



PEARL Update

A JNNURM Initiative

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Workshop on Knowledge Needs Assessment and Improving City-To-City Learning

A workshop on Knowledge Needs Assessment and Improving City-To-City Learning was organised by National Institute Of Urban Affairs (NIUA) on 8th April 2011 at Ahmedabad in collaboration with Centre for Planning and Environment Technology (CEPT) Ahmedabad, World Bank Institute (WBI) and Cities Alliance (CA). The workshop was attended by over 35 participants.

The objective of the workshop was to share strategies for achieving effective participation of cities to access and use the Peer Experience and Reflective Learning (PEARL) platform; share experiences and challenges in assessing knowledge needs of cities including international experiences; learn from pilot knowledge needs assessment (KNA) studies conducted for Ahmedabad and Rajkot; and to develop a shared understanding of KNA and build up a broad framework /template for KNA that can best serve other Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) cities.

Prof Shivanand Swamy, Associate Director, CEPT, welcomed the delegates. Prof. Chetan Vaidya, Director, NIUA, outlined the vision of PEARL programme and briefly highlighted the various activities being undertaken. Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Director, Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), wished the programme great success. Mr. Bruno La Porte, Director, WBI, stated that a paradigm shift is being observed wherein, (a) cities and urban growth are no longer being perceived as problems but a platform of opportunities with focus on growth and innovations; and (b) there is a change in the way capacity development is being approached now. Mr. Keshav Verma, WBI, stated there are monumental challenges and issues facing Urban India and there is a need to adopt fire-fighting approach. Prof. VK Dhar, NIUA outlined the approach adopted for pilot KNA studies.

The first technical session on Reflecting on International Experiences and learning from cities in the network was

opened by remarks of Ms. Christine Kessides, Urban Manager, WBI followed by two presentations by Mr. Emil de Quiros, Urban Expert, WBIUR, on learning activities of League of Cities, Philippines and Ms. Sheila Jagannathan, Sr. Learning Specialist, WBIEL outlining experiences and the lessons learnt from similar networks in other countries.

In the next session, key findings were presented on the pilot studies undertaken for the KNA in Rajkot, Ahmedabad and Thiruvananthapuram by CEPT, UMC and ASCI respectively. It was agreed that KNA studies would be scaled upto six additional cities in India based on which comprehensive knowledge management strategies and action plans can be developed for JNNURM cities.

High Powered Expert Committee Report on Urban Infrastructure

The High Powered Expert Committee (HPEC) on Urban Infrastructure chaired by Dr. Isher Ahluwalia submitted its report in March 2011. It has estimated investment requirement

for urban services in the country over 2012 -31 at Rs. 39.2 lakh crore at 2009-10 prices. The operation and maintenance of old and new assets will account for half of total costs. The report argues that the challenge of managing urbanization will have to be addressed through a combination of increased investment,

strengthening the framework of governance, and comprehensive capacity building programs at various levels. The Committee also recommended design of a New Improved JNNURM (NIJNNURM). The Report is available online at: www.indiaurbanportal.in and www.niua.org



Panelists in the Knowledge Needs Assessment Workshop



National Workshop on 'Mixed Economy Cities' for Knowledge Sharing in PEARL

A one-day workshop on 'Knowledge Sharing in PEARL under JNNURM' was organised at Chandigarh on 11th March 2011. It was attended by over 20 participants, which included representatives from various ULBs, State Governments, academic and research organizations.

The objective of the workshop was to cross learn and share experiences on the JNNURM activities undertaken by the mixed economy cities group of PEARL network and their related problems and constraints.

Prof. Chetan Vaidya welcomed the participants, highlighting the objectives of the workshop. Prof. V.K. Dhar, made a presentation on goals, achievements and challenges of PEARL. He mentioned that PEARL has set up a website, is publishing best practices, quarterly newsletters and is organizing various national and group workshops at regular intervals. He also talked about setting up of a helpdesk, formation of a new group for North-East Cities. Ms Nilanjana D. Sur, NIUA, spoke about the new look and features of India Urban Portal and highlights such as user login, e-group, eforum and communication materials etc.

