**NIUA WEEKLY**

**News and Views from the National Institute of Urban Affairs**

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**BASIIC Partners with Varanasi for Inclusive Development**

Building Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Indian Cities (BASiIC) programme at NIUA in collaboration with Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), U.K partnered with Varanasi Smart City Limited to provide technical assistance for the ongoing interventions for inclusive development. For further details, click [here](#).

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**Inclusion of PwDs and the Elderly Crucial for Emergency Response and Recovery to COVID-19: Director NIUA**

Hitesh Vaidya, Director, NIUA in policy brief **Towards Inclusive Emergency Response and Recovery to Covid-19** published for BASiIC (Building Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Indian Cities) programme at NIUA stressed on adapting to the ‘new normal’ and rebuilding more resilient societies. Inclusion and accessibility for the marginalised populations should be emphasized in cities. It is the right opportunity to ‘build back better’ by empowering persons with disabilities and elderly populations for independent living and enabling them for better protection against disasters in future. To read full policy brief, click [here](#).

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**NIUA Experts Highlights Strengthening of Infrastructure, Institutions, and Finances in Resilient Cities**

A chapter authored by NIUA experts, entitled **Assessment of Urban Flood Resilience for Water, Sanitation and Storm Water Drainage Sectors in Two Cities of India** was published in the book **Water Security in Asia**, co-edited by Dr. Victor Shinde also from NIUA. In this chapter, the authors Uday Bhonde, and Sandeep Thakur presented an assessment of urban flood resilience for water, sanitation, and stormwater drainage sectors in the two selected Indian cities. For further information on the book, click [here](#).

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**PROJECT IN FOCUS: SUSTAINABLE, HEALTHY AND LEARNING CITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS**

The Sustainable, Healthy and Learning Cities and Neighbourhoods (SHLC) project aims to build research knowledge in the U.K, Asia, and Africa, and is funded by the GCRF-Research Councils U.K Collective Fund. The project addresses urbanisation-related challenges in the developing countries.

One of the their key documents, **Making Cities Work: Policies and Programmes in India** reviews and analyses India’s planning and urban development policies from the last two decades. The aim was to identify the ideas and policies that have shaped the delivery of public services, paying particular attention to education and healthcare. It presents city profiles for Delhi and Madurai.

The report highlights that both public health and education sectors suffer from a lack of holistic and integrated approach to ensure and efficient and effective system of delivery. To read full report, click [here](#).

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**World Environment Day at NIUA**

NIUA will be celebrating World Environment Week from 1-5 June, and will be disseminating the institute’s contribution towards Ecosystem Restoration through various projects in form of posters, flyers, blogs, podcast and twitter campaign dedicated to the theme. To get the updates, click [here](#).

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**Upcoming Events**

NIUA in partnership with Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) will be participating in Urban Thinkers Campus online event from 4-5 June on Rebuilding Urban Kerala through Equitable Resilience. To join the event, click [here](#).

Morganstadt Global Smart Cities Initiative (MGSCI) at NIUA is organising a webinar on integrated planning for resilient cities on 11 June. For further details and registration, click [here](#).