

Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS)

CRDF, CEPT University

GSGS Regional Hub India

September 4-5, 2025

CWAS CENTER
FOR WATER
AND SANITATION
CRDF CEPT
UNIVERSITY



About CWAS, CEPT University

CEPT University's core focus is human habitat. Located in Ahmedabad, its education, research and advisory activities strive to improve the lives of people in India's villages, towns and cities.

CEPT Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) is established by the University to manage their research and capacity building activities. The Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS) is among the first center to be established.

CWAS began its work in 2009 with a focus on monitoring and improving water and sanitation services in India. It carries out activities related to action research and capacity building – working closely with city and state governments in the state of Maharashtra, to support them to improve service delivery. CWAS has information on delivery of WASH services for 800 cities across four states in India. Its recent focus is on making cities and villages water secure and climate resilient.





Thematic Areas

Monitoring WASH services



PAS: database for over 1000 cities updated annually for urban WASH services

Digital tools for monitoring sanitation service delivery

Data systems strengthening

Sanitation support to state/city govts



Faecal sludge and septage management; ODF/ODF+ and ODF++ cities, Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS)

Support to State Government of Maharashtra for SBM and Majhi Vasundhara

SKP for Gujarat

Urban water security



Water secure cities/villages

Water resource management

Efficiency in water supply service delivery

Last mile connectivity – MOUHA advisory

Water governance

Climate resilience and WASH



WASH strengthening for climate adaptation

WASH carbon neutral cities - Greening of WASH service chains

Support to Majhi Vasundhara Mission of Maharashtra

Urban governance and financing



Innovative financing options for urban sanitation; Development Impact bonds

Strengthening municipal finance and state sector finance assessments

ESG for cities, City creditworthiness tool

Gender Inclusion and Equity in services



WASH services in slums

Gender inclusive sanitation

SBM-NULM convergence

Safety of sanitation workers

Knowledge Partnership and Capacity Building support

SKP - MoHUA, GSGS, IWA, WHO, SIWI, ADB-ADBI, GWSC, Janaagraha, NIUA, Piramal, Arghyam

Driving systemic change at scale

We Develop



implementable and scalable solutions and demonstrate them at scale

We Support Policy Development



sustainable, equitable and innovative ideas with decision makers and implementors