The first session had extensive discussions on issues related to networking and communications, limited capacity of cities and the identification of best practices, etc. The session was summed by Dr. P.P. Balan, Director, Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID).

The second session was chaired by Mr. J.P. Gupta, IAS (Retd.). He appreciated the role of MoUD and NIUA in

providing a common platform for cities to share their knowledge and experience with the mission cities. A presentation was made by Mr. S. K. Jain, Chief Engineer (Projects), Lucknow Municipal Corporation (LMC) on the various initiatives taken up in the city. For example the city has completed construction of largest Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) of 345 MLD and develop sewerage collection system in three stages under JNNURM and has also set up in-house design studio with Geographic Information System (GIS) maps and other facilities.

Mr. R. K. Goyal, Superintendent Engineer, Chandigarh Municipal Corporation, shared that 15 percent water charges were raised after a huge resistance from political body. He also talked on the installation of Water Stand Post in slums for minimizing water wastage due to negligent attitude of public.

Mr. Ahluwalia, Executive Engineer of Chandigarh Municipal Corporation, spoke about Water Supply System on Chandigarh, provision of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System and providing piped potable water supply in the slum areas.

Mr. Manoj Kumar Teotia, CRRID, presented the pattern of urbanization, urban poverty, housing for urban poor, environmental sustainability and economic development scenario of Chandigarh city. He also informed about Garbage Free Scheme of Chandigarh Municipal Corporation looking after sanitation and citizen awareness issues. He said that there are numerous numbers of youth training programmes that are running in the city like Department of Electronics Accreditation for Computer Courses, Commonwealth Youth Training Programme to train urban poor youth for self employment.



Participants at the Mixed Economy Cities Workshop

Urban Initiatives: Google Mail E-Group

An e-group or specifically an email group is an excellent way for sharing ideas, articles, experiences, activities, professional know-how, papers, documents etc and keeping in touch through email, group chat, and occasionally shared events in order to inspire and learn. It is usually user owned and can be created by anyone with a user-id. After that the user can 'invite' likeminded people to join the group.

Recently the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in Maharashtra have come together to form an email group on Google in an effort for sharing progress and have better connectivity to each other. This group has brought together CEOs of about 22 Municipal Corporations of Maharashtra for exchanging information on any latest development, documents, share solutions to problems, reports of various projects and keep in touch through email.

Soon India Urban Portal will launch an e-group service for its users to encourage better connectivity, increased knowledge sharing and communication amongst themselves.

Governance Knowledge Centre

The Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction (CBPR) Programme, launched by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance and Pensions (DAR & PG) in 2005, aims at building the capacity of the Indian civil service for improved public service delivery for the purposes of poverty reduction. The Governance Knowledge Centre (GKC), undertaken by the DAR & PG has been envisaged as a key initiative under CBPR to serve as a digital single point of reference on good governance practices that would aid in building capacity at the district, state and centre.

Today, the portal assists civil servants to seek practical and implementable solutions to the day-to-day challenges they face. It serves as a platform for collaborative knowledge exchange for the improvement of governance. This website serves as a knowledge repository for the sharing of Best Practices, cutting-edge ideas, information and resources in the field of governance. You can log on to the website on:

www.india.governance.gov.in

New
Government
Website

'Industrial and Heritage Cities Group' Workshop on Cross-Learning and Knowledge Sharing

A workshop on 'Industrial and Heritage Cities Group' under the PEARL Programme, JNNURM was organised at Varanasi on 18th April 2011 on the occasion of World Heritage Day by the NIUA in collaboration with MoUD and CEPT University, Ahmedabad.

