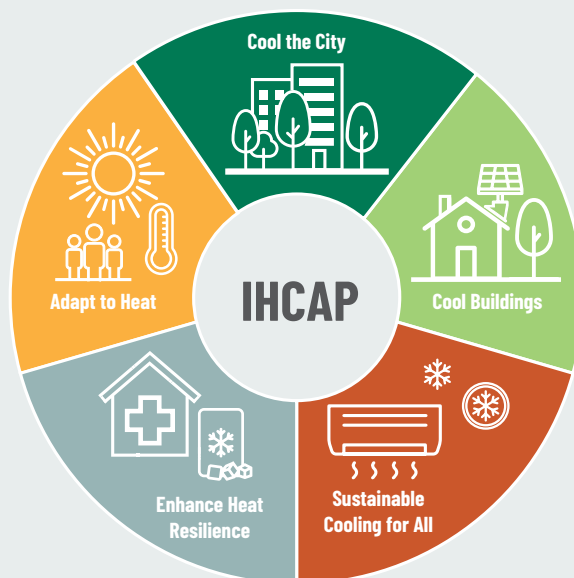


NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND REPORT RELEASE

INTEGRATED HEAT AND COOLING ACTION PLAN FOR BHUBANESWAR

02 SEPTEMBER 2025 | 9:30 AM TO 4:35 PM
LEMON TREE, BHUBANESWAR



INTRODUCTION

Background & Purpose

India's cities face a dual challenge: intensifying warming from both climate change and the urban heat island (UHI) effect, and a rapid surge in cooling demand. This creates a dangerous feedback loop—rising cooling needs drive higher energy use, intensifying UHI and greenhouse gas emissions, which in turn worsen heat stress and increase cooling demand. Without integrated action, this cycle will deepen public health risks, erode productivity, raise energy demand, and escalate emissions.

Over the past few years, India has made notable progress in developing Heat Action Plans (HAPs) at the city level. In parallel, the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has been advancing sustainable cooling efforts nationwide. However, since heat and cooling are inherently interconnected, addressing them through separate policy pathways has created policy gaps, underscoring the need for an integrated approach to tackle the escalating risks from extreme heat.

iFOREST has been leading the development of an Integrated Heat and Cooling Action Plan (IHCAP) framework, with Bhubaneswar as the pilot city. This first-of-its-kind initiative addresses the growing challenge of extreme heat and rapidly increasing cooling demand through a comprehensive approach that combines short-term adaptation, long-term mitigation, and sustainable cooling strategies to build climate-resilient cities.

To advance this agenda, we are organising a National Conference on Integrated Heat and Cooling Action Plan in Bhubaneswar, where we will also launch the IHCAP Bhubaneswar Report—developed in partnership with the Singapore ETH-Zurich Centre.

The event will bring together policymakers, city officials, urban planners, climate experts, and other stakeholders to deliberate on integrating and streamlining heating and cooling strategies, and the pivotal role cities play in their implementation.

Objectives of the Meeting

- Launch India's first Integrated Heat and Cooling Action Plan (IHCAP).
- Facilitate dialogue among national, state, and city-level policymakers to align and converge heat action and cooling policies.
- Deliberate on key actions and institutional responsibilities required for effective implementation of the Bhubaneswar IHCAP with state and city stakeholders.
- Identify pathways and opportunities to scale integrated heat and cooling plans across other Indian cities.
- Share international best practices and lessons learned relevant to urban heat and cooling management.
- Explore the role of academia, civil society organisations, and media in advancing and mainstreaming IHCAP.

AGENDA

Time	Session	Speaker(s)
9:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Registration	
10:45 AM – 10:50 AM	Welcoming of Guests & Introduction to the Event	
10:50 AM – 11:00 AM	Lighting of Lamp	
11:00 AM – 11:50 AM	Inaugural Session	
11:00 AM – 11:20 AM	Opening Presentation on IHCAP	Dr Chandra Bhushan President & CEO, iFOREST
11:20 AM – 11:40 AM	Chief Guest Address	Smt Sulochana Das, Mayor, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
11:40 AM – 11:50 AM	Report Launch, Felicitation, and Photo	
11:50 AM – 12:15 PM	COFFEE AND TEA BREAK	
12:15 PM – 12:30 PM	Presentation on Singapore Cooling Programme	Mr Ander Zozaya Project Manager, Cooling Singapore, Singapore-ETH Centre
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM	Panel Discussion Heat and Cooling Policies at the National and State Level	1. Mr Ander Zozaya Project Manager, Cooling Singapore, Singapore-ETH Centre 2. Dr Anil Kumar Gupta Professor & PI: DST-ICARS, PD – Adapt DMIR, IIT Roorkee – Gr Noida Campus 3. Ms Minni Sastry Advisor – Extreme Heat & Sustainable Cooling, United Nations Environment Programme 4. Shri Jagadananda Co-Founder, Centre For Youth And Social Development 5. Dr Naresh Kumar Scientist-F, India Meteorological Department 6. Shri Sai Om Bishnu Shankar Superintending Engineer (Energy Conservation), EIC Office, Energy Department, Government of Odisha Moderator: Ms Mandvi Singh , Director – Programme Development, iFOREST
1:45 PM – 2:30 PM	LUNCH	
2:30 PM – 3:45 PM	Panel Discussion Integrated Heat and Cooling Action for Bhubaneswar	1. Shri Tathagata Satpathy Editor, Dharitri 2. Dr Manorama Mohanty Scientist F & Head, Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar 3. Shri Md Q.I. Ali Town And Regional Planning Member, Bhubaneswar Development Authority 4. Dr Anush Konayakanahalli Chandrappa Associate Professor, School of Infrastructure, IIT Bhubaneswar Moderator: Dr Chandra Bhushan , President & CEO, iFOREST
3:45 PM – 3:50 PM	Closing Remarks	
3:50 PM Onwards	Coffee/Tea Break & Networking	