



## Project Overview

(1/1)

### Sustainable Urban Development – Smart Cities Project

Mission



**The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India and GIZ India, the German Agency for International Cooperation, are jointly implementing the 'Sustainable Urban Development - Smart Cities' (SUD-SC) project.**

The project supports the Union Ministry and State Governments (Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala) in policy formulation on housing for all, basic services, planning framework, and in implementing concepts of integrated spatial and urban development approaches.

SUD-SC project has collaborated with CEPT Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) through a grant agreement to generate thematic knowledge products and undertake research to foster the capacities for Integrated Urban Development in the Indian context. CRDF through CUPP is working with GIZ India to achieve the following objectives and outputs under the SUD-SC project:

- Build Knowledge Materials on Integrated and Sustainable Urban Development
- 6 Knowledge Materials (Integrated Urban Development, Sustainable Urban Infrastructure, Affordable Housing, Participatory Governance)
- Conduct Training and Capacity Building Programs to leverage its partnerships with state training institutes and academia to deliver pilot trainings and organize exposure visits for government officials and practitioners through training modules.
- Facilitate Knowledge-sharing through peer exchange platform through a peer-learning knowledge exchange platform titled 'Sustainable Urban Knowledge and Actionable Learning Platform' (SUKALP), anchored by CRDF to facilitate discussions and sharing of best practices between a network of institutions and collaborators of the SUD-SC project.

# SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT



Credit : CRDF

## About CRDF

CRDF is the research and advisory arm of CEPT University. Through CRDF, the university engages actively in research projects, advisory assignments, and capacity building initiatives to solve critical problems in built environment and improve the quality of life in towns and cities. CRDF is organized around domain-focused centres typically overseen by a senior faculty member associated with CEPT University.

Project Leader:

- Dr. Saswat Bandyopadhyay, Professor CEPT University
- Principal Researchers
- Mr. Darshan Parikh, Director CRDF
- Mr. CK Koshy, IAS (Rtd.) and Advisor CRDF
- Dr. Sejal Patel, Professor CEPT University
- Mr. Utkarsh Patel, Sr. Consultant, CUPP, CRDF
- Mr. Tushar Bose, Associate Professor CEPT University

**#Sustainability #Urban #ClimateResilience**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF



Partners



About Team





## Housing and Planning

(1/3)

A Critical Analysis of the Efficacy of Institutional Framework in the Urban Planning Process of Kochi and Coimbatore.

Context

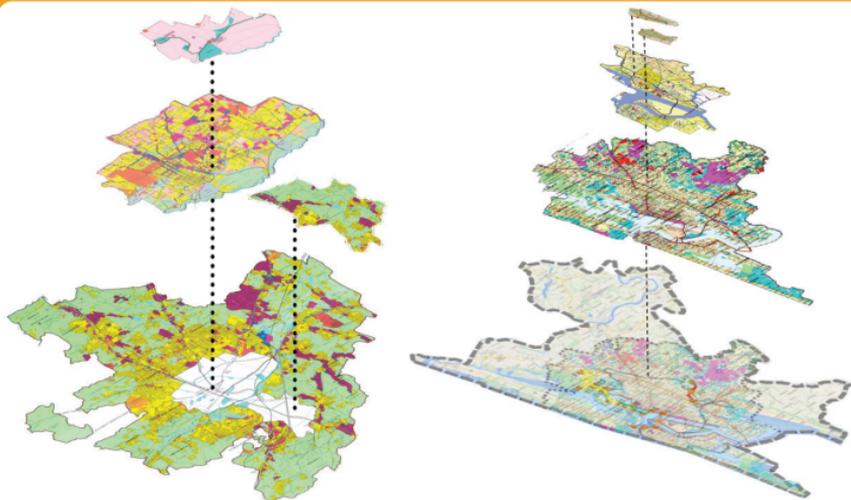


**An effective Institutional framework is required to tackle the urban challenges in a city and is important for effective master plan formulation and implementation, determining control of development and management of resources.**

The case study explores two cases of Kochi and Coimbatore to analyze the efficacy of Institutional Framework in the urban planning process based on formulation of Kochi and Coimbatore Master Plans. Both the cases are examined to understand whether the concept of 'Integrated Urban Development' is achieved through Master Plans and to document the methodology of master plan formulation with a focus on inter-sectoral and inter-departmental coordination.