Attended by over 25 participants, the workshop brought together various officials from Varanasi Nagar Nigam (VNN), Ajmer-Pushkar Nagar Parishad (APNP), Allahabad Municipal Corporation, Lucknow and Varanasi Development Authority (VDA); national and international academic and research organisations such as CRRID, CA, Gesellschaft Technische Zusammenarbeit India (GTZ India), Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Indian National Trust For Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH, Varanasi). The main objective of the workshop was to crosslearn and share knowledge of the experiences on the JNNURM activities undertaken by these cities and the related problems and constraints.

The welcome note was addressed by Prof Saswat Bandyopadhyay, CEPT Project Coordinator. Dr CK Koshy, CEPT, suggested that a small amount should be set aside for a 'Consultancy Scheme' where different cities can consult each other. Mr VK Dubey, Municipal Commissioner, VNN, stated the recent surge in the urban population, the inadequacy in the infrastructure and decentralisation is needed in an effort to solve those problems. Shri R.P. Goswami, Vice Chairman, VDA, spoke on various problems faced by the executive level officers



Participants at the Industrial and Heritage Cities Group workshop

due to knowledge gap between administrative work and urban planning. Prof V.K. Dhar, mentioned knowledge exchange and experience sharing under PEARL. Ms Nilanjana D. Sur, NIUA, briefed about India Urban Portal. She spoke about the necessity to reinvent and upgrade the communication channels for more effective knowledge dissemination. Prof Saswat Bandyopadhyay talked about the current PEARL peer-pairing and networks, pointing out the limitations in the city groups of Heritage Significance, North - East Cities and Industrial Cities and what could be done to improve the development in those areas.

Ms Neela Manjunath, Karnataka State Heritage Commissioner, spoke about the various heritage projects going on in Karnataka and how they can be replicated across India. Mr R. N. Sharma, Municipal Commissioner, APNP, talked about the reach and the various shortcomings in implementation of JNNURM in the Ajmer-Pushkar area. Mr S. K. Jain, Chief Architect, LMC, spoke about the various conservation works and breakthroughs like solid & biomedical waste facilities in the city, animal welfare shelter in an area of 55 acre called 'Kanha Van'.

Mr Manoj K Teotia, CRRID, talked about innovative training methods used by the city to provide vocational training to youth from slums. Mr Navneet Raman, Director, Banaras Visual Archives, spoke on the impending 'Varanasi Heritage City' classification to be given by UNESCO, a movement spearheaded by many prominent people in the country. Prof. Dr. Rana PB Singh, Cultural Geography & Heritage Studies, BHU, gave a presentation on the spiritual, cultural and astrological significance on the major religious places in Varanasi.

'Urban Initiatives Volume-4'

The 'Urban Initiatives Volume-4' Report highlights some of the laudable and creditable work being done across ULBs in India. This issue cuts across various sectors related to Urban Management such as water supply, sewerage, solid waste management, public transport, heritage, urban poor, urban reforms, etc. These are structured in the standard format developed under PEARL including the process, results achieved, sustainability, lessons learnt, recognition, and replicability of the urban initiatives. The details of the initiatives are also available on www.indiaurbanportal.in. The following urban initiatives are covered in the report:

- > Water Supply Management through SCADA: Vijayawada Municipal Corporation, Andhra Pradesh.
- > Water Supply Operations through SCADA, Pimpri Chinchwad, Maharashtra.
- > Water Supply in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- > Sewerage Project at Jaipur City, Rajasthan.
- > Sewage Treatment Plant at Vadodara City, Gujarat.
- > Water Supply and Sewerage System in Surat City, Gujarat.
- > Garbage Dumping and Quality Drinking Water to Slum Dwellers, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.
- > Gorai Dumping Ground: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- > Solid Waste Management at Nashik City, Maharashtra.
- > Implementation of Solid Waste Management in Thidder Nagar Slum, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.
- > Bhubaneswar - Puri Public Transport System, Orissa.
- > Integrated Infrastructure Development of Slum & Poor Locality, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- > Slum Information Centre under JNNURM, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.
- > Health Care Management System: Pimpri Chinchwad, Maharashtra.
- > Capacity Building Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation, Andhra Pradesh.
- > Community participation in Urban Local Bodies in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
- > E-Governance Reforms, Surat, Gujarat.
- > Implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Solution & MIS Reforms, Kurali, Punjab.
- > Preparing Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) under JNNURM, Panaji, Goa.
- > Living Heritage Streets at Bhubaneswar City, Orissa.

