

I. Policy Advocacy and Partnership Discussions

- TNCSR Web Platform Facilitating Cross-Sector Partnership for Development
 - a. Preparatory activities taken to support TNCSR Web Platform announcement
 - b. Pre-Consultation with Departments Sustainable Transport and Mobility
- EV Drive in Tamil Nadu for Sustainable Transport and Mobility
- Moving forward with Sustainable Transport in Tamil Nadu
- Technical advisory to Safe Stops: Inclusive Bus Stops
- Time ripe for Tamil Nadu to have a suitable Policy Framework for reducing Youth Not in Education Employment and Training (NEET)
- · Technology Skills and Innovation centers for TN rural youth

II. Data Analytics, Monitoring and Evaluation

Convening of Working Group Meeting – 7 for finalizing SIF – 2.0 indicators

III. Capacity Development

- Synergies between Climate Action and SDGs: Implications for Multilateralism
- Workshop on TNGIS and GIS implementation
- Roadmap for localising the SDGs Monitoring and Measurement

IV. Knowledge Corner

Centre of Excellence for Promoting Urban Mobility

V. About the Issue



TNCSR Web Platform – Facilitating Cross Sector Partnership for Development

Leveraging Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds for various development activities is becoming a new normal. Furthermore, achieving Sustainable Development Goals needs different development funds, one way of meeting this demand is to tap into CSR funds. To leverage this, the Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Centre (SDGCC), TN conceptualised a CSR web platform to facilitate stakeholders in harmonizing their CSR objectives with the State's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) priorities. The platform can facilitate the exchange of knowledge, best practices, and innovative ideas, leading to the development of more effective interventions. A matchmaking platform can provide a transparent space where both government agencies and CSR stakeholders can showcase their initiatives, track progress, and report outcomes.

 றக்கிய நாடுகள் வளர்சித் நிட்டத்து. SHOULD BELLEVILLE Such R4tmus இந்த மாட்டு முறுக்கும் முறை இட்டத், வளர்சி மத்தம் சிறப்பு முயந்சிகள் ஜாவு, தமிழ்நாடு பெரு figurateda rys Grycy Board papay ரு 20.00 இடைசம் மதிப்பீட்டில் ஓலக்கு ஓக். (The Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department through Goals Sustainable Development Coordination Centre (SDGCC) formed in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will launch the Tamil Nadu Corporate Social Responsibility (TNCSR) Web Platform at an estimated cost of Rs.20.00 lakhs). இந்த இணையதனம் பல்வேறு மண்டலங்கள் மற்றும் துறைகளில் உள்ள திட்டக்களுடன் தொழில் மற்றம் Guggggaandaadab ryad Quaggin jamet allien on Boomekeyb gygdolionomóu garuna Grudus'. (k. தமிழ்நாட்டின் பல்வேறு மாவட்டங்கள் மற்றும் நறைகளில் சயமான ஒதுக்கீட்டை உறுதிலிசம்து, சயமான வளர்ச்சிமை magalita e gast.

The Hon'ble Minister for Finance and HRM, GoTN announced the development of the Tamil Nadu Corporate Social Responsibility (TNCSR) Web Platform in the State Legislative Assembly while moving the Grant No 36 Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department for 2024-25 on 26 June 2024. Planning and Development Department through the SDGCC formed in association with the UNDP will launch the TNCSR web platform at an estimated cost of INR 20 lakhs.



a. Preparatory activities taken to support the TNCSR Web Platform announcement

SDGCC has undertaken the following activities in paving a roadmap for CSR engagement in Tamil Nadu.

1. SDGCC collaborated with Sattva and CII Tamil Nadu to enlist the Private Companies and PSUs that have a strong CSR presence and spend in the State and also mapped the CSR ecosystem concerning their investment and focus areas. The State has received approximately INR 7,000 crores through CSR since its inception in 2014. Education, Healthcare, Environmental Sustainability, and Rural Development have been the top CSR recipient sectors in Tamil Nadu.

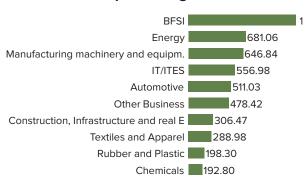
2. Mapped the schemes and programs of the Government of Tamil Nadu alongside Private Sector CSR initiatives to explore possible synergies.



