasibility study weighing the green-grey infrastructure of Pandarachirathodu Canal under the **Kochi Smart Canal** project. Relining of canals constructed wetlands and biological control of weeds are among the outputs on the anvil.

As part of the **Study to Document Diversity of Grasses in Grasslands of Goa**project, we are developing a physical and
digital herbarium, with classification of
grass species and a management strategy
for their conservation.

Eco-restoration plans have been prepared for two sub river basins in Himachal Pradesh under the **SECURE Himalaya** project, with cultivation protocols for grass, legume and tree species; a monitoring plan for grassland restoration and identification and zonation of suitable plantation areas. We developed the City Biodiversity Index for Jammu and Srinagar, which were released by Hon'ble Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir on World Environment Day.





#### **Funders**

- 1. INTERACT-Bio BMUV through the International Climate Initiative (IKI)
- Need for an Urban Policy on Khazans Azim Premji University
- Goa People's Biodiversity Registers Goa
   State Biodiversity Board
- 4. Kochi Smart Canal Swiss Re Foundation
- Study to Document Diversity of Grasses in Grasslands of Goa – Research and Utilisation Department, Goa Forest Department
- 6. SECURE Himalaya United Nations

  Development Programme
- 7. City Biodiversity Index and Green Cover Mapping in Hyderabad - Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation



## HYDERABAD Our City, Our Nature, Our Future











- Mushroom Rock, Gachibowli
- 2. Rocks around Fakhruddin Aulia Dargah
- 3. Tortoise Rock, BNR Hills
- 4. Obelisk, Jubilee Hills
- 5. Toadstool, Jubilee Hills
- 6. Rocks at Durgam Cheruvu
- Rocks around Ghar-e-Mubarak
- 8. Rocks around Peeran Shah Wali Dargah
- 9. Sentinel Rock near Maula Ali Dargah
- 10. Rocks at Maula Ali Dargah
- II. Gunrock Hills
- 12. Rocks at Shamirpet Lake

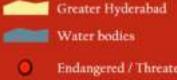




















Avenue Trees / Plantations







# Equitable and People-Centred Development Pathway

Through this pathway, we support local and regional governments to pursue policies and strategies that focus on the well-being, empowerment and participation of individuals and communities, improve social justice and support inclusive development for all. We help to ensure that the cities foster liveability of their natural and built environment for the benefit of public health and well-being.

KIDS IN THE CITY

- India's first Child Priority Zone a safe space for children, with traffic-calming measures, play infrastructure and brightly painted pavements and walls -- opened in Udaipur.
- Child Safety Guidelines being developed with regard to the ITC safety in urban neighbourhoods and public spaces such as major roads and parks.
- Makeover of Anganwadi and primary health centre implemented with child-friendly interventions to upgrade infrastructure.

We have been implementing the **Urban95** programme in Udaipur with an aim to create healthy, prosperous, and vibrant cities where babies, toddlers and their families can thrive, and support the development of safer and more exciting urban neighbourhoods for young children and their caregivers.

In the second phase of the programme, we are focusing on scaling up and the sustainability of various projects through implementation of "lighthouse" projects.

In an important milestone, we developed India's first Child Priority Zone in Hanuman Park, Ashok Nagar, Udaipur, as part of our efforts to develop safe urban spaces for children under the Urban95 programme. The CPZ caters to children and their caregivers with safe walkways that are free of traffic and are less polluted.

We were also instrumental in transforming an Anganwadi centre (rural mother and childcare centre) at Manoharpura and primary health centre in Sec-11 in Udaipur with interventions such as painting of shapes, colours, games and numbers on the floor, installation of an interactive pulley-based solar system, hygienic sanitation and safety measures, refurbishment of play equipment, and installation of child-friendly shoe rack and wash basin.

Additionally, we are working with the Udaipur Municipal Corporation in the development of Child Safety
Guidelines with regard to the urban built environment, child safety at home and to help in the drafting of safety indicators while building a smart and safe city for children. We have also been working on an infant-tod-dler-caregiver (ITC) Master Checklist. It is the outcome of a comprehensive checklist of all the specifications and design elements that were developed from the Urban95 Phase-I ITC design palette, with extensive on-ground studies, stakeholder interactions, expert feedback and continuous on-ground testing through the implementation of short, mid-and long-term interventions in Udaipur.

We also launched a series of capacity building workshops focusing on improving the technical knowledge of development agencies, architects, urban planners, NGOs, students, among other relevant stakeholders, on integrating **Urban95** principles in projects, and about understanding the entire project cycle from inception to post-implementation assessment.



We conducted two independent studies focusing on young children. The Study on Young Children and Climate focused on the linkages between the two, and the barriers and opportunities for linking young children to climate action in four cities: Delhi, Roorkee, Gandhi Nagar and Kharagpur to find solutions, actions and strategies to build their adaptive capacity against climate-related shocks. During the year, we prepared baseline reports, conducted interviews with key stakeholders and collected primary data on air pollutants. The second study, Usage of Public Spaces by Young Children, Their Caregivers and Pregnant Women in Indian cities found that a large proportion of young children and their caregivers prefer walking than using public transport, mainly due to issues such as difficulties in accessing and the poor upkeep of bus stops, and inadequate bus services. It also indicated that city officials were largely unaware of the need to plan and develop separate public spaces for children, their caregivers and pregnant women. We developed specific localised solutions to improve their experience.