URBAN INITIATIVES

FOR IMPROVED AND STRUCTURE (IMPROVING) URBAN

Urban Initiatives

From Equilibrium and Sustainable Learning (PEAL)

Urban Initiatives
For Improved and Structure (IMPROVING) URBAN



PEARL Postcard II

Recently, the PEARL team has come out with a helpful and informative Postcard for a new way to keep in touch with the cities in the PEARL network. The postcard has information on PEARL, an introduction to PEARL website-India Urban Portal (www.indiaurbanportal.in) and PEARL knowledge Partners. These postcards can be sent to stakeholders and practitioners for further strengthening of the PEARL network.





Urban Initiative: Community Participation Law made mandatory reform in the functioning of Urban Local Bodies in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

Enactment of Community Participation Law (CPL) is one of seven mandatory reforms committed under JNNURM by State Governments. In this regard, Municipal Laws have been amended in Andhra Pradesh through Act No. 7 of 2008 on 19 April 2008 duly providing the provisions of CPL. The Act was brought into force from 6 February 2010. Rules have been issued for constitution of Ward Committees and Area Sabhas in all ULBs on 10 February 2010. Accordingly, Municipal Laws in Andhra Pradesh have been amended to incorporate provisions of CPL in functioning of ULBs.

Project Objectives:

- 1) Institutionalize Citizen Participation;
- 2) Introduction of the concept of Area Sabha / Ward Sabha in all ULBs;
- 3) Introduction of the concept of Ward Committee in all ULBs.



Ward Committee Meeting in Ward No. 48 - Hyderabad

Impact of the Project:

- i) Decentralised Urban Governance is achieved in GHMC consequent on the constitution of Ward Committees.
- ii) The Ward Committees headed by ward Councilors with representatives of civil society are involved in the supervision of the maintenance of urban services in GHMC.
- iii) The Ward Committees are better placed to attend to the maintenance of urban services in view of the 20% of the total budget earmarked for O&M is allocated to all wards together.
- iv) The Ward Committees in GHMC are engaged the process of the preparation of ward development plan.
- v) There is considerable improvement in service delivery in GHMC.

Please refer to the 'Urban Initiatives Volume-4' Report for more details.

Be a part of India Urban Portal

Register now at www.indiaurbanportal.in for added benefits. There are three types of member registrations (type of membership will be decided by the Administrator of the website) which provides the user with a different level of access of the website. These memberships are:

- 1) **Premium Members:** They can download as well as upload communication materials, upload Best Practices, Papers, Documents, Tenders, communication materials, create their own e-group, directly access helpdesk, take part in forums etc. These privileged members are mainly the people from the Municipal Corporations from the Mission Cities.
- 2) **Guest Members:** These members have got the right to only download communication materials from the website and also take part in the Discussion Forums. They can only browse the Helpdesk. These members are mainly the people from the Government, International Organisations, National Organisations, Non Governmental Organisations, Students, Others, etc.
- 3) **Domain Members:** These members are from the Administration who are responsible for administering the website.

Discussion Forum

Among many features that have been added on India Urban Portal, this is one of the most significant one. Discussion forum India Urban Portal

PEARL Website

www.indiaurbanportal.in



is a shared space by members to discuss, exchange ideas, strategies and be of assistance to each other on a regular basis. The initiator of discussion thread can apply 'forum lock' on a topic when they want the thread closed. To go directly to the discussion forum, type the link below in the URL box of your internet page:

<http://www.indiaurbanportal.in/TopicDiscussionForum.aspx>

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