

Urban Futures 2012

Reinventing our Cities Balancing Opportunities with Equity

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON **GREEN URBAN FUTURES**

05 - 07 March 2012 | IIC, New Delhi, INDIA

www.urbanfutures.in



Creation and management of green spaces (including urban forests) has been gaining importance as urbanization becomes the most significant reason for human migration in the world. Urban Green Spaces provide town and city dwellers with significant environmental, recreational and material benefits. They are also home to a vast diversity of flora and fauna and are recognized as important repositories of biodiversity.

This is particularly true for developing countries where urbanization is progressing at an unprecedented rapid rate and a demographic switch from a predominantly rural to a predominantly urban society is taking place. UN (1991) figures indicate that in 1990 only 37% of the total population of developing countries was living in urbanized area. It is predicted that by the year 2025 the proportion will be 61%. Already rapid and uncontrolled urbanization in many developing countries is having fundamental social and environmental consequences. The role of Urban Green Spaces in ameliorating this situation is critical and significant and needs to be recognized in planning, creation and management of rapidly expanding urban human settlements.

From every angle - demographic, environmental or social - cities in the Indian subcontinent are far more significant today than they were a just a few decades ago. In India alone, they are home to an estimated 340 million people, or 30% of total population. By 2030, existing and new Indian cities are expected to provide shelter to 590 million people, or 40% of the population. It is a fact that urbanization in Indian sub-continent is well underway, and will continue unabated. There is an urgent need to engage with this reality of an Urban future and look for answers to questions about longterm sustainability and environmental robustness of our cities.

urbanfutures2012 took a critical look at the interface between urban human habitations and urban green spaces to enrich our understanding of their interconnectedness with quality of life in our fast expanding cities. The

Congress dealt with physical, spatial, economic, environmental, aesthetic, and other dimensions of urban green spaces.

Themes

Climate Change Mitigation and Energy Use Optimisation

Biodiversity, Livelihoods, Economics and Valuation

Water Conservation and Pollution Control

Civil Society Engagement and Educational Linkages

Management Practices and Technology

Policy, Planning, Finance and Governance

OBJECTIVES

- To review the status, and prospects, of Urban Green Spaces, with specific reference to the Indian subcontinent.
- To understand and analyse best practices in planning, establishment and management of Urban Green Spaces.
- To examine and analyse successful Urban Green Space initiatives from across the world.
- To facilitate exchange of information & ideas and promote cross sectoral learning.
- To foster peer review, and networking, among stakeholders to promote concomitant action on pertinent issues.

PARTICIPATION PROFILE

Urban Planners and City Managers, policy makers at various levels, urban foresters, floriculture and horticulture experts, academicians and educationists, RWA representatives, CSR Heads and civil society institutions interested in various dimensions of Urban Green Spaces. These included, but were not restricted to, participants from UN Agencies, government departments and agencies, local authorities and municipalities, universities and research centers, private sector companies engaged in urban development and civic management businesses, and bilateral/multilateral developmental agencies, media professionals and students.



Schedule

DAY 1

PRE-CONGRESS WORKSHOPS

PCW1	PCW2
Urban Green Spaces : Standards and Certification	Aquaponics
Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal	Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai
PCW3	PCW4
Biotechnological approaches in urban green spaces management	Urban green spaces assessment : Role of Remote sensing technologies
NEERI, Nagpur	Remote Sensing Application Laboratory, SES, JNU

INAUGURAL SESSION

Ms. Sheila Dikshit , Hon'ble Chief Minister, NCT of Delhi	
Dr. P. J. DilipKumar Director General of Forests, Govt. of India	Dr. Sudhir Krishna Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of India

OPENING PLENARY

Chair	: VK Bahuguna , Director General, Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education
Keynote Speakers	: Charles Correa , Renowned Architect and Urban Planner Steven Handel , Professor, Dept. of Ecology and Natural Resources, Rutgers University, USA
Moderator	: Vinay Luthra , Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Karnataka

DAY 2 : CONCURRENT THEMATIC WORKSHOPS

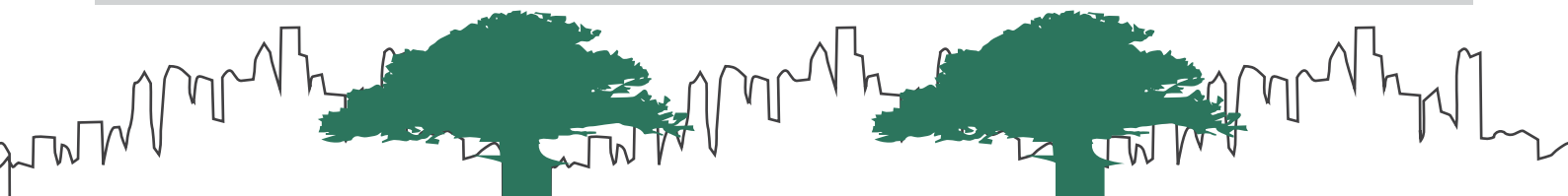
Theme	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5
Climate Change Mitigation and Energy Use Optimisation	Climate Change – Cities, People, Planet	Challenges of Urban Green Development	Initiatives in Green Urban Spaces	Global Outlook – Sharing Best Practices	Looking Ahead - Innovation in Green Spaces
Biodiversity, Livelihoods and Valuation	Biodiversity in Urban Landscapes	Urban Biodiversity Livelihood Linkages	Urban Biodiversity Economics and Valuation	Urban Biodiversity Conservation practices and Innovation: Global Experiences	Urban Biodiversity Conservation practices and Innovation: Global Experiences
Water Conservation and Pollution Control	Water and Cities: Key Questions	Urban Green Spaces and Air Quality	Urban Green Spaces and Urban Water Security	Urban Green Spaces: Linkages with Public Health	Pollution Management and Urban Green Spaces: Global Best Practices
Civil Society Engagement and Educational Linkages	Mainstreaming Green Urbanism : Role of Civil Society	Mainstreaming Green Urbanism : Role of Civil Society	Urban Green Space Management: Addressing Professional Training & Capacity Gaps	Urban Green Spaces Linkages with School Education : Possibilities and Examples	Civil Society Engagement in Urban Green Space Management
Management Practices & Technology	Urban Floriculture and Landscaping	Urban and Peri urban Vegetables farming	Supply chain issues in urban horticulture	Urban Green Design : Emerging Paradigms	Global Best Practices
Planning, Finance and Governance	Policy frameworks and Planning Mechanisms	Financing Mechanisms	Innovative experiences from cities across Asia and Rest of the world		

DAY 3

DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR DECISION AND POLICY MAKERS : OPTIMISING TREES AND FOREST FOR HEALTHY CITIES

Organised by : **Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)**

CONCLUDING PLENARY / VALEDICTORY SESSION



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Images



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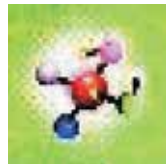
Partners



Department of Environment
Govt. of NCT, Delhi



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
Government of India



Department of
Biotechnology

