

India Climate Dialogues

Perspectives from Thought Leaders



In collaboration with 

India Climate Dialogues

The India Climate Dialogue is a series of dialogues curated by the City Climate Alliance with its partners in an effort to engage and deliberate in meaningful conversations. These dialogues will lead to our ongoing attempt towards providing knowledge, bridging gaps and building capacities that aid climate action in cities. The topics that we deliberate on in these dialogues range from resilience, water management, waste management, urban planning, biodiversity, green and blue infrastructure, energy and mobility among others. We also apply a gender responsive, youth-oriented and inclusive lens while conceptualising these discussions.

City Climate Alliance

The City Climate Alliance is a coalition of partners committed to climate action. Based out of the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), India, the alliance is an aggregator for capturing climate actions, innovations and transitions. The coalition aims at building a partner community for climate action through knowledge sharing and exchanges on national and international platforms. The alliance also contributes to policy acceleration, creating repositories of climate action and supporting capacity building for just climate transitions.



India Climate Dialogues

Perspectives from Thought Leaders

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National Institute of Urban Affairs

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Note

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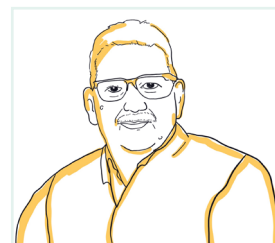
Foreword

India, as a remarkable nation with its diverse ecosystems, vibrant cultural heritage, and thriving urban centers. It finds itself in a unique position when it comes to climate change - not only as a contributor but also as a potential source of innovative solutions.

In this context, fostering dialogue and collaboration among urban stakeholders has become more vital than ever before. By embracing a multidisciplinary approach to addressing climate risks in urban areas, we can magnify the impact of our collective efforts and drive transformative change efficiently.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce this unique report, based on the invaluable discussions and outcomes of the India Climate Dialogues initiated by the City Climate Alliance and its esteemed partners, with support from U20. This book adopts a unique doodle approach to simplify the messages while capturing a wealth of knowledge, insights, and innovative ideas that emerged from the dialogue series facilitated by the alliance partners across various cross-cutting domains that shape our urban landscapes.

I commend the City Climate Alliance and its partners for their unwavering commitment to fostering dialogue and promoting sustainable urban development. As we navigate the complexities of the climate crisis, I urge city leaders, policymakers, and practitioners to approach this book with an open mind and a collaborative spirit.



Hitesh Vaidya
Director,
National Institute of Urban Affairs

Preface

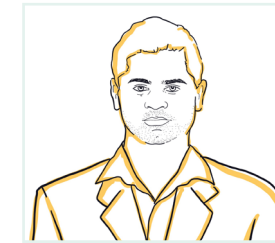
I am delighted to introduce the 'India Climate Dialogues- Perspectives from thought leaders', which uses visual and verbal narratives to bring out the learnings from the India Climate Dialogue series hosted by the partners of the City Climate Alliance at C-CUBE, NIUA.

Through the India Climate Dialogue series, the partner-driven interactions have led to impactful conversations on climate concerns and actions over the past year.

In this dialogue series, which has finished six parts, our partners came together to discuss important issues related to climate. What are the responsibilities that the IPCC report placing on cities? How should capacity building in the climate space needs to be reimagined? What does it mean to look at climate actions through a gendered lens? How are climate action plans(CAPs) being rolled out and what challenges are cities facing? What does and urban river management plan (URMP) entail? How do we incorporate blue and green infrastructure in city development? These, and several such questions were posed and discussed in the first six dialogues.

Through this book, we aim at capturing the collective wisdom and experiences of the alliance's thought leaders.

We are looking at this series to become a catalyst for change, sparking new ideas and transformative actions that will shape the future of our cities that are sustainable, inclusive, and climate-resilient urban environments.



Victor Shinde
Head,
Climate Centre for Cities (C-Cube),
National Institute of Urban Affairs

The India Climate Dialogues is a platform created by the City Climate Alliance, under the National Institute of Urban Affairs, to encourage discussions and collaboration towards addressing climate change in India.

