

## Proceedings of Workshop: Day 1

School of Water and Waste (SWW), CSE organised a two-day Alumni Impact Workshop-cum-Master Class, as an alumni meet-up workshop, where our training alumni share their stories and how the trainings have contributed to their work. Theme for Day 1 was 'Water', which was further divided into three themes: Water Sensitive Urban Design and Planning (WSUDP), Water and Communication, and Urban Lake and Wetland Management. We also had Mr Aditya Batra, Mr Souparno Banerjee and Mr Rajneesh Sareen as jury members to adjudge the best three alumni stories.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr Suresh Rohilla, Academic Director of SWW and Senior Director at CSE. He shared the journey of SWW from its inception, and its role as an active advocacy and capacity building initiative at CSE. He stressed upon ground-breaking statistics of training 571 professionals over the past two years through 18 training programmes on the above-mentioned themes, out of which 25% participants were nominated govt. officials, where-in we have also maintained a healthy female-to-male ratio of 43:57.

Following the brief overview, Ms Shivali Jainer, CSE kickstarted the sessions on alumni stories and experience sharing. As many as 13 individual alumni showcased their journey about how they have been using the knowledge from our training programmes and implementing their action plans. These included consultants, researchers, academicians and govt. officials. Apart from these, five institutional partners deliberated on their partnership with School of Water and Waste, CSE. We also had 130+ alumni attending today's workshop-cum-masterclass.

### ***Theme 1: Water Sensitive Urban Design and Planning***

Ms Madhura Joshi, Lab A+U Studio, Mumbai, shared her experience about implementing WSUDP projects like RWH, stormwater harvesting and greywater reuse in urban and peri-urban areas in Maharashtra and Gujarat, a lot of which was using CSE training material including presentations and workbook.

Ms Shreesha Nankhwa, Guthi, Nepal, shared her study of assessment of RWH structures in two cities in the Kathmandu Valley. The study provided various implications for RWH policy and sustainability, in terms of O&M, role of community participation and services management.

Mr Anubhav Jangra, IDGC India Pvt. Ltd., Delhi, shared his experience as a Planning Consultant working on 'Urban Greens' project, for 72 ULBs in Telangana. He was able to inform the design guidelines for various public parks and open spaces to include RWH techniques to address issues of urban flooding. He was also able to use the GIS training in his work, as part of mapping and analysis.

Ms Rinan Shah, ATREE, Bengaluru, informed the house on her research in water demand-supply management in the hill town of Darjeeling. As a PhD scholar, she was able to use the tools and approaches like Water Balance, GIS, etc. for enhancing her research objectives and methodology.

Among the institutional partnerships we had Ms Hasin Jahan representing WaterAid Bangladesh, Ms Tanuja Ariyananda representing Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum and Mr Jay Bhagwan representing Water Research Commission, South Africa.

Ms Jahan shared the journey of WaterAid and CSE, which has lasted for 7+ years, through which we have been able to mainstream RWH in towns and cities of Bangladesh. Initiatives around capacity building, pilot projects and advocacy has resulted in various RWH projects in Bangladesh, and modification of building codes to include RWH structures.

Ms Ariyananda highlighted the 10+ years of partnership, and the joint efforts of Lanka Rain Water Harvesting Forum and CSE in implementation of RWH in Sri Lanka, and the setting up of a 'Rain Center', which not only provides technical support, but also contributes in creating awareness regarding RWH and its role in developing a water prudent society.

Mr Bhagwan deliberated on the active partnership of WRC and CSE, and for the past 5+ years, the organisations along with University of Cape Town have been able to train 200+ professionals in the field of Water Sensitive Design and Sanitation. This has also resulted in active in-roads in the water management strategies in various cities in South Africa.

### ***Theme 2: Water and Communication***

Alumni from Tarun Bharat Sangh, Sh. Chaman Singh and Sh. Suresh Gaikwar, shared their experience and learnings on how they have been able to create awareness in the youth regarding the initiatives and projects of Tarun Bharat Sangh using modern tools like video clips, social media outreach and documentation of case studies, which were showcased in CSE training programmes.

Ms Seema Singh, Swachh Bharat Mission Directorate, Govt. of UP, shared her experience in organizing and implementing IEC campaigns in UP to mainstream the SBM objectives and create awareness in the far reaches of urban UP.

### ***Theme 3: Urban Lake and Wetland Management***

Mr Karthik Ravichandran and Ms Ragasamyutha Ananthathmulla from CDD Society, Bengaluru, shared their experiences from working on lake rejuvenation projects in Coimbatore and Bengaluru, and how they were able to go beyond technical solutions and include socio-economic aspect of lake management, by involving all the stakeholders, especially the local community, which they learned from CSE trainings on urban lake management.

The institutional partnership between CSE and CDD Society was deliberated upon by Mr P. Ganapathy from CDD Bengaluru, where he stressed upon collaboration on developing research using modern tools, and collaboration for capacity building and pilot projects.

Mr Anirudha Paul, East Kolkata Wetlands Management Authority, Kolkata, shared his experience on working towards drafting of guidelines for preparation of a management plan for the East Kolkata Wetlands, a Ramsar Site. He mentioned that the template shared by CSE during the training on urban lake management went a long way in helping him and his colleagues to prepare comprehensive guidelines on the same.

Ms Saumya Bansal, Ms Kritika Sharma (Dept. of Landscape Architecture) and Mr Sujith Sourab Guntoju (Dept. of Environmental Planning) students from School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), Delhi, shared their stories of how the CSE trainings elevated their knowledge about various technical and socio-economic aspects related to revival, conservation and judicious use of urban water bodies.

Their academic projects on Najafgarh Drain (Dept. of Landscape Architecture) and Revival of Water Bodies in Delhi (Dept. of Environmental Planning) benefitted from the learnings related to stakeholder analysis, problem and solution tree mapping, designing of eco-buffers and constructed wetlands, and preparation of short-, medium- and long-term strategies, all of which were their key learnings from CSE training on urban lake management.

Institutional partnership between CSE and SPA Delhi was highlighted by Prof Meenakshi Dhote and Prof. Aarti Grover, where they stressed upon the importance of building linkages with academic institutions and industry to help reduce the knowledge and experience gap in students, and jointly conduct research for better outreach.

The workshop was concluded with a short Q&A session and a vote of thanks by Dr Suresh Rohilla.