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für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

On behalf of:

Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany

CLIMATE SMART CITIES

SITUATION

India is ranked 6th among the 10 most affected countries in the world as per Global Climate Risk Index 2016 by Germanwatch and accounts for about 7per cent of the global green house gas (GHG) emissions, thus being a crucial player when it comes to dealing with climate change related issues.

Following the UNFCCC Paris Agreement in 2014, the Government of India declared in their Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in 2015 that the country would take steps to reduce the emission intensity by 33-35 per cent compared to the 2005 levels by 2030.

However, this cannot be easily achieved, considering the size and growing population of India. As per the Climate Action Tracker projection, the per capita emission will increase from 2.1 tCO2e/cap in 2014 to 3.6 tCO2e/cap in 2030. This per capita consumption can be attributed, not only to the changing consumption patterns of society but also to the growing urban population and its associated demands on urban infrastructure, basic services and housing. Urban population in India is projected to increase to 50 per cent of the total population by 2050.

In order to address the growing needs of the urban areas, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India initiated four central government schemes, namely Smart Cities Mission covering 100 cities, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation Urban Transformation (AMRUT) covering 500 cities and Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY) covering all 4041 cities in the country.

All the four missions are reported in the INDC strategy for India through supportive mitigation and adaptation measures but a clear climate focus is not evident at first glance. The Climate Smart Cities project attempts to anchor climate friendly solutions in the Smart Cities Mission of the Government of India.

Objective
To anchor Climate-friendly solutions for urban infrastructure projects and area-based development in the planning and implementation of projects under the Smart Cities-Programme.

APPROACH

The project contributes to the achievement of the National Determined Contribution (NDCs) to the Climate Goals as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 11. It will act as a facilitator by promoting cooperation between national & sub-national actors, by technically supporting international advisory and exchange formats and by supporting implementation of measures.

The project works with the three Indian Smart Cities of Bhubaneshwar, Coimbatore, Kochi and their respective state governments of Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Kerala; in the planning & implementation of smart and climate-friendly measures for infrastructure and area-based development and measuring & monitoring of their GHG emissions.

The project aims at the capacity development of additional 10 Urban Local Bodies on climate relevant solutions. NIUA, the research & training institute of MoHUA and two German institutions TU Berlin and DIFU will support the project in the wider dissemination and upscaling of the experiences of the partner cities across other smart cities through innovative formats of peer learning and knowledge exchange.

At national level the project strengthens the institutions to implement the mission in a result-oriented manner and supports MoHUA in achievement of their National Climate Goals & SDGs.

The project will support the Indo-German Working Group on urbanisation and the international exchange of experiences on urban climate strategies.

The indirect beneficiaries of the project will be the residents of the cities who will benefit from the successful implementation of climate friendly solutions by living in a healthier and more sustainable living environment.

EXPECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- The project contributes to the New Urban Agenda (Habitat III) as well as the SDG 11. Especially to the SDG 11.6: to reduce till 2030 the per capita environment impact of cities, especially in the field of air quality and solid waste management and SDG 11.9: till 2020 increase the number of cities that implement integrated policies and plans for more resource efficiency and mitigation and adaptation to climate change as well as disaster resilience.

- The project aims at promotion of selected climate-relevant solutions for urban infrastructure and increase the capacities of cities and regional institutes to contribute to reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

- The project aims at developing a concept for a MRV system to document and evaluate the long term envisaged mitigation impact of the measures supported in the three partner cities.

- The project aims at disseminating German and International experiences for including climate aspects into Smart City projects through a networking platform and experience exchanges between Indian smart cities and training institutes.

- The project aims that all relevant actors at national & state level through networking platform use the recommendations in their on-going works and future urban development programmes and their contribution to the national climate policy.

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Climate Smart Cities

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