The platform aims to facilitate conversations between policymakers, researchers, civil society organisations, and other stakeholders, on topics such as renewable energy, sustainable transportation, waste management, and urban planning.

The India Climate Dialogues go beyond typical webinars, inviting experts from all corners of the globe to share their ideas, best practices, and innovative solutions. By fostering a community of actors committed to sustainable development and climate action, the platform strives to build a more resilient future for India and beyond.

The City Climate Alliance is a global network of cities, research institutions, and civil society organisations dedicated to addressing climate change and promoting sustainable urban development. Meanwhile, the National Institute of Urban Affairs is a leading research and policy institution in India focused on improving the quality of urban life through research, advocacy, and capacity building. Together, these powerhouses are helping to shape the future of climate action in India and beyond.



#IndiaClimateDialogues

DIALOGUE 1

Decoding the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) for Cities

DIALOGUE 2

Integrating Gender Into the City Climate Agenda

DIALOGUE 3

Capacity Building For Cities—From Training to Action

DIALOGUE 4

City Climate Action Plans: Looking Back and Ahead

DIALOGUE 5

Urban River Management Plans: Governance For Water Security

DIALOGUE 6

Operationalising Nature-Based Solutions in River Cities

1. #IndiaClimateDialogues: Decoding the Intergovernmental Panel for climate change (IPCC) for cities

Date: 31 October, 2022

Moderator: Sayli Mankikar, Director, Policy and Partnerships, Climate Centre for Cities (C-Cube), National Institute of Urban Affairs

About the dialogue

Cities have a very important role to play in the larger scheme of things when it comes to climate plans. Since we are at the tipping point of climate change, action needs to be taken surely and quickly. It is important for cities to step onto a path to create concrete actions that need to be brought in to stay within the 1.5 degree limits. The IPCC report had a clear message that time is running out and cities need to step up because 70% of India's GHG emissions come from them. This is thus, an opportune time to talk about the nuts and bolts which are the 'how's and 'where's of climate action and how cities should go forward on this entire challenge.

What we learnt?

The dialogue unearthed how climate action language needs to be dejargonised to reimagine people's movement in it. The statutory document is an important one bound by policy acts, which can be used to integrate larger actionable points. Big money is not necessary, and change could begin with a small budget by cities themselves, and a small project. It is important to take vertical and horizontal structures like a mesh with sectoral integration. Eventually, it is no secret that we are at the tipping point of climate change, so speed and intent are equally important to match urgency.

Thought provoking bites

"We need new ideas and possible solutions, good practices and urban action plans to address climate change. The key is to make data accessible, form an integrated climate action plan, introduce context specific technology, and build urban planning into the legislative framework."

— Hitesh Vaidya, Director, NIUA

"We need to dejargonise to decarbonise. Communication of the hazards of climate change is very important, in simple language. City master plans should have a few pages on climate change and this can invite the multiple development agencies to create a sustainable plan for urban development."

— Rejeet Mathews, Director, Integrated Urban Development, WRI India

"We need to create win-win situations for cities to act substantially on climate change. If we can link climate change to have a direct impact on their activities, like rising electricity bills, and provide a solution, they will contribute to reducing emissions. Addressing one issue completely can then snowball into bigger actions. We don't need big money. Cities can start with a small budget themselves before looking at states and centre funds."

— Emani Kumar, Director, ICLEI South Asia

"Rapid urbanisation is bringing about ecological changes, in and around urban areas and governance is at the centre of it. While climate action plans can be city-specific, urban centres lack expert entities that can implement the plan. We need multi-level sectoral and governance practices built into the system, alongside sector-to-sector and governance-to-governance level implementation procedures, budgeting lines and mandates."

— Divya Sharma, Executive Director, Climate Group



2. #Indiaclimatedialogues: Integrating Gender into the city climate agenda

Shalini Mishra



How can cities integrate gender perspectives in climate decision making?

- adopting gender mainstreaming
- marginalisation of women in decision-making
- cities must look beyond the obvious
- ULBs need to address all kinds of inequalities

What is the starting point for cities to activate a gender lens in projects?

