



South Asia Urban Knowledge Hub

DR. DEBJANI GHOSH (dghosh@niua.org)
REGIONAL MANAGER, K-HUB & TEAM LEADER, INDIA

**Tongji
University,
Shanghai**

November
2014

Disclaimer:

The views expressed in this document are those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), its Board of Directors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this document, and accept no responsibility for any consequence of their use. By making any designation or reference to a particular territory or geographical area, or by using the term “country” in this document, ADB does not intend to make any judgments as to the legal or other status of any territory or area.

RATIONALE

- The South Asia Urban Knowledge Hub a regional capacity development TA ,has been developed by ADB and the governments of Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.
- The first phase of K-Hub is between July 2014 and June 2017.
- The K-Hub responds to country partnership strategies in South Asia that have a strong emphasis on knowledge solutions, knowledge management, results orientation and regional cooperation.

OBJECTIVES & FOCUS

- The objective is to build the knowledge management capacity of existing urban research or training institutes in South Asia to provide policy makers and practitioners with innovative and evidence-based solutions.
- Maintaining vital economic growth while ensuring access to services and a livable environment, including for the poor, will be the focus of the K-Hub.

EXPECTED OUTCOME

Emphasis on innovative sanitation.

The expected outcome is improved capacity for knowledge generation and management in the urban sector in South Asia,

which will lead to

strengthening knowledge partnerships in the region.

THE MEMBERS



- Existing institutions
- National hubs + regional hub
- Government is a key partner
- Strong focus on collaboration
- Ongoing reflection and learning

NIUA-INDIA

National Institute of Urban Affairs hosts the national centre for India and is also the Regional Hub.

- **Goal:**

The needs of the urban poor are integrated into policy-making processes by 2025.

- **Impact:**

By 2025 future planning policies and programmes are sensitive to the needs of the poor.

ITN-BUET

- **Goal:** Inclusive, safe and sustainable urban living by improving the overall environment through implementing appropriate fecal sludge management, (FSM) services, and improving living conditions in urban slums and low income communities, through knowledge based integrated development by 2021.
- **Impacts:** By 2021, the initiatives of ITN-BUET under the South Asia Urban Knowledge Hub are expected to bring about noticeable impacts.

UOM- SRI LANKA

- **Goal:**

Improved service delivery in the area of environmental sanitation in Moratuwa and Kandy Municipal Council areas of Sri Lanka by the year 2020.

- **Impact:**

All residents of Moratuwa and Kandy Municipal Councils get access to improved environmental sanitation services by the year 2020.

TU-IOE-NEPAL

- **Goal:**

To improve the integration of sanitation management into urban planning and development processes in Nepal by 2030.

- **Impact:**

By 2030, Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city has sustainable and decentralized fecal sludge collection and treatment systems.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Ministry of Urban Development
- Asian Development Bank
- UN Habitat
- Urban Development Authorities
- Municipal Corporations
- All India Council of Mayors
- Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities
- Institute of Town Planners
- Universities/Planning Schools/IITs
- Chambers of Commerce
- Global Observatory linking Research and Action (GORA)
- Urban Research Institutes (eg: ISEC-CRUA)
- International/Bilateral Agencies (eg: British Deputy High Commission)
- NGOs
- Media

OUTPUTS

- **Output 1: Regional hub established in South Asia**

This output focuses on operationalising the hub; consolidating and sharing knowledge; and developing the network between national centers as well as links to policy makers and practitioners.

- **Output 2: Improved capacity for outcome oriented research and knowledge dissemination**

Includes assessing current capacity of national centers for evidence-based policy advocacy; and building the capacity of researchers and trainers for more outcome-oriented approaches. The aim is to use knowledge in ways that inform policy and practice.

OUTPUTS

- **Output 3: Improved urban management and planning education curriculum prepared**

This output will review current urban planning curricula in the region and identify gaps and opportunities for strengthening the curricula. It will include consultations and discussions, expert analysis and survey of graduates to understand the skill gap.

- **Output 4: Improved capacity for managing knowledge hub operations**

This output focuses on ensuring effective management of hub operations; and thinking ahead to the sustainability of the hub. The business model of the K-Hub will be elaborated at an early stage of implementation in consultation with governments.

THANK YOU