Credit : CRDF



Credit : CRDF

This case study tries to understand the institutional framework and horizontal and vertical coordination between departments for master plan formulation. It focuses on the devolution of planning functions to ULBs and to analyze the integrated nature of plan formulation with consultations and citizen participation. It does not compare the two practices, but some similarities in the plan preparation process became evident during the study. Qualitative primary and secondary research methods were adopted and ground truthing was done to the extent possible in the pandemic condition.

- The study shows that the State's Control plays a key role in the urban planning process due to decentralization issues.
- There are multiple institutions with multiple mandates and overlapping jurisdiction, often resulting into divided responsibilities and non-implementation of planning interventions.
- Furthermore, the legislative framework is prescriptive with little room for manoeuvre.
- Therefore, there are Integrated Urban Planning limitations in the current context and the need to strengthen Institutional framework for urban plan preparation and implementation.

**#Sustainable #Integrated #UrbanPlanning**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Housing and Planning

(2/3)

### Training Program: Sustainable Urban Planning

Context



**Urban Planning culture and practice in India varies significantly from state to state. Legislative barriers, limited co-ordination and inter-sectoral integration create challenges for effective plan formulation and implementation. Hence, there is a need to adopt sustainable approach to urban planning practice.**

The Training Program on Sustainable Urban Planning intends to enable the learning of key tools for preparation and implementation of an urban plan in India; involve inputs related to current urban planning practices - preparation, implementation, approvals, statutory framework and institutional framework; and develop an understanding about processes, challenges and learnings from plan making processes followed in various states of India.

## ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAMME ON SUSTAINABLE URBAN PLANNING

KERALA : 28 - 29 JULY 2021  
ODISHA : 19 - 20 AUGUST 2021  
TAMILNADU : 17 - 18 SEPTEMBER 2021

 10:00 - 17:00 IST

 ZOOM PLATFORM





Approach



The program focused on understanding the plan making process in India. Experience and good practices from German planning systems were presented. Insights into various national urban planning policies, programs and missions were shared. The key highlight was sharing of different urban planning practices in states of India and levels of spatial planning including regional planning. Key Planning tools and mechanisms such as Development Plans/ Master Plans, Town Planning Schemes and Local Area Plans were explained using best practices.

Outcomes



- The Training Program brought together various National and International experts on the subject.
- It was able to disseminate knowledge to participants from various fields including Architecture, Planning, Engineering and allied fields.
- Most of the participants were mid-career professionals involved in Local Administration and Academia with an interest to learn about urban planning.
- The program was able to satisfy the expectations of the participants, that is, to focus on integration of sustainable urban planning in planning process.

**#Sustainable #Integrated #UrbanPlanning**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Housing and Planning

(3/3)