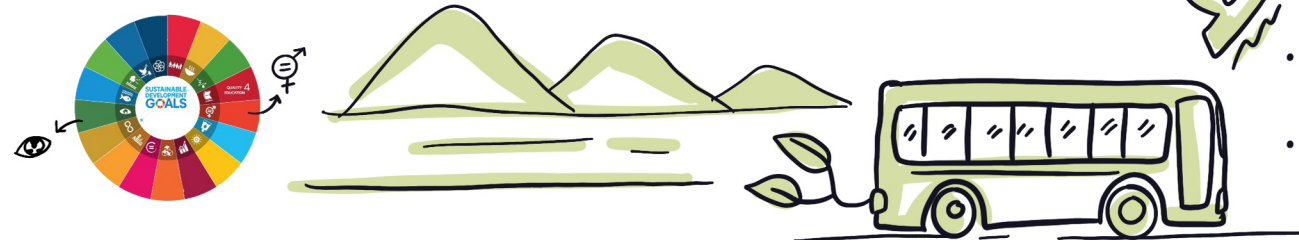
- cross-cutting issues covered by all projects in the program regardless of thematic areas
- Promote gender entry points for SPV's

Krishna Desai

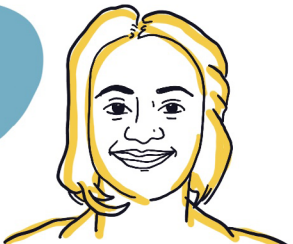


How do you get cities and states to effectively mobilize gender-responsive development?

- Gender equality is one of the SDG goals
- The absence of gender perspective in infrastructural systems is evident
- Enable equal and safe access to all mode of transport



Sonal Shah



How can we change narratives into rights based instead of protection-based approach?

- link quantitative mobility data with gendered unequal roles
- Need to look at mobility data like education, household, caregiving works related trips.
- move beyond gender mainstreaming to a gender transformative approach

What can cities do to include green-blue-grey strategies with a gender lens?

- Regional knowledge sharing technical assistance program for coastal towns of Bangladesh
- Technical assistance program on transit-oriented development and multi-modal integration in Bangalore

Institutionalising the gender lens and consensus for transformation

- Mandating gender lens in the Development plan ensures the implementation
- creating a consultative process to get reservations into the plan
- Making provisions, taking approvals, and dissemination are important processes

Prachi Merchant



Date: 18 November, 2022

Moderator: Sayli Mankikar, Director, Policy and Partnerships, Climate Centre for Cities (C-Cube), National Institute of Urban Affairs

About the dialogue

The effects of climate change are disproportionately felt across the most vulnerable segments of society, which in turn extends beyond socio-economic-cultural-political-institutional marginalisation. However, the gender gap remains firmly unaddressed. The Global Gender Gap Index for 2022, released by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in July 2022, shows that India has slipped to the 135th position globally (out of 146 countries). Women face the brunt of greater climate risks due to their more significant share of responsibility towards unpaid domestic work, agricultural labour and limited access towards reproductive health. To drive collective climate and human development efforts, there is a need to recognise the contribution of women and girls towards building resilience in cities.

What we learnt?

The dialogue revealed how it is important to integrate gender perspectives into climate decision making. To achieve this, it is necessary to mandate the gender lens in any development plan implementation and adopt a coordinated approach through a gender nodal agency to monitor

Thought provoking bites

"The only way to integrate agenda perspective in climate decisions is through adopting gender mainstreaming in every initiative the city takes. Studies show a correlation between gender-based violence and climate change induced changes. Cities have to wear the gender lens and look beyond the obvious when it comes to climate change. They must give equal importance to the vulnerability of a disaster-stricken homeless girl, as well as the number of working days lost for men."
— Shalini Mishra, Social Safeguards and Gender Officer, NIUA

"In urban India and Asia, able-bodied men in the age group of 15–59 years constitute only 1/3 of a population. When infrastructure is designed for this group, you are removing a large section of the population that could be potential regular users of your services. Qualitative data needs to be supported with gendered mobility data that recognises how inequality is reflected in travel. We can have a rights-based approach if we link mobility data with gender unequal roles. It is also possible if we move from gender mainstreaming to a gender transformative approach."