We Analyze



available data for informed decision making and monitoring at scale

We Build Capacity

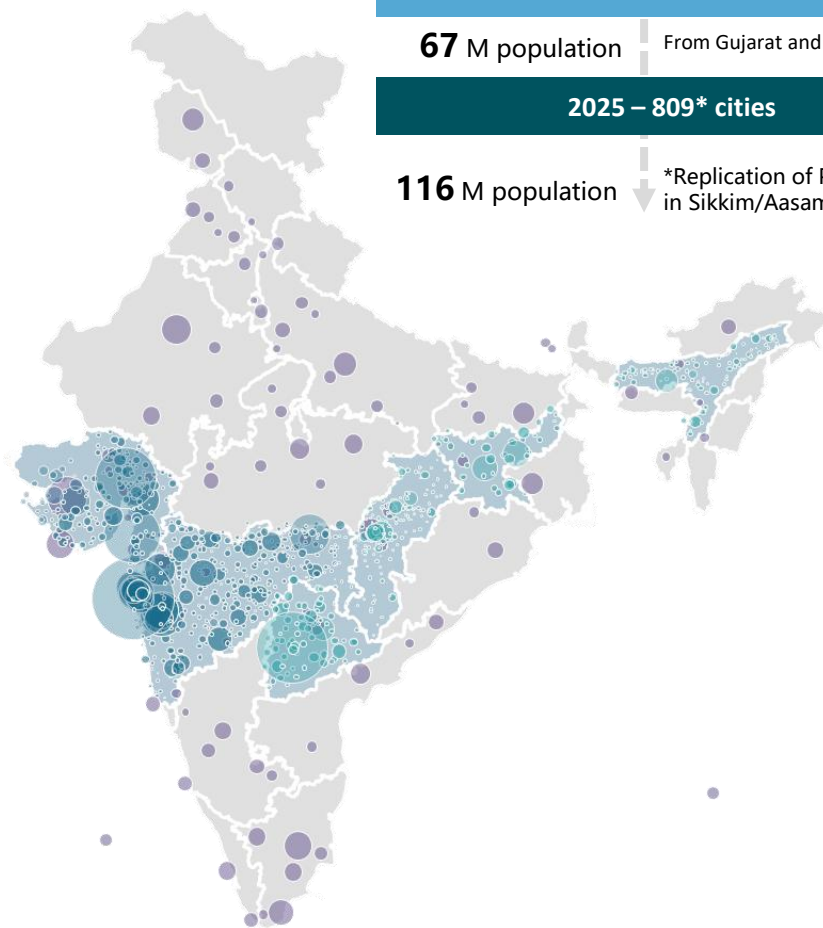


of various stakeholders and enable by providing a range of tools for improvement

We Engage Academics



in our activities to encourage innovation and cultivate students in WASH sector



2009 – 414 cities

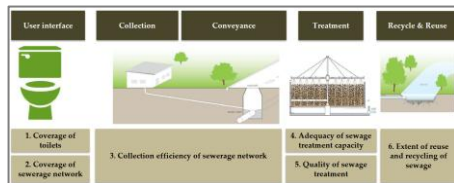
67 M population | From Gujarat and Maharashtra

