



CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

ROLE OF CITIES IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

12 NOVEMBER 2018
WWF-INDIA SECRETARIAT | NEW DELHI

Organised by WWF-India
In partnership with: ICLEI-South Asia

BACKGROUND

Over 54 per cent of the global population lives in cities which is projected to be 60 percent by 2030. Cities currently account for more than half of the global green house gas emissions and about two thirds of global energy use.

Rapid urbanization has posed challenges such as higher energy demand, pollution, unmanaged waste, unsustainable use of natural resources, leading to adverse impacts on the quality of life and sustainability of cities. On the other hand, millions of people residing in cities and urban areas are heavily vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

India has witnessed rapid urbanization in recent years and the trend will continue in future. The country has an urban population of more than 30 per cent currently which is expected to be 40 per cent in 2030. As Indian cities cater to growing populations, they would also be faced with the challenges related to provision of basic necessities such as housing and transport, which would further lead to increased demand for energy and water, higher emissions and waste generation, deteriorating air quality and, associated health impacts

It is therefore imperative for cities to play a larger role in countering the challenges of climate change by integrating low carbon actions and sustainable energy use into local development goals, and simultaneously strive towards climate resilient growth and planning. Climate smart planning in cities will determine the extent and impact of climate change, and the ability to achieve emission reductions as well as the capacity to adapt to changing circumstances.

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GLOBAL POPULATION
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BY 2030

CITIES ACCOUNT
FOR OVER

50%

GLOBAL GHG
EMISSIONS

Globally, several cities are driving change by integrating low carbon actions into local development goals, and simultaneously mainstreaming climate resilient growth. Several Indian cities are also a part of this transition and have exemplified their role in addressing climate change. In order to sustain this momentum there is a need to recognize cities that are leading the shift towards a climate-resilient future, and stimulate the development and wider dissemination of best practices.

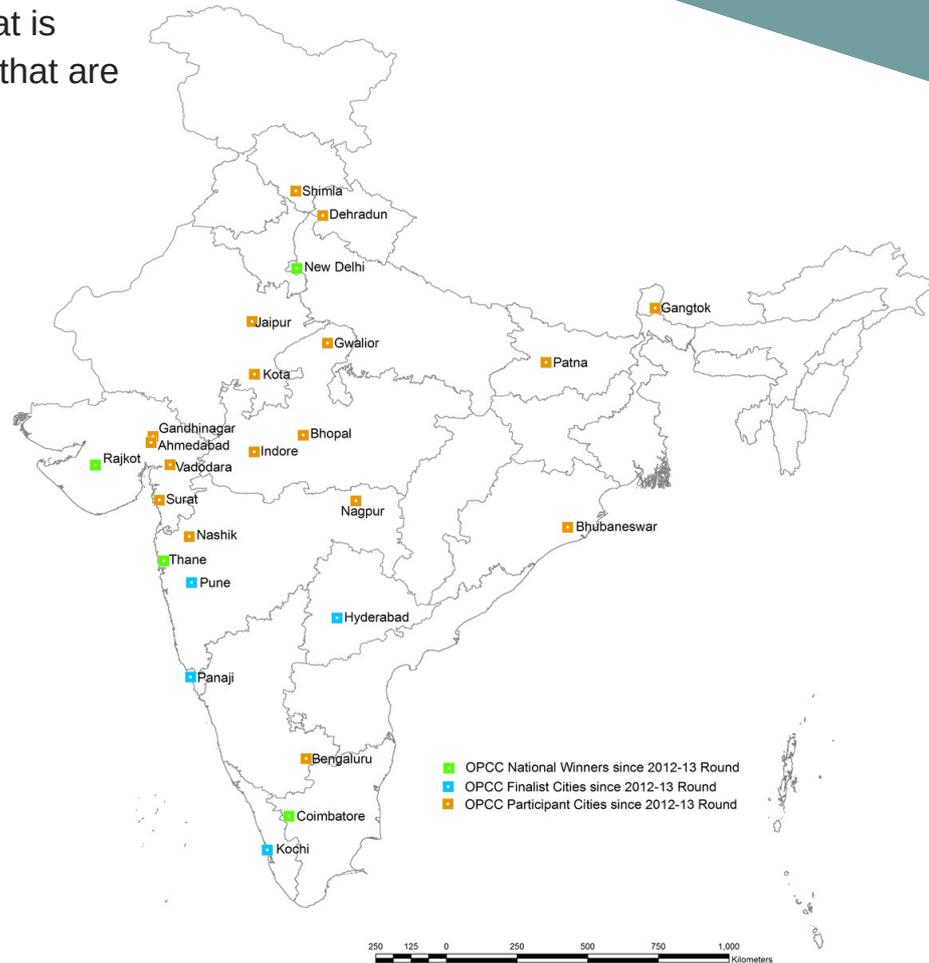
WWF's global initiative for cities – One Planet City Challenge (OPCC) aims to mobilise action and support from cities in the global transition towards a climate friendly future, and to stimulate ambitious plans for low carbon development, as well as enhancing the use of sustainable, renewable and energy efficient solutions.