Total Recipient – Sectors



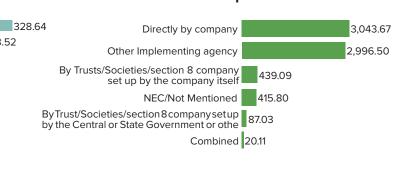
Top Funding Industries



Top Funding Companies



Mode of Implementation





3. Based on the activity mapping with various Departments, the top 11 were identified, and a note was prepared for each. These notes include their priority schemes and programs, as well as potential areas for CSR collaborations.

The departments are:

- 1. Social Welfare and Women Empowerment;
- 2. Health and Family Welfare;
- 3. Rural Development and Panchayati Raj;
- 4. School Education;
- 5. Higher Education;
- 6. Labour Welfare and Skill Development;
- 7. Youth Welfare and Sports Development;
- 8. Environment, Climate Change and Forests;
- 9. Housing and Urban Development;
- 10. Transport and
- 11. Industries. Investment Promotion and Commerce.
- 4. Further, to develop the TNCSR web platform in Tamil Nadu, existing similar CSR web platforms from across the country were assessed especially the one created by Karnataka, Telangana, West Bengal, Odisha and Gujarat. After assessing, the best elements have been considered for developing the TNCSR Web Platform.

Pre-Consultation Meeting

As part of pre-consultation with Government departments to feed into the design of the TN CSR Web platform, SDGCC initiated a discussion with the Member Secretary (MS)-Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA) to organise a preconsultation in mobilizing CSR funds to support urban infrastructure and road safety. To this end, MS, CUMTA suggested a broad category of areas such as operating a bus in non-accessible places, planting trees, sustainable cities through greening, etc., to attract CSR funds. This will help CUMTA improve and conserve the environment in Chennai City which is grappled with

unstable practices and climate change risks. It is proposed to initiate many such preconsultative meetings with other relevant departments. Similar pre-consultations have been planned with other Government Departments.

Next step:



A CSR Committee is proposed to be formed to take forward the TNCSR Web Platform;

EV Drive in Tamil Nadu for Sustainable **Transport and Mobility**

Contributing SDG Target 11.2: By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations. women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

SDGCC has fostered collaboration with the EV Task Force in Tamil Nadu in the Skilling and Upskilling of the crew on the Operation and Maintenance of EVs; Studying the legal framework and its features and challenges for promoting EVs in the State; Standardisation of EV battery technology and bringing out uniformity across the State. A total of three meetings were held with Thiru. Srinivasan, EV Task Force Head - Tamil Nadu; the EV Task Force is chaired by the Industries Secretary and Micro Small Medium Enterprises Secretary.

Next step:



Preparation of a concept note on EV with the EV Taskforce Team is in progress.



Contributing SDG Target 11.2: By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

Moving forward with Sustainable Transport in Tamil Nadu



Sustainable transport—with its objectives of universal access, enhanced safety, reduced environmental and climate impact, improved resilience, and greater efficiency is central to sustainable development – Source UN

To streamline sustainability in Transport, a holistic and multi-stakeholder meeting was organised at Anna Administrative Staff College on 9th May 2024. Thiru Vikram Kapur, IAS, Director General Training, Anna Administrative Staff College chaired the meeting. The delegates from the Planning and Development Department; Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Centre (SDGCC); Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP); Chennai Unified Metropolitan Authority (CUMTA) participated in the Meeting and presented their action undertaken towards plans ensuring sustainable transport in Tamil Nadu.

- Creation of a single State Transport Authority to plan, operate and regulate the transportation across the State of Tamil Nadu;
- Integrated Statewide transport system economically move everyone, everything, everywhere, every time (4es) and on time;

- Scale up Pedestrian Plaza similar to Pandi Bazar in other major locations in Chennai:
- Ensuring adequate footpaths pedestrian infrastructure in other cities in Tamil Nadu.
- Promoting "Nadaipathai Namakke thittam" across the cities in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- Creating an Urban Transport Fund (UTF) to promote sustainable transport in Chennai city.

Technical advisory to Safe Stops: Inclusive **Bus Stops**

Transport Specialist from SDGCC is providing technical advisory to the study of Safe Stops: Inclusive Bus Stops conducted by Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC). As part of the study, the transport specialist travelled to major places across Chennai City to observe the socio-economic patterns of the travellers and assess the infrastructure of the present bus stops. The following areas were focused on namely accessibility, disabled friendliness, safety and security status in the surveyed bus stops and the way forward.

