

ONLINE TRAINING

Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Inclusive Climate Action Planning for Urban Local Bodies



FOREWORD

Indian cities are particularly vulnerable to climate change. Rapid urbanization and uncontrolled land use have exacerbated several climate risks, particularly flooding and heat waves. It has also accelerated the growth of low-income communities who remain the most susceptible to extreme climatic events. As the country urbanizes, Indian cities need to incorporate climate considerations within urban development and work towards a people-centric urban design. Choices made today will shape the future impacts of climate change and the capacity of cities to adapt to them.

However, effective urban climate action and mainstreaming requires adequate technical, financial and institutional capacities. Indian cities require technical support to quantify their greenhouse gas (GHG) emission profiles, formulate inclusive climate strategies and mainstream climate change within urban planning. This brochure highlights some of the key features and outcomes of the training series on GHG inventory and inclusive climate action planning, conducted for urban local bodies in India. Organized by IUC India, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia and World Resources Institute India, these workshops saw participation from 18 states and 77 cities and districts. The training was aimed at equipping cities, state officials and urban local bodies with the knowledge and skills required to design people-friendly climate policies, supported by robust GHG inventories, in a data-constrained context. Conducted in a participatory manner, it provided a platform to discuss key climate related issues, understand the needs and experiences of urban officials, learn the principles and benefits of creating GHG emissions inventories and apply these to build inclusive climate action plans.

With climate change fast entering the arena of urban policy discussions in India, these online trainings can be a starting point to scale up similar capacity building exercises throughout the country, thus furthering India's capacity to tackle climate change.

