



E-Newsletter - November 2024



Dear friends,

As we approach the end of another year, I am delighted to share the November edition of our ICLEI South Asia newsletter. This month, we are excited to showcase the impactful strides we are making in sustainable urban development across the region. Through dynamic international collaborations, active participation in global forums, and innovative climate resilience initiatives, our work continues to support sustainable, inclusive growth for communities throughout South Asia.

One of our most notable October highlights was the launch of the U.S.- South Asia Mayoral Platform on Sustainable Cities at the South Asia Clean Energy Forum in Jaipur. Inaugurated by the Hon'ble U.S. Ambassador Mr. Eric Garcetti, 18 cities from both regions united to accelerate knowledge exchange, foster sustainable urban development, and lead the clean energy transition from the grassroots level.

As the Asia LEDS Partnership Secretariat, we also participated in the GCAP 2024 Workshop, held in Brazil from 2 to 5 October 2024. Over 30 representatives from the Asia region joined a gathering of country representatives from other regions and practitioners and deliberated on practical actions needed for implementing ambitious NDCs. ICLEI South Asia Deputy Director Soumya Chaturvedula highlighted the importance of shared ambitions, regional cross-learning and multi-stakeholder engagement to fast-track implementation.

ICLEI South Asia also participated in several sessions at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (CBD COP 2024) at Columbia. This extends our commitment to nature centric development.

In this issue, you will discover highlights from some of our key projects aimed at building resilient and sustainable cities. From pioneering climate action initiatives to cutting-edge urban planning innovations, we are collectively shaping a greener, more climate-resilient future. We are also pleased to share inspiring case studies from cities implementing sustainable solutions, insights into our recent collaborations, and information on upcoming events where we can connect, exchange ideas, and learn together.

As you read this, our teams will be participating at the World Urban Forum (WUF) 2024 in Cairo and soon after COP 29 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

As always, my deepest gratitude goes out to our partners and stakeholders for your unwavering support. Your commitment to sustainable urban development fuels our shared vision of cities that thrive today and for generations to come.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us.

Warm regards,

Emani Kumar

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

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Launch of U.S.-South Asia Mayoral Platform on Sustainable Cities

The U.S.-South Asia Mayoral Platform on Sustainable Cities was launched at the South Asia Clean Energy Forum in Jaipur on 22 October 2024. A collaboration between USAID and ICLEI offices in South Asia and USA through the SAREP program, this pioneering initiative connects mayors from the U.S. and South Asia, fostering the exchange of best practices and partnerships for sustainable urban development.



With 18 cities already on board, and more expected to participate in future collaborations, the platform facilitates knowledge sharing on resilient and green infrastructure, city-to-city partnerships to address urban challenges like waste management, public transportation, air quality, and climate impacts, and promotes clean energy solutions, including renewable energy and climate-sensitive urban planning. Together, these cities are paving the way toward a resilient, sustainable future!

[Read More](#)

ICLEI South Asia Partners with SouthSouthNorth to highlight the Devolved Climate Financing Model for Locally Led Adaptation

From 30 September to 4 October 2024, ICLEI South Asia, in partnership with SouthSouthNorth, facilitated a cross-regional peer-to-peer learning exchange bringing together stakeholders from Kenya and Nepal. This event, held under the CDKN programme, focused on knowledge exchange around Kenya's Devolved Climate Financing model, which enables local-level climate adaptation actions.



[Read More](#)

Mayor of Karjanha Municipality Signs MoU with ICLEI South Asia under CDKN Phase III for Gender and Socially Inclusive Climate Resilience

ICLEI South Asia visited the cities of Dhulikhel and Karjanha of Nepal from 27 August to 3 September 2024 to assess their climate vulnerability and community adaptive capacities. This initiative aligns with the third phase of the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) programme, emphasizing gender and social inclusivity in climate adaptation.



[Read More](#)

GCAP 2024 Workshop: Climate Action Takes the Center Stage

The GCAP 2024 Workshop, held in Brazil from 2 to 5 October, 2024, saw the Asia LEADS Partnership (ALP) extend its momentum from the ALP Forum 2024 in Bangkok, which focused on advancing decarbonization in the Asia-Pacific region through enhanced NDCs and Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS). This three-day workshop emphasized strategic approaches to climate action and sustainable development, with a special focus on Asia across the first two days.