The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), through the Special Programme Implementation Department and Gender Lab, is preparing a study titled "Conducting a Study on Women's Safety and Access in 10 Bus Routes," covering 500 bus stops across 250 locations. The outcomes of this study include the following: Mapping of existing infrastructure at the bus stops and the ecosystem within 50 meters on either side; assessment of design, safety, accessibility, and other requirements and development of a social and infrastructure-based tool using the data collected from the field to categorize the needs of the bus stops. This tool will be piloted along these 10 bus routes, and upon successful testing, it can be applied to all bus stops in the city.

As a technical expert, GCC nominated Development Goals Specialist (Sustainable

Transport and Mobility) to review the methodology and data collection methods, including the design of the questionnaire for infrastructure and social auditing; collaborate with GCC and the Gender Lab to review the progress of the study on a weekly basis and provide technical guidance to GCC and the Gender Lab regarding the progress of the study. This study in Tamil Nadu focusing on bus stop infrastructure and gender needs is significant for several reasons. By assessing how different genders experience and utilise public transport facilities, the research aims to create a more inclusive urban environment. Here's a breakdown of its importance:

Next step: 🔊



The major strategies that emerged from the meeting are proposed to be integrated with policies and programmes related to Transportation in the State.

TARGET 11-2

AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

Contributing SDG Target

11.2: By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.



The major objectives of the study are to map and analyse the existing infrastructure of 250 locations and 500 bus stops; conduct a comprehensive study of women's travel patterns, focusing on safety, accessibility, and convenience; identify first and last-mile connectivity challenges and propose strategies that best address them.

Understanding Gender Needs

Data-driven insights: Gathering on-ground data allows for a nuanced understanding of how various genders use bus stops, highlighting specific needs that might be overlooked in traditional studies.

Safety and accessibility: Women and other marginalised groups may face unique challenges, such as safety concerns, which can inform improvements in design and placement of bus stops.

Improving Infrastructure

Targeted improvements: The findings can guide policymakers in making informed decisions about where to invest in infrastructure improvements, ensuring that changes are responsive to the actual needs of the community.

Community engagement: Involving local communities in the data collection process can empower residents and promote a sense of ownership over their public transport systems.

Long-Term Impact

Sustainable urban development: Creating an inclusive bus stop infrastructure can contribute to broader goals of sustainable urban development, encouraging more people to use Public Transport and reducing reliance on private vehicles.

Model for other regions: Successful implementation of these findings in Tamil Nadu could serve as a model for other regions in India and beyond, promoting gendersensitive infrastructure development.

Above all, this study contributes to SDG-5: Gender Equality in a way that it aligns with efforts to promote gender equality by ensuring that public transport systems cater to the needs of all genders. It seeks to eliminate barriers and promote equal access to transportation as well as SDG-10: Reduced Inequality: By focusing on gender-specific needs, the research can help reduce inequalities in Public Transport fostering equitable access, а more urban infrastructure.

Next step: 👀



SDGCC, TN will provide technical inputs to the study team in setting up an ideal bus stop that is inclusive of all facilities.

Time ripe for Tamil Nadu to have a "Suitable Policy Framework for reducing Youth Not in Education Employment and Training (NEET)"

Of the total population of the State, 40% falls within the productive youth category of 15-35 year-olds (Sample Registration System Statistical Report 2020, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India 2022). The economy of Tamil Nadu has grown significantly over the past two decades, with an average year-on-year growth of 10% between FY2005 and FY2023, providing ample opportunities for skilling and employment (Towards one trillion: Accelerating Tamil Nadu's progress to become a trillion-dollar economy" TN FICCI Report, 2023). However, according to NSS 78th round Multiple Indicator Survey, 2023, the challenges remain substantial, as 28% of the youth are Neither in Employment, Education, or Training (NEET). These young people face significant obstacles, such as information asymmetry in accessing skill development programs, jobs, and other youth-related initiatives, as well as a lack of avenues to keep them engaged if they are unemployed and not actively seeking jobs in the short term.



Contributing to SDG Target 8.6: By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training



Contributing to SDG Target 4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

As a progressive Economy, Tamil Nadu must address these challenges and implement initiatives to support NEET individuals, preventing their detachment from the labour market and social exclusion. Based on this background and in alignment with the policy action mandate and the SDG vision for skills, employment, and livelihood, SDGCC proposed the idea of adopting the European Union's Youth Guarantee Framework for Tamil Nadu.

