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“As the world confronts the impacts of climate change, a global consensus on Multisectoral Actions is emerging for navigating these challenges. It advocates multilevel governance to address climate challenges and promote resilient, healthy urban environments.

The world is increasingly realising that tackling urban climate challenges effectively requires long-term integrated planning that spans across governance levels—from people, community, city, sub-national, to national and global leadership. The Multisectoral Actions Pathways (MAP) Declaration at COP29, which was endorsed by 150+ stakeholders, uniquely integrates nature-based solutions, disaster resilience, and green jobs into urban planning, and highlights how multilevel action is key to achieving sustainable climate solutions.

At this year's Daring Cities 2025 Bonn Dialogues, multilevel action took centre stage. The Dialogue reaffirmed ICLEI's commitment of empowering local governments for building sustainable, inclusive, and climate-resilient cities. Local actions, when aligned with national frameworks and supported by strong institutions, paves the way for transformative change.

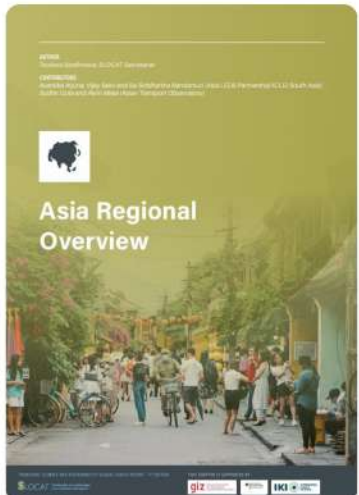
Climate resilience has to be embedded into infrastructure, urban planning, and people's daily lives, and local governments have to be empowered with the tools, finance, and authority to act decisively. At ICLEI South Asia, we continue to advocate for this by working with cities and integrate scientific knowledge into action and support locally-driven, systemic solutions.

The intention to act is clear. Now is the time to empower it with the right partnerships, resources, and political will. Together, we can create equitable cities for all.

”



## SPOTLIGHT




**TRANSPORT, CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY GLOBAL STATUS REPORT**

The fourth edition of the SLOCAT Transport, Climate and Sustainability Global Status Report is out now! Dive deep into this one-stop hub for the latest data, trends, and policies shaping sustainable transport worldwide. The report includes six regional overviews and 30 country factbooks, offering a detailed snapshot of how transport systems are evolving across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and Oceania.

As a part of the Asia LED's partnership, ICLEI South Asia's Vijay Maini, Avantika Arjuna, and Sai Siddhartha Nandamuri contributed to the chapter "Asia Regional Overview".

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## ICLEI SOUTH ASIA @ 20

As we celebrate 20 years in South Asia in 2025, our team and leadership is overwhelmed by the congratulatory messages and support we are receiving for our work over the two decades. These messages underscore a shared commitment to advancing climate resilience and inclusive urban governance, and the impact and importance of local partnerships in driving sustainability across the region.

[Read and explore the messages here](#)

**VOICES OF CHANGE**

“ ICLEI South Asia has been very supportive and collaborative, and they have extended all their support for making Ahmedabad's journey as a climate friendly city. ”

**BANCHHANDIHI PANI, IAS**  
Municipal Commissioner, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation


“ The knowledge and experience of ICLEI South Asia in building resilient cities really helped change the urban planning perspective of our city, Puducherry. ”

**R. KESAVAN, IAS**  
Secretary (Town and Country Planning), Government of Puducherry

“ ICLEI South Asia's focus on inclusive, people-centred development aligns closely with FSLGA's mission of enabling local governments to drive meaningful change. ”

**HEMANTHI GOONASEKERA**  
Chief Executive Officer, Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities (FSLGA)


## ACTION ON THE GROUND



**LEARNING HEAT RESILIENCE STRATEGIES AMID RISING GLOBAL TEMPERATURES**

As Kenya grapples with rising heat, a government delegation from Nairobi visited Rajkot, India to learn how the city is building resilience against extreme temperatures. The visit showcased Rajkot's urban cooling strategies, smart tech, and public health responses. Kenyan officials explored ways to adapt these solutions for Nairobi's first heat action plan.


