

**Date:** 3 September 2024

## Active Mobility Center of Excellence

### **One of its kind Center of Excellence for Active Mobility in India setup in Bengaluru**

Bengaluru, Karnataka - Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Sustainable Transportation Lab (IST Lab.) and Urban Morph, Bengaluru have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to set up a Center of Excellence for Active Mobility in Bengaluru. The centre will work on research, plans, collaborations, and monitoring and evaluation of human powered transportation modes like walking and cycling towards making the cities solve efficiencies in transportation be it full trips or last/first mile, and become more livable. It will also include modes and methodologies that make our public spaces offer equity in mobility to gender, age, economic strata and disabilities.

The principles of the centre are

1. The CoE will aim to bring together the ecosystem in an open collaboration model.
2. The CoE will articulate the vision of a liveable city with quality of life driven by Green Urban Mobility powered by Active Urban Greenways in urban areas.
3. The CoE will perform convening, program management, and communications where necessary and enhance the works of others.
4. The CoE will onboard members from across, government, institutions, civil society and industry.
5. The CoE will carry out activities like capacity building, consulting etc that are necessary to achieve the objectives set forth.

The centre will serve as a one stop shop for stakeholders in cities across the country to access high quality research, plans and activities to enable the nation to achieve health, transportation and climate goals via Active Mobility.

## Quotes

Prof Dr Ashish Verma, Convenor, IISc Sustainable Transportation - "The sustainable and livable future for our cities also lies in the past of our cities (of 70s and 80s) when a lot of people used to cycle and walk. We need to bring them back to build a sustainable future, which is where this unique CoE will contribute."

Subbaiah TS, Director, Urban Morph - "Many organisations across the country have been focusing on active mobility. To facilitate mutual learning and share best practices, there was a need to consolidate these efforts on a single platform. The centre will also contribute to capacity building in both the industry and government sectors through its various programs in the field of active mobility"

## About

**Indian Institute of Science Sustainable Transportation Lab (IST Lab)** - IST lab was set up with a vision of being among the world's foremost research labs. in the area of Sustainable Transportation and contribute to India's overall growth and social welfare. It has the following stated mission.

- 1.To carry out high impact and socially relevant fundamental and applied research in the area of Sustainable Transportation to generate new knowledge and disseminate it through publications in top journals and conferences.
- 2.To impart world-class teaching in the area of Sustainable Transportation and produce high-quality transport professionals
- 3.To use unbiased and research-based evidence for advocacy of sustainable transportation system and influencing transport planning and policy in India
- 4.To offer scientific expertise and leadership on initiatives related to sustainable transportation by government or non-government organisations

**Urban Morph** - Urban Morph is an sustainability focussed eco-system orchestrator working at the intersection of State, Market and Society. We have expertise in the areas of Mobility, Energy and Waste circularity. We use technology and systems thinking to find pathways of reducing environmental impact of mobility, energy or waste management choices. We work with stakeholders in the ecosystem towards shifting the overton window enabling policies that help us in achieving our national growth targets and strategic autonomy.



Picture: (L) Subbaiah TS, Director, Urban Morph and (R) Prof Dr Ashish Verma of IST Lab sign MoU for the establishment of the Active Mobility Center of Excellence.

Media Articles:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/first-of-its-kind-active-mobility-centre-of-excellence-to-be-set-up-in-bengaluru/article68602090.ece>

<https://bangaloremirror.indiatimes.com/bangalore/others/indias-first-centre-of-excellence-for-active-mobility-in-bengaluru/articleshow/113038479.cms>

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/iisc-urban-morph-to-establish-indias-first-coe-for-active-mobility-in-bengaluru-12813761.html>