The framework aims provide to comprehensive support to young people aged 18–35 who are classified as 'Neither in Education, Employment, nor Training' (NEETs). This framework will be a one-stop-shop which ensures that NEETs. Every youth in NEETs category at each municipality or District level will be offered services within 6 months of registering to enhance their economic and/or educational engagements including but not limited to career counselling, Finishing school (NMFS), traineeship with a possibility of a job, access to skill voucher/credit, thematic EDP programs with entrepreneurship assistance, Bank linkages, Apprenticeship, Internship, RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning), access to coaching for competitive examinations (for higher education or job) and select remedial courses for early leavers from education, or a place in some other form of study/ engagement.

The Framework will create a repository of youth data at each district (the framework will forceit), and consolidate multiple departments' action plans for youth at the local level. Special Programme Implementation (SPI) is proposing to implement the framework as a pilot in two phases.

Phase 1: An online web and mobile platform to facilitate youth guarantee: Single window for all youth-related schemes/programs with API for respective Departments.

Phase 2: Physical Youth Guarantee Guidance Centres: Each district is adequately staffed with State-of-the-art technology-enabled integrated centres for quality Youth Guarantee linkages.

Based on the success of the pilot, the framework shall be scaled up across the State.

Next step: \sum

SDGCC has initiated discussions with the Department of Youth Welfare, and the Department of Special Program Implementation. Following departments' suggestions, the program is proposed to be piloted in two districts. SDGCC is currently developing the pilot plan being agreed upon with the respective stakeholder departments.

'Technology Skills and Innovation centers for TN rural youth'

Optimum development of rural society is possible when the youth in rural areas are given a platform to achieve their dreams. Many have excellent ideas for business including addressing pressina problems, and are keen on displaying their creativity and ability to develop their skills to increase their employability or become an entrepreneur but do not find the right platform to realise their dream. What is required now is a platform for rural youth to access State-of-the-art technology tools to learn, prototype, pilot and mentor support that addresses the dual problem of nurturing employability and entrepreneurship. There's no specific platform for the rural youth aspirants who want to start up/set up their enterprises to sustain and advance their livelihoods. There are entrepreneurship development programs which are mostly generic and are not specific to the needs of aspiring entrepreneurs. It calls for an innovative State-sponsored initiative that



with required facilities that progress towards realising the potential of rural youth through skilling and a quality-assured process. In the SDG vision document on Skill, Employment and Livelihood. suggested setting up the time-tested Fab Lab facilities in rural clusters of Tamil Nadu

provides a platform to energize rural youth



Contributing to SDG Target 4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship



DATA ANALYTICS, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. Convening of Working Group – 7 for finalizing SIF – 2.0 indicators

with a Super Fab lab set up in Chennai.

SDGCC, TN is working on the development of a draft State Indicator Framework (SIF) - 2.0 to build a robust monitoring mechanism for assessing the performance of Tamil Nadu on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) progress. Against this backdrop, SDGCC prepared a working group-wise draft SIF -2.0 SDGCC, TN in association with the State Planning Commission (SPC).

Further, SPC facilitated conducting a Working Group - 7 (Sustainable Environment and

Climate Change) meeting for finalization of indicators of SIF - 2.0 covering goals 13: Climate Action; 14: Life Below Water and 15: Life on Land. The meeting was held on 18 June 2024 under the chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) to the Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department at the conference hall, 7th floor Secretariat, Tamil Nadu. The following are the major outcomes of the Meeting.

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- 1. Concerned departments to review the indicators and suggest indicators that are to be considered for SIF 2.0 of WG-7.
- 2. Formation of a Sub-Committee to review all the indicators proposed concerning Goals 13, 14 and 15.
- **3.** The indicators of WG-7 covering goals 13, 14 and 15 will be finalised after incorporating the input from concerned departments as well as sub-committee.



State Indicator Framework (SIF) – 1.0 was developed during 2018-19 by **Government of Tamil Nadu by** referring to the Indices namely **Global Indicator Framework** (GIF), SDG India Index 1.0 and **National Indicator Framework** (NIF) - 1.0. SIF-1.0 consists of a total of 314 indicators covering all 17 Sustainable **Development Goals. SIF-2.0** is the evolution of SIF-1.0 to help Tamil Nadu monitor SDGs better and enhance State SDGs' performance at the national level.

95

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE WG-7 GOAL-WISE NUMBER OF INDICATORS CONSIDERED FOR SIF – 2.0.