OPCC is a global biennial challenge that is designed to highlight and reward cities that are willing and prepared to make substantial long-term efforts towards sustainability and resilience. The platform also aims at inspiring and supporting cities to become climate-smart and sustainable solution hotspots.

Indian cities have participated in OPCC since 2012 and the India chapter has been engaging with the cities by providing increased support and capacity building in scaling up their climate actions by addressing the barriers for integration of a climate focus into the cities' policies, action plans and urban planning. WWF-India has been partnering with ICLEI-SA for the Indian chapter of OPCC.

Over the years, 24 cities from across 14 states have been part of the city challenge in India. New Delhi, Coimbatore, Thane, and Rajkot have been National Earth Hour Capitals previously.

In OPCC 2017-18, Panaji, Pune and Rajkot were among the 40 finalist cities from across 23 participating countries. Rajkot emerged as the National Winner from India in 2018 for the second time. Pune received a special mention from the international jury for its climate action and sustainability efforts. The three cities stood out for their impressive low carbon plans and actions across sectors.



Through the OPCC platform, WWF-India engages with multiple stakeholders including the policy makers, city corporations as well as the citizens to sensitize them to climate change issues and mobilize climate actions. The programme aims to strengthen networking amongst different stakeholders, both at the local and national level, to foster knowledge sharing, best practices, and partnerships to mainstream climate action in city level development planning.

In continuation of these efforts, WWF-India in partnership with ICLEI-SA organized a **Conference on “Role of cities in addressing climate change”** on **12 November 2018** in New Delhi.

Read the latest publication for details on the
One Planet City Challenge - Overview and Best Practices



Full document available [here](#).



Conference on

ROLE OF CITIES IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

12 November 2018
New Delhi



OBJECTIVES

- To provide cities a platform for deliberation on their role in addressing climate change from a mitigation and resilience perspective, as well as related issues of air pollution and health.
- To deliberate on policy aspects related to mainstreaming of climate change issues in cities, and their linkages to the national Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) goals.
- To facilitate networking amongst different stakeholders, both at the local and national level, to foster knowledge sharing, disseminate best practices, and build partnerships.

STAKEHOLDERS

Cities, government, think tanks, financial institutions, urban experts, civil society.

INAUGURAL SESSION

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India graced the event as the Chief Guest. Mr. Shyam Saran, Trustee, WWF-India & Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India, Mr. Ravi Singh, SG & CEO, WWF-India, and Mr. Emani Kumar, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI & Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia also addressed the gathering during the inaugural session.



In pictures (L-R) : Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India ; Mr. Shyam Saran, Trustee, WWF-India & Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India; Mr. Ravi Singh, SG & CEO, WWF-India; and Mr. Emani Kumar, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI & Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia during the inaugural session

The inaugural session laid emphasis on the role of different tiers of governments, civil societies, think tanks and financial institutions to deal with climate change and endeavor on sustainable pathways. Speakers highlighted that the role of cities in addressing climate change has been recognized world over, for instance, Habitat III adopted New Urban Agenda, which resolves to enable different tiers of governance – national level, sub-national level and local governments to be able to take the sustainable pathways. This signifies the importance of actions taken by cities in contribution to mitigation. It was clearly brought out in the session that cities must learn to adapt as climate change presents new realities today, which would gradually intensify with the passage of time. Adaptation must not limit to systems and infrastructure, but must also entail altering consumption and production patterns of cities. Therefore, in pursuance to environmental management and addressing climate change, collective actions are required from all sectors of the society, common citizens, corporates, civil society organizations and government institutions. For achieving this goal, organizations such as WWF have a key role in synthesizing and communicating the impacts of climate change to different stakeholders.

