

National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Water and Sanitation (Urban)

Event Summary

TERI University and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) organized a National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Water and Sanitation (Urban) on December 5, 2016, at Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi. This was funded by USAID and supported by Coca-Cola.

Stakeholders from the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, The World Bank, urban local bodies, NGOs, and implementing agencies from various states, shared their experiences. In the inaugural session, experts from USAID, Coca-Cola, India Sanitation Coalition, TERI University, and TERI, shared their perspective on the emerging challenges and opportunities in the water and sanitation (urban) sector.

The workshop commenced with a welcome address by **Dr S K Sarkar**, Distinguished Fellow and Director, TERI. He emphasized on the fact that government has to change its approach from being supply driven to being demand driven in the provision of services. He critically mentioned about the target-based approach of the government in finding solutions to the issues related to the provision of urban services. **Mr Anand Rudra**, Senior Project Management Specialist, Water & Sanitation, USAID, in his special address emphasized on providing three basic aspects, namely technical arrangement, knowledge sharing, and a robust PPP model for solving problems in the provision of urban services. **Mr Chandra Mohan Gupta**, Director Corporate Affairs, Coca-Cola INSWA BU, presented the business-side perspective in the water and sanitation sector while highlighting the role of political leaders in this space. He further discussed a programme by Coca-Cola India, titled 'Support my School', in which the company provides cleaner and healthier environment in marginalized schools. **Dr Leena Srivastava**, Vice Chancellor, TERI University, in her special address highlighted the need for research and academia to be engaged effectively and recommended the preparation of a roadmap for collaborative action for sustainable solutions. **Mr JVG Krishna Murthy**, Program Leader, India Sanitation Coalition, New Delhi, in his special address focussed on the fact that collation of best practices in the sanitation sector is important as it makes it easier for the stakeholders to replicate and scale it up faster. In the inaugural session, a **Discussion Paper**, titled 'Faecal Sludge Management in India: Policies, Practices and Possibilities' was also unveiled and distributed amongst the stakeholders.

The first technical session on 'Looking back to think ahead' was chaired by **Mr Joep Verhagen**, Sr Water and Sanitation Specialist, The World Bank. This session had four presentations by **Mr Sameer Jain**, Lead, Infrastructure, Government & Healthcare (IGH), KPMG; **Ms Manvita Baradi**, Founder Director, Urban Management Center, Ahmedabad; **Mr Madhu Krishnamoorthy**, Director, Water Health India and

Mr Manu Prakash, Director, Water and Sanitation, TARU, New Delhi. Mr Sameer, in his presentation spoke about the role of every citizen in achieving the objectives of Swachh Bharat Mission. He also informed the audience about how the weightage of citizen's feedback has increased in Swachh Survekshan 2017, the ranking of 500 cities. Ms Manvita spoke about the usefulness of availability of database, spatial distribution of existing situation, and development of standardized tools & guidelines in evidence-based decision making. Mr Krishnamoorthy shared how decentralized water purification systems can serve as a strong alternative to achieve universal water access with non-revenue water (NRW) as low as 2%. The economic growth, urban changes, environment & climate change, and public health, together has an effect on urban sanitation. Mr Manu Prakash emphasized on the fact that improving sanitation is a preventive model to help improve public health and economic growth. In the discussions that followed the session, Mr Verhagen mentioned that political economy is an important dimension which has to be emphasized in urban sanitation sector for getting a better perspective.

Good practices in urban sanitation in India were discussed in the second and third technical sessions. The second technical session was chaired by **Dr Renu Khosla**, Director, Centre for Urban Regional Excellence (CURE). She shared her vision of Swachh Bharat Mission and threw light on the challenges faced by the implementing agencies on ground. Best practices from Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Bihar, Delhi, and Karnataka, were presented in these sessions. Economic growth, urban changes, environment & climate change, and public health, together have an effect on urban sanitation. **Dr Ketaki Ghatge**, Nodal Officer, SBM Pune Municipal Corporation, highlighted the multifaceted approach that helped improve urban sanitation in Pune. This was achieved by simplifying the tendering process, innovative designs, capacity building, along with multi stakeholder engagement and community mobilization. **Mr S Damodaran**, Gramalaya, focused on the software side of the implementation of WASH infrastructure that included community mobilization and demand generation, social marketing, and cost sharing. Behavioural change communication (BCC) was another important strategy that helped make Trichy the third cleanest city in the country.

The third technical session was chaired by **Mr D Manavalan**, Executive Director, Action for Food Production (AFPRO). He complimented the speakers and participants for their enthusiasm towards making urban India sanitized. **Ms Pratima Joshi**, CEO, Shelter Associates, an NGO based in Pune, in her presentation showed how mapping can be constructively used to identify gaps in urban sanitation and how to solve them together with the local government. Something to learn from the case of Pune is that providing building materials at the doorstep of the beneficiary acts as an incentive for not only building toilets but investing further to make these attractive. **Mr Manoj Kumar**, Executive Engineer PHED, Chapra, Bihar, discussed innovative technologies, such as the phytoid and its usefulness in treating waste water. He threw

light on the success stories of this technology and how it has helped bring down huge operating costs and is economically viable for peri-urban areas. **Mr Sanjay Joshi**, CEO, Shanti Life Foundation, Ahmedabad, spoke about his NGO's effort to encourage women to construct household toilets by providing them micro financing options as well as educating them to independently access banks. Interestingly, this endeavour has empowered women residing in the slums, where Shanti Life Foundation is operational, to move on to safe sanitation practices.