Working Group – 7						
Goals	SIF - 1.0	SDGII-3.0	NIF - 4.0	Newly Developed Indicators	Total Indicators (SIF - 2. 0)	
Goal – 13: Climate Action	7	1	3	1	12	
Goal - 14: Life Below Water	13	1	2	6	22	
Goal - 15: Life on Land	13	2	5	2	22	

The meetings regarding SIF-2.0 for the remaining Working Groups are proposed to be organised in the coming days.





CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Synergies Between Climate Action and SDGs: Implications for Multilateralism

A virtual meeting on "Synergies Between Climate Action and SDGs: Implications for Multilateralism" was held online by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi on 22 May 2024. The objective of the meeting was to create a greater synergy between climate action and Sustainable Development Goals. SDGCC representatives attended the virtual dialogue. The major learnings for SDGCC from the meeting are as follows.



Contributing to SDG Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

- Every sector must act in tandem with others to tap synergy and contribute to SDGs.
- sub-national National, and local organizations working on Climate Action and SDGs need to have enhanced coordination for bolstering synergies.
- It is high time that SDG-13: Climate Action be reviewed to include specific aspects of SDGs.
- It is proposed that Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) may include a section on SDG Synergies.
- Capacity development of stakeholders is essential to improve their knowledge in identifying SDG-Climate Synergies and Trade-Offs.

While COP continues to focus on climate policies and negotiations, the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) focuses on SDG progress. Therefore, a coordinated effort is imperative to leverage the thought process of these two different forums to insulate their efforts at synergy between climate action and SDGs.

Next step:

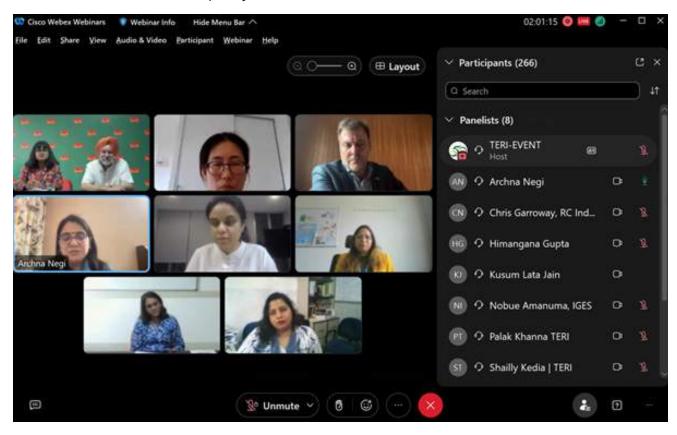


SDGCC, TN will ensure that its concept notes/quick action plans related to sustainability have climate action and SDGs synergy.

Workshop on TNGIS and GIS implementation The Information Technology and Digital Services (IT and DS) Department conducted a one-day Workshop titled "Tamil Nadu Geographic Information System (TNGIS) on 30 May 2024 to enable stakeholders such as Government departments, academia, researchers, research institutes, NGOs and other organisations to get an overview of the various GIS initiatives. Representatives from SDGCC attended the workshop. It was observed from the Workshop that the utility of GIS was presented by the following GoTN Departments such as Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MAWS), Transport, TANGEDCO, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Environment, Climate Change and Forest, Health, Education, Social Welfare, Housing and Urban Development, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Revenue, etc. The departmental activities are geotagged and geo-referred, thereby helping departments to adopt targeted approaches. This also helps with fast-tracking the real-time information. With a seamless combination of both spatial and non-spatial data, Government can make informed decisions. Further, the use of TNGIS helps generate standards for spatial data; share and access spatial datasets; and create spatial repositories. Overall, it facilitates departments to avoid duplication of services provided to citizens. As a takeaway, SDGCC is striving to adopt GIS in all its proposed activities for better monitoring in particular State Indicator Framework, policy notes, etc.



Contributing to SDG Target 9.b: Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities



SDGs Capacity Building – SDG: 11. **Sustainable Cities and Communities**

A one day State Level Workshop on "Roadmap for localising the SDGs -Monitoring and Measurement" organised by Tamil Nadu Urban Infrastructure Financial Services Limited (TNUIFSL) on 24 June 2024 to sensitize urban stakeholders on the importance of Urban Governance and Management to ensure sustainable cities and communities; changing role of Environment and Climate Change in Urban Planning and Development; Policy Framework and Local Actions for Climate Resilient Measures in Urban Infrastructure. SDGCC representatives delivered a lecturein the Workshop on the present status, Action Points and Way

Forward of SDG-11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

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Major discussion points

- Briefed on the origin of the SDGs and their importance.
- Detailed SDG-11, including the various indicators associated with it at the National and State levels.
- Discussed the procedures related to this goal, including how data is collected by the Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN).
- Explored various sustainability approaches that can be initiated in their day-to-day professional work.
- During the Q&A session, questions

related to data collection and indicators were discussed.



