

## **Sustainable Development & Design Practice**

With the adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, countries have started to focus on developing both action programmes as well as appropriate indicators at national level to measure progress of implementation.

Under this Programme, FLEDGE supports national and global action in assessing and reviewing progress of implementation, developing appropriate, metric-based framework to monitor implementation and consolidate focus on impact-based interventions.

Activities under this portfolio include, developing a set of options for India in achieving SDGs (2015), designing nationally-relevant actions and indicators on SDG 14 (2016), undertaking an assessment of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) with reference to environment and development related actions (2017) and developing a voluntary monitoring framework for environment related actions under SDGs for reporting through VNRs (forthcoming) and preparing to debate actions and impacts on SDG 15 during the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2018.

Additionally, FLEDGE is partnering with Srishti School of Art and Design and LeNS-India to organize a student-centred communication and outreach programme on SDGs – the INTERLUDE – that will be held in Bengaluru (20 November 2017 – 16 December 2017).

### **Planning and Design Lab**

Cities are centers of economic growth, resource consumption and changing social practices. Today, Indian cities are under great pressure and lack any strategic future planning (lack of resources, proper infrastructure, public spaces, housing and employment generation, etc.); to address some of these, thousands of new growth areas have been proposed, however the existing issues persist. It is crucial to rethink how planning is carried out, and to bring together diverse actors to design strategies for existing and new growth areas with careful consideration given to physical, cultural and environmental issues. Cities are places of permanent settlement and temporary occupation. Working with the settled and the migrant is also important in city-

building; to consider diverse ways of creating and appropriating places that contribute to the social and cultural fabric, long-term economic stability, and adaptation to unpredictable changes.

The Planning and Design Lab at FLEDGE will partner with NITI Aayog, state governments and local municipalities, and will be a platform for citizen participation in planning and design of urban areas to be inclusive, environmentally sensitive and resilient to climate change. The lab will focus on SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) to rethink and innovate new urban planning approaches through design methods and creative tools that are appropriate for the Indian landscape and climate. The lab will address issues of 'natural' disasters, lack of integrated development with peri-urban and rural landscapes, as well as increasing environmental pressures across regions. Along with SDG 11, the lab will include other SDGs that are needed to be included based on the site/context.

The lab will also build a network of creative practitioners, drawing from civic society, private sector and decision-makers, to enable dialogue, and support collaboration and co-creation of places from the ground-up.