### Urban Spatial Data Framework for Small & Medium Towns

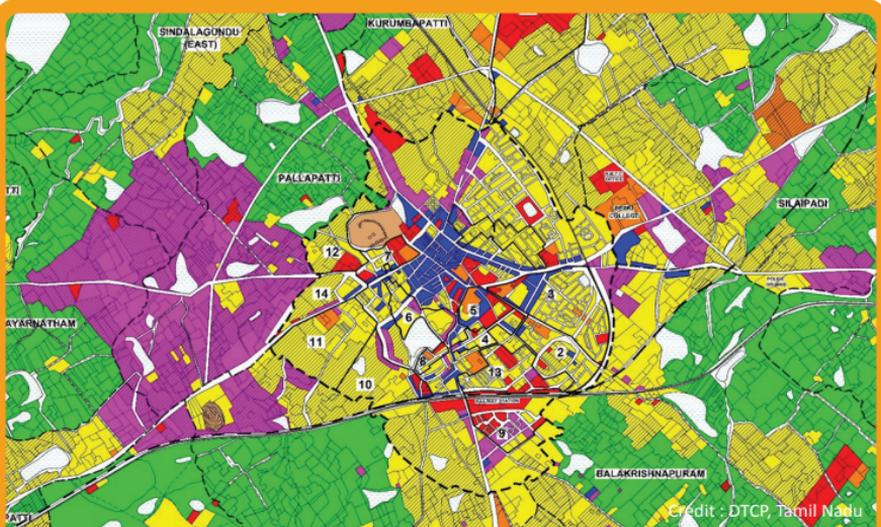
Context



The development of small and medium towns (SMT) in India continues to be haphazard. The SMT lack the necessary capacity for preparation and frequent revision of development plans, which largely remain rudimentary.

There is an urgent need for planned development of SMT as they play a vital role in maintaining the hierarchy of urban structure and the overall growth at a regional level. The SMT also play a major role in providing economic linkages to both cities as well as rural areas. Therefore, SMT require equal attention and priority in driving them towards sustainable planned growth in the future.





India traditionally has had a long history of systematically collecting spatial data for the preparation of spatial plans. However, the SMT have struggled to capture reliable geospatial datasets to prepare spatial plans. Recent initiatives by the government have now outlined the importance of solutions that deploy a data-driven and evidence-based approach to planning. Such an approach deploys technological solutions that continuously collect accurate, reliable, and updated geospatial data for the planning of towns and cities. However, it is essential for SMT to adopt a more a more focused approach towards planning.

The SMT require strategies to address their immediate town-specific issues. This requires:

- Prioritizing collection of relevant geospatial data based on immediate needs and availability of resources.
- Adopting an evidence-based strategic planning approach for planning.
- Promote higher degree of collaboration between various government departments and community in overall plan preparation process.
- Adopting a data-driven approach by institutionalizing context specific and workable Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)
- Capacity Building at local level.

[#spatialdata](#) [#evidencebasedplan](#) [#SMT](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Basic Services and Infrastructure

(1/3)

### Building Flood Resilience through Interlinking of Lakes: A Case of Ahmedabad

Context

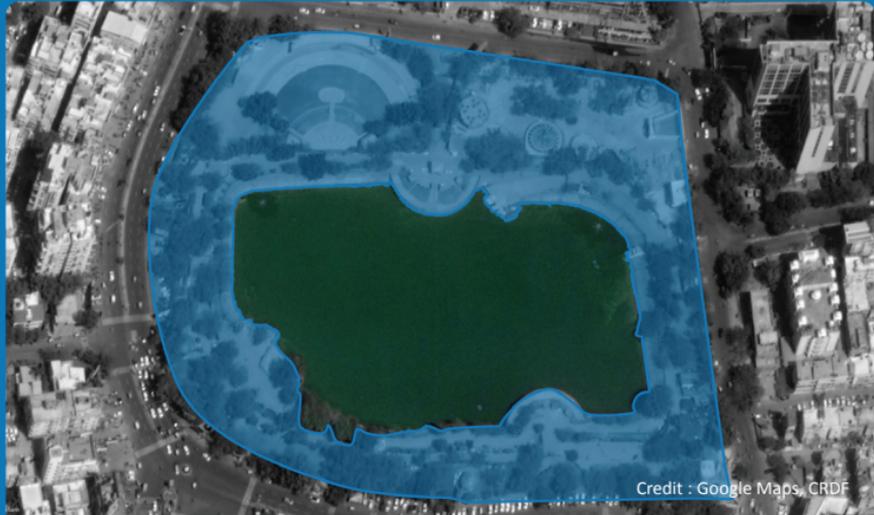


**Increased incidents of Urban Flooding due to High impact urbanization and Climate Change has directed cities towards sustainable urban water management.**

Urban water bodies are being reimagined and integrated with city infrastructure to optimize water resources usage and additional socio-economic benefits. The Lake Redevelopment and Interlinking of Lakes (LRIL) project of Ahmedabad is a unique example of ULB led Sustainable Urban Infrastructure for flood resilience and water security in the Indian context. It also contributes to SDGs 11 & 13.