— Sonal Shah, Executive Director, C-SEC

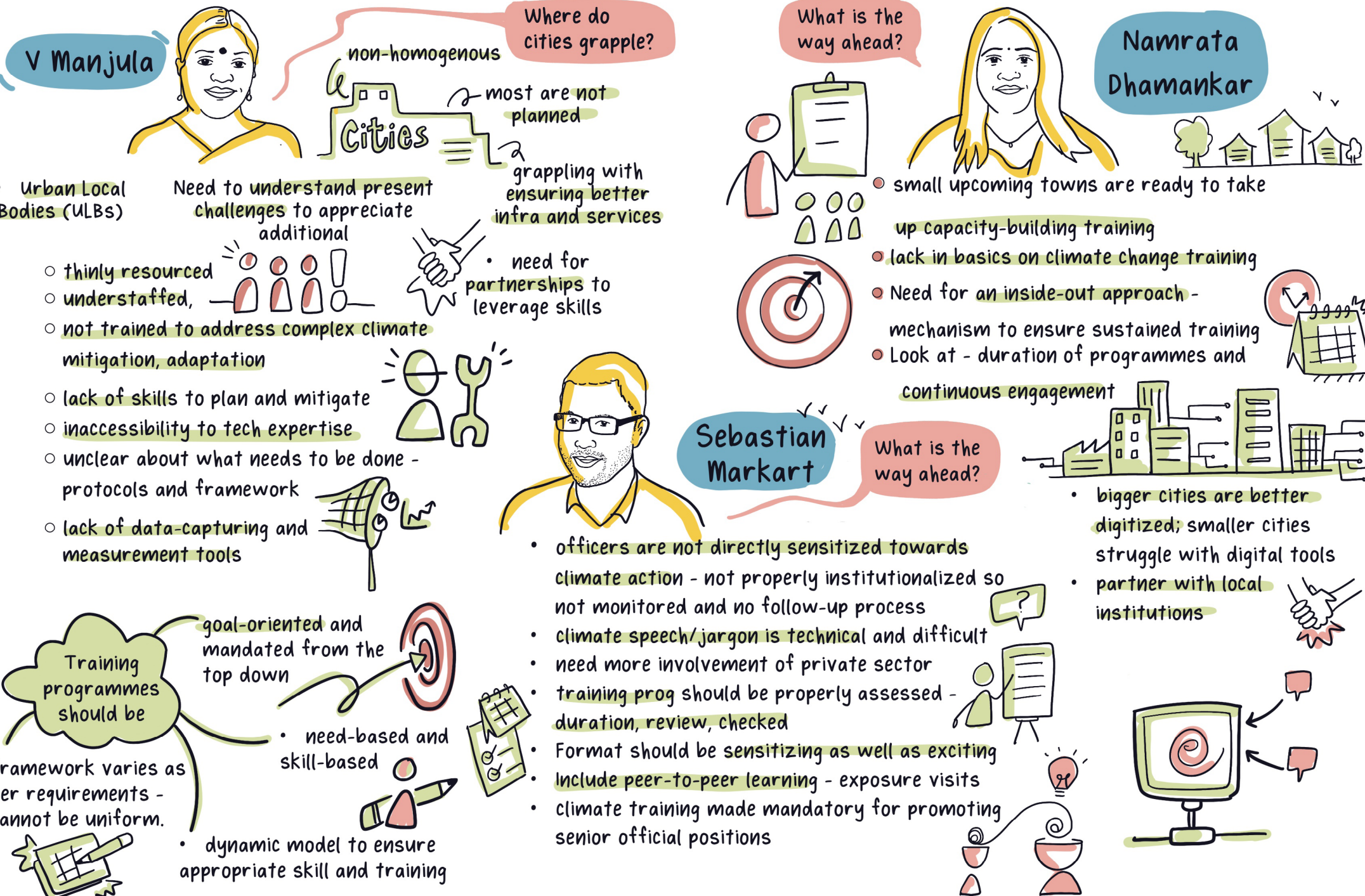
"It is important to investigate what are the facilities or efforts that can be introduced to encourage women to go out. We can help with housing, support responsibilities through a consultative process to find what works. This is followed by approval, implementation, and finally dissemination to other cities in the state."

