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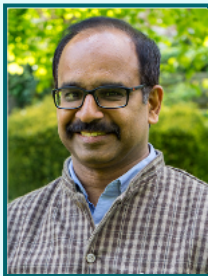
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E-Newsletter - February 2024



Dear Readers,

Recently, while walking through the bustling streets of the national capital a thought struck me. I passed by a group of young children playing in a small, green space amidst the concrete jungle. Their laughter and carefree spirits reminded me of the inherent resilience and adaptability of youth. It made me think about how, as adults, we often lose sight of the simplicity and directness with which children approach life. This observation led me to reflect on the importance of our collective responsibility to nurture and protect these young citizens, especially in the context of climate change and urban environments.

Renowned author James Baldwin once said, "Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them." This statement profoundly aligns with our ethos at ICLEI South Asia. Our actions today shape the world young children will inherit tomorrow. It is incumbent upon us to set a precedent of sustainability, compassion, and stewardship of our planet.

This reflection aligns with some of our latest endeavours, which include pioneering studies in various Indian cities, exploring how young children utilise public spaces and the climate-related risks they encounter. A recent workshop in Delhi, following events in Kochi and Guwahati, served not only as a forum for engaging with city officials and educational institutions but also as a call to action, highlighting the importance of integrating child-

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friendly urban planning and climate resilience in our cities.

In our commitment to global climate action and enabling sustainable development, ICLEI South Asia recently welcomed delegates from 7 Asian nations to the National Capital Region. This visit showcased India's advancements in electric vehicle (EV) battery technology and manufacturing. The extensive program included a deep dive into technical aspects, site visits, policy dialogues, and rich exchanges on topics like battery recycling, green hydrogen, and decarbonization of mobility. Two other significant milestones this month were the signing of an MoU with Bhavnagar city in Gujarat, supporting its climate objectives, and the release of the City Biodiversity Index of Itanagar, where we gave technical assistance to the Arunachal Pradesh Biodiversity Board.

This month we are excited to introduce ClimaTales - a vibrant comic series that will dissect the intricate link between cities and climate resilience, simplify complex concepts, and explore inspiring stories of sustainable development. And we begin with the wonderful world of wetlands!

In the spirit of collaboration and hope, we continue to showcase more such initiatives and projects that inspire and empower. Each story, each effort, contributes to a tapestry of change and resilience that we are proud to be a part of.

Emani Kumar

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

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Asia LEADS Partnership Study Tour Addresses Key Topics Related to EVs

Participants from seven Asian countries explored battery technology, manufacturing, and recycling in Delhi NCR as part of the international study tour organised by the Global Climate Action Partnership and the Asia LEADS Partnership, highlighting cross-border knowledge exchange and exemplifying cooperation towards clean mobility.



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City Action Plan to Help Bhavnagar Identify Climate Risks, Build Resilience

A memorandum of understanding was signed alongside the 10th Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit between ICLEI South Asia and Bhavnagar Municipal Corporation on providing technical guidance and support for developing a Climate Resilient City Action Plan (CRCAP). The CRCAP will provide a list of strategies to incorporate green infrastructure and nature-based solutions to enhance resilience in Bhavnagar.



Delhi Workshop Unveils Findings on Usage of Public Spaces by Young Children and the Climate Risks They Face

The workshop in Delhi brought together experts, policymakers, educational institutes and community representatives to shed light on the findings from two studies on how young children, caregivers and pregnant women are disproportionately affected by climate change, air pollution, and inadequate access to public spaces that cater to requirements of Early Childhood Development (ECD) services.



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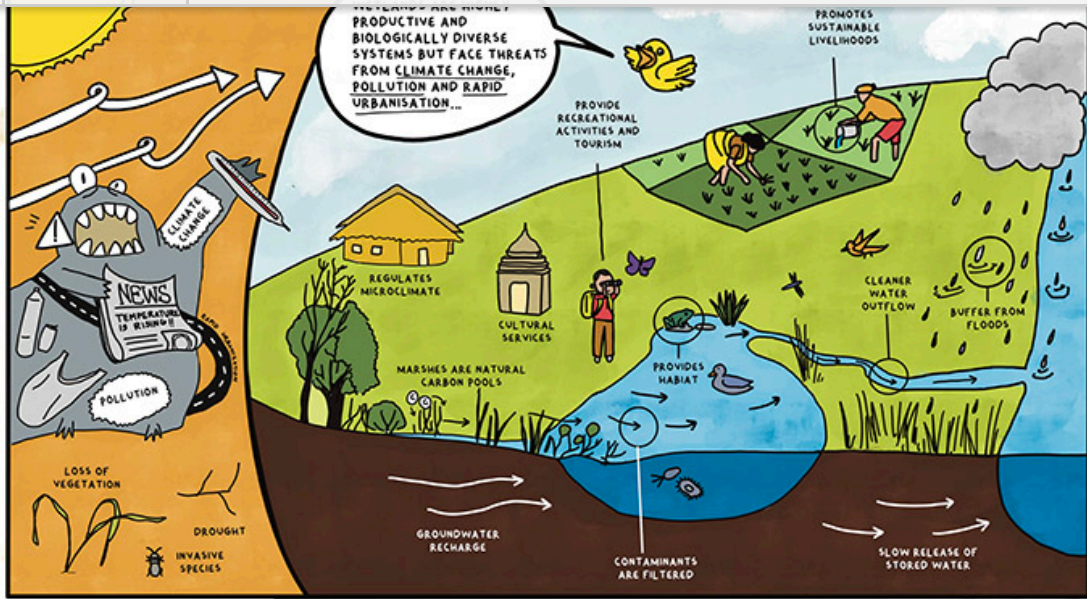
Planning Healthy Ecosystems: Itanagar Develops Its City Biodiversity Index

The City Biodiversity Index of Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh was released recently by Shri Tame Passang, Honorable Mayor, Itanagar Municipal Corporation. ICLEI South Asia provided technical expertise to the Arunachal Pradesh Biodiversity Board for its development and helped assess biodiversity indicators across several categories and offered insights on conservation efforts.



