











ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework

Advisory on City Climate Alliance ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework

Developed by

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India

In collaboration with GIZ India





Climate Smart Cities Project and National Institute of Urban Affairs



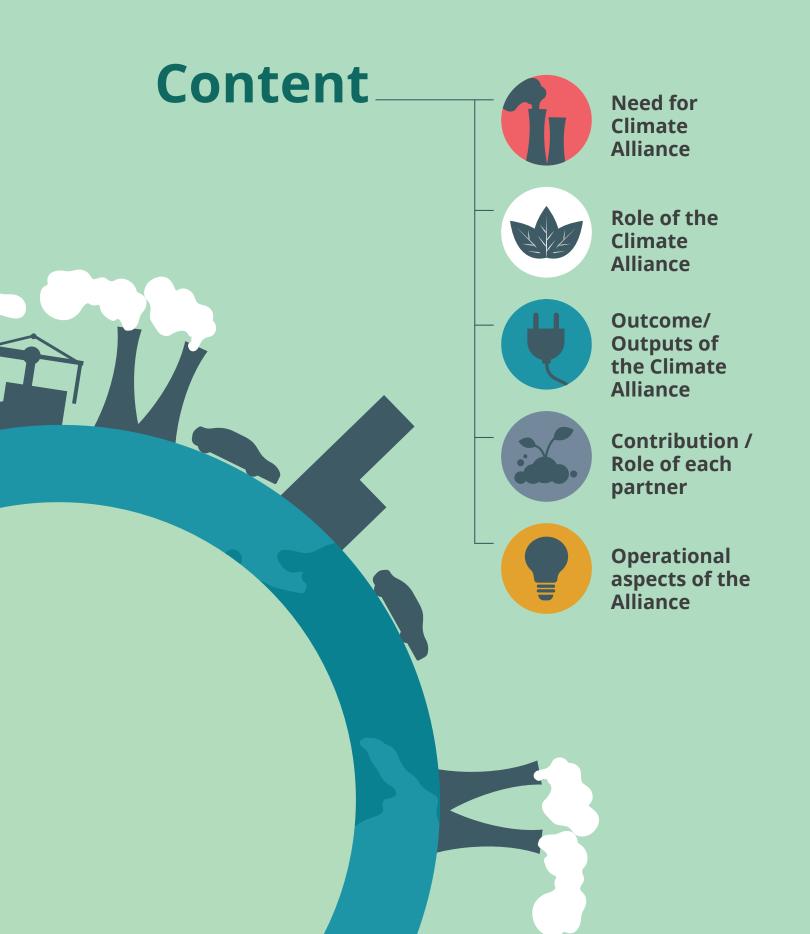
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Background

The Government of India's "Smart City Mission", launched in 2015, focuses on the entire urban ecosystem, namely, Liveability, Economic-ability and Sustainability. All the 100 smart cities face multiple challenges, comprising among others: adequate water supply, efficient public transport, assured electricity supply, safety and security, affordable housing and good governance. Therefore, in keeping with the Mission's approach, the indices & frameworks used to measure the development of institutional, physical and economic infrastructure also has to be wholistic and smart. To assess the liveability of cities, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs developed the Liveability Index, and the Municipal Performance Index captures aspects of the Economic-ability of cities.

For Sustainability, (especially climate resilience), the Ministry has initiated the "ClimateSMART Cities Assessment Framework" (CSC AF) as a step towards wholistic, climate responsive development. The objective of the CSCAF is to provide a clear roadmap for the cities and in effect, urban India as a whole, towards combating Climate Change (mitigation and adaptation) while planning their actions including investments. The first round of assessment for this framework for the 100 Smart Cities was carried out in July 2019 through the SPVs of the Smart City Mission in each of the cities, with support from various city and state level agencies.

Need for Climate Alliance

Purpose:

This Advisory is part of a series of guidance documents for cities to take tangible steps to improve their performance with respect to climate change (mitigation and adaptation). Understanding that climate change impacts are cross-cutting and complex, and steps towards their improvement need to be broad-based and with short-medium and long-term planning. This advisory aims to broad base a city's efforts towards climate awareness, planning & action, and ensure its overall sustainability for posterity through a participatory approach of relevant stakeholders. Improvements in the assessment would be a by-product of such an endeavour.

Objective:

Cities are advised to form a "Climate Alliance" for their cities, which will bring together the diverse skills, strengths and resources required for planned Climate action with the CSC AF providing the indicators for measuring progress.

Role of the Climate Alliance

The MoHUA envisages that Climate Alliance becomes a platform for advising on all actions linked with climate and sustainability in the city. The key goals of the Climate Alliance could be the following, but not limited to:

- Planning a strategy for the city for overcoming the gaps identified through the ClimateSmart Cities
 Assessment Framework exercise
- Identification of relevant projects and innovative practices for implementation on a short, medium and long terms basis budgeting for climate action in the city through different sources including active participation of various public and private stakeholders in the city
- Support data generation, its availability and reporting through various indices and frameworks
- Oversight on implementation of ongoing projects which impact the climate indicators
- Ensuring alignment with various city plans- both existing and under preparation

- Coordination between the various agencies involved
- Single point of contact for all climate action
- Become the repository for all knowledge linked to climate action in the city
- Monitoring progress on the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework
- Advising the Municipal Authority and designated responsible officer for regular reporting on the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework

Outcome/Outputs of the Climate Alliance

What can constitute a Climate Alliance?

