

Capacity Building for Smart Data and Inclusive Cities Year 1 Workshop

4th and 5th February 2019

The workshop held on 4th & 5th February 2019 was initiated with an objective to foster city-to-city networking as well as to document the learning journeys for each of the project cities. The workshop provided a platform to the four project cities, a selection of other urban local authorities and experts in a safe and open space to share experiences, learn from best practices, benefit from peer-to-peer support, and begin working together to find innovative solutions to their local data challenges.

The learning blocks of the workshop was based on working towards a Data Strategy, which was supported by various case study presentations from India and outside. A set of Resource Packs substantially enriched with documentation of global experience, elaborated Smart Cities Frameworks and Management Approaches, Key Elements of a Data Strategy and What's Next. The workshop also made use of the facilitated group exercises to create a useful, hands-on experience for the participants. The site visit to the control & command centre at the Delhi Integrated Multi-Modal Transit System that was used to kick-start the workshop and provided an understanding of the process of data collection and its possible uses based on data analysis, and, helped initiated exchange of ideas between participants from different cities.

In his keynote address, Mr. Kunal Kumar (Joint Secretary and Mission Director Smart Cities), who elaborated the need to assess the present status of our cities, the need for ideating about where we want to lead cities to and the importance of data as a means to achieve this. He also stressed on the need to reducing 'access inequalities' by leveraging data to improve lives across the different sections of citizens. The special address was delivered by Mr. Benoit Sauveroche, (First Counsellor-Communications Networks, Content and Technology, Delegation of the European Union to India), who emphasised the need to make the right technological choices and the need for setting up standards to make this possible, as a means to deliver technologically enhanced services in order to benefit from smart cities. Mr. Shouvik Datta, (Senior Programme Manager, European Union to India) shared his views of numerous issues relevant to the smart cities and provided an insight into the European Union work in India. The panellists emphasised that use of the data is the key for solving new emerging urban problems. The session also highlighted the need for a comprehensive approach for data driven governance is required for effective and efficient urban development.

The issues highlighted during the interactive exercises:

- 1. Lack of interdepartmental coordination** - In the absence of smooth coordination across departments, there is non-availability of extensive data collected by various agencies at a single platform. As a result, cities are unable to facilitate the information flows for data sharing and use this data generated in the planning managing cities.
- 2. Lack of awareness for data strategic plan** - The unavailability of strategy vision document at city level that articulated the use of KPIs prohibits the widespread use of data in the planning process
- 3. Lack of Resources** – The cities lack new skills, mechanisms, technologies, data platforms etc. for data based analytics and information management.
- 4. Restrictive Contractual Agreements** – With the level of dynamism in the city, there is a need to make changes in the contract as required. However, considering the existing

format of the procurement process in cities, it is difficult to retrofit the existing contracts.

As a way forward, the following 4 areas were considered for developing activities with the cities for the second year of the SDIC project:

- 1. Data Management Plan** - While there is a clarity on the data needs and requirements, there is a need to develop strategies for Data Management in SDIC cities.
- 2. Collaborations among departments and across cities** - There is a need for institutionalizing collaborations and streamlining systems of data sharing with clear tasks and responsibilities.
- 3. Capacity Building** – There is a need to focus on capacity building of officials to encourage data based innovations including new attitudes and skills.
- 4. Contract Management** - Contracts are seen as essential components for the successful management of urban development. The preparation of guidelines for active contracts as well as for new contracts is a prerequisite for the foundation for well- managed cities.