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**COMMUNITIES DEFINE ADAPTATION INTERVENTIONS FOR LOCAL ADAPTATION PLAN FOR ACTION**

When it comes to tackling climate change, no one knows what is needed better than the communities living through it. ICLEI South Asia in Karjanha and Dhulikhel, Nepal held community consultations across all wards to gather insights on climate challenges and local solutions. The results are now guiding municipal planning and potential partnerships for climate action.


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**INTRODUCTORY MODULE TRAINING FOR SELECTED CITIES ON CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING**

Faced with rising risks like landslides and unplanned development, municipal officials from across Nepal came together online for a training in inclusive climate resilience. Hosted under the SIRa project, the session explored key concepts like climate change, and social inclusion. Officials shared experiences and solutions, marking a strong start to a wider capacity-building effort for resilient urban futures.

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**DRIVING CHANGE AT HIGH ALTITUDES: PROMOTING ELECTRIC MOBILITY IN LAHAUL SPITI**

High in the Himalayas, the valleys of Lahaul and Spiti are feeling the pressure of rising tourism. To help protect this unique and vulnerable landscape, ICLEI South Asia and the Himachal Transport Department hosted EV Sensitisation workshops in Keylong and Kaza with local stakeholders. Participants explored how electric mobility and solar charging can reduce emissions and support green tourism.

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## YOUTH FOR CLIMATE HACKATHON




**ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE**


Evidence-based Innovative Solutions for South Asian Cities

**ORIENTATION WEBINAR**

**8 JULY 2025, 4 PM IST**



IN COLLABORATION WITH



The 'Youth for Climate Hackathon' is designed to bring together young minds to develop innovative, scalable, and impactful solutions to the climate crisis. The hackathon is guided by the COP30 Agenda and the ICLEI Pathways, ensuring that creative ideas can evolve into actionable, context-specific projects for the South Asia region.

Under the banner, an Orientation Webinar was conducted on 8 July 2025. With over 600+ applicants, this initial session marked an important milestone in recognising the collective effort to empower the youth to take meaningful climate action through innovation and collaboration.

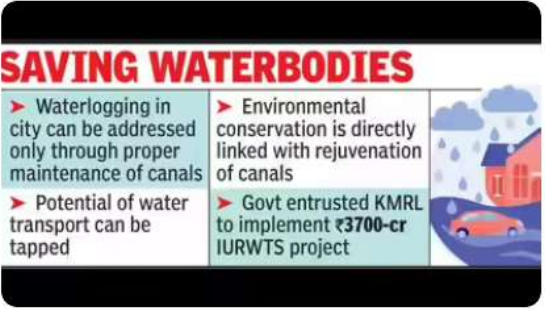
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## HOT OFF THE PRESS

**Kochi corp designs Rs 100-cr project to renovate Pandarachira Canal**

Jun 19, 2025, 03:38 IST

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**SAVING WATERBODIES**

- Waterlogging in city can be addressed only through proper maintenance of canals
- Potential of water transport can be tapped
- Environmental conservation is directly linked with rejuvenation of canals
- Govt entrusted KMRL to implement ₹3700-cr IURWTS project

Kochi: Kochi corporation designed a Rs 100 crore project to rejuvenate Pandarachira Canal in West Kochi. The project is funded by Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), an international agency that works to build resilience in coastal communities and ecosystems.

Project to rejuvenate the canal, which passes through several divisions, will help address waterlogging in West Kochi area. "Integrated Urban Regeneration and Water Transport System (IURWTS) project to rejuvenate six major canals in Kochi city is being implemented under the leadership of state govt. The plan involves removing silt from canals, constructing walls, implementing sewage system to avoid dumping of faecal waste into these waterbodies, purifying water, improving side roads and installing lights to enhance beauty of the area," mayor M Anilkumar said.

"Canals in West Kochi are not included in this project. In this context, the idea of rejuvenating Pandarachira Canal, one of the main canals in West Kochi region, was proposed and it was decided to implement the project in collaboration with international agencies such as ICLEI South Asia, Bechtel and Swiss Re," Anilkumar said.

The project includes a treatment plant to process polluted water currently flowing into Pandarachira Canal.

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## ICLEI ECO CHAMPS

**LOCAL ACTION MOVES THE WORLD**



**DRIVING CHANGE AT HIGH ALTITUDES, MEMORIES FROM HIMACHAL PRADESH**



**VARSHA PARMAR**  
Project Officer  
ICLEI South Asia

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