

Breaking Barriers: Faridpur Municipality's Transformative Role in Advancing Women Empowerment through City-wide Inclusive Sanitation

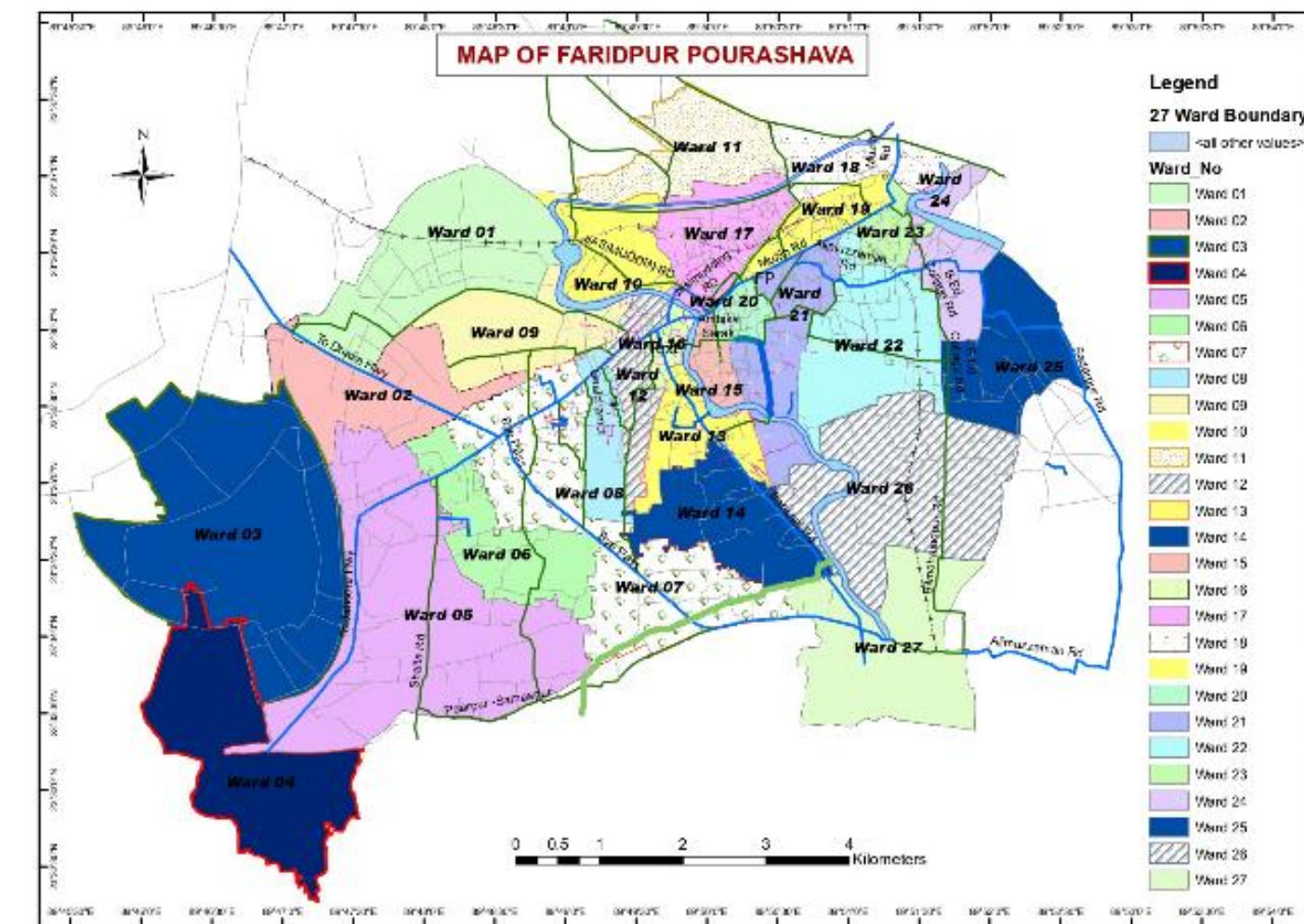
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Brief Overview

- Women, who are often disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change, can play crucial roles in enhancing the effectiveness of climate-resilient urban planning.
- By ensuring women's active involvement in decision-making processes, leadership roles, and the design of sanitation infrastructure, cities can foster -
 - Gender equality
 - Climate resilience of the communities

Faridpur Municipality, which is the largest municipality of Dhaka division of Bangladesh and showed proactive measures toward gender inclusion and women's empowerment within sanitation service delivery.



Map of Faridpur Municipality

Year of Establishment : 1869
 Area : 66.54 Sq. km
 Number of Ward : 27
 Number of Household : 40,370
 Number of Population : 5,57,632



Challenges

- The primary obstacle in fostering an environment that encourages greater female participation in sanitation service delivery –
- Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the initiatives
 - Ownership of municipality to ensure continued viability

Initiatives to Foster Women Empowerment and Gender Equality



Community Improvement Federation (CIF)

CIF with women representatives from low-income community who ensure easy access of community people to the mayor and councillors communities.

Women Entrepreneurship

Enhancing **Women Entrepreneurship** in sanitation-related businesses (ex., Lease of public toilets; production of organic fertilizer from FSTP)

Co-operatives of Cleaners

Registered Cooperative of women sanitation workers and & service level agreement with the Municipality

Capacity Building, Protection, and Safety

OHS Training, Distribution of PPE, and provision of mechanized equipment for Women Sanitation Workers

Ensuring Female Participation

20% female in the Municipal council, 50 % in the Town Level Co-ordination Committee, 53% in the Slum Improvement Committee

Women-Friendly Working Environment

Separate toilets for females, and breastfeeding spaces at Municipal Office premise.

Gender Action Plan

To promote opportunities for women, prevent violence against women, and ensure the participation of female members.