Participants at the workshop built on ALP Forum outcomes including strategizing on just transition considerations and solutions in Asia – transport, energy, and education sectors as well as technical and country considerations towards building up the green hydrogen supply chain.

GCAP members and others attendees engaged on collaboration across borders and sectors, including building data-driven, and holistic approaches to climate action.

[Read More](#)

CLARE Opportunity Fund Fuels Vital Projects in Asia!

Through the CLARE Opportunity Fund, two significant climate initiatives are gaining momentum in Asia. In order to enable officials at Provincial Municipal Learning Centers to establish gender-inclusive local adaptation plans of action, the Municipal Association (MuAN) in Nepal is creating a training manual and organising training programmes for all the PMLCs of Nepal.



[Read More](#)

SIRA Project Kicks Off to Strengthen Inclusive Climate Resilience in Bangladesh

The "Enhancing Local Capacities in Socially Inclusive Resilience in Asia (SIRA) Project," supported by Canada's IDRC and the UK's FCDO, is paving way for or more inclusive, climate-resilient urban development in Asia by incorporating voices from all community sectors, particularly those of underrepresented groups in resilience planning process. Aiming to strengthen the capacity of local governments and empower climate practitioners to undertake climate resilient actions, the project is actively working in Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines, and Indonesia.



[Read More](#)

Growing Stronger: 80,000 Trees and Counting!

We are happy to share the amazing results from our ongoing collaboration with the Municipal Corporation of Udaipur! The Miyawaki Scaleup sites are thriving which is a proof of the incredible impact we are making together. Through this project and the pilots under CapaCITIES, we have planted or supported the planting of nearly 80,000 native trees. This is a major milestone in our fight against climate change and in enhancing biodiversity. Our efforts have also expanded to Siliguri and Vadodara, strengthening our commitment to sustainable, green cities.



A Step Toward Sustainable Urban Ecosystems - Bangalore's City Biodiversity Index

ICLEI South Asia, in partnership with The University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU), has developed the City Biodiversity Index for Bangalore, with funding from the Bengaluru Sustainability Forum. This index, known as the 'Singapore Index (SI)', is a self-assessment tool designed to monitor and evaluate biodiversity in urban areas.



[Read Full Report Here](#)

ICLEI South Asia at CBD COP 16: Collaboration & Commitment for a Nature-Positive Future!

ICLEI South Asia participated in CBD COP 16 in Cali, Colombia, from 21 October to 1 November 2024. Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary of the Goa State Biodiversity Board, was a key speaker from South Asia. Dr. Sarmokadam spoke at the Nature Positive Pavilion, addressing the challenges subnational governments face in aligning with the Global Biodiversity Framework and nature-positive targets.



[Read More](#)

HOT OFF THE PRESS



UPCOMING EVENTS

COP29

The 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Climate Change conference (UNFCCC), more commonly known as COP29.



COP29 aims to limit global warming to 1.5°C, emphasizing the urgent need for investment in climate action. The approach involves boosting ambition through national plans and transparency while driving action with effective financing to reduce emissions and address climate impacts

Date: 11-22 November 2024

Venue: Baku, Azerbaijan

[More Information](#)

Green Cities Investment Forum GCIF 2024

Green Cities Investment Forum 2024 (GCIF 2024) is embarking on an innovative approach by bringing all the stakeholders together to accelerate the process of achieving the SDGs.



GCIF 2024 is engaging the private and financial sectors, enabling a direct and targeted project-centric approach so that eco-solutions can be matched to a viable financial model. The aim is to formulate and implement effective solutions within the shortest time frame, contributing significantly to Malaysia's commitment to a 45% carbon emission reduction by 2030.

Date: 26-27 November 2024

Venue: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

[More Information](#)

MORE FROM ICLEI ACROSS THE GLOBE

- [ICLEI endorses the Hamburg Charter for Inclusive and Just Mobility](#)
- [Why should my Mayor attend global sustainability events?](#)



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.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).