2025 – 809* cities

116 M population | *Replication of PAS online tool in Sikkim/Aasam is in progress

Develop frameworks for scalable solutions

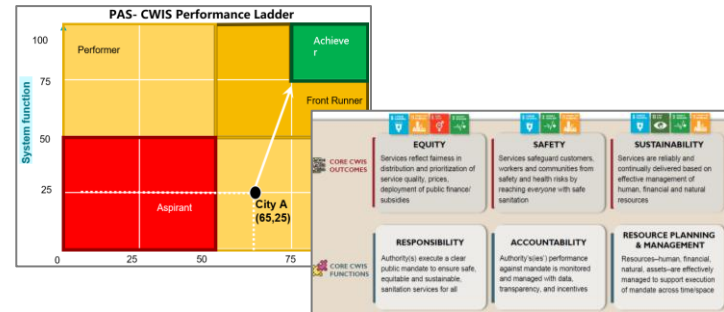
SanBenchmarks



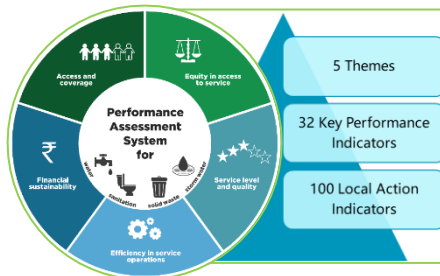
ODF, ODF+ and ODF++



CWIS



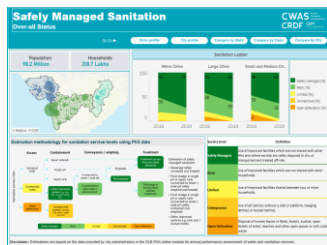
Water Security and Water Governance



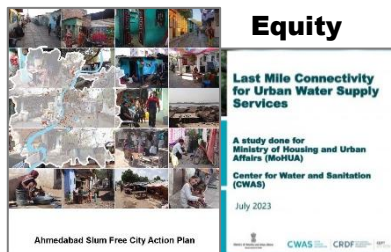
ESG and Creditworthiness



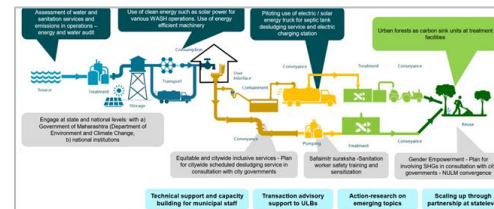
Localising SDG



Equity



WASH and Climate



Technical and policy support For city support to state, national, global actions

Supporting Statewide
Program - Maharashtra



ODF framework



State level guidelines,
policies for ODF, IFSM



Capacity building programmes

City level – From Planning
to Implementation Support



CSP-City Sanitation Plans



ODF Plans



Fecal Sludge Management Plans

Onsite sanitation



FSM guidelines



SanBenchmarks



Capacity building of
cities and local contractors

Financing Water and
Sanitation



Sanitation Credit



Innovative
financing



State and Municipal
Finance Assessments



Private sector
participation

Sanitation Planning tools



Saniplan



PSP in IFSM



Integrated Fecal
Sludge Management



SaniTab



SWACHH SURVEKSHAN AWARDS CEREMONY

भारत मंडपम - नई दिल्ली
BHARAT MANDAPAM - NEW DELHI



Our approach – learning from action-research and scaling through knowledge partnerships and capacity building support

Action-research projects

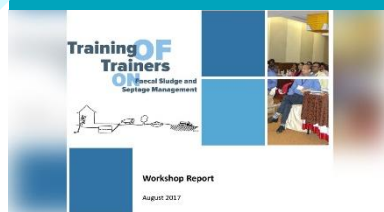
- Performance Assessment for Urban Water and Sanitation
- Implementing FSSM in small and medium towns –Wai, Sinnar, Kolhapur, Satara
- Supporting to Govt. of Maharashtra for Swachh Maharashtra Mission
- Action Plan for Slum Free City for Ahmedabad
- Water security in cities of Kutch
- Energy transition in water and wastewater management

Lessons from city and state experiences

- Citywide, sustainable, inclusive, equitable services
- Private sector participation
- Convergence of programs and funds

Tools, training modules, resource materials, demonstrations, collaborations

NIUA- SCBP Programme - Training of trainers for Urban Sanitation



Academic engagement – translating experiences to students, researchers



Policy-Guidelines and resource materials



ODF+/++ and ODF-S: Divisional workshop series for all cities in Maharashtra

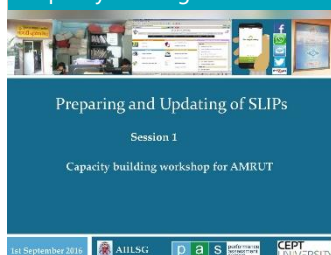
Workshop on Making Cities ODF+ (FSSM)