“

Organisations such as ours have an important role in effectively communicating impacts of climate change and the importance of ecological sustainability to both institutions and citizens. This contributes to knowledge led understanding of actions that may be carried out in a positive and sustainable manner. The present work on cities is in that direction.

”

- Mr. Ravi Singh, SG & CEO, WWF-India

Mr. Shyam Saran, Mr. Ravi Singh, and Mr. Emani Kumar also joined the Hon'ble Minister in felicitating **Rajkot** as the **National OPCC Winner 2018** and **Pune** as a **Special Jury Mention**.



In pictures: L-R : Mr. Chetan Kirit Nandani, Deputy Commissioner, Rajkot Municipal Corporation and Mr. Uday Kangad, Chairman Standing Committee, Rajkot Municipal Corporation received the felicitation from the Hon'ble Minister, and Mr. Mangesh Dighe, Executive Engineer (Environment), Pune Municipal Corporation received the felicitation by the Hon'ble Minister.

“

The New Urban Agenda resolves to enable national, sub-national and local governments along with other stakeholders to achieve sustainable urban development. The future of climate action is therefore in our cities. The Government of India is focusing on the transformation and rejuvenation of cities through various schemes and programmes which have a thrust on promoting smart solutions that can make cities climate resilient and sustainable. Environmental management and climate change require collective action from all sectors of the society, organisations and government institutions.

”

**- Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C),
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India**

SESSION 1: PANEL DISCUSSION ON “CITIES AS STAKEHOLDERS IN THE GLOBAL CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA”

The session deliberated on the potential contribution of cities in climate action at the national and global level with specific examples from the energy, buildings, and transport sectors.



In pictures (L-R) : Dr. Suchismita Mukhopadhyay , Associate Director, Climate Change and Energy Programme, WWF-India (moderator), Ms. Mili Majumdar, Managing Director, GBCI India, Mr. Amit Bhatt, Director – Integrated Urban Transport, WRI India and Ms. Sainingpuii Chhakchhuak, Director, Gujarat Energy Development Agency, during the panel discussion.

Key Discussions:

Cities are not just problem spaces which are responsible for 70% of GHG emissions, but also get immensely impacted by extreme weather events associated with the changing climate world over. Cities also offer innovative solutions by providing and adopting mitigation and adaptation measures which in the long term can contribute to the national and global climate agenda.

Adopting green building measures, sustainable transport, and transition to energy efficiency and renewable energy are key elements of a climate smart city with reduced GHG emissions and climate resilience. Infrastructure built today has a life span of 30-75 years, therefore planning and designing of infrastructure in cities today must be smart and resilient, else our investments are locked in for a long period. There are various rating systems, such as LEED for cities - which provide guidelines and can help cities in socio-economic and environmental advancement. Several cities have taken progressive climate actions, but these efforts need to be replicated for greater awareness and inclusiveness in bringing other cities up to speed.

There is a need for further empowerment at the local government level to enable better implementation of actions and plans. Besides engaging with cities and building their capacities and awareness, there is a need to drive collaboration and synergy between various departments to achieve desired results and greater overall impact. Citizens play a significant role and can contribute immensely to a city's climate related efforts and interventions. Therefore, the community at large should be well informed and a participatory approach should be adopted to influence behaviours and lifestyle choices. All urban stakeholders will have to share and contribute to a common vision to achieve climate friendly and sustainable future for the city and consequently help meet and enhance the country's climate ambition.