Credit : Google Maps, CRDF



Credit : Google Maps, CRDF

## Approach



The case study attempts to look at urban lakes as a crucial infrastructure system for the sustainable management of the urban water cycle and building resilience against floods. It includes the background, concept and implementation of the Lake Redevelopment & Interlinking of Lakes Project. The study also dwells on understanding the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project.

## Outcomes



- Nature-based Infrastructure Solutions (NbS) protect cities from climate change vulnerabilities.
- Provide cities with added socio-economic benefits like green & recreational spaces, increase in land values etc.
- Land value capture can be used to fund NbS.
- NbS systems are susceptible to degradation or encroachment, and they need to be monitored and maintained to avoid rendering them useless.
- Statutory support and integration with Master Plans are necessary for better implementation and realization of true potential.

[#NaturebasedSolutions](#) [#ClimateResilience](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Basic Services and Infrastructure

(2/3)

### Round Table: Explaining possibilities of mainstreaming Sustainable Urban Infrastructure in Indian Cities

Context



**The emerging climate variability and flooding challenges in Indian cities stress the need to focus on sustainable, nature-based solutions for flood mitigation, urban water management, blue and green infrastructure development, and water sensitive urban planning and design.**

The roundtable on Sustainable Urban Infrastructure (SUI) intended to share the global and local practices of planning, design, and implementation of nature-based solutions and deliberate upon understanding the present barriers and opportunities for sustainable urban development in Indian cities.

## EXPLAINING POSSIBILITIES OF MAINSTREAMING SUSTAINABLE URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE IN INDIAN CITIES



WEDNESDAY  
3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2021  
1500 - 1745 IST

THE SESSION WAS  
HELD ONLINE VIA

zoom



The Inaugural session laid out the context, challenges, and opportunities related to the adoption of SUI in Indian cities, including water-sensitive designing and planning processes. The following Technical Session consisted of presentations and moderated panel discussion to discuss about national and global case studies/experiences. The concluding session discussed about the learnings and way ahead.

The round table brought critical insights on the topic:

- Coordination amongst local stakeholders, politicians and technical persons is critical for successfully implementing sustainable urban infrastructure initiatives.
- There is a need to redesign and retrofit urban areas to allow the water within the natural systems of the city.
- Sustainable Urban Infrastructure Solutions should be included in Master Plans and Regional Plans for mainstreaming these practices.

[#NaturebasedSolutions](#) [#ClimateResilience](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Basic Services and Infrastructure

(3/3)

### Training Program: Sustainable Urban Infrastructure & Nature-based Solutions for Indian Cities

Context



**The emerging climate variability and flooding challenges in Indian cities stress the need to focus on Nature-based Solutions for flood mitigation and sustainable urban water management with co-benefits through ecosystem services.**

The Training Program on Sustainable Urban Infrastructure (SUI) and Nature-based Solutions (NbS) intended to share the global and local practices of planning, design, and implementation of NbS and deliberate upon understanding the present barriers and opportunities for sustainable urban development in Indian cities.



ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAMME  
ON  
**SUSTAINABLE URBAN  
INFRASTRUCTURE &  
NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS  
FOR INDIAN CITIES**

Image Source: ABC Urban Programme, Singapore



15 - 17 JULY 2021



11:00 - 14:00 IST



ZOOM PLATFORM



The program focused on understanding and developing linkages between Climate Change, Cities and Infrastructure. It then detailed the conceptualization of Sustainable and Nature-based Infrastructure in the planning practice. Further, the analysis and application of NbS principles as alternatives were detailed. Finally, the program intended to devise strategies for the implementation of NbS. The program achieved these outcomes with the help of Technical Sessions by experts, Group exercises, Hands-on Experience and Panel Discussion.

The Training Program brought together various National and International experts on the subject.

- It disseminated knowledge to various professionals working in Architecture, Urban Planning, Engineering and allied fields.
- Most of the participants were mid-career professionals involved in Local Administration and Academia interested in learning about NbS.
- The program was able to satisfy the participants' expectations, that is, to focus on implementation tools and case-based learning of NbS other than the conceptual aspects of the subject.

