



PEARL

Update



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NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN INDIA JANUARY 18, 2013

Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) in collaboration with Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoE&F) and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) organized a one-day national workshop on Sustainable Solid Waste Management (SWM) as part of PEARL network activities. The workshop shared good practices from Indian cities on financing issues, public-private partnership (PPP) models for service delivery, and zero-waste models in an attempt to learn from each other.

Ms. Nisha Singh, Joint Secretary, MoUD in her opening remarks and Shri Hem Pandey, Additional Secretary, MoEF in his address mentioned that MoUD and MoEF have joined up to develop the Solid Waste Regulatory Rule which all urban local bodies (ULBs) need to implement at ground level.

The first session (Legal and Regulatory Issues in SWM) identified set of issues/barrier that need to be overcome. Critical issues identified included need for (i) capacity augmentation at ULB level, (ii) institutional strengthening at ULB level to strengthen service delivery, (iii) creating household awareness on need and their responsibility to segregate waste at source, (iv) states to develop State Urban Sanitation Strategy including preparation of a solid waste management strategy, (v) regulatory strengthening to attract private sector in SWM including development of long-term legal contracting procedures, model concession agreement, uniform policy in waste management, etc., (vi) improved cost recovery systems, (vii) improved marketing of waste products, (viii) better coordination with civil society and informal sector stakeholders, and (ix) better knowledge networking, among others. On modern waste disposal technological aspects, (i) the need for policy and regulatory shifts to successfully implement waste-to-energy projects, (ii) need to move to bio-methanation in place of decentralized composting, (iii) policy shifts for managing 'new kinds of wastes', among others were identified.

The second session (Private Sector Perspectives and Financing Issues) highlighted the need for (i) creation of an independent regulatory body to monitor PPP

contracts and contractual terms, and (ii) exploring regional approaches to waste management for cities producing below 150 MT of municipal waste to attract the private sector.

The third session (PPP and Economic Models in SWM-Learning from Cities) highlighted the need for (i) assessing market potential of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) and framing of rules/ regulations to encourage this, (ii) undertaking financial analysis of success models to understand economic viability factors, and (iii) having one specialist position in (Environmental Engineer) the JNNURMPMU specializing in SWM. The experts also emphasized that ULBs need to propose SWM projects treating JNNURM funds as viability gap financing rather than being completely dependent on grant financing.

The fourth session (Zero Waste) called for moving away from waste incineration and opting for other scientific disposal options that can maximize re-use of end products, as well as engaging with the informal sector stakeholders to achieve reduced waste disposal burden.

The wrap-up session called for stronger links with community groups like resident welfare associations, women self-help groups and youth groups for improving door-to-door collection and communication activities. The experts also indicated that ULBs and states need to work towards resolving land constraint issues for treatment of solid waste, and called upon ULBs to develop sustainable business models for municipal SWM.



JNNURM EXPERIENCE SHARING WORKSHOP

The MoUD in collaboration with NIUA organised a workshop titled 'Sharing Experiences of Lessons Learned from Mission Cities' in Khajuraho on March 14-15, 2013. The event saw participation from ULBs, states, research institutions, etc.

The first session was on urban services - water supply, wastewater management, solid waste management and urban mobility. Discussions on water supply highlighted the need for (i) commercial orientation of water supply projects, (ii) reducing non-revenue water, (iii) strengthening complaint redressal systems, (iv) piloting 24x7 water projects before full scale-up, (v) managing expectations on results (at least 5 year timeline before results are visible), (vi) increasing tariffs before the private operator is mobilized in case of PPP projects, (vii) handholding support post-metering, (viii) giving private players a free hand in operationalization once basic tenets of the PPP arrangement are agreed, and (ix) training and capacity building of policy makers and other officials on 24x7 projects.

