

## **Sectoral Interactive Platform**

### **Urban Resilience and Adaptation for India and Mongolia: *curricula, capacity, ICT and stakeholder collaboration to support green & blue infrastructure and nature-based solutions (URGENT)***

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## Sectoral Interactive Platform

### Purpose

The URGENT project, funded by Erasmus+, aims to build international capacity in higher education to promote green and blue infrastructure and nature-based solutions (GBI&NBS) for resilient, climate-friendly, and livable cities in partner countries, India and Mongolia. The project will last for three years, starting in January 2021, and involves multiple countries and institutions. NIUA will provide cross-disciplinary expertise and technical assistance for city and state-level projects and will develop toolkits and customized training programs to strengthen the capacity of local, regional, and governing agencies, with the aim of enriching and expanding urban knowledge bases within the country.

To enrich Indian research on urban resilience, the Indian National Stakeholder Interactive Platform (SIP) has been established under the leadership of the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) as one of the strategic partners (non-academic) of the URGENT project.

### Indian National Stakeholder Interactive Platform



### Scope

A third of India's population currently lives in cities, contributing to 63% of the national GDP. Based on the current trend, India's urban population currently accounts for one-third of the total population and contributes to 63% of the national GDP. It is projected that by 2030, the urban population will increase by 590 million, with its GDP contribution rising to 75%. Cities are also facing challenges related to extreme events such as flooding, heatwaves, and cyclones. According to the IPCC 1.5°C Special Report, India is expected to experience an increase in high-intensity cyclones, extreme rainfall, and annual heatwaves. The rapid urbanization and associated challenges are making cities more vulnerable to these risks. It is crucial to integrate climate actions into urban planning and governance to ensure that cities can reach their full potential despite these challenges. By incorporating climate considerations into academia, we can protect the interests of citizens and urban investments and pave the way for a forward-looking, climate-resilient, inclusive, and integrated urban transformation in India. It is projected that within this decade (by 2030), India's urban population will increase by 590 million, and its GDP contribution will rise to 75%. Cities, in addition to addressing urbanization challenges, are increasingly tackling extreme events like flooding, heatwaves, and cyclones. According to the IPCC 1.5°C Special Report, India is projected to experience more cyclones with high-intensity storms and faces higher risks due to extreme rainfall and annual heatwaves. The increasing pace of urbanization and associated challenges aggravate cities' vulnerability to impacts from risks like floods, cyclones, disease outbreaks, and heatwaves. There is a pressing need to embed climate actions at the heart of urban discourse. As cities grow, urban governance and planning systems must be strengthened to ensure cities reach their maximum potential despite climate-related challenges. Applying a climate lens to academia will safeguard the interests of citizens and urban investments, paving the way for a forward-looking, climate-proof, inclusive, and integrated urban transformation in India.

## Objectives

- The platform aims to stimulate a healthy dialogue on the relevance of mainstreaming climate actions to ensure qualitative improvement of the education process and academic workflow support among universities and stakeholders across the partner countries.
- To create sustainable feedback mechanisms for end-users, ensuring adaptive and practice-relevant teaching content, knowledge co-production opportunities, and stakeholder support for post-project course development and teaching.
- The platform will create a space for stakeholders to discuss opportunities and best practices for meaningful frameworks to support research on green, blue infrastructure, and nature-based solutions in India. The objective is to encourage discussion on partnerships' strategic, tactical, and operational roles at the national and regional levels.

## Organizational details

SL. No.	Name of Stakeholder	Description
1.	Universal Eco Foundation, Puducherry, India	Universal Eco Foundation (UEF) is a non-governmental organization actively involved in the conservation of biodiversity in the Country mostly in Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana states. It was established with a team of eminent Biodiversity Professionals, Conservationists, snake rescue specialists, field botanists, environmental education trainers, marine conservation specialists, GIS & GPS specialists, curriculum (environmental education) developers, wildlife documentation specialists and Sociologist as Trustees and registered as the Trust under Indian Trust Act 1882 at Sub- Register office, Puducherry, hereafter referred to as "UEF".
2.	Indian Geoinformatics Centre, Chennai, India	Indian Geoinformatics Centre is a services provider in technologies of RTK GNSS, Satellite & Drone Image Processing and GIS for its clients in domains of urban planning, watershed management, crop health assessment, forest and land surveys.
3	The Regional Research Station, ICAR Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jammu & Kashmir, India	IGFRI is mandated to work on temperate and sub-temperate high-yielding and nutritive forage germplasm. The institute strives to develop technologies for improving grassland agro-resource management practices to sustain livelihood and the Himalayan environment.
4	National Agriculture Development Cooperative Ltd. (NADCL), Jammu & Kashmir, India	NADCL is primarily works to serve as a bridge for communication between agriculture scientists, extension workers and farmers with a view to maintaining a record of the problems faced by the farming community and the same problem is given as an assignment to the agriculture scientists to find the solutions.
5	The Innovative Institute for Natural Resources Environment and Community (TIINEC), New Delhi, India	TIINEC provides services in regard to the changes occurring in climate, environment and natural resources using geospatial technologies and information technology, etc. focus on creating environmental and social value through their restorative operational practices, their client tail and engagements, and products and services being offered so as to contribute to sustainable development.

6	ARMS 4 AI Private Limited, New Delhi, India	ARMS 4 AI Private Limited specializes in building tailored AI based Geospatial solutions by leveraging multi-disciplinary Geospatial Technologies to develop cutting-edge solutions, designed for strategic impact, decision and intelligence. a single window online platform/desktop solution with powerful image analysis solutions based on deep learning and machine learning.
7	Kesarjan Building Centre Pvt Ltd. , India	Kesarjan Building Centre Pvt Ltd. Is engaged in manufacturing building products from construction and demolition waste as well as other industrial waste. Kesarjan has revive traditional lime mortar in dry from, which is more appropriate for masonry. Also involve in training and popularizing alternative construction technologies.
8	Vastu Shilpa Sangath LLP,	Vastu Shilpa Sangath LLP, is an award winning, multidisciplinary design practice with diverse portfolio offering professional consulting services in Architecture, Engineering, Planning, Urban Design, Landscape, Sustainability, Interiors, Research and Art.

**Webpage Link:** <https://urgent-project.net/en/php/page.php?p=227>

### Achievements of the Sectoral Interactive Platform (SIP)

1. **Strategic Stakeholder Engagement:**
  - Engaged with various stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, research institutes, private enterprises, and design practices, to create a robust network for urban resilience.
  - Fostered collaboration between key stakeholders, ensuring inclusive and integrated urban planning and governance.
2. **Promotion of Climate-Sensitive Urban Development:**
  - Contributed to the development of forward-looking, climate-proof, and inclusive urban transformations in India.
3. **Feedback and Knowledge Co-Production Mechanisms:**
  - Created sustainable feedback mechanisms for end-users, ensuring adaptive and practice-relevant teaching content.
  - Encouraged knowledge co-production opportunities, resulting in stakeholder support for post-project course development and teaching.
4. **Increased Awareness on NBS and GBI**
  - Raised awareness about the pressing need for climate-sensitive urban governance and planning systems.