



PEARL Update

A JNNURM Initiative

September 2010

Goral Landfill Site
Greater Mumbai Municipal Corporation

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Workshop on Strengthening Peer Learning Networks in the Indian Urban Sector

A workshop on "Strengthening Peer Learning Networks in the Indian Urban Sector" under PEARL, JNNURM was organized at Goa on 23-24th July 2010. Attended by over 40 participants, the workshop had representations from the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), State Government, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), City Managers Associations (CMAs) from India. International Organizations such as City Development Strategies (CDS), Incides, South African Cities Network (SACN), Water & Sanitations Programme (WSP), Instituto De Cooperacao Internacional Para O Desenvolvimento (INCIDE), Urban Age Institute (UAI), Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank Institute (WBI), Cities Alliance (CA), Center for Development Initiatives in Asia (CDIA), Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), InWent, etc.

Prof. Chetan Vaidya, Director, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) addressed the participants with a welcoming speech and background of the workshop. Prof. V.K. Dhar, NIUA, gave a presentation on the goals, achievements and challenges of PEARL, including information on website, the published best practices, quarterly newsletters, national and group workshops and the proposed helpdesk.

Prof. Saswat Bandopadhyay, CEPT University, briefed about heritage group activities and its action plan. Dr. Sneha Palnitkar, All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AILSG), a knowledge manager (KM) for Industrial Mega Cities Group cited restricted interest among cities and quoted the need for making PEARL as an effective instrument for urban capacity building. Ms. Renu Handa of City Managers' Association Madhya Pradesh (CMAMP), a KM for Mixed Economy Cities also mentioned about limited support at present from network cities. Ms. Vijaya, ASCI, talked about the activities of a helpdesk under PEARL and its effectiveness in city-to-city learning.

The second session chaired by Mr N Bhattacharjee, Team Leader, WSP was on Key Lessons on Horizontal Learning. Ms Sheila Jagannathan and Mr. Andre Herzog, WBI made the presentations. They presented various

alternatives with which PEARL can be made far-reaching and helpful. WBI has also set up a website (www.inclusivecities.ning.com) for inclusive communities.

Mr Bhattacharjee talked about Horizontal Learning Programme in Bangladesh focusing on peer-to-peer learning program, facilitated by the Ministry of Local Government, Bangladesh and supported by many partners. He also mentioned that horizontal learning can be best ensured through field based replication and peer review.

Mr Tim Campbell, UAI presented the results of the study on city learning in 4 cities - Barcelona, Turin, Portland and Charlotte based on extensive interviews. It focused on different ways of learning, trust building and cross boundaries learning's. In his view's, three pillars of this process are learning, trust and innovations.



Sh. Sanjay Kumar with Prof. Chetan Vaidya at the Goa Workshop.

The third session included sharing of international experiences on peer learning networks. Ms Mary Ortega, Philippines League of Cities shared her journey as a Mayor and talked about preparation of City Development Strategies (CDS), city-to-city learning and innovations.

Mr Sithole Mbanga, CEO, SACN spoke on the functions, guidance, and assistance of the network

which runs exclusively on four factors-productivity, inclusiveness, governance and sustainability in which Mayors learn from each other. He mentioned that the network produces good activities for the cities and is also in the process of preparation of a "State Of Cities Report" modelled after Brazilian and Indian reports.

Ms Reneta Boulos, Partner, INCIDE, Brazil shared her experiences on city-to-city learning process in the South American Countries of Argentina, Brazil and Chile or the 'ABC Region'. She explained the decentralization process in Brazil outlining the various constraints being faced by them.

Mr Sanjay Kumar, Director, JNNURM, MOUD made key remarks on the second day. He appreciated NIUA-WBI-CA efforts in organising the workshop, adding that experiences of similar networks in other countries will



Mr. Sithole Mbanga,
South African Cities
Network

help strengthen PEARL.

On the second day, the participants were divided into three groups. The session included group presentations followed by panel discussion. They discussed common and specific questions.

