

## **Morgenstadt Global Smart Cities Initiative Stakeholder & Solution Workshop 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, 2020 | Kochi**

The representatives of the University of Stuttgart and the Fraunhofer institute along with Cochin Smart Mission Ltd. conducted a Stakeholder and Solution Workshop in Kochi under the ambit of the Morgenstadt Global Smart City Initiative. The event was attended by close to 50 stakeholders who came together to discuss the project ideas under the broad sectors of Water, Energy, and Housing.

The workshop was the culmination of the rigorous two weeks on-site and city analysis in Kochi undertaken by Fraunhofer experts. The program began with a brief introduction to Indo-German cooperation in Smart Cities and Fraunhofer's significance and initiatives in India by Ms. Anandi Iyer, Director, Fraunhofer Office India. Dr. Markus Schwegler (University of Stuttgart), project coordinator of the Morgenstadt initiative gave a background to the workings of the Kochi City lab. This was followed by the presentation of results in the sectors of Water, Energy and Housing.

Dr. Marius Mohr, Head of the City Lab Kochi (Fraunhofer IGB), presented the project ideas in the water sector. The ideas for the energy sector were presented by Mr. Gerhard Stryi-Hipp, Head of Group Smart Cities (Fraunhofer ISE). Mr. Matthias Winkler (Fraunhofer IBP) presented the results in the building and housing sector. A common theme that emerged was combating the challenge of density and shortage of land to bring out sustainable solutions. After tea break, the participants were divided into three groups based



on the sectors to discuss the project ideas and possible barriers so as to understand stakeholders' perceptions. The main takeaways from the exchange were further presented by the sector experts, and the role of community participation and coordination of local governmental bodies were highlighted to ensure success for any upcoming project.

A team from International Urban Cooperation (IUC), along with the representatives of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the World Resources Institute (WRI) also joined the workshop to discuss their work in Kochi. The possibility of working closely with each other



for better outcomes in the city was explored during a discussion session led by Dr. Rajan Chedambath, Director of Centre for Heritage Environment and Development (CHED). The workshop concluded with Dr. Markus Schwegler and Dr. Debjani Ghosh from NIUA underlining the key steps to be taken in the coming months to realize the goals of the project and thanking all the stakeholders for a fruitful discussion.