On urban mobility, the discussions highlighted the need for ULBs to set up Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) to manage and operate bus rapid transit systems (BRTS), (i) including incentives and penalties to govern operations including bus ownership and operations, fare collection, bus station cleaning and maintenance, (ii) exploring options of raising revenues from bus corridors such as in case of Ahmedabad BRTS where advertisements on bus stops and additional floor space index (FSI) along the BRT have been used.

The second session was on sustainable financial management in ULBs. Key discussions included encouraging ULBs to (i) move towards modern accounting, and (ii) undertake other financial reforms including audit and asset management, (iii) adopt modern computerized data entry and management systems, and (iv) introduce incentives for their staff and undertake skill strengthening and capacity building.

The third session on smart cities with good urban governance called on cities to move to e-governance exploring options of open source software and centralized multi-tiered architecture, among others. All ULBs were encouraged to ensure cyber-security for their website(s) as per national law. It was also felt that information generated out of e-governance systems should be made available to the public either free or at a reasonable cost.

The final session on inclusive pro-poor cities called for improved systems of beneficiary identification, prioritization of slums, implementation of low-income housing land reservation, and in-situ redevelopment of slums. It was also felt that absence of appropriate norms and standards for low-income housing is a major roadblock to scaling-up housing stock.

ART OF KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE WORKSHOP JANUARY 22, 2013

Under the PEARL-CA Project, NIUA organized a half day workshop on The Art of Knowledge Exchange, facilitated by Ms. Shobha Kumar, Sr. Learning Specialist at World Bank Institute. Ms. Kumar introduced and demonstrated the Bridge Model for Knowledge Exchange and also elaborated on the use of various instruments and activities that help improve the efficiency of knowledge exchange programs. The workshop which was conducted in the form of an interactive session, saw participants discuss challenges associated with planning and executing successful knowledge exchange programs.

It was attended by practitioners currently working on an array of knowledge exchange initiatives.

VIDEO CONFERENCE WITH AFRICA POLICY INSTITUTE FEBRUARY 1, 2013

A video conference was held between the African Policy Institute (API) and NIUA to share lessons from PEARL experiences in city-to-city learning and knowledge exchange. Cities Alliance and World Bank Institute also participated in the Video Conference. Discussions ranged around potential of replicating PEARL in the African context. PEARL offered to handhold API if needed for establishing the network in Africa.



PEARL EXPOSURE VISITS

Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad, January 30-31, 2013

An Exposure visit to Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporations for the Mayors and Councilors from Mission Cities under JnNURM was organized by the MoUD in collaboration with NIUA. The objective of the exposure visit was to showcase the successful projects completed by the hosting cities under JnNURM and share their experience with the visiting city officials and councilors. Twelve participants from Shimla, Nainital, Faridabad and Lucknow attended the exposure visit.

Pune Municipal Corporation made a presentation of status of JnNURM reforms and project implementation, followed by site visits on transportation and urban restoration projects. On the second day, the participants visited Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation where the progress on JnNURM and key challenges were discussed. Site visits to e-Governance project, water treatment plant and low income housing project were undertaken.

Ahmedabad, February 21-22, 2013

A two day exposure visit to Ahmedabad was hosted by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) was Participants from Jaipur, Bhopal, Indore, Vishakhapatnam, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Chennai municipal corporations' and representatives from state development authorities, ULBs, MoUD and NIUA attended. The focus was to learn from the successful Ahmedabad bus rapid transit system (BRTS) Project experience.

The visit included a presentation on BRTS Ahmedabad, a visit to BRTS control room and bus stops, travel in a BRTS bus, and a presentation on planning aspects of the BRTS. The participants were also given presentations on AMC's achievements under JnNURM, e-governance project, solid waste management practices, affordable housing and E-seva Kendra project under JnNURM followed by site visits to Kankaria Lake Front Development Project, BSUP - Housing Project at Vada], sewerage treatment plant and landfill site, Sabarmati River front project and Gandhi Ashram.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP AND EXPOSURE VISIT FOR URBAN HERITAGE MANAGEMENT, FEBRUARY 25- 27, 2013

The second leg of capacity building under the Inclusive Heritage based City Development Program (IHCDP) was held in Mysore from February 25-27, 2013 under the PEARL-Cities Alliance (CA) programme. The workshop was attended by city representatives from Hyderabad and Varanasi. The participants included municipal officials from Mysore, local conservation architects, experts, Indian Heritage Cities Network

representatives, heritage experts from CEPT, and representatives of NIUA and Cities Alliance representatives participated in this workshop.

