

BACKGROUND

Climate Change is a serious issue facing the world and its consequences on cities are likely to be severe. Rapid urbanization and urban economic growth have led to emergence of a number of complex first-time issues including degradation of natural resources from extensive land use changes, increase in emission of green house gases, and growth of the informal sector – that threatens sustainability of our cities. Government of India estimates that India will achieve 38% urbanization by 2026, while McKinsey Global Institute estimate that Indian cities have the potential to contribute approximately 70% of the country's GDP by 2030. This is likely to put stress on the overburdened urban systems (infrastructure, services and economic), which will be further aggravated on account of climate change factors.

Cities have been the knowledge center of the society that positions them at the forefront of developing innovations. Many Indian cities have been aware of climate change related risks, but were unable to act in the past due to a host of reasons. Now, as there is a growing realization that cities hold an important key towards shaping a more sustainable planet, there is an urgent need to integrate climate risks into city development strategies.

The Government of India has approved the “National Action Plan on Climate Change” wherein there are eight strategic missions (including ‘National Mission on Sustainable Habitat’, ‘National Water Mission’ and ‘National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency’) outlining urgent action required for addressing climate change concerns. These missions are to guide the government and stakeholders on policy framework needed to encourage investment in climate change mitigation and adaptation projects needed for climate resilient cities and urban development in compliance with low carbon initiatives. Besides these missions addressing specific climate change concerns, many other Government interventions are ongoing in urban areas to address various development related issues, viz. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Urban Infrastructure Development scheme for small and medium Towns (UIDSSMT), Rajiv Awas Yojana, etc. However an integrated and concerted action agenda is needed to upgrade these interventions with NAPCC guidelines.

The Rockefeller Foundation (RF) is supporting an integrated climate resilient urban development program incorporating three core issues of urban poverty, rapid urbanization, and response to climate change. The Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) programme was built around “building resilience to climate change in mid-sized cities in Asia with a focus on the poor and vulnerable”. The goal of the ACCCRN is to measurably enhance the resilience of selected partner cities’ institutions, systems and structures to the current and future climate risks, and through this, improve the lives of poor and vulnerable people. In India, the ACCCRN project is operational in the cities of Surat, Indore, and Gorakhpur.

The UK Department for International Development (DFID) has been supporting urban poverty reduction and urban development in India for more than 20 years. It recently concluded a highly successful partnership in Andhra Pradesh and has current partnerships in the West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. It recently began a national partnership with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation on the JNNURM and Rajiv Awas Yojana and is actively supporting the Ministry of Urban Development’s city sanitation and service level benchmarking

approaches. DfID has identified the urban habitat as a key sector for promoting low carbon development and climate resilient pathways.

The mandate of ACCCRN project supported by the Rockefeller Foundation and that of DfID is based on action-oriented projects that build analytical inferences to informed planning for climate change. While, the ACCCRN project seeks to help the project cities to cope with current and projected climate impacts, such as increased flooding, drought, and health impacts; DfID studies the potential opportunities of urban development through low carbon and high growth strategy; addressing core city governance planning issues, service delivery mechanism, and adaptive characteristics.

Successful urban development, taking into consideration the constraints of climate change, a low carbon future, and the transformations required at social and technological changes, would entail cross-sectoral communication and participation at the city, state and central levels. It is with this background that the proposed workshop is planned to bring together all stakeholders and collectively find solutions and way forward for one of the most imposing challenges – building urban areas resilient to climate change.

The workshop is being organized by Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe), and Institute for Social and Environmental Transition (ISET), with active support of ACCCRN partners; TARU, Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), The workshop is supported by RF and DFID.

Objectives of the Workshop

The workshop, through process of dialogue and sharing research outcomes with the stakeholders, would identify the most suitable practices of climate resilience, low carbon-high growth processes for urban development, and required interventions of the government. The subjects of focus are:

- (i) To set out current and future practical responses to climate change in Indian cities and towns;
- (ii) To establish a community of policymakers and practitioners on cities and climate change; and
- (iii) To support national and local level dialogue on future action, specifically for mainstreaming climate concerns into government flagship urban programmes.

The workshop will seek to do this by sharing experiences and insights of a range of stakeholders including Indian - national, state and city partners; international speakers; the private sector and conference organizers, including RF and its partners, and DFID and its networks.

Key Issues

The uncertain impacts of climate change are projected to have unfavorable effect on national economic growth, and impede socio-economic development. The impact of climate change in urban areas is a subject of concern

and the already disadvantaged – the poor and the vulnerable sections of the society – are likely to face the major brunt. As India urbanizes more rapidly than before, the issue of mainstreaming climate change resilience into our urban planning and development framework has become critical.

The government is pursuing flagship programmes of urban development such as JNNURM, UIDSSMT, RAY, etc. to address challenges of rapid urbanization. These programmes need to be diversified to address challenges posed by climate change by incorporating climate resilient and low-carbon high-growth process. This, in turn, needs to be supported by technologies emanating from analytical research on climate resilient urban development projects supported by various stakeholders.

This workshop aims to share such national and international experiences and support a dialogue of subject practitioners with key decision makers. The workshop is expected to lead to development of a set of action priorities, and identify processes by which climate concerns can be mainstreamed into urban development policies and programmes.

Participants

Professionals and practitioners from India, China, UK, and USA will share their experiences and views on practical approaches on vulnerability assessment, risk perceptions, climate adaptation planning, CC resilient urban area development, and sustaining economic growth. Senior Government of India officials (such as from Ministries of Urban Development and Urban Housing and Poverty Alleviation), the steering committee members of the Sustainable Habitat Mission and relevant departments from the State Governments are also expected to participate in the discussions and deliberations. The participants will also include representatives from international development agencies, development bankers, institutions associated with urban development, environmental regulatory bodies, urban local bodies’ representatives, academics, and others.

