

## NIUA Organises City Stakeholder Consultation in Varanasi



BASIIC Partners—Varanasi Smart City Limited, Global Disability Innovation Hub, and NIUA at Rudraksh Convention Centre Varanasi

The Building Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Indian Cities (BASIIC) programme at NIUA, along with its partners—Varanasi Smart City Limited (VSCL), and Global Disability Innovation Hub, London—organised a consultation in Varanasi on 7 September. The consultation was attended by key nodal officials from various government agencies in the city including—Varanasi Nagar Nigam, Town and Country Planning Department, Department of Empowerment for Persons with Disabilities, Tourism Department, Road Safety and Traffic Department, and Disabled Peoples' Organisations. The purpose of the consultation was to apprise the stakeholders of the initiatives being implemented in Varanasi, and mainstreaming disability inclusion across policy and project interventions. To read more about the consultation, click [here](#).



*"I must compliment the leadership team of Varanasi and the team at NIUA for their continuous and relentless effort both at the policy level and at design to make the city inclusive even as we battle with COVID pandemic."*

Ms Katy Budge, Minister Counsellor, UK Govt.



*"When we discuss about inclusive future for Varanasi, we have to think about disability inclusion as well as gender inclusiveness"*

Shri Pranay Singh, CEO, VSCL



*"As we persevere to make cities more inclusive, safe and accessible for persons with disabilities through the BASIIC programme, the engagement with VSCL has been yet another milestone on the programme."*

Shri Hitesh Vaidya, Director, NIUA

## SCBP Conducts an Exposure Visit to Bhubaneswar and Puri

The Sanitation Capacity Building Platform (SCBP) team at NIUA has collaborated with the All India Institute of Local Self-Governance to work on the planning and implementation aspects of faecal sludge and septage management. In this regard, the SCBP team organised an exposure visit to Odisha from 2-3 September, consisting of officials from Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand. The key government officials and professionals from Odisha shared the knowledge and experience of the state-wide journey of scaling non-sewered sanitation followed by exposure visit to Sewage Treatment Plants at Bhubaneswar and Puri. For more information on SCBP, click [here](#).



Participants being introduced to board-games to identify sanitation problems

## NIUA Signs an MoU with iCED

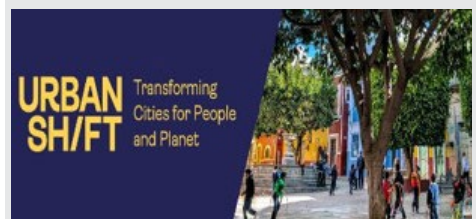
The National Institute of Urban Affairs signed an MoU with the International Centre for Environment Audit and Sustainable Development (iCED) on 10 September. The purpose of this collaboration is to establish a partnership to build awareness for sustainable resource consumption. It also includes designing research programmes, and training and capacity building initiatives to inform local governments in policymaking, and assisting in implementation of resilient and sustainable development strategies.



Shri Manish Kumar, Director General iCED and Shri Hitesh Vaidya, Director NIUA, exchanging the MoU documents

## Upcoming events

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is launching the **UrbanShift** programme on 21 September as a part of part of New York City Climate Week 2021. Hitesh Vaidya, Director, NIUA will be the keynote speaker in the event. To register, click [here](#).



NIUA along with think-tanks—Cities Alliance, GIZ, Centre for Policy Research, and ADB—will be organising an international symposium—**Reimagining Inclusive Cities in the COVID-19 Era** on 20, 22, and 24 September. To register, click [here](#).