SESSION 2: PANEL DISCUSSION ON "CLIMATE ACTIONS IN CITIES – MITIGATION"

The aim of this session was to highlight the linkages between climate change mitigation and urban planning, and present cases from cities which have taken aggressive low carbon actions and achieved outcomes to showcase. The cities of Rajkot (National Winner OPCC 2018), Pune (Special Mention OPCC 2018), Thane (National Winner OPCC 2015), Coimbatore (National Winner EHCC 2014) Nagpur (OPCC city), and Chandigarh showcased their progressive low carbon actions and plans in different sectors.



In pictures (L-R) : Mr. N.P. Sharma, GM (Technical), Chandigarh Smart City Limited, Mr. Mangesh Dighe, Executive Engineer (Environment), Pune Municipal Corporation, Mr. Devendra Mahajan, GM (Environment Division), Nagpur Smart and Sustainable City Development Corporation Limited, Mr. Chetan Kirit Nandani, Deputy Commissioner, Rajkot Municipal Corporation, Ms. Parul Agarwala, Regional Urban Adviser (Asia and Pacific Region), UNHABITAT and Mr. Emani Kumar, ICLEI-SA (moderator) during the panel discussion.

In this session moderated by ICLEI-SA, results from Phase I of the Urban-LEDS project, supported by European Commission and implemented by ICLEI and UNHABITAT were discussed. The city representatives also highlighted some of the key initiatives undertaken by the cities. These included:

Rajkot:

- Widespread installation of solar roof top system.
- Replacement of conventional lamps with energy efficient LED lamps for street lighting, government buildings, community halls, and hospitals.
- Installation of energy efficient water pumps for domestic water distribution.



Pune:

- Conversion of auto rickshaws to use cleaner fuels (diesel to CNG).
- Operationalisation of high tech command centre for controlling the Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS).
- Widening of footpaths for encouraging use by pedestrians.
- Installation of solar water heating systems in hospitals and public buildings.
- Encouraging the use of sustainable means of transport including public transport and non-motorised transport. The city has over 4 lakh registered users of the bike sharing facility.
- New initiative of calculating carbon sequestered from trees within the city limits.



Nagpur:

- Installation of solar roof top on public buildings.
- Potential of over 27 MW of roof top solar system identified in government buildings.
- Installation of LED streetlights, energy efficient ceiling fans and LED lights in public buildings.
- Promoting use of e-rickshaws and e-buses.
- Encouraging rain water harvesting and adoption of green building codes in real estate.



Chandigarh:



- Installation of 16 MW of solar rooftop in government buildings (including school, colleges, hospitals, community centres etc).
- 15 MW of solar panels installed above water storage tanks.
- Public bike sharing stations proposed at 17 key locations within the city and 5000 bikes to be launched initially and to be scaled up to 30,000. Chandigarh has high per capita vehicles and city administration is trying to transform this scenario by moving towards sustainable means of transport.
- Installation of smart water meters to monitor water consumption in households.
- Replacement and installation of 40,000 LED streetlights leading to reduction of load by 4.5 MW.

SESSION 3: PANEL DISCUSSION ON “INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND AIR POLLUTION IN CITIES”

This session aimed at facilitating deliberation on the linkage between climate change and air pollution, with an emphasis on the impacts, challenges, and opportunities for possible integrated approaches for addressing climate change and air pollution.



In pictures (L-R) : Dr. T.S. Panwar, Director- Climate Change and Energy, WWF-India (moderator), Ms. Seema Arora, Deputy Director General, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Former Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GOI, Prof. Gufran Beig, Project Director, SAFAR & Scientist –G, IITM, Ministry of Earth Sciences, GOI and Dr. Sumit Sharma, Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI during the panel discussion.

The discussions in this session were mainly focused on understanding the inter linkage between air-pollution and climate change, suggesting approaches to tackle air pollution, and the direct and indirect benefits of implementing air pollution management practices. The cause and effect relation between air pollution and climate change was illustrated using the example of Short Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs) like surface level ozone, methane and, black carbon that contribute to climate change which in turn contributes to worsening air pollution. According to a study by SAFAR titled “High Resolution Emission Inventory of 8 Pollutants for Delhi+ Fringe Areas- 2018” the major contributors to pollution in Delhi are transport (40 per cent), followed by industry (22 per cent) and suspended dust (18 per cent). Transport and industry are also sources of fossil fuel emissions leading to climate change, further reinforcing the need for interconnected approaches to address air pollution and climate change. The need for integration of horizontal and vertical policy making was also highlighted. Air pollution can be addressed at multiple levels - national, state and city. For example, at the national level - improvements in fuel quality introducing Euro VI norms, at the state level - pollution control boards can ensure better enforcement to curb polluting industries, and at the local / city level - biomass burning can be curtailed by efficient solid waste management. Since transport and agriculture are key contributors to pollutants, behavioral changes and interventions are also required for these sectors. Air pollution has to be looked at from a health, environment, climate, social as well as economic lens. The following actions were found to be critical for air quality management planning:

