

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **The Indo-German Smart City Solutions Workshop - GLOBAL APPROACH LOCAL SOLUTIONS INDIA**

**More than 50 decision makers from nearly 30 smart cities participated in the Smart city solutions workshop to draw out concrete ideas for improving infrastructure and services in India.**

**Delhi, May 13<sup>th</sup> 2017:** Fraunhofer in association with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research Germany, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, and National Institute of Urban Affairs and organised a Indo-German Smart City Solutions Workshop on 9th May in New Delhi. The workshop was organised as a part of the Indo German cooperation on Smart Cities and Urban Infrastructure which has committed support to Kochi, Coimbatore, and Bhubaneshwar and funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Participation at the Smart city solutions workshop included Government representatives from more than 31 Indian Cities, senior policy makers and bureaucrats who are major stakeholders and decision makers in the implementation of various Government initiated Smart City projects in India.

The workshop also witnessed the participation of experts and dignitaries such as Dr. Jasper Wieck, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) German Embassy New Delhi. Shri. Anupam Mishra, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India., and Mr Jagan Shah, Director, National Institute of Urban Affairs. Mr. Ambitabh Kant, CEO Niti Aayog delivered the keynote speech at the closing session of the workshop and responded to the suggestions and outcomes of the deliberations.

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**Image 1:** L to R: Dr. Jasper Wieck, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) German Embassy New Delhi, Ms. Anandi Iyer, Director Fraunhofer Office India, Mr. Jagan Shah, Director, National Institute of Urban Affairs, Shri. Anupam Mishra, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Urban Development, Mr. Damian Wagner, Senior Project Manager Smart Cities and Coordinator of the MCI Global Smart City Initiative, Fraunhofer IAO, Germany



**Image 2:** The German Delegation with Mr Kant.

The objective of the Workshop was to share the best practices and expertise in smart solutions and models as gained through the "Morgenstadt Global Smart Cities Initiative" which is backed up by a Consortium of more than 40 partners from Industry, NGO, Government, and research institutions. The Morgenstadt Initiative is coordinated by Fraunhofer and has already several Smart City labs and Initiatives across Europe, as well as in Asia and Latin America.

The workshop was divided into three main sessions - **Smart Energy & Water Session, Smart Mobility & ICT and Smart Governance & Management System**, it also included sessions on topics like Smart Water Management, Financing Models for Indian Smart Cities, Sustainable Energy Systems for Smart Cities and Energy and Building amongst others. The lectures were followed by interactive Q&A sessions. In addition to the workshop, information on specific technologies was also displayed.

**Mr. Amitabh Kant, CEO Niti Aayog** stressed on the imperative need for high technology on Smart City solutions for India. He said, "Rapid urbanisation is putting a strain on the infrastructure, environment and social fabric of cities and to overcome this accelerating expansion, India will approach countries like Germany and adapt the high quality of engineering technology that it has to offer to India to leap from and overcome the alarming challenge of urbanisation. Investments will be required to stabilise, augment as well as build a robust urban infrastructure'

"Finding solutions for sustainable, energy-efficient and liveable cities is not a task for one nation alone; it requires international collaboration. This is why the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research has launched an international research marketing campaign under the title "Shaping the Future – Building the City of tomorrow". The workshop organised by Fraunhofer Society is part of this campaign. I am glad that Fraunhofer takes such an active role in this important field. India and Germany are strategic partners. Germany has a lot to offer when it comes to creating smart and thriving cities. Building the cities of tomorrow is an enormous global challenge that India and Germany will tackle jointly. A joint Indo-German Working Group on Urbanization has been formed. Moreover, within India's Smart Cities Mission, Germany is lending support to three Indian cities: Bhubaneswar, Kochi and Coimbatore"**Dr. Jasper Wieck, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM), German Embassy New Delhi**

**Ms. Anandi Iyer, Director, Fraunhofer Office India**, reiterated the commitment of Fraunhofer to India's growth story. " Fraunhofer has been at the forefront of Innovation and Technology for more than 6 decades with a strong global footprint. The "Morgenstadt" or Future Cities Initiative coordinated by Fraunhofer and funded by the German Govt has enriched the Consortium partners coming from Industry, Research and City Administration with immense experiences from activities in countries across

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Europe and also resulted in tools/mechanisms for preparing and implementing smart city initiatives. This workshop will focus on the best practices and experiences gained through the Morgenstadt Programme so that Indian administrators, and decision makers from Smart Cities can get a headstart and exposure into practices around the world. The fact that more than 30 Indian cities have confirmed their participation for this event underscores the importance and relevance of this Initiative”, she said.

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**Damian Wagner, Senior Project Manager Smart Cities and Coordinator of the Morgenstadt Global Smart City Initiative Project at Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering IAO, Germany, highlights:** “Smart Cities in India are currently seeing great opportunity but are also required to cope with complex challenges facing new technological, multi-sectoral – shifts within a highly dynamic environment. The joint Morgenstadt Global Smart Cities Project aims to provide solid expertise about technologies, financial instruments and the comprehensive development of implementation strategies & processes which will be key to implementing India’s 100 smart city mission.”

**About Fraunhofer**

The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is the leading organization for applied research in Europe. Its research activities are conducted by 69 institutes and research units at locations throughout Germany. The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft employs a staff of 24,500, who work with an annual research budget totaling more than 2.1 billion euros. Of this sum, more than 1.8 billion euros is generated through contract research. More than 70 percent of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft’s contract research revenue is derived from contracts with industry and from publicly financed research projects. International collaborations with excellent research partners and innovative companies around the world ensure direct access to regions of the greatest importance to present and future scientific progress and economic development.

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