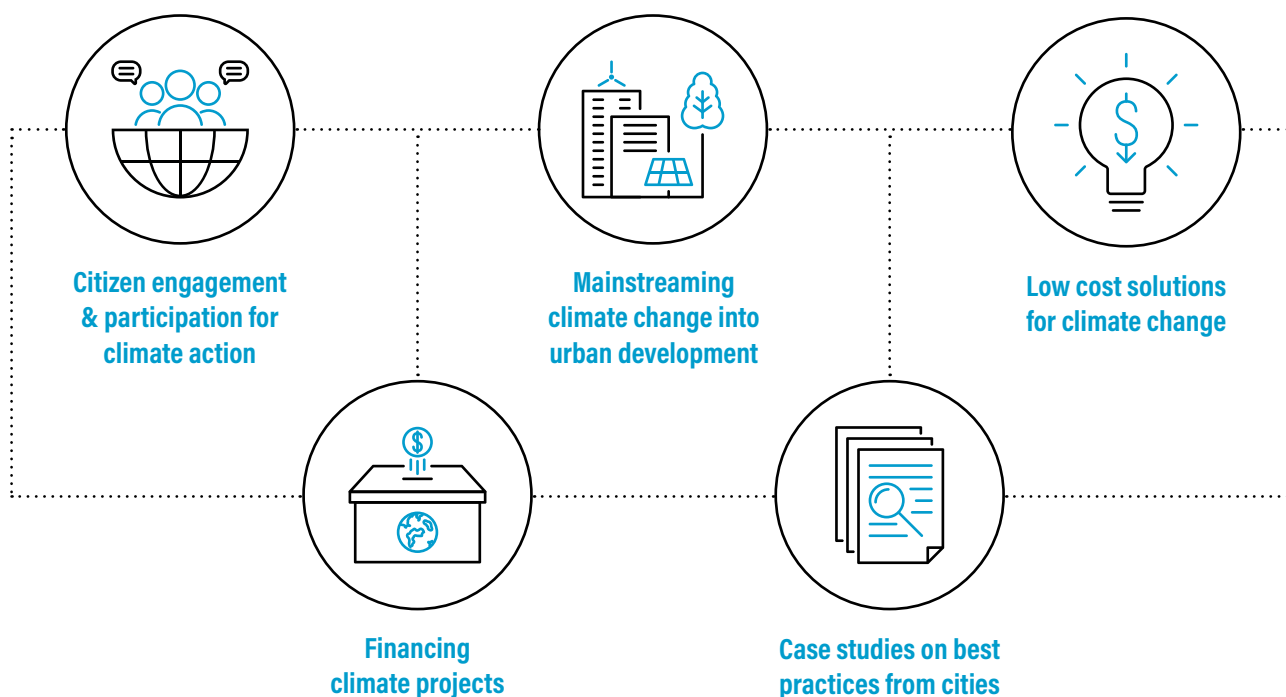


Dr. O. P. Agarwal
CEO, WRI India

BACKGROUND

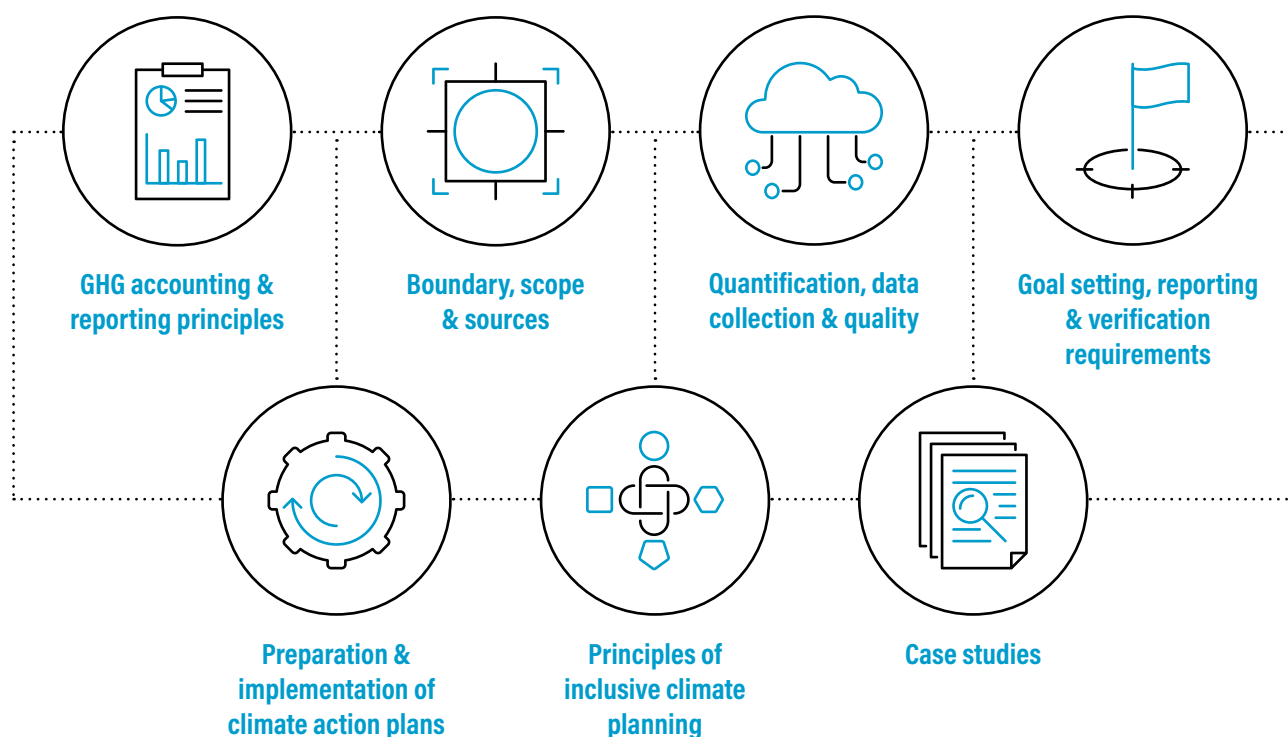
Cities across the world are designing and implementing ground-breaking solutions to mitigate climate change. However, when it comes to Indian cities, insufficient analytical and technical capacity has been a primary barrier. Lack of awareness about the cross-sectoral nature of climate issues further leads to a fragmented, siloed approach towards climate governance. This joint capacity building initiative by WRI India, in partnership with International Urban Cooperation (IUC) and ICLEI South Asia was aimed at strengthening capacities of urban local bodies and city officials that are engaged in developing and implementing inclusive strategies across climate-relevant sectors. The online training focused on strengthening understanding of urban development through the climate lens by providing a holistic overview of climate risks and vulnerabilities, impacts on urban life and the role of Indian cities in mainstreaming climate goals into their developmental priorities. Perhaps most critically, this series of trainings took a closer look at how cities can design climate action plans keeping people at the center of the policy making process.

The training emphasized on incorporating aspects of social, economic, and spatial inclusion into the planning process through **five priorities**:



KEY FEATURES

The training program covered **key thematic areas** - basics of climate science, principles of GHG accounting, climate governance, finance and principles of inclusive climate action planning.