- Policies encouraging a shift from private to public transport to drive sustainable mobility planning and projects.
- Promoting agriculture residue management practices that avoid burning in open fields.
- Modernizing the vehicle fleet, starting with introduction of BS VI norms from the year 2020.
- Encouraging and incentivising electric vehicles to increase their share and acceptance in the market.

It was also clearly stated that the significance of adopting sustainable actions is evident from the fact that if India meets its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), its co-benefit results would lead to decrease in PM2.5 by 13 per cent, surface level ozone by 3 per cent, mortalities by 11 per cent and decrease in wheat productivity loss by 7%. This clearly highlights the strong linkage between air pollution and climate change, thus underlining the importance of adopting an integrated approach in addressing both the issues by bringing together multiple stakeholders.

SESSION 4: PANEL DISCUSSION ON “CLIMATE RESILIENT CITIES”

Panelists in this session delved upon the challenges, the economic case for climate resilient planning in cities, and success stories.



In pictures (L-R) : Dr. Sejal Worah, Programme Director, WWF-India (moderator), Mr. Kamlesh Yagnik, Chief Resilience Officer-Surat, Dr. Umamaheshwaran Rajasekar, Chair – Urban Resilience, NIUA, Dr. S.D.Attri, Dy Director General of Meteorology, Indian Meteorological Department, GOI, Dr. Jyoti Parikh, Executive Director, IRADe, Mr. Chandan Bhavnani, EVP – Responsible Banking, Yes Bank

Key Discussions: The deliberations during the panel discussion brought out the fact that cities can move towards climate resilience through learning from past calamities, networking and knowledge sharing with other cities. Surat is a classic example which progressed on the path of resilience by learning from epidemic and disasters along with being part of networks like Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) which lead the city to prepare a Climate Change Resilience Strategy. Moving ahead the city institutionalized resilience efforts by forming Surat Climate Change Trust, appointing a Chief Resilience Officer, and allocating budgets under climate change. However, the short tenure of city administration is one of the challenges in ensuring implementation of sustainable actions in the long run. Therefore, it is important for urban local bodies to build internal capacities to achieve the integration of climate resilience into development planning at the city level. There is a need for better management of data within the city and to initiate data based planning with different departments working in synergy. City level ERP system/ integration of data from different departments will help in better decision making at city level, thus reducing the preparation time (pre-disaster) and response time (post disaster). To further ensure that climate resilience is mainstreamed in infrastructure development, climate change and resilience aspects should be included in RFPs and tenders. Forecasting and pre disaster planning is crucial and there is a need to develop multiple risk based tools to help integrate climate change in city level master plans. Cities must explore innovative financing models like rupee denominated Green Bonds and CSR funds, which can help them raise funds to develop climate resilient infrastructure.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Cities are taking climate actions, but need to align with national goals to enhance the contribution of cities in the climate discourse. International agendas such as Paris agreement, SDGs, New Urban Agenda, etc., provide opportunities and possible directions to cities in driving their local climate and sustainability agenda.
- There is an urgent need to integrate and institutionalize climate actions into development planning in cities which requires better consultation & strategic thinking between national, state, and local governments. Enhanced interaction between urban stakeholders such as policy makers, implementation agencies, NGOs, and citizens can enable sharing of best practices and help forge partnerships to facilitate climate smart cities. In addition, city departments need to collaborate and share information for informed decision making and better implementation.
- Cities need to mainstream climate realities in city specific programmes and schemes at the outset by including it as part of RFPs and tenders. There is a need to support cities in building capacities on climate change, as well as providing tools for integrating climate resilience in infrastructure development.
- There is an economic case to enhance resilience of cities through pre-disaster planning and preparedness along with forecasting, thus reducing losses and damages.
- There is also a need for developing integrated strategies and policies to address climate change and air pollution not just from an environment, climate and health perspective but also from social and economic lens.
- Citizen participation is the key to drive successful implementation of climate actions and civil society plays an important role in effectively communicating the impacts of climate change and the importance of ecological sustainability to both institutions and citizens.
- Platforms like One Planet City Challenge provide the opportunity for cities to create a repository of their climate related data, actions, and plans. Such platforms also provide the opportunity to put the city on the global map, as well as learn from national, regional, and global best practices.