[#NaturebasedSolutions](#) [#ClimateResilience](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Housing and Planning

(1/4)

Enabling the market to supply affordable housing through Inclusionary Zoning

Context



**Inclusionary Zoning (IZ) uses the planning system to create affordable housing and foster social inclusion by capturing resources created through the market.**

With the rising housing prices, governments need to focus on both housing needs and housing demands. Multiple strategies are required to tackle this affordable housing challenge, and IZ is one strategy that allows for creating inclusive communities with mixed-income groups living in the same neighborhoods. It also increases the supply of affordable housing without directly spending public money.



Credit : Johnny Miller, CRDF



Credit : CRDF

Approach



IZ of Ahmedabad takes a liberal market-driven approach for creating affordable housing and is delineated as a 1 km buffer zone on the outer edge of the city's outermost ring road in the Development Plan 2021. Here, affordable housing is defined not by its price but the size and is a tool for creating relatively small units, not spatial inclusion. In this respect, it has succeeded, creating over 31,000 dwelling units (DUs) since 2013 connected to basic services, amenities and public transport. 20% of these DUs are sized 30 sq. m. to 50 sq. m. and are affordable to households earning 50 – 80 % of the city's median income.

Outcomes



- The study gives recommendations to strengthen the IZ of Ahmedabad.
- These are to fast-track service land delivery, prioritize areas with transport connectivity and provide more incentives for small sized DUs.
- The study also recommends mainstreaming IZ as a spatial tool to provide affordable housing in other Indian cities with a competitive real estate market and growing land prices.

[#InclusionaryZoning](#) [#AffordableHousing](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Housing and Planning

(2/4)

### Round Table: Prioritizing Spatial Inclusion and Creation of Affordable Housing through Inclusionary Zoning

Context



The round table discussed national and international cases for mainstreaming Inclusionary Zoning (IZ) in Indian cities for creating affordable housing and prioritizing spatial inclusion.

IZ started in the USA in the 1970s to address racially motivated zoning and counteract the spatial exclusion of the poor. In 1990, the UK adopted it to create affordable housing units without directly spending public money. Brazil adopted it in 2002, and in India, Mumbai adopted it in 1991. In 2007, on the recommendation of NUHHP, several states and cities had adopted it. In Ahmedabad, IZ aims to provide housing to the income groups that are 'less catered'. Each case study offers learnings for the other cities.

#### PRIORITISING SPATIAL INCLUSION AND CREATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING THROUGH INCLUSIONARY ZONING IN INDIAN CITIES



FRIDAY  
30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021  
1500 - 1745 IST

THE SESSION WAS  
HELD ONLINE VIA

zoom



## Approach



The Inaugural Session outlined the context, challenges, and opportunities related to adopting IZ in Indian cities. The following Technical Session consisted of presentations and moderated panel discussions to discuss national and global case studies/experiences. Speakers were invited to discuss India, the UK, Brazil and South Africa. The concluding session discussed the learnings and the way ahead.

## Outcomes



The round table brought key insights on the topic of IZ :

- Brazil has made significant progress in applying planning tools to change market dynamics for a guaranteed supply of well-located serviced land for low-income families.
- The tool needs to be more transparent in the UK, where the developers negotiate with the local authorities.
- IZ in South Africa is nascent, and they emphasize having a national level policy like Brazil for mainstreaming IZ.

These findings were incorporated in the case study for Affordable Housing.

[#InclusionaryZoning](#) [#AffordableHousing](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Housing and Planning

(3/4)

### Round Table: Knowledge Sharing on Inclusionary Zoning as a spatial planning tool in India and South Africa

Context



**The Round Table facilitated an exchange of experiences and learnings from the global south between India and South Africa.**

The round table discussed the policy and practice of Inclusionary Zoning (IZ) in Ahmedabad, India and policy formulation for IZ in Cape Town, South Africa. India has implemented multiple IZ policies and programs at the state and local levels: The IZ of Ahmedabad is an example of good practice at the local level. In South Africa, the government does not have an IH policy at the national level, but various local governments have formulated IH regulations for their cities. There is an opportunity for a south-south exchange and peer learning from each other's experience in IZ.