— Prachi Merchant, Member, Advisory Committee on Gender, MCGM

"Cities must be developed to provide equal opportunity, safe and affordable public transport systems, and first and last mile connectivity for women to realise their full potential and opportunities. It is necessary to promote safe access to all modes of transport to ensure gender safety in the transportation system. This can be done by instituting gender nodal agencies, and segregating data on gender to design urban infrastructure."

— Krishna Desai, Technical Expert, GIZ India

3. #IndiaClimateDialogues - Capacity building for cities - From training to action



Date: 20 December, 2022

Moderator: Vaishnavi Shankar, Lead-Training and Capacity Building, Climate Centre for Cities (C-CUBE), National Institute of Urban Affairs

About the dialogue

Indian cities face a challenging task of balancing the demands of mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, adapting to climate change, and managing urbanisation. To achieve this, capacity building is an essential enabler towards mainstreaming climate action in urban development. This requires a comprehensive understanding of climate vulnerabilities and adopting cross-sectoral approaches to building climate action plans. Addressing specific capacity gaps is essential to translate knowledge into effective action. The need for capacity building in India is well recognised, but challenges such as lack of learning motivation, inadequate institutional outreach, technology and innovation barriers, and difficulty in translating knowledge into action persist. Therefore, capacity building should focus on developing technical and non-technical skills, promoting innovation, and enhancing the knowledge-sharing mechanism.

What we learnt?

To build effective capacity to address climate change in Indian cities, it is important to strengthen regional training and for academic institutions to become local training hubs. The modules need to be customised to ensure the right training for the right people. The hybrid mode of training needs to be popularised to ensure transfer of technical knowledge and to push the 'think and reflect' concept. The need of the hour is to institutionalise a continuous training.

Thought provoking bites

"Indian cities are not homogenous; they grow organically. There is always a gap between infrastructure and services. We need to understand the present challenges to address additional ones. The resource base of Indian cities is thin, so they cannot engage qualified manpower with the skill to plan and mitigate climate change and impact. Small cities have no access to data, technical expertise, protocols, and frameworks. So, governments must leverage partnerships outside their ecosystem for the right expertise, skill and capacity."

— V. Manjula, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka; Director General, Administrative Training Institute, Mysore; Commissioner, Directorate of Urban Land Transport, Bengaluru

"In India, the climate agenda is coming to the forefront, but officers are not directly sensitised towards it. There is no review or recap of capacity training. This needs to be institutionalised, and the right people need to receive the right training to develop ownership of the climate topic. We need the private sector and climate agencies to get more involved to build capacity. Training programmes should be more proper in terms of assessment, duration, reviews, and check for conversion into effective action."

— Sebastian Markart, Advisor, GIZ India

"Among the biggest gaps faced while training for capacity building is identifying who really needs the training. Most officials came from small towns, but they are the ones who are ready to take up the challenge. Since they are unaware of the basics, the training often becomes intimidating. The administration needs to have a mechanism in place where they promote continuous and longer training for capacity building."

— Namrata Dhamankar, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Architecture and Planning, BNCA



4. #IndiaClimateDialogues - City Climate Action Plans: Looking Back and Ahead

Aligning Climate Action with Finance

Soumya Chaturvedula

1 CAPs a cohesive, comprehensive, and long term journey

- city climate Action
- step 1 - CAPs, step 2 - financing - cities struggling with this
- large scale climate action being challenged by access to finance



- presently, cities trying to develop climate actions by tapping into existing financial resources - smart city mission, Amrut, swachh bharat mission) or even municipal finance
- climate resilience aspect needs to be built into the devolution of funds
- Equity in access to infra in economic participation, and in service delivery

