Waterbodies – rivers, lakes, tanks, ponds etc – have always been an inalienable part of many of our cities. A critical component of the human ecosystem, they have not only been a source of drinking water, but have also acted as sponges to recharge groundwater, supported biodiversity, provided livelihoods and performed the role of carbon sinks.

Increasing, uncontrolled and unplanned urbanisation is driving many of these urban waterbodies towards extinction. Their watersheds and catchment areas are being destroyed and encroached upon; they are getting clogged with mountains of sewage and solid waste; their natural flow of water is obstructed leading to floods and water-logging. Most waterbody rejuvenation programmes focus only on beautification – without exploring long-term solutions for reviving the waterbodies.

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) invites applications for a specialised online training programme that will focus on understanding the existing challenges and all the technical aspects for reviving and restoring waterbodies. The programme will also delve into groundwater context and typologies of India, and the challenges and significance of groundwater management in the urban context, specifically in the Ganga basin.

SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA (NMCG)

This online training programme is a part of a three-year CSE sub-programme aimed at building capacity of cities in the Ganga basin and making them water-sensible. Under this, a series of interactions – from webinars, workshops and trainings to field exposure visits and knowledge conclaves – has been planned to engage with over 1,300 state and municipal functionaries and other sector players. The sub-programme is supported by NMCG, and is a part of the Mission’s ongoing efforts for ensuring convergence of Namami Gange with other national missions.

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE TRAINING

- Architects, planners, engineers and other water and sanitation professionals working with consultancies, design firms, non-profits, government departments and agencies, research institutions and academic centres
- Central/state/municipal functionaries (decision makers/managers and regulators)
- Engineers (civil/mech/env) or planners working with water supply and sewerage boards/Jal Nigams or Jal Sansthans
- Functionaries dealing with AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission, Jal Jeevan Mission (Urban), Swachh Bharat Mission (U), Atal Bhujal Mission, Namami Gange etc
- Accredited EIA, architecture and urban planning consultants
- Researchers and academics interested in curriculum development in planning, architecture and civil engineering
- Related sector professionals dealing with water, sanitation, flood, river, wetland or environment-related matters in cities and their urbanisable areas

WHAT WILL THE PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE ON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAMME

- Certificate of Participation
- One-year free subscription to Down To Earth magazine
- Top five scorers will get a 50 per cent refund of their training fee and will be invited to CSE’s training site in Narmi (Gujarat) with a fully funded fellowship for one of the Centre’s upcoming residential training programmes
- Access to a global network of practitioners under the School of Water and Waste, AAETI

WHO WILL BE THE TRAINING DIRECTOR?

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