Contracting and financing training using research and field experiences



Applying lessons for AMRUT capacity building



Exposure visits



Global/National Partnerships



Working at all level of Government



Participation in 9th Pre-Budget Consultation of Finance Ministry



Inputs to 14th, 15th, 16th Finance Commission deliberations



Contribution to MoHUA working group on Administrative reforms



Inputs to India's climate taxonomy

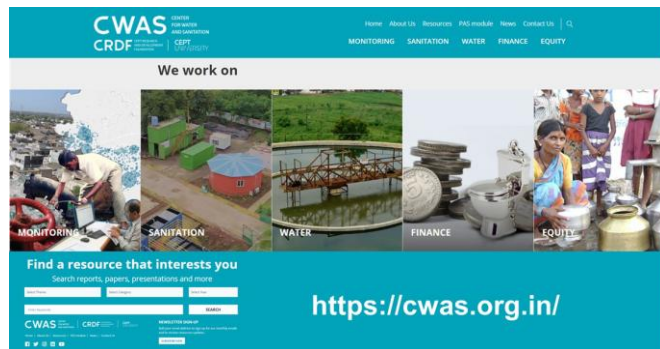


MoU with Dept of Urban Development, Govt of Maharashtra



MoU with Dept of Environment and Climate Change, Govt of Maharashtra

1000+ resources available at <https://cwas.org.in/>



350+

Resource pages



16,000+ 63,000

Unique visitors

Page views



3.09M

Google search impressions

1000+

Research products available

27,000

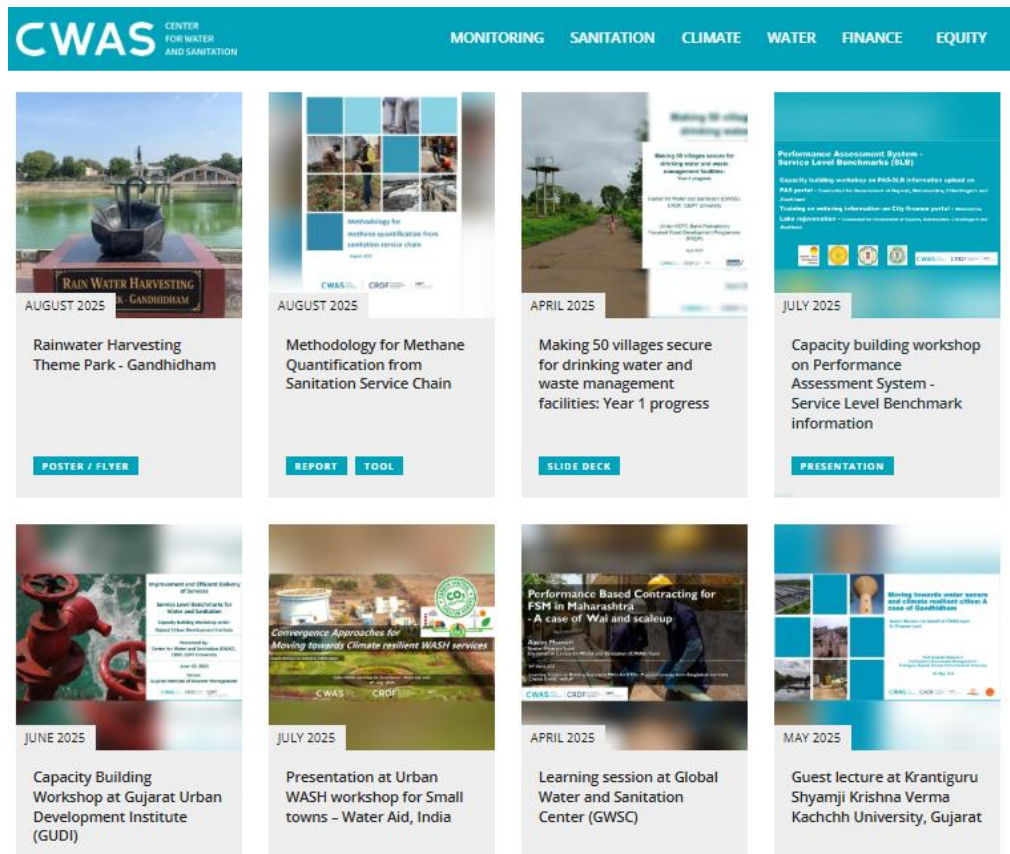
Sessions

Primarily organic

Search rank 1

cwas cept
global south academic conclave
centre for water and sanitation
gsac cept

cwas.org.in/cwas-resources



Monitoring WASH Services

PAS – SLB online module linked to
City Finance portal of MoHUA

Performance improvement plans

Data systems strengthening

Interactive dashboards

Largest UWSS database in
India – 100+ cities

Performance Assessment System (PAS) programme



p a s performance
assessment
system

Fifteen Years @PAS monitoring

PAS Framework and toolkit



PAS for urban water supply and
sanitation

Monitoring SDG 6.2 in Urban India

SAN Benchmarks: Citywide San.
assessment

Interactive dashboards

Urban Sanitation and climate links – support to government

City-wide inclusive sanitation	FSSM and Used water management	ODF, ODF+, ODF++, Water+ cities
Digital tools: SanTools – SaniTrack, SaniTab	Capacity building : SBM 2.0, Swachhata Knowledge Partners (SKP)	Private sector engagement and business models
Technical support unit – SBM and Majhi Vasundhara Abhiyan Zilla Parishad for urban-rural convergence, waste management		Energy transition for WASH Climate resilient waste management Reuse and recycling Methane emissions reduction strategy