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

- ACT - Oxford Policy Management
- Carbon Minus India (CMI)
- Central University of Gujarat
- Centre for Chronic Disease Control, PHFI
- Centre for Environmental Health, PHFI
- Centre for Policy Research
- Chandigarh Smart City Limited
- CII
- Climate Change Department, Govt of Gujarat
- CMS Vatavaran
- CRISIL
- CRO-Surat
- CURE
- DFID
- Embassy of Sweden
- Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)
- Everain Global Services
- GBCI India
- India Meteorological Department, GOI
- Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)
- Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
- Institute for Sustainable Communities
- IORA Ecological Solutions
- IPE Global Pvt Ltd
- IRADe
- Jamia Millia Islamia University
- JNU
- Kochi Municipal Corporation
- Manorama Occult Publication
- Mercados
- Nagpur Smart & Sustainable City Development Corporation
- National Institute for Smart Government (NISG)
- National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
- OSC EHS+ Center- India - Institute for Sustainable Communities
- Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Gandhinagar
- Pune Municipal Corporation
- Rajkot Municipal Corporation
- Royal Danish Embassy
- SayTrees
- School of Environmental Sciences, JNU
- School of Planning and Architecture
- South Delhi Municipal Corporation
- Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS)
- Sunrise Infrastructure Services
- TARU Leading Edge
- TERI
- Thane Municipal Corporation
- The Climate Reality Project India
- The Outdoor Journal
- Tide Technocrats Pvt Ltd
- Think Through Consulting (TTC)
- UNDP
- UNEP
- UN-HABITAT
- UNIDO
- VERCOS
- Wildlife Institute of India
- World Bank
- WRI
- Yes Bank

Climate smart city development imperative for sustainable urbanization

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A conference organized by WWF-India in partnership with ICLEI-SA, highlighted the need to integrate climate action into development planning in cities and the importance of a collaborative approach towards mainstreaming climate issues across different initiatives with an intrinsic role being played by the citizens to drive this change

New Delhi: A conference on 'Role of Cities in Addressing Climate Change', organized by WWF-India in partnership with ICLEI-SA on 12th November 2018 in New Delhi, deliberated on the role that the cities play in addressing climate change, from a mitigation and resilience perspective. The conference was inaugurated by, Sh. Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, and saw participation from key stakeholders including representatives of central and state governments, city municipal corporations, financial institutions, multilateral organisations, research institutes, think tanks, and NGOs. The conference was part of WWF-India's work on cities and climate change, and the One Planet City Challenge (OPCC) platform. The city of Rajkot was felicitated during the conference as the OPCC National

Thrust on promoting smart solutions to make cities climate resilient and sustainable: Puri

PTI November 13, 2018

New Delhi, Nov 13 (PTI) The Centre is focusing on the transformation and rejuvenation of cities through various schemes and programmes with a thrust on promoting smart solutions that can make cities climate resilient and sustainable, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has said. Speaking at a conference on 'Role of Cities in Addressing Climate Change', organised by WWF-India in partnership with ICLEI-SA on Monday, Puri said environmental management and climate change require collective action from all sectors of the society, organisations and government institutions. According to an official statement issued by WWF-India, the Housing and Urban Affairs Minister said that the new urban agenda resolves to enable national, sub-national and local governments along with other stakeholders to achieve sustainable urban development. "The Government of India is focusing on the transformation and rejuvenation of cities through various schemes and programmes which have a thrust on promoting smart solutions that can make cities climate resilient and sustainable," the statement quoted Puri as saying in the conference. The statement said that cities, which are home to over half of the global population and responsible for more than 70 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, manifested through frequent and extreme

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Thrust on promoting smart solutions to make cities climate resilient and sustainable Puri

PTI | November 13, 2018 20:24 IST

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"The Government of India is focusing on the transformation and rejuvenation of cities through various schemes and programmes which have a thrust on promoting smart solutions that can make cities climate resilient and sustainable," the statement quoted Puri as saying in the conference.

