

Localising Nature Based Solutions in Indian Cities

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## INDIA'S URBANISATION TRAJECTORY

- India is on the forefront of urbanization. By 2050, India's Urban Population is expected to grow around 880 million
- Share of Urban GDP is expected to be around 80%
- More and more people are living in towns, cities and hinterland villages with closer proximities
- On an average, large Indian cities are physically expanding by 20-25 sq.km/Year

#### Five states are likely to be more than 50 percent urbanized

Urbanization rate, 2008 %, total population		Urban population Million	Urbanization rate, 2030 %, total population	Urban population Million
Tamil Nadu	53	35.4	6	7 53.4
Gujarat	44	25.2	66	48.0
Maharashtra	44	47.9	58	78.1
Karnataka	37	21.6	57	39.6
Punjab	36	10.0	52	19.0
Haryana	31	7.5	45	15.2
West Bengal	29	25.8	40	41.5
Kerala	28	9.7	41	15.8
Andhra Pradesh	28	23.4	46	45.5
Madhya Pradesh	25	17.2	32	29.9
Jharkhand	25	7.6	31	12.0
Rajasthan	24	15.5	33	29.5
Chhattisgarh	24	5.8	40	11.7
Uttar Pradesh	21	39.2	26	68.9
Orissa	18	7.0	24	11.0
Himachal Pradesh	12	0.8	20	1.8
Bihar	9	8.9	17	21.3

SOURCE: India Urbanization Econometric Model; McKinsey Global Institute analysis

- Indian Cities are at the forefront of Climatic Vulnerability
- Cities are the key contributor of GHGs and at the same time, are at the forefront of Vulnerabilities







Hyderabad Urban Complex

## Impact of Urbanization over **Environment**

#### Impact on biosphere

- Modification of Habitats
- Destruction of Habitats
- Creation of New Habitats





- In Stream Consider Restoration: Principles, Processes, and Practices (1098). By the Federal Interagency Stream Restoration Working Group (FISRWG) (15 Federal agencies of the U.S.)









United Nations Climate Change

# The different

## futures that



© GIZ / Global Programme on Risk Assessment and Management for Adaptation to Climate Change (Loss and Damage)



## **Mitigation of Climate Change**

#### **Demand and Services**

#### There are options available now in every sector that can at least

halve emissions by 2030





Urban





Building





Transportation

#### **Mitigation of Climate Change**

#### Buildings

- Building: Possible to reach net zero emissions in 2050
- Action in this decade is critical to fully capture this potential
- Involves retrofitting existing buildings and effective mitigation techniques in new building
- Requires ambitious policy packages
- Zero energy and Zero Carbon buildings exist in new builds and retrofits





### Mitigation of Climate Change

#### **Cities and Urban Areas**

- Better Urban Planning
- Sustainable Production and consumption of goods and services
- Electrification (low emission energy)
- Enhance **carbon uptake and storage** (green spaces, ponds, trees)

There are options for existing, rapidly growing and new cities





Localizing Nature Based Solutions

## Defining Nature based Solutions

## IUCN



Actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human wellbeing and biodiversity benefits.

## EU Commission



Living solutions inspired by, continuously supported by and using Nature designed to address various societal challenges in a resource efficient and adaptable manner and to provide simultaneously economic, social and environmental benefits.



Natural Processes



Societal challenges

Adaptability



**Environmental Benefits** 



Differences in canal water levels under the traditional storn and the ABC Waters Management Strategy:



Water levels in the canals under the traditional stormwater manager



## NbS for SUWM - Scales of Interventions



Building Scale

Institutional/ Neighborhood Scale

Urban Catchment Scale

## NbS Strategies - Green Roofs



Espace Bienvenüe, Marne-la-Vallée, France

Green Roofs absorb, store, and later evapo-transpire initial precipitation, thereby acting as a stormwater management system and reducing overall peak flow discharge to a storm sewer system

Elements include waterproofing layer, a soil or substrate layer, and a plant layer.

## **NbS Strategies - Permeable Pavements**









**Permeable Pavers** 

Permeable Concrete

Effective at stabilizing the hydrologic condition of a site.

Permeable surfaces can be used in conjunction with subsurface infiltration galleries (subsurface retention facilities)

Types of permeable pavement include grid block pavers, plastic grids, vegetated grids, Belgium block, turf block, gravel, cobbles, brick, natural stone, etc.







## **Canal Restoration, Kolkata**











## **Urban Horticulture and RoofGardening Initiatives**



- Encourage students of Corporation Schools to take up vegetable gardening and rooftop farming in order to promote a valuebased education and supplement the Govt. of Tamil Nadu's Nutritious Mean program
- Support livelihood generation, skills development and social cohesion of vulnerable groups, the empowerment of women
- Conduct training and awareness programs to educate citizens on the benefits of urban horticulture

## Singapore LUSH (Landscape for Urban Spaces and High Rises



## Build Back Better?

AND

Living Back Safer!



