## **Event Details**

Title: City-Scale Climate Actions: Trends and Opportunities for Local Climate Actions -1\_134

Date: 26th August 2025



Sanjay Vashist - Director, CANSA

sanjay@cansouthasia.net

**Bio:** Sanjay has been actively working towards mobilising civil society action on climate policies across South Asia. Under his leadership, CAN South Asia's membership grew from 20 to 200+ NGOs. He has successfully consolidated regional climate actions and fostered partnerships with governments.

## Panelists

Tanmay Takle - Director, Student Energy

**Bio:** Sustainable development professional with expertise in policy, advocacy, and partnerships. Leads city, state, business, and investor engagements for COP28 Climate Champions Team. Former Policy Advisor to Maharashtra's Environment Minister; lead author of the Mumbai Climate Action Plan. Pursuing MS in Sustainability Management at Columbia University.

Manvita Baradi – Director, Urban Management Centre (UMC)

manvita@umcasia.org

**Bio:** Over 25 years of experience in local governance, urban planning, livelihoods, climate resilience, and sanitation. Has advised major state/national missions (NULM, SBM, PM-SVANidhi). Former ICMA South Asia Director, World Bank consultant, and Dean at CEPT University. Uses street theatre for urban developmental communication.

Dr. Jayanta Basu – Faculty Member, University of Calcutta

iayantabasu.cal@gmail.com

**Bio:** Environment and climate correspondent, covering adaptation finance, locally-led strategies, and impacts on vulnerable communities like the Sundarbans. Active researcher and campaign leader, with experience covering global climate summits.

Michael Slingsby – Urban Poverty and Climate Change Advisor

mikeslingsby@yahoo.co.uk

**Bio:** 40+ years in Asia with DFID, UN-Habitat, and UNDP. Expertise in building partnerships between local governments and poor communities for inclusive urban development. Long-term experience in Sri Lanka, India, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Bangladesh. Former UN-Habitat Country Rep in Afghanistan; adviser in Yangon on participatory planning and poverty reduction.

**Eresha Silva** – Deputy Director Engineering (Land Management & Environmental Development), Colombo Municipal Council

**Bio:** Expert in sustainable urban solutions, resource conservation, and city landscaping. Experienced in transportation engineering, traffic planning, and cost estimation. Specializes in balancing infrastructure growth with social and environmental responsibility.

## Ocontext Speaker

Kirtee Shah – President, INHAF

kirtee@inhaf.org

**Bio:** Founder President of INHAF, advisor to Planning Commission of India and UN agencies, former HUDCO board member. Architect and Chairman of KSA Design Planning Services Pvt Ltd. Led projects like the 50,000 houses initiative in Sri Lanka for war victims.