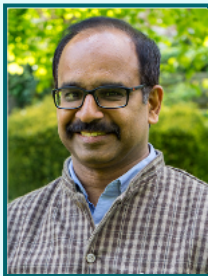


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E-Newsletter - March 2024



Dear Readers,

With the 2030 deadline approaching in six years, the crucial role of cities and local leaders in driving progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is fairly well established. They are necessary partners in this journey. In many cities, local leaders are translating the aspirations of the goals into practical aspects of governance, to create new policies, interventions, and solutions.

In South Asia too, the members of the ICLEI South Asia network have been working in close coordination to advance plans, policies, and actions for building resilient and environment-friendly ecosystems. This endeavour is led by an elected group of local and regional leaders, called the ICLEI South Asia Regional Executive Committee or RexCom, which shapes the regional strategy for a period of three years.

The new South Asian RexCom for the 2024-27 period has taken office, and ICLEI South Asia is delighted to welcome Mr. Ugyen Dorji, Mayor, Thimphu, Bhutan; Mr. Anil Kumar, Mayor, Kochi, India; Dr. Salina Hayat Ivy, Mayor, Narayanganj, Bangladesh; Mrs. Naynaben Pedhadiya, Mayor, Rajkot; and Mr. Bhim Prasad Dhungana, President, Municipal National Association of Nepal. They will each hold a key portfolio, and will be supported in this by three special advisors: Mr. Shamoan Adam, Director General, Local Government Authority, Maldives; Mr. Dewan Kamal Ahmed, President, Municipal Association of Bangladesh; and Ms. Hemanthi Goonasekera, CEO, Federation of Sri Lanka Local Government Authorities.

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They all bring an exceptional level of knowledge, expertise, and leadership, and we look forward to collaborating with them.

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In the meanwhile, our offices have been abuzz with several events, involving several of our projects, such as consultation and training workshops, project orientation meetings, a webinar and a pilot launch. You will find more details of these developments in this edition. If you need more information or would like to give feedback, please contact us and also follow our social media handles.

Emani Kumar

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

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

A New Chapter in Climate Action and Sustainability: Tamil Nadu Leads the Way

At the Tamil Nadu Climate Summit 2.0, ICLEI South Asia handed over a Letter of Intent to the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company for collaboration on several initiatives, including an Urban Cooling Roadmap and the City Biodiversity Index for Chennai in presence of Ms. Supriya Sahu, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Government of Tamil Nadu, and Mr. Emani Kumar, Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia.



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Forging Pathways for Child-Centric Urban Planning Across Indian Cities

A webinar to disseminate the findings of two first-of-their-kind studies conducted in India on children's use of public spaces and the impact of climate change on them and their caregivers was recently held. Experts from different sectors shared insights on urban planning and climate change risks. This follows a series of in person workshops held across India on the studies, which were conducted with support from the Van Leer Foundation.



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Charting a Sustainable Future for Goa's Khazan Lands

A workshop in Panaji, Goa, was conducted to address the pressing need for khazan land conservation. The event focused on how conservation of khazans needs to be integrated into urban planning, and highlighted their vital role

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in building climate resilience and in supporting many livelihoods. This initiative is a crucial step towards safeguarding Goa's heritage ecosystems.



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Embracing Electric Mobility in Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh has launched a project to develop green corridors for electric vehicle (EV) adoption in collaboration with ICLEI South Asia, to help develop charging infrastructure and promote sustainable mobility. The state's ambitious EV policy aims to make EVs form at least 15 percent of the total new vehicle registrations by 2025, with incentives and support for renewables.



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Kochi Launches Pilot Project for Thevera Perandur Canal

The pilot Thevera Perandur Canal restoration project, which aims to address solid waste accumulation and biodiversity reduction, was launched in Kochi recently by the District Collector of Ernakulam and the Mayor of Kochi. Featuring an organic waste composter, the initiative, which is part of INTERACT-Bio project, reduces waste entering the canal while enriching gardens and showcases innovative solutions to urban ecological challenges.



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Regional Workshop Stresses on Building Cities' Resilience to Climate, Disaster Risks

Stakeholders from seven Asian nations attended a collaborative regional workshop on "Building Cities' Resilience to Climate and Disaster Risks" in Bangkok. Led by the Asian Institute of Technology and ICLEI South Asia and other partners from the [UNDRR MCR 2030](#) campaign, the workshop aimed to enhance urban authorities' capabilities in developing resilient strategies, while participants received information on tools useful for climate-resilient planning, as well as expert insights.



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Workshop Discusses Disaster Risk Reduction Plans in Nilphamari

A consultation workshop was organised jointly with the Municipal Association of Bangladesh, as part of the Climate and Development Knowledge Network Programme. At the event, attended by municipal staff and elected representatives, ICLEI South Asia discussed the need for developing a disaster risk reduction plan for the municipality to address climate induced disasters along with the President of MAB and Mayor of Nilphamari.