SBM 2.0 - Mission booklet



FSSM in Maharashtra



Desludging of Septic Tanks



Monitoring SMMU- Experience from Urban Maharashtra



Journey of ODF Maharashtra



Sustaining ODF



Making Cities ODF++



Private sector assessment



Wai - Citywide Inclusive Sanitation



FSSM Plan for Kolhapur and Satara



Scheduled Desludging of Septic Tanks in Wai



Reuse of treated wastewater and septage at Wai



Making community and public toilets inclusive in Wai



Journey of Sinnar for Safe Sanitation



Sinnar : a model city for sanitation



SaniTab SaniTrack - for FSSM

Urban water security and climate resilience



Urban Water Security

Drinking water security for Rural areas

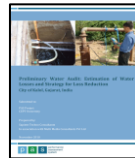
Efficiency in water supply
service delivery – Water Audit

WASH Carbon
Neutral Cities

Water governance hub



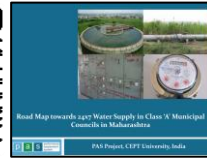
Urban drinking water
security in Gujarat



Preliminary Water Audit
Studies in Gujarat



Urban Water Security Management
Toolkit



Towards 24x7 Water Supply



Water Audit Vadodara



Moving towards water secure and climate
resilient cities: Gandhidham and Anjar



Drinking water security for rural



Water governance framework for WASH



Moving Bhuj Towards Water
Security

Finance and Governance

Innovative Finance options
for Urban Sanitation

State Sector Finance
Assessment

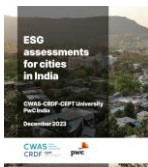
Strengthening Municipal
Finance

City investment plans and
budget briefs

ESG and creditworthiness
assessment for Indian
cities

Impact bonds

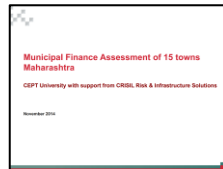
Inputs to 14th, 15th and 16th Finance commission | City Finance Portal



ESG assessment for Indian cities



Strengthening Finances of
Municipal Governments



Municipal Finance Assessment for Class
'A' Municipalities in Maharashtra



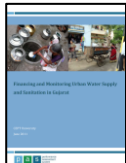
Enhancing Supply of Sanitation
Credit in Maharashtra



Financing and Monitoring Urban
WASH in Maharashtra



Creditworthiness Assessment –
An Approach for Indian Cities



Financing and Monitoring
Urban WASH in Gujarat



Financing and Business Models for FSSM: A
Landscape Study of Four Indian States



Training Module on Financing and
Contracting for FSSM



Development Impact Bond (DIB) for
Safe Sanitation

Gender and Equity for WASH service delivery

Last mile connectivity for urban water supply services

Slum free city action plan
and slum atlas

Gender inclusivity approach
under CWIS program.

Safety and dignity to
sanitation workers

Gender-inclusive strategy and engagement
of SHGs for livelihood in sanitation

Community led and nature-based
solutions for vulnerable communities



Ahmedabad Slum Free City
Action Plan



Gender Inclusive Initiatives in
Maharashtra



Moving from access to agency
and transformation for women



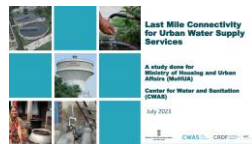
Catalyzing Locally Driven Strategies
in Mumbai Slums for WASH



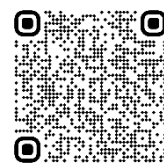
Improving Safety of Sanitation
Workers in Wai Municipal Council



Last mile connectivity for urban water supply services



Water Quality training for SHGs



Engaging SHGs in Maharashtra
and exploring viable Business models in
sanitation



Reaching the Unserved-Access
to individual household toilets
in vulnerable urban areas



Academic roots - Engaging with CEPT academics

Studio Exercises

- Support to **Master level Studio at FP** - Water and sanitation studios
- **Guest lectures** for studios at CEPT and other universities
- Participation in **Jury**

Courses / Lectures

- GSGS Partner - Collaboration with IHE, Delft for sanitation specialisation in Masters in Urban Infrastructure – course at CEPT, 7 day course module at IHE
- **Financing Urban Development Course** for 130+ Faculty of Planning master student
- **Guest lecture for MUI students** - City and state level sanitation strategy and moving towards climate resilient WASH services in India
- 'Emerging Technologies in Municipal WASH Services' for students at the **Faculty of Management**
- **Climate finance panel discussion**