Mr Deepak Mohanty, Additional Secretary, UD, Orissa Government representing Group 1 suggested that the top value added services under PEARL could be a toolkit for different activities, a certification of excellence, a combination of portal and web-based seminars. They also suggested that there should be Knowledge and Information Needs Assessment (KINA) through a toolkit.



Ms. Reneta Boulos,
Incides, Brazil

Group II was represented by Ms Vidisha Mukherjee, Additional Commissioner, Jabalpur Municipal Corporation and Mr Srinivas,



Mr. Andre Herzog,
WBI

Secretary, Karnataka Directorate of Municipal Administrations (DMA) Office. They spoke at length about the value added services that can help reach the goal for PEARL easier including both short and long-term goals.

The presentation for Group III was given jointly by Mr K Ramesh, Additional Municipal Commissioner,

Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation and Ms Rina Mahapatra, Project Officer, JNNURM, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation. Recommending that while good practices should be more extensively covered there should be a need for an inventory of bad practices as well so that people can avoid the mistakes already made.



Ms. Mary Jane Ortega,
Philippines
League of Cities



Mr Tim Campbell,
CEO, Urban Age
Institute

Extensive discussions were held after the presentations on the need for the present work as well as what further can be done to improve communication between cities. Mr Tim Campbell congratulated the organisers for the workshop. Prof. V.K. Dhar gave the vote of thanks.



Participants the Goa Workshop discussing various strategies in three groups during the Panel Discussions on the Second Day.

Workshop on North-East Cities Group under PEARL

A workshop for the North-East (N-E) Cities Region was organised jointly by Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and CEPT University on 14th September 2010.

The objective of this workshop was to understand issues and constraints in implementation of JNNURM through active participation of North-Eastern Cities under PEARL. It was suggested during the workshop that a new group for N-E cities need to be formed for effective participation and support under PEARL.

All the capital cities of the N-E states such as Guwahati (Assam), Gangtok (Sikkim), Shillong (Meghalaya), Aizwal (Mizoram), Kohima (Nagaland), Agartala (Tripura) and Itanagar (Andhra Pradesh) participated in the workshop. The other organisations working in collaboration with NIUA such as Cities Alliance (CA), Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC), TAG, ICRA Management Consulting Services Limited (IMACS), CISCO also participated in the workshop.



Prof. Chetan Vaidya giving the welcome speech during the start of the Shillong Workshop with Mr Panda, Mr Srivastava and Mr Bandyopadhyay in the picture.

The welcome speech was given by Prof Chetan Vaidya, Director, NIUA, who also spoke about the background of the workshop. Mr K L Tariang, Secretary UD, Government of Meghalaya, thanked MoUD to organise such a workshop in Shillong. Mr B K Panda, Director Urban Affairs, Meghalaya Government addressed the specific problems of N-E cities in implementing urban reforms.

The Keynote Address was given by Mr P K Srivastava, IAS, Joint Secretary and Mission Director (JNNURM), MoUD. He talked about the purpose of PEARL and its advantages and effectiveness in improving planning and implementation of various projects and reforms under JNNURM. He pointed out that almost Rs.1,000 crores have been allocated to the cities in N-E region under JNNURM and many development projects have been approved. However, the actual utilisation of the substantial fund was by and large slow. He also said that the communication and networking under PEARL will help the N-E cities learn from each other. It will act as a stage for learning and sensitising specific problems of the region. He said that regional institutions should also be integrated with urban sector in the region and added that the network should be sustainable to go beyond present JNNURM period - i.e. March 2012.

The first technical session was chaired by Mr Ajay Suri, Regional Representative, Cities Alliance. Prof Vijay

JNNURM Awards 2010

Ministry of Urban Development (MOUD) will be soon announcing annual awards under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). This year's awards are likely to be under:

- 1) Best City 2010
- 2) Improvement in Water Supply and Wastewater;
- 3) Improvement in SWM;
- 4) Implementation of Reforms;
- 5) Completed Projects;
- 6) Cities in Special Category States (including NE); and
- 7) Small and Medium Towns.