TWITTERATI CORNER

WWF-India @WWFINDIA · Nov 2
 How are #cities addressing climate change from a mitigation and resilience perspective? To know more, join the conference on "Role of Cities in Addressing Climate Change" organised by WWF-India in partnership with ICLEI-SA. Register here: bit.ly/2Qb8g6P @ICLEISouthAsia



WWF-India @WWFINDIA · Nov 12
 "Cities will be at the frontline to solve the world's challenges" says Shyam Saran, Trustee, WWF-India and former Foreign Secretary, GOI #CitiesAgainstClimateChange @ICLEISouthAsia



WWF-India @WWFINDIA · Nov 12
 "70% of the India of 2030 still needs to be built. So we have the chance to get it right and make it #green and resilient." Says Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State @MoHUA_India @WWFCities @ICLEISouthAsia #CitiesAgainstClimateChange



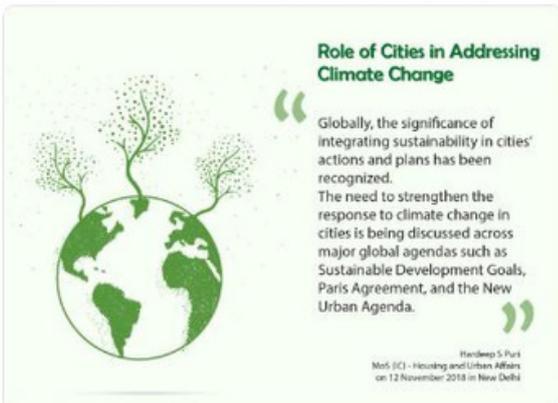
MoHUA @MoHUA_India · Nov 12
 "It's imperative for cities to play a larger role in countering the challenges of climate change by integrating low carbon actions & sustainable energy use into local development goals" - MoS H&UA @HardeepSPuri at the Conference on Role of Cities in Addressing Climate Change.



Climate Reality India @ctrpindia · Nov 12
 Looking forward to interesting discussion today @MoHUA_India @ICLEISouthAsia @WWFINDIA @emanibvkumar



MoHUA @MoHUA_India · Nov 12
 "The need to strengthen the response to climate change in cities is being discussed across major global agendas such as Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Agreement, and the New Urban Agenda." - MoS H&UA @HardeepSPuri



ICLEI South Asia @ICLEISouthAsia · Nov 12
 City of #Rajkot receives the #OnePlanetCityChallenge national award while #Pune city gets a special mention by Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State, @MoHUA_India, Govt. of India.



AGENDA



INAUGURAL

10:00 – 11:00

- Welcome Remarks by Mr Ravi Singh, SG & CEO, WWF-India
- Special remarks by Mr Shyam Saran, Trustee, WWF-India & Former Foreign Secretary, GOI
- Felicitations of One Planet City Challenge National Winner (Rajkot) and Special Mention (Pune)
- Address by Chief Guest, Mr Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India
- Closing remarks by Mr Emani Kumar, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI & Executive Director, ICLEI SA

SESSION 1

11:20 – 12:30 | **Panel Discussion : Cities as stakeholder in the Global Climate & Sustainability agenda**

Globally, the need to strengthen the response to climate change in cities is being discussed across major global agendas such as Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Agreement, and the New Urban Agenda. On their part, cities are increasingly taking on a pioneering role in integrating sustainability in their actions and plans to secure a better future for citizens. The global momentum for climate action in cities needs to be replicated to enable Indian cities to be agents for transformational change and contributors to the realization of national climate goals.

This panel discussion focused on the opportunities offered through these international agendas for Indian cities to lead climate action globally and nationally.