Thesis (DRP)/ Interns

- **Thesis** with Faculty of Planning and Faculty of Technology
- Internship support to students
- Advice and data provision to students working on WatSan topics for thesis, studio

Collaboration with international institutes

- ADBI and University of Tokyo – South-to-south collaboration,
- ADBI – Part of Committee of Editors for special journal issue on Accountability for Public Services
- Editor with IWA WASH Development journal
- Kathmandu University (Nepal) – Case studies and e-field visit
- Partnerships and knowledge exchange with LEEDS(UK), UTS (Australia)



Academic engagement: Global South Academic Conclave on WASH and Climate

- Annual conference in February at CEPT
- Insights from global experts
- Technical paper and poster presentations
- Networking opportunities
- Student focused sessions
- Partner led side session
- Travel Scholarships

THEMES

- Monitoring WASH and climate
- Governance and financing for inclusive and climate resilient WASH
- Innovations in technology and service delivery

In 2024 and 2025

2000+

in-person and virtual attendees

200+

speakers and presenters

35+

countries represented

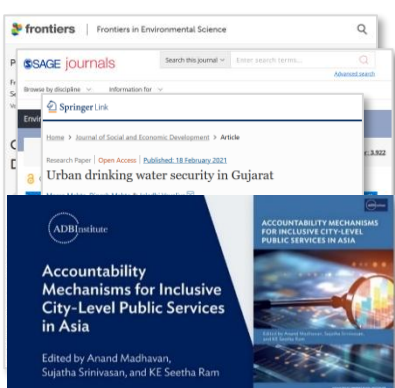
250+

organizations represented



CWAS as a Knowledge Center

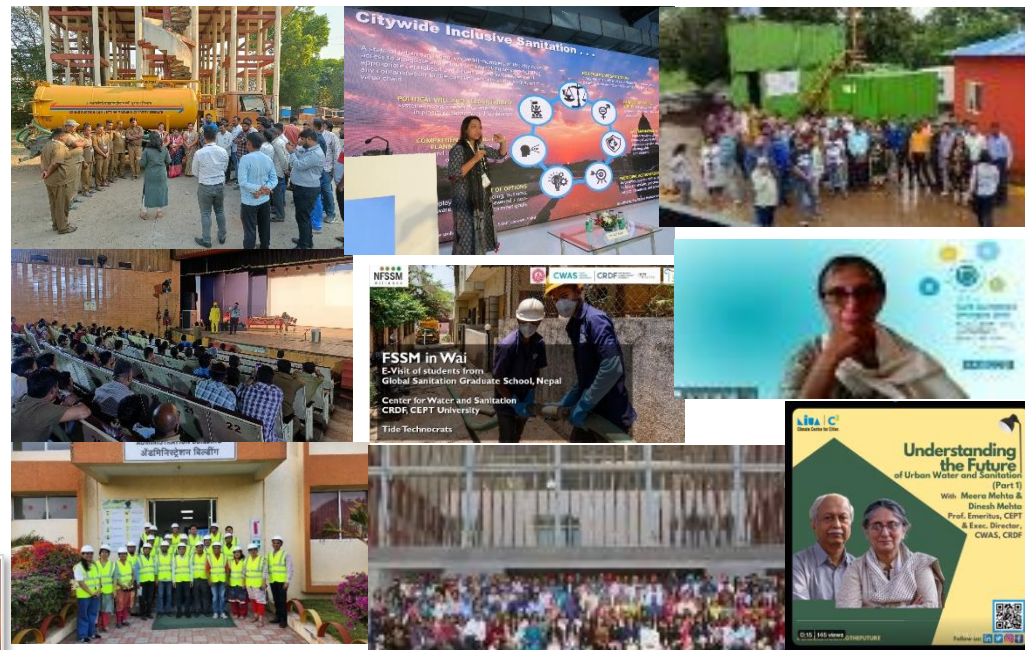
Academic Research publications



Media features



CWAS @ events and capacity building support



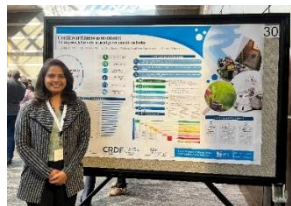
Booths at events - Virtual and physical



CWAS: A success case for a systems approach for access to safe water and sanitation services.