Outcomes

- Increased awareness for low carbon futures and resilient urban area development (synergy of approaches, resilience building and low carbon-high growth approach for inclusive urban development). Share with state and city stakeholders the improved know-how to plan, finance, and implement low carbon and climate resilient strategies, consistent with state flagship programmes including JNNURM and RAY.
- Build a network for knowledge sharing to identify practical and actionable knowledge on low carbon and climate resilience generated in the program that are used by a broad range of representatives of cities, civil societies, donors, private sector.
- Develop a set of priorities and recommendations for policy actions.
- Identify a set of practical options for accelerating action on developing sustainable and climate resilient cities explored for city managers, particularly for partners in West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE AND CLIMATE RESILIENT URBAN DEVELOPMENT

September 8, 2010, Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Center, Lodi Road, New Delhi

09.00 AM - 09.30 AM	Registration
09.30 AM - 10.45 AM	INAUGURAL SESSION
09.30 AM - 09.35 AM	Welcome note
09.35 AM - 09.50 AM	Address by Mr. Ashvin Dayal, MD, ARO, The Rockefeller Foundation
09.50 AM - 10.05 AM	Address by Mr. Navin Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development
10.05 AM - 10.25 AM	Address by HE Sir Richard Stagg, British High Commissioner to India
10.25 AM - 10.40 AM	Address by Mr. A K Maira, Member, Planning Commission
10.40 AM - 10.45 AM	Vote of Thanks
10.45 AM - 11.00 AM	Tea Break
11.00 AM - 13.15 PM	SESSION-1: Climate Change and Urban Development: Practical Approaches and experiences
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical Tools and Approaches (concepts of urban resilience) Tools and Methodologies, vulnerability assessment, Inference (Surat and Indore Experiences) Tools and Methodologies, vulnerability assessment, Inference (Gorakhpur Experiences) Addressing urban planning issues in the context of Climate Change Mainstreaming Disaster risk reduction in Urban Development Program Open Discussion Poster Session : from Indian project cities with participants groups rotating between posters: (1) Surat (2) Indore (3) Gorakhpur (4) Howrah (5) ICLEI and two from DFID partners
13.15 PM - 14.00 PM	LUNCH
14.00 PM - 15.30 PM	SESSION-2: Low Carbon Urban Development; Risks and Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key opportunities for low carbon development in India's cities – a national perspectives Case Study: London Municipality Sustainable Cities in China and Transportation Low Carbon - High Growth India Program- Project; GHG Emission in Indian Cities, and Study recommendation Open Discussion
15.40 PM - 16.00 PM	TEA BREAK
16.00 PM - 17.00 PM	SESSION:-3 Panel discussion: EXPLORING POLICY
	LINKAGES: This session will discuss cross-cutting concepts, tools, methods and issues on low carbon and urban resilience in the context of policies and programmes of government of India
17.00 PM - 17.15 PM	WRAP-UP OF DAYS' PROCEEDINGS

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE AND CLIMATE RESILIENT URBAN DEVELOPMENT

September 9, 2010, Magnolia Hall, India Habitat Center, Lodi Road, New Delhi

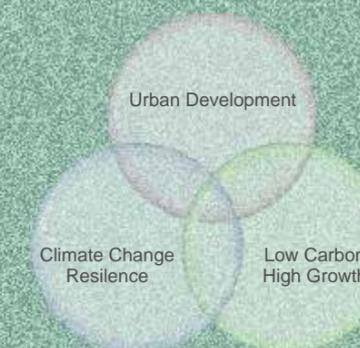
09.30 AM - 10.45 AM	SESSION: 4: Policy and programme entry points for sustainable and climate change resilient urban development.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of JNNURM- BUSP and Rajiv Awas Yojanna and key climate change links State perspective: JNNURM/RAY and climate change; opportunities and challenges Approaches For Addressing Urban Risk Progress on urban development in India and Challenges to National Programme Climate Change Concern – Resilient Urban Development Discussion
10.45 AM - 11.00 AM	Tea Break
11.00 AM - 13.15 PM	SESSION: - 5: City level perspectives; City Development Plans/UIDSSMT, the Private sector
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation from City Commissioners/ Nominee to describe their Perspectives on City Development Plans/ UIDSSMT and integrating climate change (Indore, Gorakhpur, Howrah, and Bangalore) Exploring role of Private sector investment for Urban Resilience Integrating climate concerns in urban development: Opportunities and Role of Private sector Discussion
13.15 PM - 14.00 PM	Lunch
14.00 PM - 15.30 PM	SESSION: - 6: Identifying Practical Responses to Climate Change mitigation and resilience
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indore Case Presentation Gorakhpur Case Presentation Facilitated Group Discussions amongst DFID Programme Partners from West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar
15.30 PM - 16.00 PM	TEA BREAK
16.00 PM - 17.00 PM	PANEL SESSION: Integrating Climate Change Concerns into City Development Plan/ UIDSSMT
17.20 PM - 17.30 PM	Concluding Session: Wrap-up, vote of thanks

International Workshop on Sustainable and Climate Resilient Urban Development

Supported by:



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India and The Rockefeller Foundation, USA



Organizers:

IRADe



ISET



ACCCRN

Partners:

SMC, IMC, GMC, TARU, GEAG and TERI



TARU



September 8-9, 2010

India Habitat Center, Lodi Road,
New Delhi