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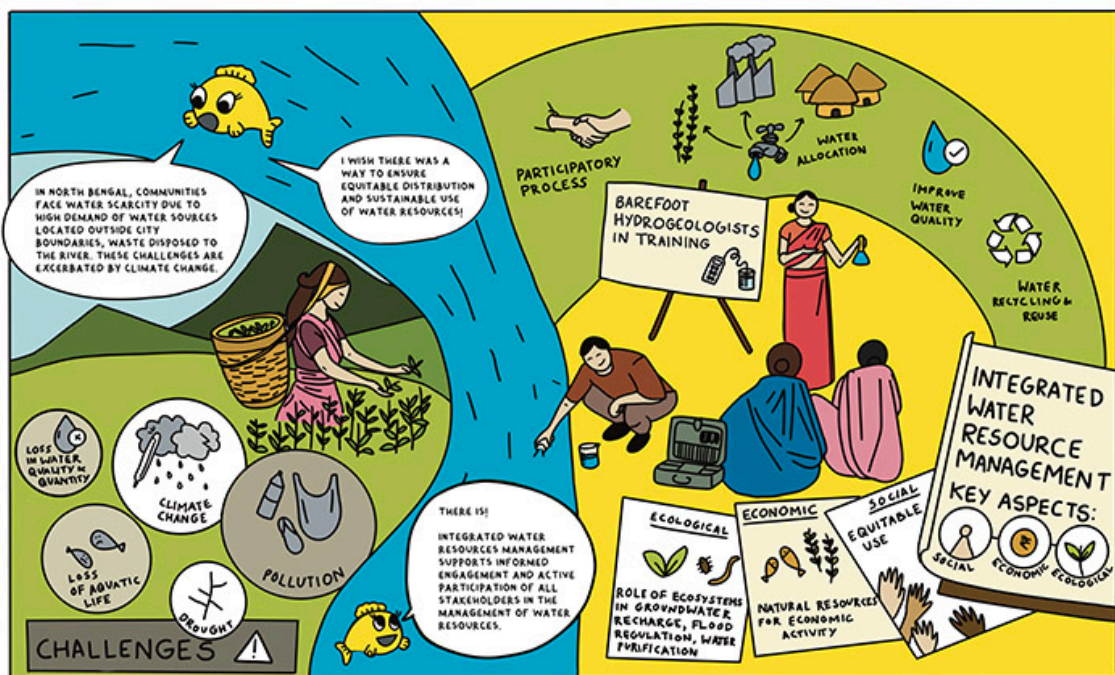
CDKN to help Dhulikhel Localise Strategies to Build Climate Resilience

Officials from Dhulikhel municipality, Nepal, participated in an orientation meeting on CDKN's Accelerating Inclusive Climate Action programme. ICLEI South Asia will assist the municipality in crafting a gender- and socially-inclusive Local Adaptation Plan of Action and in executing a pilot project. The establishment of a steering committee for the initiative underscores the commitment to inclusive climate action, enhancing the city's preparedness for climate challenges.



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CLIMATALES - World Water Day, March 22



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बच्चों की परारिष्य में पिता की भूमिका

अर्बन95 परियोजना के अंतर्गत उदयपुर में छोटे बच्चों के अभिभावकों और सेवा प्रदाताओं के साथ हुई बैठकों में एक चीज़ ने बहुत ध्यान आकर्षित किया। लगभग हर जगह प्राथमिक अभिभावकों (प्राइमरी केयरगिवर) और सेवा प्रदाताओं (प्राइमरी सर्विस प्रोवाइडर) के नाम पर महिलाएं ही थीं। हालाँकि पार्क में केयरटेकर के रूप में कुछ पुरुष साथी मिले, किन्तु उनका भी बच्चों से जुड़ी ज़रूरतों के बारे में ज्ञान न के बराबर था या वे उस तरफ सोच ही नहीं पा रहे थे!

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ANNOUNCEMENT - ICLEI Elects Regional Leadership

Recently completed, [ICLEI's Regional Executive Committee \(RexCom\)](#) elections spanned eight months. The RexComs, representing each of ICLEI's nine regions, shape regional strategies and appoint a representative to the Global Executive Committee (GexCom). The ICLEI Council, comprising the nine RexComs, approves global strategy and statutes. The next step involves the election of the Global Executive Committee during the ICLEI World Congress, which will be held in São Paulo, Brazil, from June 18 to 21, 2024.

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How waste-to-manure treatment plant opened Kochi

Workshop charts path for khazan preservation, sustainable development

India urged to prioritise inclusive urban development for young children and families amid climate crisis

Action plan in the works to protect urban khazan lands

शहरी निोजन की होती है अनदेखी • जनवादी परिवर्तन पर प्रोग्राम में हुई फारमला • बावत अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग ने नीति निर्माताओं पर डाला जोर

शहरी निोजन में बच्चों और गर्भवती महिलाओं का नहीं रखा जाता ध्यान

शहरी निोजन को बच्चों पर अधिकार रखना जरूरी

जनवादी परिवर्तन के प्रयास पर अडिग रहना जरूरी

अनुमान के अभाव पर हो शहरी निोजन

India urged to prioritise inclusive urban development for young children and families amid climate crisis

Krishnendu Bandyopadhyay / TNN / Feb 23, 2024, 23:10 IST

Action plan in the works to protect urban khazan lands

Tweets News Network

International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives presented findings of its previous studies on how children (aged 0-5) and pregnant women are disproportionately affected by climate change, air pollution, and inadequate access to public spaces that cater to the requirements of early childhood development services

This workshop in Panaji was the fourth in a series, following the first three held in Coimbatore, Kochi, and New Delhi, respectively where stakeholders discussed climate-resilient and child-friendly public spaces.

Peter Borges, who is the chairperson of Goa State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, said, "Children living on the streets or in precarious situations face enormous risks, often overlooked in city planning. We also need to rethink how we define and create child-friendly spaces, considering physical inclusivity for children with disabilities and other vulnerabilities."

MORE FROM ICLEI ACROSS THE GLOBE

- UN Zero Waste Advisory Board: Good city practices wanted
- Journeys for life: How cities and regions along migratory species routes can step up



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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 urban 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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