	Partners in a Climate Alliance
1.	Universities; specially those working in the fields of Climate Change, Environment, Urban development, Governance, and Infrastructure
2.	Research Organisations (or their chapters) in the above fields
3	Technical Non-government organizations and Societies with mandates to work in the above fields
4.	Standards, Rating, Certification, and Audit agencies; such as those for Green Buildings, Water Management etc.
5.	International agencies which have the mandate to advice the city or implement projects with the municipal corporation
6.	Local Chapters of Professional Bodies; such as Institutes of Architects, Planners, Civil Engineers, Environmental Engineers, etc.
7.	Umbrella Organisations in each sector; such as the Chamber of Commerce, Merchant / Traders Association, etc. – including the particular technical expertise required towards Climate Action, viz. manufacturers, vendors, logistics, etc.
8.	Philanthropic Organisations committed to the city's wholistic development
9.	Citizen's Groups such as RWAs, CHSs, Ward-committees, etc. (Elected reps?)
10.	Eminent individuals with experience and expertise (who may no longer be associated with any of the above) – on special invitation by the City Authority
11.	Government entities directly related to the data and actions, viz. the various departments providing main planning, engineering and infrastructure services (whether at State or City level); any enclosed urban villages, neighbouring Municipalities and Development Authorities; and any Special Purpose Vehicles dealing with projects in the city; such as Smart City SPV, Industrial SPVs and other Central / State Missions
12.	The City Authority, who forms the anchor for the Alliance; and has the prerogative to include / invite any other members, that can work in a non-partisan manner for the city (e.g. social & technological innovators, etc.)

Contribution / Role of each partner

Partner	Role				
Chairperson – Mayor / Commissioner (or Head of ULB) or Deputy Commissioner assigned charge of Climate Action	 To review and monitor the progress of the activities related to the CSC AF by various entities To facilitate the process of mainstreaming actions for progress in the CSC AF into the city's authorized & budgeted plans 				
Senior Engineer (executive role in the Alliance)	 To report on the city's overall ongoing actions and their links with the CSC AF To report on upcoming/planned activities and how they are linked to the CSC AF To highlight actions taken to progress on CSC AF To report on the latest status of the city/any progress made in the last assessment cycle To facilitate the process of mainstreaming of Climate Change aspects/ climate-proofing projects within their mandate 				
Responsible Engineers for various departments involved (as required for the meeting), viz. Storm Water Management, Solid Waste Management, Environment, Town Planning, Building Permission, Horticulture, Electrical Department, etc. (executive role in the Alliance)	 To provide information on ongoing work, projects, data and updates To facilitate the process of mainstreaming of Climate Change aspects/ climate-proofing projects within their mandate To provide departmental inputs for progress in CSC AF To surface areas where technical, financial or other expertise is needed for the above, wherein other members of the CA can help To identify training needs within their departments, for sustainability of housing the Climate actions in-house 				
Smart City (executive role in the Alliance)/ other SPVs	 To provide information, data and updates on Smart City projects/ other Mission projects To climate-proof possible projects under their mandate in the planning stage (as per CSC AF indicators) To provide input for progressing on CSC AF 				
Research Organisations/ Universities/Technical NGOs (to be invited depending on the agenda of the meeting)	 To provide technical expertise, research findings, data and updates as per agenda being discussed To support the city administration through pilot studies and pilot projects on pressing climatic impacts, mitigation and adaptation aspects To bring innovation, new technology, new methodologies to the forefront 				

Sector umbrella Organisations/Professional Bodies/Philanthropic Bodies (to be depending on the agenda of the meeting)	 To bring technical and professional knowhow from practice to the forefront To bring learnings from the on ground experience To promote / facilitate/ implement projects in line with the CSC AF indicators 				
Standards, Rating, Certification, and Audit agencies (to be invited depending on the agenda of the meeting)	 To provide technical information, latest updates and details of the rating systems/standards etc linked with the sectors of the CSC AF To share recommendations on how the city can progress on the systems To share relevant learnings/best practices from other cities from India and other countries 				
Special Invitees/Eminent Individuals (to be invited depending on the agenda of the meeting)	 To share experience from their background and work in the field, as per agenda of meeting To suggest recommendations on how the city can plan its actions in order to progress on CSC AF 				
Additional Invitees	Suggested Roles within Climate Alliance (CA)				
State Govt. and Para-statal body representatives e.g. Principal Secretary, Water & Sewerage Boards	 Will participate in special CA meetings where State level issues are to be addressed Will steer the CA in localizing the global goals in line with the State Action Plans on Climate Change and the city's goals as per performance on CSCAF Will facilitate inter-departmental coordination to achieve the objectives of the CSC AF Will communicate the developments within CA to other Government Departments and to Chief Secretary 				

Operational aspects of the Alliance

- The Alliance should meet regularly for status and progress on different aspects. It is suggested that there be monthly meetings (with only executive parts of the alliance) to take stock and remain updated on overall progress, while quarterly/ bi-annual meetings can be on specific focus areas and actions related to them, to limit the members present
- The frequency and number of non-executive meetings in the year can be finalized by the city, as per the number of participants and progress on topics
- The Head of the ULB reports the actions of the Alliance, and particular success and struggles, to the MoHUA on a regular basis

The terms of the Alliance may be finalized by the city individually.