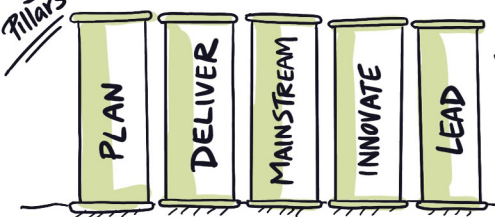
Various Entry Points

Inter-sectoral integration is required at all levels

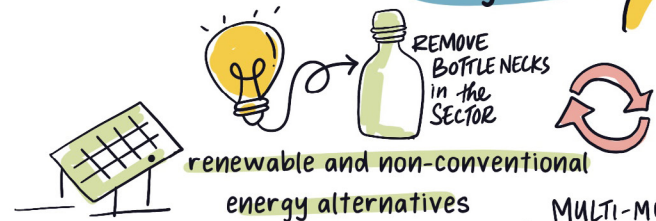
Assessment of current framework

Shruti Narayan

- c40 CAP framework - leadership standards that cities need to adhere to are namely



- Going back to basics



- Utilising the agency of CAPs

- CAP as a visionary document has allowed a roadmap - database and evidence for a way forward for cities
- sectoral actions - not much integration with other sectors;
- need for holistic solutions and bringing several departments together to deliver the solutions
- inability of corporations to hire officials capable of mainstreaming a CAP

- Mainstreaming climate action is crucial

- Need to address resilience and mitigation together

- integrate budgeting in city plans to finance climate action

- CAP need to be a data-driven and scientific evidence-based approach

Tried and tested actions and challenges

Lubaina Rangwala

- vernacular architecture, traditional materials, sustainable practices



Date: 30 January, 2023

Moderator: Sayli Mankikar, Director, Policy and Partnerships, Climate Centre for Cities (C-Cube), National Institute of Urban Affairs

About the dialogue

India has set a target to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070, and it is critical to involve cities experiencing extreme climate events, such as floods and droughts, in achieving this goal. Many cities in India are actively developing Climate Action Plans (CAPs) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adopt low-emission trajectories, and build local climate resilience towards climate change. CAPs involve several processes and tools, including conducting climate vulnerability assessments, setting GHG reduction targets, adaptation goals, capacity building, stakeholder engagement, and communication strategies. Dialogues are being held to help cities address challenges, learn from the past and develop a more comprehensive approach towards CAPs.

What we learnt?

The dialogue showed how cities can tap into innovative approaches like integrated budgeting to access finance for large-scale climate action and CAPs. These can be mainstreamed through inter-sectoral integration involving health, equity, job creation and stakeholder engagement. CAPs are a roadmap towards developing resilient infrastructure that is context sensitive, evidence-based and data driven. Building institutional capacities at various administrative levels is necessary to take action plans ahead.

Thought provoking bites

"CAPs are the initial step in a cohesive, comprehensive and long-term journey towards Net-Zero. After its preparation, the next step, and a challenge, for a city is to look towards financing for large-scale climate action. Cities are bringing on innovative approaches and tapping what they have in financial resources to develop climate-resilient infrastructure. This aspect needs to be built into the devolution of funds. This will give a strong push towards implementation of CAPs."

— Soumya Chaturvedula, Deputy Director, ICLEI-South Asia

"Climate action plans should not be looked at as a parallel or an academic research exercise. Cities need to mainstream climate action into everything. We must aim to make CAPs more holistic in terms of health, equity, economic recovery, job creation, stakeholders' engagement, and address resilience and mitigation together. It is important to bring the youth, private sector and businesses together as CAPs are stakeholder driven and owned. CAPs need to be consistent, have constant movement, be data driven and have an evidence-based approach."

— Shruti Narayan, Regional Director for South and West Asia, C40

"An important approach towards sustainable development is to go back to the basics. Today, there is a shift towards high-technology driven solutions. Administrations need to understand the context: what may work for a big city might fall flat on its face when it comes to a small one. We need to focus on the energy sector and the building sector where we have been talking about vernacular architecture, traditional materials and sustainable practices. Utilising the agency of CAPs in developing multi-modal integration will bring mitigation and adaptation actions together across waste, mobility and energy sectors."