Under the Supporting Knowledge Translation Research on Women's Economic Empowerment in Low Carbon Transition, we are facilitating peer-to-peer learning within the **Gender Equality in a Low Carbon World (GLOW)** programme, a research initiative aiming to help promote gender equality through new economic opportunities and green jobs. This is our first project directly related to gender and climate change.

As part of the study, a detailed assessment report has been prepared on women's economic empowerment in low-carbon transition based on a desktop review of the role of women in low carbon actions in the Global South. The report highlighted that though women have a prominent role in climate adaptation-related activities, not much is reported on their role in climate mitigation activities and the green economy.

#### **Funders:**

- Urban95 Bernard van Leer
   Foundation (BvLF)
- Study on Young Children and ClimateBvLF
- Usage of Public Spaces by young children, caregivers and pregnant women – BvLF
- Gender Equality in a Low Carbon
   World International Development
   Research Centre, Canada



We wrapped up the second phase of the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) programme. Focused on issues such as enhancing climate resilience and heat resilience, peri-urban ecosystems and climate-smart agriculture, the second phase saw engagements with a range of stakeholders including municipal officials, farmers and communities. More than 100 knowledge products were developed by our partners and CDKN Asia. Our work established the identity of ICLEI South Asia/ CDKN Asia as a knowledge broker in the region and provided a gender and social inclusion lens to the overall project implementation, thus laying the groundwork for the third phase of the programme.

Buoyed by the second phase's achievements, the third phase, **CDKN:** Accelerating Inclusive Action, is now supporting the integration of gender equality and social inclusion in policies and practices to achieve climate-resilient development; enabling access to appropriate and equitable finance to support locally led solutions; and strengthening the implementation of equitable ecosystems-based adaptation in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

We held regional scoping workshops to identify the explicit demands for evidence/action on the priority action areas of gender and social inclusion, ecosystem-based adaptation and climate finance and how best CDKN can respond to these demands.

The programme is aligned with the sustainability goals of the countries it is being implemented in, global commitments like the SDGs and UN campaigns of Race to Resilience and Making Cities Resilient (MCR2030).

We are a partner in the MCR2030 campaign, a global partnership of government and non-government organisations to strengthen local resilience and help cities find guidance and support to enhance understanding and planning on risk reduction and resilience and take appropriate actions.

The Climate Resilient Inclusive Smart Cities (CRISC) project is part of a broader programme that aims to promote inclusive and resilient urban planning processes in cities of Bangladesh, with particular focus on increasing the climate resilience of marginalised and vulnerable population groups in

#### **CDKN-2: LAYING THE GROUNDWORK**



Provided a gender and social inclusion lens to the overall project implementation.



More than 100 knowledge products developed, including policy briefs, training manuals, compendiums and short videos over a period of 3 years.



Established strong relationships with key actors and partners, nationally and regionally.







#### Circular Development Pathway

Through this pathway, we help local and regional governments to adopt resource looping, adaptation and ecological regeneration. We encourage them to transition from the linear take-make-dispose model of production and consumption and to decouple economic growth from resource depletion and environmental harm. We encourage cities to take steps towards equitable access to resources and create closed-loop urban and peri-urban systems.

We have been working to reduce the amount of leakage of plastic waste in various natural ecosystems in Tamil Nadu and develop material flows and value chains for plastic waste management under the Circular Economy Solutions project. We developed a State Action Plan on banning single-use plastics (SUPs), supported the launch of a refillable model (zero-waste refills for all home care liquid needs, delivered packaging-free right to doorstep through refill truck), and the installation of Manjappai or yellow bag vending machines, thus helping create an alternative to SUPs with the help of self-help groups.

We coordinated mega beach clean-up drives at various coastal locations around Tamil Nadu, developed awareness videos on reducing plastic waste and conducted three Extended Producers Responsibility training workshops for stakeholders such as producers, importers and brand owners. A National Expo on Eco-Alternatives to SUPs was organised, and implementation support provided for technical intervention on microplastics to tackle marine litter in the state.