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CLIMATALES - World Wetlands Day



उदयपुर में पब्लिक ट्रांसपोर्ट: न सीएनजी-न ईवी, धुआं छोड़ते दौड़ रहे डीज़ल टैपों

उदयपुर में सार्वजनिक परिवहन व्यवस्था कंडम डीज़ल टैपों पर टिकी हुई है। उदयपुर स्मार्ट सिटी निर्देशों के तहत भी इन तीन पहिया वाहनों को असुरक्षित, असहज और अत्यधिक प्रदूषण कारक वाहन के रूप में माना गया था। इसके बावजूद शहर के पब्लिक ट्रांसपोर्ट में इन्हीं की बड़ी भूमिका है। उल्लेखनीय है कि प्रदेश के ही अलवर शहर में २०१३ में ऐसे टैपों बंद कर दिए गए थे।



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Studies and kids, pregnant women disproportionately

Climate change impacts quality of public spaces

बच्चों को खेलने के लिए मैदान जहाँ समाज हवा सिगाड रही रोहत

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, JANUARY 19

YOUNG CHILDREN and pregnant women are disproportionately affected by climate change, air pollution, and inadequate access to public spaces catering to early childhood development (ECD), two studies carried out between January 2022 and December 2023 have found.

The studies, which focused on the usage of public spaces by young children, their caregivers and pregnant women across 18 Indian cities, including Kolkat

Gandhinagar, Kharagpur and Boree and reviewed existing secondary data.

The study assessed urban heat island effect and forecast the future implications of climate change on these vulnerable groups," said Emami-Kosravi, executive director, ICLEI South Asia.

The second study, conducted by ICLEI South Asia and Ipsos Research Pvt Ltd, also funded by the Van Leer Foundation – analysed the use of public spaces by young children, their caregivers and pregnant women across 18 Indian cities. Employing household surveys and in-

Studies Emphasise Need For Policy Interventions In Kol

Warmer Summers

Changes observed in weather patterns

- Shorter winters
- Increase in atmospheric pollution
- Shorter and wetter monsoon
- Over 10 years

Gadget use

- There is a significant association between hours spent on usage of smartphones by young children and total number of hours spent in a public space in a week
- On average, young children who use smartphones spend 7 hours in a week using a public space

More rain in south Bengal, less in north

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खरिद संकटवदात। मुंबई जलवायु परिवर्तन को लेकर मुंबई स्थित देश के 21 शहरों में किए गए दो अध्ययन में नितान्तक जाकारो सामने आई है। इसमें छोटे बच्चों और गर्भवती महिलाएं ज्यादा असुरक्षित पाए गए हैं। ये अध्ययन आईसीएनआई सहित एशिया और आईपीएसओ रिसर्च ने संयुक्त रूप से किए हैं। यह रिपोर्ट बुधवार को जारी की गई। अध्ययन में जो शहर शामिल किए गए उनमें दिल्ली, चेन्नई, कोलकाता, इंदौर, लखनऊ आदि शामिल हैं। ये अध्ययन जनवरी, 2022 से दिसंबर, 2023 के बीच किए गए। इसके निष्कर्षों के मुताबिक मुंबई में बच्चों और गर्भवती महिलाओं के लिए खुले मैदान कम हैं। इस कारण छोटे बच्चों खेल-कूद नहीं पाते। गर्भवती महिलाओं को स्क्वॉ आक्सिजन नहीं मिलता पाती। वायु प्रदूषण से महिलाओं-बच्चों की सेहत सिगाड रही है।

वायु कदरे हैं विरोध: आईसीएनआई (एशिया एशिया) के कार्यकर्ता निवेदन इमनी कुमार ने कहा कि इन अध्ययन में जलवायु परिवर्तन और वायु प्रदूषण की जलवायु परिवर्तन और वायु प्रदूषण के डेटिल किया गया विशेष रूप से 0 से 5 वर्ष के बच्चों और उनकी देखभाल करने वाली पर फोकस किया गया है।

Book on Itanagar city biodiversity index released

TRANSA BIODIVERSITY CORPORATION

CHIMPU, 10 Jan: A book on Itanagar city biodiversity index was released by ITC mayor Naveen Prasad in presence of Municipal Biodiversity Board (MBSB) chairman Taysik Gu and others here on Wednesday.

The book has been prepared by the APBD in technical collaboration with ICLEI local Biodiversity Board (LBBD) and the Government for Sustainability, South Asia, New Delhi, an APBS release said.

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Our mailing address is:
ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability South Asia
 C-3, Lower Ground Floor, Green Park Extension, New Delhi - 110 016, India
 Tel. +91-11-4974 7200; Email: iclei-southasia@iclei.org

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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