— Lubaina Rangwala, Program Head, Urban Development and Resilience, WRI India

5. #IndiacimateDialogues - URMP Governance for Water Security

Girija Godbole

Relationship between people, cities and rivers

- River management can be a means to change citizen roles from spectators to actors in city management.

- Environmentally responsible
- Economically beneficial
- Socially inclusive

- There is a disconnect between people and the cities/rivers.

Awareness is important.

Water Fund- a finance and governance mechanism that brings stakeholders together to protect headwater and biodiversity of the region.

Rajiv Ranjan Mishra

Urban River Management Plan?

- Major challenges for the rivers come from the urban system polluting it.
- There is a need to bring different stakeholders together to clean a river
- Management of water will determine the climate resilience in a changing world.

- The change of river management is so big that every government level has to be responsible.
- The urban river management plan (URMP) tries to not further worsen the state of the river.
- cities need to be made water-sensitive

- Managing river includes taking care of following components-

- Ecological
- Social
- Hydrological

- URMP allows you to plan strategically with keeping these components in loop.

- There are technical (capability) and financial challenges to it.
- The concept of ESG in corporate is a potential private funding opportunity.

Nitin Bassi

How do we achieve better river governance and planning?

- River scale planning is important to-
 - Understand the situation and then take action.
 - Action in silos leads to very minimal benefits as compared to the problem size.

- Water is seen as a state subject and centre only takes up issues of national importance.

- Many policies/schemes/acts are in place at national levels which shows intention but it is up to the state for implementation, often poorly done.

- At the end of the day water security is what matters

- We need to have efficient water accounting and demand assessment

Date: 31 March, 2023

Moderator: Ambika Vishwanath, Founder and Director, Kubernein Initiative

About the dialogue

The world is facing a water crisis caused by hazardous urbanisation and climate extremes, leading to flooding risks that impact human health, life, economic activity, cultural heritage, environment, and land-use planning. India is facing a severe and persistent water crisis due to poor water resource management and growing urban needs. The first step towards sustainable long-term management of urban rivers is to incorporate river thinking into a city's vision through policies, designated funds, governance, and master planning. The Indian Union Budget 2023-24 has proposed an allocation of 1,124 billion rupees for the water domain, including urban river management. Improved river management, partnerships, and governance are crucial for economic growth, equitable development, and welfare, and it is essential to ensure effective governance measures for the budget to achieve its goals.

What we learnt?

The takeaways gleaned from the discussion focused on the importance of making water a national priority. How we manage water will determine the path to climate resilience. To achieve effective river water management, it is very important to engage with local experts to understand local challenges. Additionally, an idea can be taken off the Water Fund, a governance and finance mechanism to bring stakeholders together with the aim of protecting head waters and the biodiversity of the region. Women form a very important part of the decision-making process to protect rivers and should be involved in an active manner. In the end, it is important to realise that citizens, organisations and states have equal responsibility to protect rivers.

Thought provoking bites

"Changing the perspective of citizens from mere spectators to actors is crucial to the river management plan. The plan should focus on being environmentally responsible, economically beneficial and socially inclusive. Awareness about rivers is paramount. Taking a cue from the Water Fund, we can involve citizen groups, especially women, in the implementation of river plans. We should give the water users a chance to invest in its protection."
— Girija Godbole, Water Fund Lead, TNC

"In India, dirty rivers pose a challenge, majorly from urban systems polluting it. To ensure effective management of rivers, different stakeholders—cities and villages, water and urban—must come together and assume responsibility. How we manage water will determine our climate resilience. Districts are very important administrative units that can contribute to sub-basin planning, which in turn will help cities take care of their rivers. The basic thought of URMP is to not further worsen the condition of a river."
— Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Former Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga

"India's water treatment capacity is 40% and treatment is around 30%. This means 70%, after being supplied and returning from households goes back to rivers. While we are dependent on rivers for life, we are also responsible for the waste water. We need to highlight river management and make it a national priority. The responsibility of rivers lies with the state as the centre looks at national issues."
— Nitin Bassi, Programme Lead, Water Team, CEEW

