

Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh

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Leh Climate Action Plan



Leh Climate Action Plan

Project Overview:

NIUA (National Institute of Urban Affairs) and GCoM (Global Covenant of Mayors) South Asia have collaborated to assist the Leh Municipal Committee in developing the Leh Climate Action Plan. The project's main goal is to convert ambitious climate and energy commitments into actionable steps through the creation of Climate Action Plans. NIUA has spent several months compiling a comprehensive Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory and conducting a thorough vulnerability assessment.

Progress So Far:

The journey began in May, with dedicated efforts in compiling the GHG inventory and conducting vulnerability assessments over the past few months. Stakeholder consultations and field visits occurred from May to October 2023, involving government officials, academia, civil society organizations, and educational institutions.

The first consultation, held on May 9 and 10, 2023, was divided between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. Its primary objective was to identify existing challenges and issues in Leh City. Participants were introduced to the strategic approach and methodology underpinning the climate action plan, with interactive exercises used to pinpoint vulnerable areas and emission sources. The team engaged in individual dialogues with various departments and met with organizations such as HIMANK, HIAL, Ladakh University, and Business Associations.

Building on the insights from data collection and interviews, the team created a comprehensive GHG inventory and conducted a vulnerability assessment for the city. The culmination of this analysis and key insights were presented during the second consultation.

The second consultation aimed to collectively shape the vision of the plan, identifying focal areas and providing recommendations in the form of policies, projects, and institutional frameworks. Subsequently, the team met with esteemed dignitaries to present the analysis and gather valuable recommendations and constructive feedback.

City Climate Action Plan (CCAP):

A City Climate Action Plan serves as a blueprint for cities to combat climate change and reduce its impact on the environment. It is a comprehensive strategy developed by various entities to address climate challenges and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ultimately transitioning to a more sustainable and resilient future.



Relevance of CCAP:

CCAPs are critical because cities are major contributors to global greenhouse gas emissions. They are also the first to experience the direct and immediate impacts of climate change, such as heatwaves, flooding, and rising sea levels. Local governments play a crucial role in responding to these challenges, leading to improvements in areas like energy efficiency, public transportation, green spaces, and clean industries. Developing CCAPs for Indian cities is vital for addressing climate change, enhancing local environments, promoting sustainable development, and ensuring the well-being of citizens. These plans involve input from local communities, encouraging citizen participation and ownership of environmental issues.

Benefits for Leh City:

The Leh Climate Action Plan offers various advantages, including environmental, economic, social, and health benefits. By addressing climate change and improving sustainability, Leh can become a more resilient, livable, and prosperous city. The plan helps establish emission baselines, conduct a diagnostic survey of existing infrastructure, transition to cleaner energy sources, promote energy efficiency, and implement sustainable transportation options. It also facilitates access to funding for sustainable initiatives, stakeholder engagement, and progress tracking. Additionally, the plan provides a roadmap for water conservation and improved waste management practices, preserving the natural environment, mitigating climate change, and enhancing the quality of life for residents.

Citizens' Role:

Citizen participation is crucial for developing an effective, inclusive, and sustainable Climate Action Plan. It strengthens community resilience, ensures ownership, and tailors the plan to the unique needs and aspirations of Leh's residents, ultimately creating a more climate-resilient and sustainable city.

Take Action:

Leh's citizens can actively participate by sharing ideas, concerns, and suggestions for the Climate Action Plan through the provided Google Form. Raising awareness about climate issues within the community and encouraging others to participate is equally important in building a more sustainable and climate-resilient city.

Participate Here: https://forms.gle/Gqxb29hJdUK7rEk36

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