

ACCESSanitation: Accelerating City-to City Exchange for Sustainable Sanitation

Location: Hosakote, Tiruppur, Rajahmundry, Vasai Virar, and Vikarabad from India, and Bayawan, Dipolog, Olongapo, Puerto Princesa, and San Fernando - Pampanga from Philippines

Led by the ICLEI European Secretariat, the project partnership included ICLEI South Asia and the Ecosan Services Foundation in India as well as ICLEI Southeast Asia and the Sustainable Sanitation Center at Xavier University in the Philippines. Furthermore, representatives of ten organizations specializing on the improvement of sanitation world-wide were invited to become members of an Advisory Board which guided the project with their professional knowledge and experience.

The project ACCESSanitation (Dec. 2009 to May 2013), was a part-funded project by Europe Aid, worked with local governments of in India and in the Philippines to tackle inadequate urban sanitation. These fast-growing cities but medium sized cities were Hosakote, Tiruppur, Rajahmundry, Vasai Virar, and Vikarabad from India, and Bayawan, Dipolog, Olongapo, Puerto Princesa, and San Fernando - Pampanga from Philippines. Led by the ICLEI European Secretariat, the project partnership included ICLEI South Asia and the Ecosan Services Foundation in India as well as ICLEI Southeast Asia and the Sustainable Sanitation Centre at Xavier University in the Philippines. The project promoted an integrated and participatory planning process, including the consideration of the entire sanitation chain and of the close link between sanitation and urban water management more generally. In order to enable local governments to carry out such a process, activities focused on building the capacity of local government officials in the ten participating cities via local and national training workshops, tailor-made coaching, peer-to-peer learning exchanges, and international exposure visits. ESF, in coordination with ICLEI and the Municipal Corporations of the respective cities, drafted **City Sanitation Plans** for Vikarabad, Vasai Virar, Rajahmundry and Hosakote. Each city also implemented a smaller pilot at the end of the project; in most cases a public toilet facility based on UDDT (Urine Diversion Dehydration Toilet) or DTS (Decentralized Treatment System) was constructed.