

Sustainable Cities India program

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In news– The **World Economic Forum(WEF)** and the **National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)** recently have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on a jointly designed ‘Sustainable Cities India program’.

About the programme-

- It **aims to create an enabling environment for cities to generate decarbonization solutions** across the energy, transport, and the built environment sectors.
- It intends to **enable cities to decarbonize in a systematic and sustainable way that will reduce emissions** and deliver resilient and equitable urban ecosystems.
- The **WEF and NIUA will adapt the Forum’s City Sprint process and Toolbox of Solutions** for decarbonization in the context of five to seven Indian cities across two years.
- The City Sprint process (CSP) is a series of multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder workshops involving business, government, and civil society leaders to enable decarbonization, especially through clean electrification and circularity.
- CSP will help to jumpstart and/or accelerate net zero planning and action.
- **The CSP uses the Toolbox of Solutions – a digital platform containing over 200 examples of clean electrification**, efficiency and smart infrastructure best practices and case studies across buildings, energy systems and mobility from over 110 cities around the world.
- This initiative is particularly noteworthy as **India** has

committed to turn net zero by 2070 as a climate mitigation response at COP26.

About WEF's Net Zero Carbon Cities-

- Its **mission is to create an enabling environment** for clean electrification and circularity, resulting in urban decarbonization and resilience.
- The program **aims to do this by fostering public-private collaboration** to bridge the gap across the energy, built environment and transport sectors.

About National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)-

- Established in 1976, the NIUA is **India's leading national think tank on urban planning and development.**
- As a hub for the generation and dissemination of cutting-edge research in the urban sector, NIUA seeks to provide innovative solutions to address the challenges of a fast urbanizing India, and pave the way for more inclusive and sustainable cities of the future.

Further reading:
<https://journalsofindia.com/world-economic-forum/>