#### KNOWLEDGE SHARING ON THE INCLUSIONARY ZONING AS A SPATIAL PLANNING TOOL IN INDIA AND SOUTH AFRICA



FRIDAY  
03<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021  
1730 - 1930 IST

THE SESSION WAS  
HELD ONLINE VIA

zoom



## Approach



This round table was held in association with Development Action Group, South Africa and Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. The Inaugural Session laid out the context, challenges, and opportunities related to adopting IZ in the global south. The following Technical Session consisted of presentations and a plenary session to discuss the experience of India and South Africa. Eminent participants from government, private, academia, and NGO sectors in both countries joined to share their knowledge and views.

## Outcomes



The round table brought key insights on the topic of IZ in India and South Africa:

- IZ creates housing units that are well located, bringing opportunities to the households living in them.
- The advantage of using an overlay zone is that it makes the process faster.
- The round table received positive feedback from the participants, who found the session helpful.
- The participants have shown interest in other peer exchanges on specific topics and case studies related to IH, collaborative action learning research and academic exchange.

**#InclusionaryZoning #AffordableHousing**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Affordable Housing

(4/4)

### Online Course: Integrated Housing Strategy

Context



**The city is an integrated housing market where market failure in any submarket has ramifications across the city. Therefore, housing strategies must handle distortion and barriers across all sub-markets rather than focus only on lower-income sub-market.**

There has been a shift in Indian housing policies. The government has taken multiple roles: providing housing and services, enabling markets for providing housing and partnering with private players. By undertaking these roles over the years, the current policies undertake both provisionary and enabling approaches. Although this approach is commendable, the housing policies in India are often found to be ill-targeted.

ONLINE COURSE

# INTEGRATED HOUSING STRATEGY

AVAILABLE AT NULP AND SUKALP





Credit : CRDF

INFORMAL  
SUBSTANDARD

FORMAL  
SUBSTANDARD

SOCIAL  
HOUSING

AFFORDABLE  
RENTAL  
HOUSING

AFFORDABLE  
HOME  
OWNERSHIP

MARKET  
RENTAL  
HOUSING

MARKET  
HOME  
OWNERSHIP

Approach



In order to address this gap, an integrated housing strategy with multiple sub-strategies need to be formulated for various sub-markets keeping in mind the city's local land and labor market. In this training course, we identify different approaches to cater to different submarkets and discuss inclusionary housing, strategies for informal settlement and affordable rental housing strategies.

Outcomes



Learning outcomes

- Recognize the extent of the Affordable Housing Challenge, globally and in India, and the shift in the housing policies and approaches to affordable housing over the years.
- Comprehend key concepts: Housing Affordability, Housing Price to Income Ratio, Housing Demand, Housing Need and the Housing Continuum.
- Rightsizing the role of the state.

Integrated Housing Strategy is available as a self-paced learning course in various learning platforms like NULP & SUKALP.

[#InclusionaryZoning](#) [#AffordableHousing](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Sustainable Development Goals and Governance <sup>(1/2)</sup>

### Case Study: Improving access to shelter & basic services for urban poor through participatory platforms

Context



Participation is a vital tool for inclusive and integrated development. Till the 1990s, it was limited to the social and political arena. However, discussions over “participation in urban governance” has seen growing interest lately.

The case study explores two empirical responses to the need of creating a participatory mechanism for citizen engagement. The first response is from Kerala in the form of multiple participatory platforms in urban governance, while the second belongs to Odisha. Both the practices aspire to develop ways in which citizens can effectively influence decision-making for the issues that directly affect their lives.



Credit : CRDF



Approach



This case study tries to understand the national, state and local mandates and their implementation with respect to the creation of participatory platforms , their convergence and effectiveness in practice. It does not compare the two practices, but some similarities in principles became evident during the study. Qualitative and quantitative primary and secondary research methods were adopted and ground truthing was done to the extent possible in the pandemic condition.

