

Reinvent the Toilet Fair

Date: March 20-22, 2014

Venue: New Delhi

Jai Asundi (Principal Research Scientist), Sujaya Rathi (Principal Investigator), Aarti Daryanani (Sanitation Consultant), Chaitanya V. (Research Engineer) and Arushi Sen (Media Coordinator) from CSTEP participated as an exhibitor at “Reinvent the Toilet Fair: India” which was co-hosted by the [Government of India’s Department of Biotechnology](#) and the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) along with the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India. CSTEP showcased a sanitation decision support tool that aims to help bring sanitation to those who need it most, titled “A Platform for Integrated Sanitation Investment Planning: Proof-of-Concept”.

The Reinvent the Toilet Fair: India aimed to stimulate discussion and spur partnerships to improve global sanitation and bring affordable sanitation solutions to people who need it most. The fair is also an opportunity to recognize India’s leadership and commitment to improving child health and fostering innovative solutions to persistent development challenges. CSTEP’s project was one of approximately 50 exhibits that were on display at the Fair.

The pace and nature of urbanisation in India coupled with inappropriate planning present a significant challenge for Urban Local Bodies to effectively service the needs of the urban population. CSTEP is seeking to address this challenge by developing decision support tool, which will facilitate an integrated approach to the sanitation investment planning process for the Urban Local Bodies. The ‘tool’ will support city-wide sanitation planning by providing information on sanitation systems through an integrated assessment of technologies and their respective benefits and associated costs. Therefore, users of the tool will be able to make comparisons of existing and new sanitation systems for targeted households through an interactive visual interface. The costs and benefits of the systems will be evaluated by a set of performance indicators. Benefits to environment, health and society will also be indicated while costs of each system, including time costs on health and environment (due to unavailability of a system) will be assessed.