Panelists:

Moderator: Dr. Suchismita Mukhopadhyay, WWF-India

Dr. Jennifer Lenhart, Global Lead - One Planet Cities, WWF Sweden (virtual presentation)

Ms. Mili Majumdar, Managing Director, GBCI India

Ms Saindingpuii Chhakchhuak, Director, Gujarat Energy Development Agency

Mr. Amit Bhatt, Director – Integrated Urban Transport, WRI India

SESSION 2

12:30 – 13:40 | **Climate Action in Cities - Mitigation**

The future of climate action is in our cities. It is imperative for cities to play a larger role in countering the challenges of climate change by integrating low carbon actions and sustainable energy use into local development goals, and simultaneously strive towards climate resilient growth and planning. This session presented case studies from cities that have walked the extra mile towards climate smart planning and have tangible low carbon actions and outcomes to showcase.

Context setting on climate action in cities- Urban LEDS by Ms. Soumya Chaturvedula, Dy. Director, ICLEI-SA
Panelists:

Moderator: Mr. Emani Kumar, Executive Director, ICLEI-South Asia

Mr. Chetan Kirit Nandani, Deputy Commissioner, Rajkot Municipal Corporation

Mr. Sameer Unhale, Additional Commissioner, Thane Municipal Corporation (virtual talk)

Mr. Mangesh Dighe, Executive Engineer (Environment), Pune Municipal Corporation

Mr. Devendra Mahajan, GM (Environment Division), Nagpur Smart and Sustainable City Development Corp. Ltd.

Mr. N.P. Sharma, GM (Technical), Chandigarh Smart City Limited

Ms. Parul Agarwala, Regional Urban Adviser (Asia and Pacific Region), UN HABITAT



SESSION 3

14:30 – 15:40 | **Panel Discussion : Integrated Approaches to Address Climate Change and Air Pollution in Cities**

Climate change and air pollution are often addressed as independent issues. The former focusing on reduction of greenhouse gas emissions globally and nationally, and the latter in terms of improving air quality locally in cities. In recent times, public health concerns due to deteriorating air quality have been a major challenge for cities. Fossil fuel based electricity generation, transport and biomass burning are common contributors to climate change as well as poor air quality.

Therefore, developing integrated strategies and policies to address both these issues can have long-term benefits for environment, health and addressing climate change. Solutions for controlling air pollution would facilitate better quality of living and health for citizens, and also lead to long term gains in addressing climate change.

This session facilitated a deliberation on the linkage between climate change and air pollution, with an emphasis on the impacts, challenges, and opportunities for possible integrated approaches for addressing climate change and air pollution.

Panelists:

Moderator: Dr T.S. Panwar, Director, Climate Change and Energy Programme, WWF-India

Dr Prodipto Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow, TERI

Prof. Gufran Beig, Project Director, SAFAR & Scientist – G, IITM, Ministry of Earth Sciences, GoI

Ms. Seema Arora, Deputy Director General, CII

Dr. Sumit Sharma, Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI

SESSION 4

16:00 – 17:10 |
Panel Discussion : Climate Resilient Cities

Increased intensity and frequency of natural hazards such as heat, floods, drought, storms, and sea level rise can disrupt urban economies and infrastructure, and exacerbate the problems related to rapid urbanizations such as greater energy demand, water scarcity, and adverse health impacts. Hence, cities need to align existing vulnerability and risk assessments with climate resilience efforts. Sustainable development planning in cities would require taking into consideration environmental and climate concerns. Panelists in this session delved upon the challenges, the economic case for climate resilient planning, and success stories.

Panelists:

Moderator: Dr. Sejal Worah, Programme Director, WWF-India

Prof. Jyoti Parikh, Executive Director, IRADe

Dr S. D Attri, Deputy Director General of Meteorology, Indian Meteorological Department, Govt. of India

Mr Kamlesh Yagnik, Chief Resilience Officer, Surat

Mr Umamaheshwaran Rajasekar, Chair – Urban Resilience, National Institute of Urban Affairs

Mr Chandan Bhavnani, Executive Vice President – Responsible Banking, Yes Bank

SUMMARY AND CLOSING REMARKS

By WWF-India

17:10 – 17:30



For more details contact:

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