#### MARINE LITTER



Baseline assessment done to identify plastic waste leakage hotspots in River Adyar and River Cooum, Chennai



Booklet on extended producer responsibility and handbook for bulk waste generators released



 EPR-based
 plastic waste
 management facility established at Tambaram Corporation, Chennai

Under the Alliance + ICLEI Developing Plastic Waste-Free Cities programme, we provided technical assistance to five cities in Southeast Asia and South Asia to develop holistic plastic waste management action plans and potential bankable projects were also identified. We undertook a comprehensive analysis of the cities' waste generation and management through primary information generated in waste characterisation studies and also by using secondary information available with the Municipal authorities. Action plans focusing on plastic waste included key findings, and specific recommendations to strengthen the entire plastic waste value chain were developed. Further, in discussion with the municipal officials and decision-makers, we identified economically viable and technically sound investment-ready potential infrastructure projects that can help prevent plastic leakage into the environment and promote circular solutions. In Warangal, the proposed infrastructure solution includes setting up of model transfer stations and at state of-the-art Material Recovery Facility for which financial models were developed under the project. Inclusion of the informal sector as well as an opportunity to integrate Dry Resource Collection Centres to enhance the overall material recovery efficiency were accomplished. With benefits to the environmental, economic and social sectors, the project established a clear rationale for Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation to further advance the transition to a more resource-efficient and circular economy.



Waste

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

#### **FOOTPRINTS**

- 41 projects under 5 pathways
- Implemented in 6 countries India, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Malaysia
- Engaged with more than 100 local and regional governments

#### **IMPACT**

- 20% of India's urban population impacted by our projects
- US\$ 24.1 million investment committed or in the pipeline for bankable/co-financing emission reduction projects
- 50 local and regional governments supported in advancing low-carbon climate action, biodiversity conservation, social justice, urban resilience, among other sustainability concerns

#### **OUTPUTS**

- Knowledge products, including training manuals, compendiums feasibility studies, briefing papers, city information notes, GHG inventories, thematic atlas, maps, pictorial guide
- 4 Simplified Climate Resilient City Action Plans for Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli and 13 net zero action plans in the works
- 5 City Biodiversity Indexes for Bhopal, Indore, Itanagar, Jammu and Srinagar

#### **PUBLICATIONS**



Climate Finance in Bangladesh, India and Nepal – a compendium of finance sources and instruments to support climate action



Compendium on Nature Based Solutions for Urban Climate Resilience in South Asia: Cases from Bangladesh, Nepal and India



City Biodiversity Index – Hyderabad



Kochi Smart Canal Project



Electric Mobility City Action Plan – Rajkot City



Voluntary Local Review Report - Singra, Bangladesh

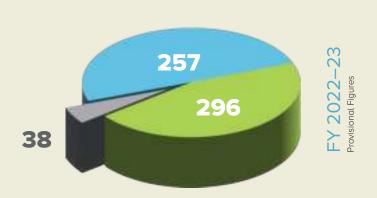


Low Carbon Action Plan for Urban Freight-Panaji



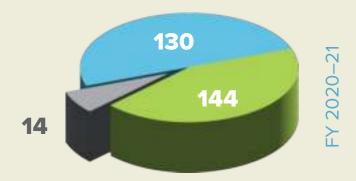
Voluntary Local Review Report – Dhulikhel, Nepal

## THREE-YEAR FINANCIALS











#### **MEDIA BUZZ**



14-04-2022

#### उदयपुर फ्रंट पेज

" सहेलियों की बाड़ी व सुखाड़िया सर्विल रोड संवरेगी, सुरक्षित <sup>800 (800 all)</sup> और खूबसूरत फुटपाथ बनेंगे, ट्रैफिक का दबाव भी घटाएंगे



#### Famil Nadu comes up with Greenhouse Gas Inventory compendium for Coimbatore, Tiruchi and Tirunelveli

#### अब अस्पताल जाते बच्चों को नहीं लगेगा डर : डॉ. बामनिया



ब्यगं नवज्योति/उदयप्र। नगर निगम द्वारा चर्नार्ड वेन लीवर फाउँड्रान के सहयोग तथा इकली साउध एशिया एवं इकोरस इंडिया की तकनीकी साबेदारी में संचालित अर्धन 95 प्रोग्राम के अंतर्गत सेक्टर 11 स्थित प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्र में हुए विभिन्न नवाचारों का उद्याटन मरूप चिकित्सा स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी हर होता है।इस हर के चलते बच्चे इन स्थानों पर अधिक समय नहीं बिता पाते या उपलब्ध सेवाओं का लाभ नहीं ले पाते। ऐसे में बच्चों के नजरिए से डिजाइन किए गए इन स्थानों से निश्चित ही उनका भय खत्म होना और ये तथा उनके अभिभावक इन सेवाओं का अच्छे में लाभ ले पाएंगे। इस अवसर

#### ജൈവവൈവിധ്യ

#### വാതിൽ തുറന്ന് സുഭാഷ് പാർക്ക്





22-01-2023

माराना मन्त्रत में जिसे का पहला वाइन्ड केंद्रती पीत्रवरी शुरू

#### कार्टन कैरेक्टर करेंगे बच्चों का मनोरंजन, पैरेट्स को मिलेगी टीकों की जानकारी





#### खेडतीत दाय सेमितारतं आवेपत डसव्

#### પ્રત્યેક માનવીએ જન્મદિવસે અચૂક વૃક્ષારોપણ કરવું જોઇએ

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16-02-2023

शहर को किस्डुन केंड्सी बनाने को मंदन, सुझाव-हपते में 1 दिन कुछ सड़कों को रखें ट्रैफिक फी





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