



National Conference on

Enabling Policy Frameworks for Climate Resilient Cities

8 July, 2016

Venue: Juniper, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

Introductory Note

Climate change is one of the foremost emerging challenges, the impacts of which are increasingly manifesting themselves through highly erratic instances of weather deviations and induced extreme events. While both urban and rural areas are vulnerable to climate change, its impacts on cities and towns are of particular concern due to high concentrations of people and infrastructure in these areas (TERI, 2014¹). While urban centres in India are the new engines of economic growth, yet they are grappling with issues such as infrastructure deficits, inadequate basic service provision, clubbed with multiple climate hazards. Recent climate calamities and the accompanied loss and damage have caused calls for a deeper look at the preparedness and adaptive capacity of the regions that are vulnerable to climate induced disasters and extreme events. The damage assessment figures for the Vizag cyclone in 2014 indicate a total loss of INR 90,000 crores (\$20 billion). Similarly the floods in Jammu & Kashmir in September 2014, caused a total damage of INR 6,000 crores (\$1 billion). The floods in Mumbai in the year 2015 caused a direct loss of about INR 550 crores (approx. \$100 million) (TERI, 2015²). These calamities are grim reminders of the need to factor in extreme events that are predicted to increase as a result of climate change. With meticulous planning, taking into account considerations of climate resilience, urban planners and policy-makers can address some of the issues and improve living conditions of the people.

In this context, The Asian Cities Climate Change Resilient Network (ACCCRN), 9-year initiative (2008-2016) supported by the Rockefeller Foundation has been instrumental in bringing forth the urban climate change resilience agenda to cities in Asia. In India, with ACCCRN's support, several cities like Surat, Indore, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Mysore, Bhubaneswar and Shimla have developed and demonstrated effective processes and practices for addressing urban climate

¹ TERI. 2014. Climate Proofing Indian Cities: A Policy Perspective

² TERI. 2015. Towards a Policy for Climate Resilient Infrastructure and Services in Coastal Cities. *Policy Brief*

vulnerabilities using participatory planning as well as implementing targeted intervention projects. The process is also being replicated to other cities that are coming up with their own city resilience strategies (CRS). However, the ACCCRN experience has revealed that due to the lack of an enabling policy environment, institutional and financial arrangements, and statutory backing, these cities are facing challenges in implementing the CRS documents in a comprehensive manner.

In order to address these challenges, TERI in association with the Rockefeller Foundation in 2014, initiated a study to build a positive interest and dialogue on the subject at the state level. The state level policy research and engagement was undertaken in Uttarakhand and Goa which involved detailed policy reviews and multi-departmental engagements. The study has resulted in identification of entry points in the form of a detailed policy roadmap for bringing in urban climate resilience in cities within the states. With an objective of disseminating the knowledge and experience generated through the program, TERI with support from Rockefeller Foundation is organizing a National Conference on **'Enabling policy frameworks for climate resilient cities'** on 8th July 2016 at Juniper Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. The objective of the conference is to facilitate a discussion on mainstreaming climate change concerns in urban policy and planning at multi levels of governance for building urban climate resilience. In this context, the conference will highlight the specific experiences of Uttarakhand and Goa from TERI-Rockefeller Foundation program along with replication insights for other coastal and hilly regions.

Mainstreaming climate resilience in urban policy and planning is particularly important in the context of the recently launched urban development schemes of Government of India- AMRUT and Smart Cities Mission which will lead to intensive investment in urban areas in the near future. These programmes provide an opportunity to factor in the principles of resilience in our policy measures and planning guidelines. To this end, a panel discussion during the conference will facilitate a dialogue that explores the integration of climate change resilience in the Smart cities discourse in India. The deliberations during the conference are expected to result in identification of key enablers for aligning and mainstreaming climate resilience in city planning in India. The key discussion and outcome points from these deliberations will be shared with relevant ministries as well as global programs.



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Agenda

Inaugural		
9:30 to 10:00 AM	Registration	
10:00 to 10:15 AM	Welcome Address	Dr Ajay Mathur Director General TERI
10:15 to 10:30 AM	Background Presentation by TERI	Ms Raina Singh, Associate Fellow, TERI
10:30 to 10:40 AM	Release of publications and animation	
10:40 to 10:55 AM	Inaugural Address	Shri R R Rashmi, IAS Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, Government of India
10:55 to 11:00 AM	Vote of Thanks	Ms Akshima Ghate Associate Director, Sustainable Habitat Division, TERI
11:30 AM to 12:00 PM	Tea Break	
Session 1- State level policy roadmaps for mainstreaming urban climate resilience This session will disseminate the outcomes of the study undertaken by TERI with support from the Rockefeller Foundation. The study was undertaken in Uttarakhand and Goa with the objective of identifying entry points and preparing a policy roadmap for bringing in urban climate resilience in cities within these states. Session Chair: Dr P G Dhar Chakrabarti, Distinguished Fellow, TERI		
11:45 AM to 12:15 PM	TERI-Rockefeller's program- Approach and Outcomes	Ms Rozita Singh and

			Ms Riya Rahiman, Research Associates, Sustainable Habitat Division, TERI
<p>Session 2- Panel discussion on Policy enablers for climate resilient smart cities</p> <p>The session would particularly focus on the Smart Cities Mission as an opportunity for factoring in climate change concerns in urban development policy measures and planning guidelines. The session will aim at identifying the key enablers for aligning and mainstreaming climate resilience in city planning in India. In this context, the session would also highlight the experiences of Uttarakhand and Goa from TERI and Rockefeller Foundation’s program along with replication insights for other coastal and hilly regions.</p> <p>Session Co-Chairs: Dr P G Dhar Chakrabarti, Distinguished Fellow, TERI Prof Usha Raghupathi, National Institute of Urban Affairs</p>			
	12:00 to 1:30 PM	Panel Discussion	
		Distinguished members of the Panel <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Swayan Pal Chaudhuri, CEO and MD- Panaji Smart City (SPV) 2. Mr Tikender Singh Panwar Deputy Mayor, Shimla 3. Mr Amit Meena Corporation Secretary, Kochi Municipal Corporation 4. Mr Hitesh Vaidya, Country Manager, UN-Habitat, India 5. Dr Manvendra Deswal, Head – Smart City Mission, CII 	
	1:30-2:30 PM	LUNCH	
<p>Session 3 -Sensitizing policy-making and practice – Approaches and learning from climate resilience initiatives in India</p> <p>The session would focus on the learning and experiences of innovative approaches developed by practitioners in the area of urban development and climate change adaptation. The session would specifically discuss the key learning from those initiatives that have demonstrated impact on policy and practice.</p> <p>Session Chair: Dr Cristina Rumbaitis Del Rio, Regional Programme Manager, Action on Climate Today, DFID-Climate Proofing Growth and Development Programme, India</p>			
	2:30 to 4:00 PM	Panel Discussion	
		Distinguished members of the Panel <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Saon Ray, Senior Fellow, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) 2. Dr Sumetee Pahwa Gajjar, Lead – Practice, Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IHS) 	

		3. Ms Raina Singh, Associate Fellow, Sustainable Habitat Division, TERI 4. Mr Raj Cherubal, Director, Chennai City Connect 5. Ms Ayesha Dinshaw, Associate, Climate Resilience, World Resources Institute	
Valedictory Session			
	4:00 to 4:20 PM	Valedictory Address	Shri Rajiv Gauba, IAS Secretary - Urban Development, Government of India
	4:20 to 4:30 PM	Vote of Thanks	Dr Ajay Mathur Director General TERI
	4:30 PM onwards	High Tea	