

The United Nations General Assembly has designated the 31st of October as World Cities Day, by its [resolution 68/239](#). The Day is expected to greatly promote the international community's interest in global urbanization, push forward cooperation among countries in meeting opportunities and addressing challenges of urbanization, and contributing to sustainable urban development around the world.

The impact of COVID-19 has re-shaped urban life around the world. Local communities have played a key role in contributing to keeping people safe and maintaining some economic activities.

In the Indian context, the Smart Cities Mission under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has given a call for the India Cycles4Change campaign, started the TULIP platform for internship and enhancing learning opportunities, and many other activities and projects to help Cities Fight COVID-19 and look at Indian cities with the lens of Sustainable Urbanism.

At Bengaluru, in the week starting from 25th October to 31st October, Bengaluru Smart City Limited is organizing an advocacy campaign about World Cities Day. The campaign is to focus and build a consensus around Sustainable Urbanism. The UN-Habitat has given a call for recognition of communities' value to be maintained beyond the virus outbreak and to build resilience into communities using technologies and innovative solutions for a sustainable future.

Under this campaign, Bengaluru Smart City Limited aims to introduce the Seven distinct themes of Sustainable Urbanism via the projects of Bengaluru Smart City Limited. The seven themes are very critical for Urban Planning and Building Cities. These themes are not in watertight compartments but have areas of overlap and the integrated application of these themes is essential for Cities to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The projects, which are planned and being implemented by the Bengaluru Smart City Limited and align to achieve the Seven distinct themes of Sustainable Urbanism, identified for this week advocacy campaign are indicated in the table below:

| SN | Date | Theme | Project in BenSCL | Stage of Project |
|------|--------------------------|------------------|--|---|
| i. | 25 th October | Accessibility | Integrated mobility towards creating a vibrant destination Shivajinagar Bus Terminal Redevelopment (Terminus + Parking Structure + Subway) | Work Under Progress |
| ii. | 26 th October | Inclusivity | Project Rashmi - Women's Space at the Workplace | Work Under Progress |
| iii. | 27 th October | Sustainability | Protection and Redevelopment of a Botanically Varied Parkland - Cubbon Park | Work Under Progress |
| iv. | 28 th October | Resilience | Redevelopment of historic economic centers - KR Market | Tender Stage |
| v. | 29 th October | Technology | COVID-19 Management – Index Application | Application in Use by BBMP and Bengaluru Urban District |
| vi. | 30 th October | Learning | TULIP | Program Under Implementation |
| vii. | 31 st October | Social Influence | Revitalization of the City – Building roads and public infrastructure on lines of Sustainable Mobility | Road Works Under Progress |

Urbanization provides the potential for new forms of social inclusion, including greater equality, access to services and new opportunities, and engagement and mobilization that reflects the diversity of cities, countries, and the globe. With efforts to **ENGAGE** local communities and make this objective of Sustainable Urbanism a reality, Bengaluru Smart City plans to organize a plantation drive on the morning of the 31st October along with a virtual brainstorming session with the local communities during the afternoon.

Join and watch out for the creatives and activities in this week of Urban October from Bengaluru Smart City. The TULIP interns at the Bengaluru Smart City Limited shall organize and coordinate this campaign and plug this opportunity as one step of #NammaBengaluru towards Sustainable Urbanism.

Think. Implement. Sustain.