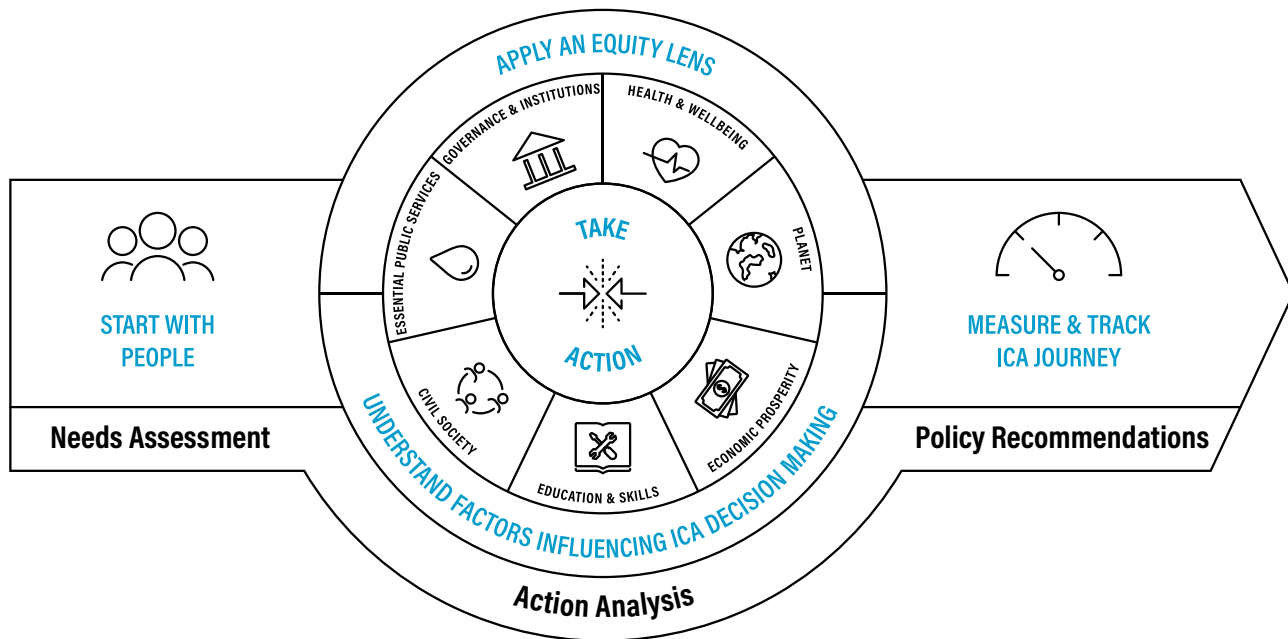


Pedagogy of the Sessions

- Interactive and participative with discussion on each city's needs, challenges and experiences.
- Introspective with simple hands-on exercises and quizzes.
- Designed for and contextualized to Indian cities.
- Engaging with videos, images, and insightful graphics.

One of the unique features of the training series was the session on **'principles of inclusive climate action planning'**. Recognizing the international community's acknowledgement of the need to create more inclusive cities, along with the Sustainable Development Goal 11 ("inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" cities), these sessions attempted to understand the challenge cities face in building inclusive communities. The need for and the process of integrating inclusivity as a climate action planning strategy to ensure a just-transition were also discussed.

The focus areas were covered using a three-pronged approach from the **'inclusive climate action planning tool'** as illustrated:



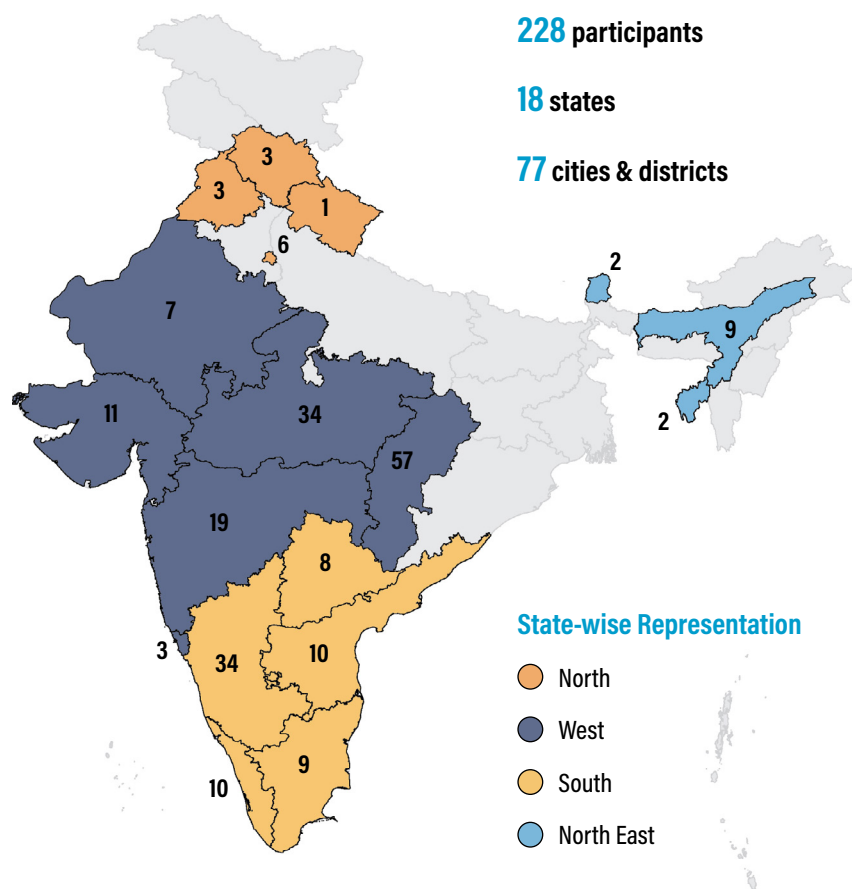
The participants were trained on how to address inclusivity within the **three elements** of climate action process, planning policies and their impacts:

- Inclusivity of Processes**
 Understand the challenges and needs by diverse engagements with diverse set of stakeholders suffering from the impacts of climate change to ensure equity throughout the process.
- Inclusivity of Policy**
 Analyze actions by keeping people at the center of policymaking to ensure accessibility and fairness
- Inclusivity of Impact**
 Design clear mechanisms for measuring, monitoring and evaluating the distribution of impacts across citizen groups within climate programs, actions and policies.

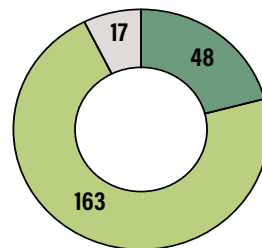
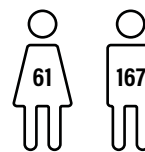
Participants were also trained to understand and apply the principles and steps of inclusive planning by walking them through their own city specific examples. For this, the 'Inclusive climate action planning database' was elucidated along with case studies. This will enable the participants to tailor the tool for designing policy recommendations at their local geographies by including the priority actions set by its smart city vision. This process was designed to correlate with indicators from the Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

The session concluded by illustrating policy recommendation summaries targeted to result in reduced city-wide GHG emissions and possible measures for ensuring just-transition within set climate action targets.

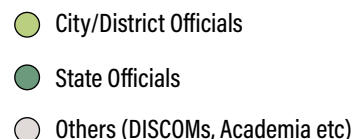
PARTICIPATION



Gender Representation



Organizational Representation



DISCLAIMER: This map is for illustrative purpose and does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WRI, concerning the legal status of any country or territory or concerning the delimitation of frontiers or boundaries.

A survey conducted at the end of each training program revealed some of the key takeaways by participants:

- The trainings helped the participants understand the basic concepts of preparing GHG inventories, scope categorization and emission sources and utilizing them for developing stakeholder driven climate action plans.
- The trainings helped with the understanding of global warming potential and tools for implementing the CSCAF.
- The sessions provided insights on how to integrate aspects of gender, community and livelihood during the planning and implementation processes.
- The trainings helped participants understand how to use the inclusive climate action planning module to create a climate resilience map for the city.

TESTIMONIALS



The city level heads can use the information from the trainings to chalk out a plan for addressing the GHG issues in their ULBs and execute it in a well phased out activity schedule inclusive of allocation of requisite resources.

Ernest Leslie,
Research Officer,
Regional Center for Urban and Environmental Studies

It was really satisfying to be a part of the 2-day webinar on “Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Inclusive Climate Action Planning for Urban Local Bodies”. While the emission inventory tool was one of the important take away from the web event. I feel that the people’s participation under citizen Science program, low-cost sensor technology and cost benefit analysis of air pollution monitoring & control vis-a-vis climate resilience & improvement may also be the focal point of future activities. Nevertheless, thank you once again to include me in the activity.

Dr. Gunwant Joshi,
Lab Head,
MP PCB, Bhopal

Post the training, upcoming & recently initiated Solid Waste Management projects can be well implemented considering the emission protocols and other aspects with respect to climate change. Climate change action plan will be a new approach to our work in SWM sector.

Nayana K. S.,
Environmental Engineer,
Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation

The training helped me learn on how strategy planning can be done for climate action plan using climate smart city assessment framework.

Keerthi S.,
Environmental Engineer,
Chennai Smart City Limited



TEAM

Chirag Gajjar
Head, Subnational Climate Action
chirag.gajjar@wri.org

Avni Agarwal
Project Associate
avni.agarwal@wri.org

Saransh Bajpai
Consultant
saransh.bajpai@wri.org

Subrata Chakrabarty
Senior Manager
subrata.chakrabarty@wri.org

Komal Khatri
Project Associate
komal.khatri@wri.org

Ramya MA
EPP Consultant
ramya.ma@wri.org

Priyal Shah
Project Associate
priyal.shah@wri.org

Faiza Solanki
EPP Consultant
faiza.solanki@wri.org



WRI INDIA

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