

# MODEL CITY COUNCIL

Solving city problems: vision for next 25 years





# What is Model City Council?

**The Model City Council (MCC) is a groundbreaking initiative designed to empower youth to tackle the pressing issues of sustainable development within their cities. MCC focuses on local challenges, bringing together students to envision and create a better future for their city.**

**Over two days, participants collaborate to envision a future city, devise innovative solutions, build research informed resolution for the local corporation, and develop a year-long volunteering initiatives.**

# Mission

Bring about education for, through, and as social justice by involving youth in critical dialogue on contextualised local issues, mobilising and engaging learners in transforming themselves and their local communities, and empowering them to develop their own mini-social action initiatives.

# Objectives

- To instill a sense of responsibility and commitment to social justice.
- To foster critical, independent thinking and problem-solving.
- To encourage collaborative leadership and decision-making.
- To shape a generation of socially conscious global leaders.

# Vision

To establish MCC as a nation-wide platform as a means to promote citizenship, social justice and build inclusive and sustainable cities. We plan to generate open resources that can support the replication MCC across the country.

# Market Overview

- MCC can range from 100 to 3,000 participants. At this stage we hope MCCs are kept to under 500 participants from from the organizing institute and other local universities and high schools in the city.
- Other MUNs have seen significant participation, with events like the KIIT International MUN attracting 2,500 attendees and Harvard MUN India engaging over 1,400 students, indicating a strong interest in simulation-based learning.
- Previous MCC participants express a desire for more impactful engagement. MCC addresses this by focusing on actionable outcomes and community involvement, ensuring that student ideas can lead to tangible changes.



# Why organise an MCC?

- Showcases the institution's dedication to social responsibility and active civic engagement.
- Position Educational Institutions (EIs) as pillars of social good.
- Provide students with mentorship from experts, policymakers, and social entrepreneurs.
- Forge partnerships with local governments, businesses, and NGOs for impactful change.
- Offer experiential learning focused on social change and real-world problem-solving.

## Deliverables

- Resolutions for the local municipal corporation
- Compilation of ideas for volunteering drives
- Selected (1-3) volunteering drives that will be scaled over the year
- Live model of a sustainable city and/or educational materials

# Decolonising MUNs through contextually relevant MCCs

	<b>Model United Nations (MUN)</b>	<b>Model City Council (MCC)</b>
<b>Focus</b>	International diplomacy and global issues	Local sustainable development issues
<b>Outcome Nature</b>	Theoretical resolutions with no implementation	Actionable solutions presented to city leaders
<b>Engagement</b>	Competitive atmosphere prioritising awards	Collaborative environment fostering teamwork
<b>Relevance to Real World</b>	Often disconnected from practical applications	Directly addresses community challenges
<b>Skill Development</b>	Public speaking and negotiation skills	Problem-solving, collaboration, and civic engagement
<b>Impact</b>	Limited societal impact; outcomes often remain academic	Tangible community impact through implemented projects
<b>Long-term Engagement</b>	Short-term focus; little follow-up	Year-long volunteering drives for sustained impact

# Roles and responsibilities

## TIDE

Provide frameworks, guidelines, and best practices.

Provide formats for case studies, position papers, resolutions, volunteer drive planning, finances, and certificates.

Supporting and training organizing committees and council leads.

Guide and support the winning participants to implement their drives.

## Institution

Reach out to faculty mentors to aid participants with their expertise.

Oversee financial management (IF participants are charged then donate 5% to TIDE and 10% for student drives).

Assemble a judging panel (potentially including city officials).

Consider ways to implement the best ideas.