Outcomes



- Decentralized and participatory governance processes are central for deepening democracy, improving service delivery and accountability.
- The creation of institutionalized participatory platforms needs to be supported by substantial and meaningful participation from the grassroots.
- The existence of multiple platforms and their convergences show that citizens use these participatory platforms to exit in dynamic relationships, build skills, and influence decisions.

[#ParticipatoryUrbanGovernance](#)

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Sustainable Development Goals and Governance (2/2)

### Round Table: Improving access to shelter & basic services for urban poor through participatory platforms

Context



**There has been little progress in India with respect to decentralization and participatory urban governance. In this context, the roundtable intended to deliberate on the challenges and prospects of participatory governance.**

Even after almost 30 years of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act and 16 years of Community Participation Law, the reforms to devolve fiscal and functional autonomy to urban local bodies and participatory governance processes have been underwhelming in their implementation. Some states have attempted to create robust decentralized and participatory structures. Key lessons from these states can become guiding principals for other states.

### IMPROVING ACCESS TO SHELTER AND BASIC SERVICES FOR URBAN POOR THROUGH PARTICIPATORY PLATFORMS



FRIDAY  
27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021  
1530 - 1800 IST

THE SESSION WAS  
HELD ONLINE VIA

zoom



The round table on 'Participatory Urban Governance' provided a platform for experts from different backgrounds to come together and discuss. It was carried out in the form of a technical session and a panel discussion. The roundtable saw presentations and discussions from Government officials, practitioners and academia. Deliberations in the round table centred around several good practices, challenges, and opportunities to strengthen participatory urban governance.

- Experts highlighted that strengthening participation through social and political empowerment of communities is essential.
- Forming linkages with community action groups, strengthening Ward Secretariats, using tools like participatory budgeting were discussed as entry points for citizen engagement.
- Learnings and recommendations from the roundtable contributed to the case study on 'Participatory Urban Governance'.

**#ParticipatoryUrbanGovernance**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Digital Tools and Platforms

(1/1)

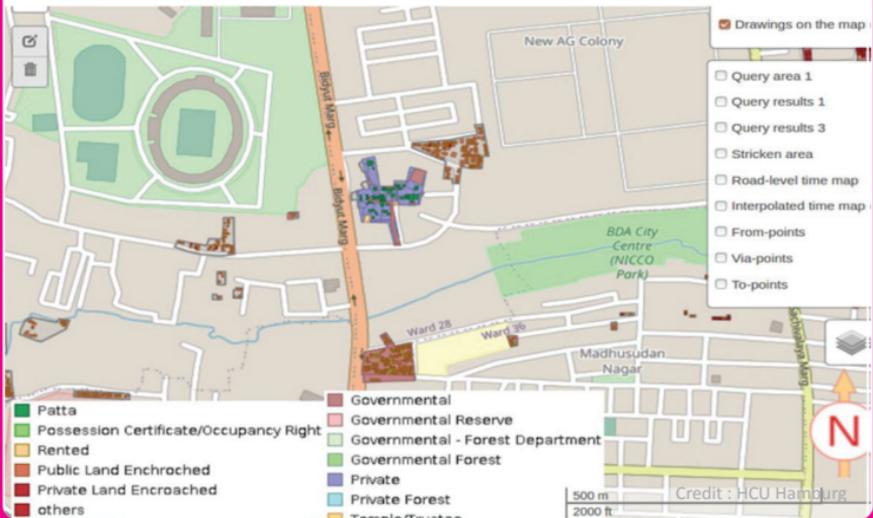
### Case study: Digital Collaboration and Participation in Urban Planning through CityScope/ TOSCA

Context



The practice of urban planning, globally, is becoming more evidence-oriented, collaborative and participatory using digital tools. There is a need to adopt these tool such as TOSCA in India as well.

With the increasing complexity of the cities, projecting their growth and planning for the future becomes more challenging. It demands a shift from a hierarchical to a more collaborative and participatory approach. Digital tools and technology offer more evidence-based and collaborative approaches leading to more integrated and responsive planning. CityScope is a digital tool that finds use in multiple urban applications such as traffic planning, emergency service provision, disaster risk assessment and other climate-related areas.