Contributing to SDG Target 13.3: Improve education, awarenessraising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning



KNOWLEDGE CORNER

Centre of Excellence for Promoting Urban Mobility

As part of the strategies suggested in the Vision Document of Sustainable Transport and Mobility, SDGCC is proposed to set up a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Urban Mobility in collaboration with the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA) - Housing and Urban Development Department.



IDEATE

Support competitions or 'Grand Challenges' to generate new solutions to tackle entrenched urban mobility challenges in Tamil Nadu.

Technical assistance



INCUBATE

Establish and strengthen specialized incubators to support innovative entrepreneurs with advice, training and mentoring to test business models to roll out innovative technologies/business models promoting urban mobility.

> **Grant technical** assistance



SCALE -INVEST

Facilitate patient capital to early-stage enterprises that can deliver and expand to a large scale-proven business models Provide mentoring and business Development Advisory Services to investee companies.

Equity and/or debt technical assistance



PROPAGATE

Operational research, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) to distil 'what works' for evidence CAPACITY building and knowledge sharing on inclusive innovations promoting urban mobility.

Technical assistance

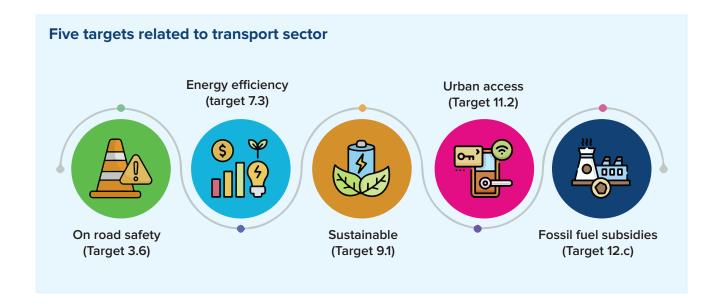
Why CoE for Urban Mobility?

Rapid motorization along with increased congestion and pollution; unreliable public transport especially during peak hours, lack of first and last-mile connectivity and passenger-friendly mobility infrastructure have necessitated the need for innovation in urban mobility.

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Rapid motorization along with increased congestion and pollution	Public transport is unreliable in many cities and not able to meet the increasing demand resulting over crowding during peak hours and shift towards para-transit	Lack of first and last-mile connectivity: and	Improvement of women safety and disabled-friendly infrastructure

Better Urban Mobility and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Also, improving urban mobility is directly contributing to achieving the SDGs, especially SDGs – 3: Good Health and Well-being; SDG: 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG-9: Infrastructure, Innovation and Industry; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 12: Responsible Production and Consumption.

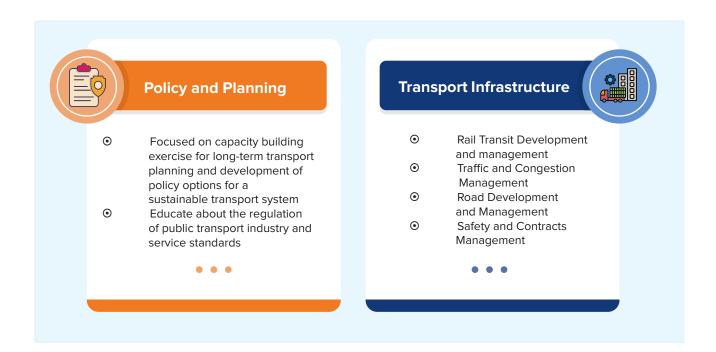


Where are we Now?

SDGCC is in discussions with the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA) to set up the proposed Centre of Excellence for Urban Mobility. CUTMA is a nodal agency for urban transport in the Greater Chennai region can be a launch pad and hold the key responsibility in establishing the start-up CoE.

Benefits of this CoE

Setting up of CoE for Urban Mobility will be beneficial for promoting innovations in the public transport industry and service standards; Rail Transit Development and Management; Traffic and Congestion Management; Road Development and Management; Safety, etc.,





The Vol: 2 and Issue – 2 Newsletter covers the major activities that the Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Centre (SDGCC) under the Planning and Development Department, Government of Tamil Nadu had undertaken from April to June 2024. This Newsletter aims to disseminate information on activities undertaken by SDGCC, T