Student Thesis Competition on RE-IMAGINING URBAN RIVERS

Finale

10th - 11th August 2023, CEPT University, Ahmedabad

Day 1 - 10th August 2023

09.30am - 10.00am  
REGISTRATION FOR DAY 1 (WITH HIGH TEA)

10.00am - 11.00am  
SOFT OPENING
Context Setting and Explanation of the Format

11:00am– 01:45pm
PITCHING INNOVATIVE PROJECT IDEAS
This will include presentations by 9 undergraduate students finalists. It will also have two brief audience engagement activities.

01:45pm–02:45pm
LUNCH BREAK

03:00pm-06:00pm
SPECIAL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Session1: River Forum with Students
Around 90–100 students from different universities in Ahmedabad and nearby areas will join this session. The overall objective of the session is to sensitize the students — through exercises, games, and team competitions — to a systems approach for managing urban river stretches.

Session2: Roundtable with Academia
Around 30–40 faculty members (including the thesis supervisors of the STC students) from different universities will participate in this round table. The overall objective of the roundtable will be to have concerted discussions on how to mainstream river thinking and considerations into academic activities—studio exercises, group projects, summer/winter schools, elective courses, among others. It is expected that a roadmap of potential activities with different universities will emerge from the discussions of the roundtable.
# Student Thesis Competition

## Finale

### Day 2 - 11th August 2023

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.30am-10.00am</td>
<td><strong>REGISTRATION FOR DAY 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00am-01.15pm</td>
<td><strong>PITCHING INNOVATIVE PROJECT IDEAS</strong>&lt;br&gt;This will include presentations by 10 postgraduate students finalists. It will also have two brief audience engagement activities and a coffee break.</td>
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<td>01:15pm-02:15pm</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH BREAK</strong></td>
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<td>02:15pm-03:30pm</td>
<td><strong>OPEN HOUSE WITH STUDENTS</strong>&lt;br&gt;This session will invite students in the audience to provide their reflections on various aspects of river management. Especially, how they can contribute to the management machinery.</td>
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<td>03:30pm-04:00pm</td>
<td><strong>COFFEE BREAK</strong></td>
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<td>04:00pm-06:00pm</td>
<td><strong>AWARDS CEREMONY</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Context Setting (5 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;National Institute of Urban Affairs&lt;br&gt;<strong>Welcome Remarks (5 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;CEPT University&lt;br&gt;<strong>Vriksharopan (5 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Signing of MoU - Urban Strategy Unit-NIUA and CEPT (5 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Role of Youth in NIUA's Mandate (10 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hitesh Vaidya, Director, National Institute of Urban Affairs&lt;br&gt;<strong>Opening Address (10 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dheeraj Joshi, Deputy Secretary, National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India&lt;br&gt;<strong>Video Presentations of the Student Project Ideas (20 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Felicitation of Jury Members (5 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;S. Vishwanath, Biome Environmental Solutions&lt;br&gt;Manvita Baradi, Urban Management Centre&lt;br&gt;Mona Iyer and Nitika Bhakuni, CEPT University&lt;br&gt;<strong>NMCG’s Agenda for Youth Engagement (10 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;D.P Mathuria, Executive Director (Technical), National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India (tbc)&lt;br&gt;<strong>Strengthening Youth Involvement in Urban Development (10 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ashwini Kumar, Principal Secretary, Urban Development and Urban Housing Department, Government of Gujarat (tbc)&lt;br&gt;<strong>Leveraging Power of Youth in Restoration of Water Bodies (10 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ramveer Tanwar, Environmentalist &amp; TEDx Speaker&lt;br&gt;<strong>New Paradigms in Riverfront Design and Implementation (30 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Bimal Patel, President and Acting Director, CEPT University&lt;br&gt;<strong>What Can Young People Do For Rivers? (15 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;G. Asok Kumar, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India (tbc)&lt;br&gt;<strong>Announcement of Winners and Prize Distribution (10 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Group Photograph (5 minutes)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Vote of Thanks (5 minutes)</strong></td>
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Did you know that the different bugs found in a waterbody can be a measure of the health of that waterbody? Let's dig into how these bugs, scientifically known as macroinvertebrates, can become indicators of different quality aspects of any water body.

What are your thoughts on managing urban rivers? Let's think river as a system and brainstorm on different challenges as well as instruments for sustainably managing these precious resources.

What do we currently observe in the floodplains of rivers in our cities, or do we even see and acknowledge floodplains? Let's think on how to plan for floodplains, the very essential ‘room for a river’.

Did you know that the different bugs found in a waterbody can be a measure of the health of that waterbody? Let's dig into how these bugs, scientifically known as macroinvertebrates, can become an indicator of different quality aspects of any water body.

Rivers have been lifelines of our cities since time immemorial. But how much do we really know about rivers and its different elements. For example: Did you know there are more than 400 rivers in India? Let's test our knowledge on the river ecosystems and beyond.

Show in your own creative ways, how rivers matter and more so for our cities. Let's make your ideas on rivers viral.

ACTIVITY 1
(30 minutes)

EVENT BRIEFING
What are your thoughts on managing urban rivers? Let's think river as a system and brainstorm on different challenges as well as instruments for sustainably managing these precious resources.

ACTIVITY 2
(20 minutes)

MAKE ROOM FOR RIVERS
What do we currently observe in the floodplains of rivers in our cities, or do we even see and acknowledge floodplains? Let's think on how to plan for floodplains, the very essential ‘room for a river’.

ACTIVITY 3
(20 minutes)

MACROINVERTEBRATES: WHEN BUGS TELL YOU THE HEALTH OF YOUR WATER BODY
Did you know that the different bugs found in a waterbody can be a measure of the health of that waterbody? Let's dig into how these bugs, scientifically known as macroinvertebrates, can become an indicator of different quality aspects of any water body.

ACTIVITY 4
(20 minutes)

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT RIVERS
Rivers have been lifelines of our cities since time immemorial. But how much do we really know about rivers and its different elements. For example: Did you know there are more than 400 rivers in India? Let's test our knowledge on the river ecosystems and beyond.

ACTIVITY 5
(60 minutes)

RIVER MATTERS: FEEL IT, REEL IT
Show in your own creative ways, how rivers matter and more so for our cities. Let's make your ideas on rivers viral.

ACTIVITY 6
(30 minutes)

CONCLUSION & WAY FORWARD
Roundtable with Academia

10th August 2023, Thursday, 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Auditorium FP 103, CEPT University

OPENING SESSION
03.00pm - 03.50pm
Context Setting
Breaking the Ice
Reflections from Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Chief Technical Advisor, NIUA

PLENARY DISCUSSION ON: CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS OF RIVER-RELATED ASPECTS IN ACADEMIA
03.50pm - 04.15pm

HIGH TEA
04.15pm - 04.30pm

BREAK-OUT GROUP DISCUSSION
04.30pm - 05.15pm
SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS THAT UNIVERSITIES CAN TAKE UP FOR PUSHING THE AGENDA FOR URBAN RIVER MANAGEMENT UNDER:
- RESEARCH
- ACADEMIC DELIVERY
- NON-ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

REFLECTIONS FROM THE GROUPS
05.15pm - 06.00pm

WAY FORWARD
06.00pm - 06.10pm