The aim of the workshop was to share information on urban heritage management practices, enable cities to identify heritage assets and challenges faced in maintaining them, draw key issues attached to urban heritage management, and identify means to overcome them.

The workshop saw presentations from pilot cities (Hyderabad, Ajmer-Pushkar and Varanasi) on IHCDP activities. Mysore Corporation officials made presentations on pilot DPRs and its old city revitalization

issues and challenges, legal instruments developed to support heritage management, and other state/local initiatives for heritage management. A heritage walk to heritage precincts to observe the conservation activities complemented the technical sessions. Ms. Satmohini Ray, Research officer, NIUA delivered a presentation on PEARL Knowledge management activities and way forward.



INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE VISIT TO SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA, APRIL 1-5, 2013

NIUA under the CA grant for PEARL organized a study tour to Seoul, South Korea from April 1-5, 2013. The purpose of the study tour was to learn from South Korea's PPP models for financing urban renewal and transport project. The delegation was led by Ms. Nisha Singh, JS MoUD and Mission Director, JNNURM and included Director (NURM 1)-MoUD, Director (Estates)- MoUD, Secretary (UD & Housing), Government of Bihar, Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, J&K and Dr. Debjani Ghosh, PEARL Coordinator, NIUA. The trip was organised in association with the Korean Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS), a Seoul-based think tank.



The trip was organised in association with the Korean Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS), a Seoul-based think tank.

The study tour included lectures by Korean experts in the fields of land management, transport, urban redevelopment, urban infrastructure, metropolitan governance and PPP.



Field visits included Incheon Bridge, Tan-Cheon Water Recycling Centre, Song-Da Smart City Complex, Anyang-U City Traffic Management Control Room, Cheonggyecheon River Restoration Project and Mapo Resource Recovery Centre.

PEARL BEST PRACTICES DOCUMENTATION

Continuing its ongoing activity of urban initiatives documentation, PEARL intends to come out with two reports on best practices on impact of reforms, project development and implementation under JNNURM especially from small and medium cities.

The sixth volume of the "Urban Initiatives" Report is under process. The volume shall cover urban initiatives such as:

- Development & Management of Water & Sewerage Network at Haldia, Kolkata, West Bengal
- Water Recycling Plants for Improving Water Availability, Delhi
- Customer Driven Initiatives in the Area of Billing and Collections, Jamshedpur, Madhya Pradesh
- Dhangadra Nagar Palika's Successful Effort to Maintain its Clean City, Gujarat
- Saving Environment and Creating New Employment Opportunities at Siddhpur Nagarpalika, Gujarat
- Capacity Building of Human Resources at Kanpur Municipal Corporation, Uttar Pradesh
- e-Governance, Kanpur Municipal Corporation, Uttar Pradesh
- e-Inclusive Urban Planning, Madhya Pradesh
- Improvement in E-Governance System, Ulhasnagar, Maharashtra
- Property Tax Reforms, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Implementation of Community Participation Law, Mysore, Karnataka
- Bus Rapid Transport System, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Bus Rapid Transit System, Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- Jaipur Public Transport Services, Rajasthan
- Innovation in Urban Transport, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra

ELECTRONIC GROUPS (E-GROUPS) SERVICE

NIUA and GIZ collaborated to further the agenda of knowledge management under PEARL. A training supply database has been developed and placed on the India Urban Portal website (www.indiaurbanportal.in) whereby all training events to be undertaken by training institutes will be displayed in the form of a training calendar. This will help better networking between training institutes and facilitate greater participation.



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