Credit : GIZ India

## Approach



CityScope is a web-based, open-source tool that can be accessed remotely and customized depending on the users' needs. The tool can be further optimized for use by ordinary citizens and non-experts making it suitable for collaborative and participatory planning processes in urban development. It creates a usable interface by moving all the complex algorithms to the background and ease of visualization to the forefront. The open-source nature of this platform makes it easily accessible and operationally sustainable. CityScope has been recently renamed 'Toolkit for Open and Sustainable City Planning and Analysis (TOSCA)' by its developer based in HafenCity University (HCU), Hamburg, Germany.

## Outcomes



In order to strengthen the application of digital tools, the study proposed recommendations at policy, capacity building and implementation levels :

- Development of easy-to-understand guidelines and toolkits
- Training existing and future urban development professionals
- In order to support the city-level implementation of CityScope/ TOSCA, the city-level resource organizations should be developed to handhold to local urban local bodies in their implementation

**#Digital #Resilience #Participatory**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Digital Tools and Platforms

(1/2)

### SUKALP - Sustainable Urban Knowledge & Actionable Learning Platform

Context



**SUKALP is a collaborative effort of GIZ 'Sustainable Urban Development - Smart Cities (SUD-SC)' grantee partners in India, with CRDF, CEPT University acting as a custodian.**

SUKALP is a response to an identified need for 'focused' information exchange and synergies on urban planning domain in the Indian context. With an overload of information on the internet, there is a need for a credible platform to serve as a resource centre for learning and advocacy material, important Government orders and policies, case studies including best practices, training and capacity building modules, workshops reports and publications.



Credit : <https://sukalp.crdf.org.in/>



Credit : CRDF

Approach



Initially, SUKALP shall comprise of the following organizations: GIZ GmbH (Mentor), CRDF CEPT University Ahmedabad (Anchor, Member), CPR New Delhi (Member), ICRIER New Delhi (Member), IGIDR Mumbai (Member) and Anna University, Tirunelveli (Member). This effort, to create a brand-new network is being done with an objective to explore the creation and hosting of knowledge material that leverages thematic research and contributes to the overall knowledge base of integrated and sustainable urban development in India.

Outcomes



- The platform encompasses thematic areas such as spatial planning, urban infrastructure, affordable housing, climate change & resilience and urban governance.
- Many resources, online self paced learning courses, reports and databases from previous research that have been made available.
- Through this platform, the network will also advocate for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its targets for Indian cities to achieve by 2030.

**#Digital #Learning #KnowledgeExchange**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF





## Digital Tools and Platforms

(2/2)

### Plan OK Please 2021

Context



The 'Plan OK Please' is an annual symposium for advancing the concepts of integrated spatial planning and management in Indian cities. It aims to be India's largest discussion platform for the community of Urban Planners.

The 'Plan OK Please' symposium was first organized by GIZ India in partnership with the Government of Tamil Nadu in 2018 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. In 2019, GIZ India and the Government of Odisha organized the second 'Plan OK Please' symposium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Since then, it was resolved to make 'Plan OK Please' an annual symposium.





## Approach



'Plan OK Please-2021' was a hybrid event held virtually as well as physically at Delhi. The theme for the symposium was 'Cities and Pandemics - Rethinking Urban Morphologies', considering the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in the cities of Global South. Further, the symposium deliberations were structured under the following sub-themes:

- Sub-Theme I: Rethinking Urban Governance and Policies
- Sub-Theme II: Rethinking Urban Spatial Planning
- Sub-Theme III: Rethinking Nature-Based Solutions
- Sub-Theme IV: Rethinking Affordable Housing

## Outcomes



- 'Plan OK Please-2021' facilitates peer-to-peer learning amongst various countries and brought in over 35 national and international experts to discuss practices from India, Brazil, South Africa and Germany.
- The symposium is also brought together urban policy makers, government officials, academia, researchers, practitioners, and civil society actors.
- Over 1000 participants joined online and offline.
- The proceedings of the two-days symposium are available on the SUKALP platform.

**#Symposium #Hybrid #Peer-Learning**

Joint publication of GIZ and CRDF