## Students (& faculty)

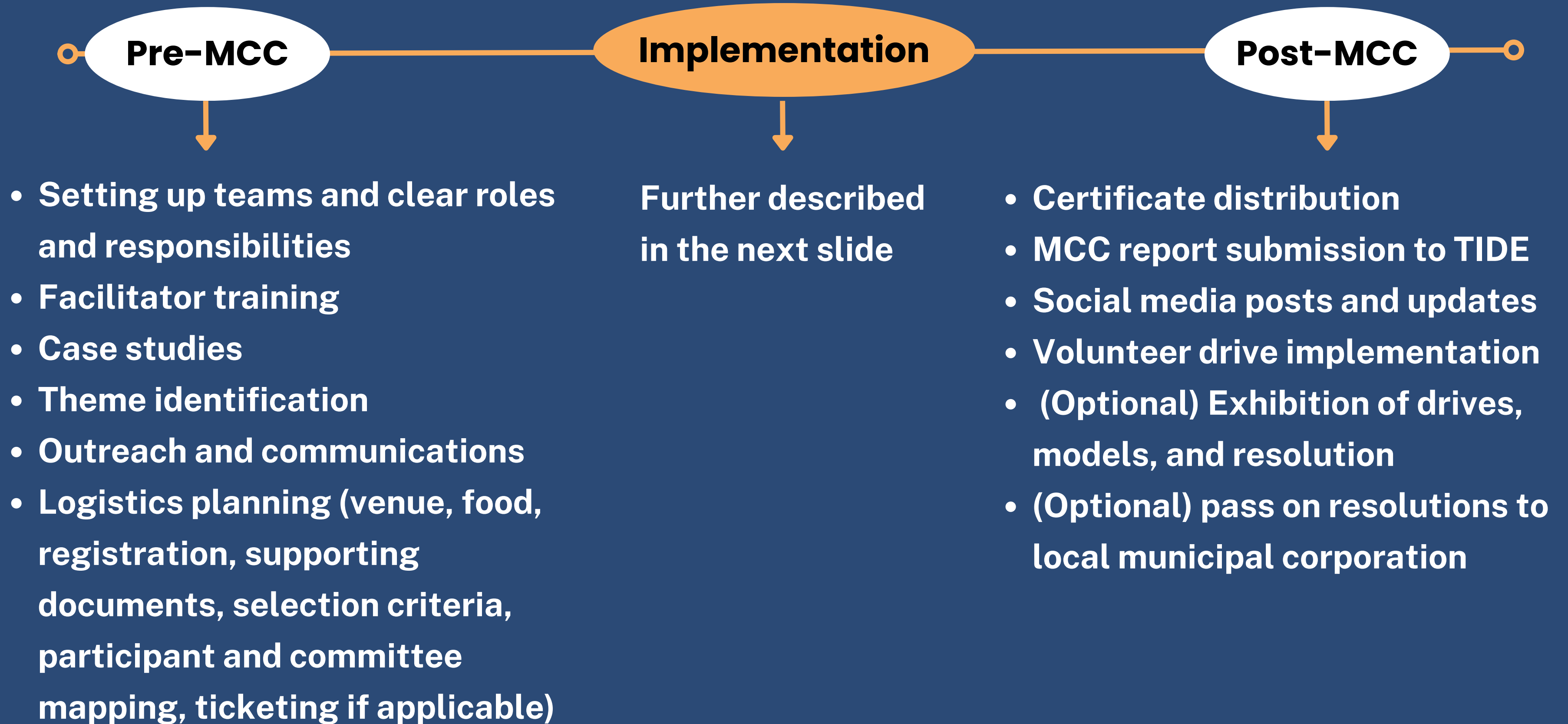
Form organising committees (logistics, financials, operations) to manage execution.

Manage on-ground logistics and coordination, while assisting in event documentation.

Outreach to educational institutions across the city.

Compile a report of the event and the ideas generated.

# MCC Timeline





# Tentative schedule for the two days

## Day 1

Opening ceremony along with critical perspectives on development

Discussion with thematic experts

Mindmapping issues, identifying drives of change and finalizing problem statements

Researching and debating key solutions

## Day 2

Exploring case studies and / or a local site visit

Developing a resolution for the municipal corporation (including evaluating feasibility of proposed solutions)

Developing a volunteering drive alongwith models of a sustainable and unsustainable city

Closing ceremony with judging participants and closing remarks

# **Selected long term, post-MCC projects**

**The past MCC have led to the following long-term volunteering drives:**

- 1. Lake cleaning - The participants are planning on scaling up a low cost floating island to clean up over 20 lakes in Ahmedabad.**
- 2. Waste segregation - Participants are mobilising people to segregate their waste for proper disposal and are exploring various localized composting options.**
- 3. Educational SDG flashcard - Participants are developing flashcards targetted at middle school students to help promote an understanding of issues of social justice and engage them in action. Some of the initial flashcard sets will include sets on individual responsibility, climate change, responsible consumptions etc.**