The details and performa will be sent to all cities and states by MOUD and uploaded on JNNURM and PEARL websites. North-East Cities should participate in the competition. Please note that there are special awards for cities in special category states (including NE).

CGC-CVTC Brainstorming Session

A brainstorming session was conducted by the National Technical Advisory Group under JNNURM on 'Defining the Roles and Functions of CVTC' (City Volunteer Technical Corps) and CGC (Coordinating Group of CVTCs) at NIUA on 25th-26th October 2010. MoUD and Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation have desired to constitute CVTC in the JNNURM Mission Cities which are expected to advise Municipal Corporations on issues related to urban problems.

A core group of 12 participants discussed various issues revolving around the process of formation of CVTCs and issues that affect the functioning of CGCCVTC post-formation. After a lot of debating and brainstorming, it was decided that NTAG will re-strategise its approaches to activate CVTCs in cities where they have been formed effectively. Alternate approaches have been given for expediting the process.



Core group of participants at the Brainstorming Session.



Mr. Ajay Suri,
Cities Alliance

Dhar, NIUA made a presentation on objectives, purpose and activities of PEARL. Dr S Acharya, CEPT University talked about trends and issues of urban sector in the N-E region. Prof. Saswat Bandopadhyay, CEPT University gave a presentation on experience of Heritage Cities Group under PEARL and possible way forward.

In the second technical session, Mr V Swarup, National Coordinator, Technical Advisory Group, talked on the purpose and role of City Volunteer Technical Core under JNNURM. Mr. Prakash Kumar, CISCO talked about use of information technology on urban knowledge management and smart and connected cities.



Mr. K. L. Tariatang,
Secretary UD,
Government
of Meghalaya

The third technical session was chaired by Mr. Anurag Goel, IAS, Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation. In this session, presentations were made by representatives from Gangtok, Kohima, Shillong and Agartala cities. Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation talked about urban innovations in the city and successful implementation of projects supported by community participation fund.

There were extensive discussions at the end of each technical session. Mr. P K Srivastava clarified certain issues raised by the cities / states. He suggested that this group should meet every quarter of the year and MoUD will facilitate this process. Prof. Vaidya informed that Guwahati city will be the network convener and CEPT University will be the Knowledge Manager (KM) for this group. He summarized the discussions and thanked all the participants and resource persons.



Mr. Panda,
Director Urban
Urban Affairs,
Meghalaya
Government



Mr. P K Srivastava,
IAS, Mission Director
(JNNURM)

HANDBOOK ON PRIMERS

The Hand book on Primers under the flagship programme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) has been published by National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA). This handbook aims to provide tools, concepts, and a framework for challenges faced by the State Governments, Mission Cities and Urban Local Bodies.

Ministry of Urban Development
Government of India



Mandatory Reforms

State Level

- # 74th Constitution Amendment Act and Integration of City Planning and Delivery Function
- # Repeal of Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act (ULCRA)
- # Rent Control Reform
- # Rationalization of Stamp Duty
- # Public Disclosure Law
- # Community Participation Law
- ULB and Parastatal Level**
- # E-Governance
- # Municipal Accounting
- # Property Tax
- # Levy of User Charges
- # Internal Earmarking of Funds for Services to Urban Poor
- # Provision of Basic Services to Urban Poor

Optional Reforms for States / ULBs and Parastatals

- # Land Title Certification System
- # Revision of Building Bye-laws to Streamline the Approval Process
- # Land for Poor
- # Revision of Building Bye-laws to make Rain Water Harvesting Mandatory
- # Conversion of Agricultural Land for Non-agricultural Purposes
- # Introduction of Computerized Process of Registration of Land & Property
- # Bye-Laws of Reuse of Wastewater
- # Administrative reforms
- # Structural Reforms
- # Encouraging PPP



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South African Cities
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