6. #IndiaClimateDialogues - Operationalising NbS in River Cities



Date: 03 May, 2023

Moderator: Ambika Malhotra-Kothari, Consultant, City Climate Alliance, NIUA

About the dialogue

The development of river landscapes in recent years has increased the risk of erosion, flooding, pollution, and loss of biodiversity, posing a threat to recreational access and groundwater resources. Indian river cities are particularly vulnerable to such risks due to development on flood plains, blocked river channels, untreated sewage, and industrial waste. Per capita availability of water is also expected to decline, which will have a significant impact on groundwater resources. Urban water systems are complex, with different levels of government responsible for water supply, wastewater treatment, and river management. This dialogue will focus on the potential of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to address the risks faced by river cities through case studies, implementation, governance, collaboration, and partnerships.

What we learnt?

To ensure the optimal success and mainstreaming of nature-based solutions, pilot programs are necessary. Formal frameworks should be in place to classify and breakdown the categories of NBs to help select the right one for a given project. There is also a need to integrate financing systems, including citizen responsibility models. NBs have the capability to create green jobs and a circular economy, while safeguarding infrastructure. To keep the ball rolling, it is important Collaboration with local communities, especially women, can help with sustainable operation and management of NbS.

Thought provoking bites

"Nature-based solutions on the urban ecosystem benefit climate moderation and resilience, disaster risk mitigation, soil building, nutrient recycling, carbon sequestration, groundwater recharge and social and health benefits. These solutions support a nature-positive economy and circularity with green jobs, better livelihoods, skilling and business opportunities. It enhances engineered infrastructure functions and protects them."

— Jaya Dhindaw, Director, Urban Development, WRI India

"For nature-based solutions, there are two kinds of stakeholders—organised ones like urban local bodies, and the unorganised side, which is largely the public. It is very difficult to get the public to participate in the creation of solutions without a quick, direct benefit. The output quality for conventional solutions is clear, but NBs is a grey area. Authorities find it difficult to place orders or trust that the outcome will be favourable. But the picture is changing now. NGOs are helping create a wider movement. Another challenge is land, which NBs needs, being selected for other functions. So, while authorities might be interested in NBs, they are often constrained."

— Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division, INTACH

"There needs to be a standard system to evaluate the benefits and value of a nature-based solution. An index for biodiversity puts decision-makers at a better place to evaluate infra projects around nature solutions and figure if they are viable. It is important to inventorise, evaluate and classify nature-based solutions. We can also institutionalise the dialogue between city authorities, developers and investors. We will get faster results if we incentivise appropriate NBs for key developers and citizens, and have more studies with collaborative processes between institutions."

— Aarti Nain, Advisor-Urban Cooling and Heat Management, UNEP

The Way Forward

The India Climate Dialogues, provided insightful ideas and discussions from urban thought leaders on addressing climate change in India. The discussions thus far have emphasised the need to integrate gender perspectives into climate decision-making, mandate the gender lens in development plan implementation, and adopt a coordinated approach through a gender nodal agency to monitor equality in infrastructure at the planning stage. The dialogues showed how regional training needs to be strengthened, and academic institutions should become local training hubs to build effective capacity to address climate change. Innovative approaches, such as integrated budgeting, can be used to access finance for large-scale climate action and CAPs. Water management was identified as a national priority, and effective river water management requires engagement with local experts and the involvement of women in the decision-making process. To conclude, it highlighted how pilot programs are necessary to ensure the success and mainstreaming of nature-based solutions, and formal frameworks should be in place to classify and break down categories of nature-based solutions to select the right one for a given project.

Moving ahead, the dialogues will be hosting exclusive series on the intersections of gender and youth. The India Climate dialogues will now run special editions on gender and youth in climate and explore different aspects of those lenses.



Sayli Udas Mankikar

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Climate Centre for Cities (C-Cube),
National Institute of Urban Affairs

**Want to collaborate with
City Climate Alliance?**

Reach out to us at
cityclimatealliance@niua.org

We sit within NIUA as a cross
sectoral umbrella bringing all
ideas, systems, projects, and
institutions together for climate
action in cities.