CWAS at Global and National Platforms

UNC Water and Health Conference– October 2023



IWA Specialist Conference on Benchmarking, & Regulation – Nov 2023



South to South Learning Hub Nepal meet – September 2023



ADB e-marketplace webinar series 2023– Jan 2024



Kerala Used Water Management (UWM) Conclave – March 2024



Viksit Bharat event– Dec 2023



Assembly on Water Sensitive Planning for Global South@ SPA Delhi - March 2024

National learning sessions by NFSSM Alliance members



IWA Water and Dev Congress – Dec 2023



Stockholm World Water Week – August 2023



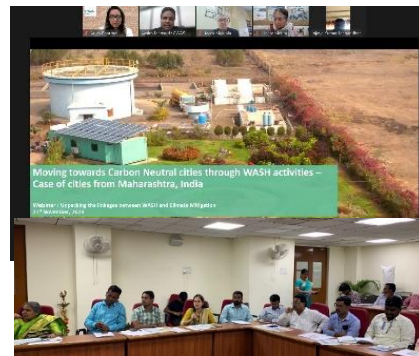
Global Water Operators Partnerships Congress – May 2023



Training to women SHGs in Maharashtra under AMRUT MITRA



Webinar on linkages between WASH and Climate mitigation



Maharashtra divisional capacity building series on CWIS for municipal officials, elected women representatives and sanitation workers



Digital Amplification

Amplification through tweet chats

Starting now!

Join us for a tweetchat with Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) as we discuss the significant role of urban leadership in ensuring safe sanitation.

We will be showcasing efforts by government champions on delivering sanitation services in urban areas.

Date: 4th September, 2020 Time: 4pm - 5:30pm

Center for Water and Sanitation @CEPT_CWAS - Jul 24, 2020

Urban resilience is about being conscious of potential shocks a city can face while prioritizing focus on reducing stresses undergone by the city on daily basis so that adaptive capacities of the city & its people are increased to eventually withstand sudden shocks in the long run

Follow Meeta and 8 others

Data for Good Exchange 2021 India

Join us for a tweetchat on the Role of Data in Strengthening Urban Services in India with CWAS, Janaagraha & eGov

Date: 5th February, 2021 Time: 4:00 - 5:30 PM

#D4GX

Video and digital storytelling

PAS project

Citywide Inclusive Sanitation In WAI city

Citywide Inclusive Sanitation Model in Wai

13:05

CWAS Who are we?

Sinnar

A model city in sanitation

Sinnar: A model city in sanitation - CEPT 13.30 min

13:33

Sinnar: The Sanitation Journey of a City

Zilla Parishad School Zapwadi, Sinnar

Crowdfunding campaign for toilets in Zapwadi School,...

10:42

2:56

Topical amplification

CWAS NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

CWAS - CRDF partnership receives recognition at the CSR Impact Awards

Year in Review 2021

Gender Inclusive Initiatives: Examples from Maharashtra

Moving from screen to agency and implementation for women: Case of SRM Mahatma Center

World Toilet Day 2021

Nearly 7 million people in Maharashtra

To know more - cwass.org.in/resources/files/

@mehta_pani @DineshMehta100 @NFSSMalliance @CeptResearch @BMGFIndia

Celebrating Menstrual Hygiene Day

Theme 2021 Actions and Interventions

Celebrating the Women's SDG in World Menstrual Hygiene Day

On the occasion of World Water Day, we bring to you a glimpse of our learnings and body of knowledge to support SDG 6.1 maahsh.org.in/c/7978b8dd/c/

@mehta_pani @DineshMehta100 @BMGFIndia @NFSSMalliance

CWAS NEWS

World Water Day 2021

Urban Water Security Planning Toolkit

Maharashtra

2009-2020

Maharashtra's PSJM Journey

With a mission to take Maharashtra to greater heights over next 10 years, the PSJM efforts have been led by the state government and facilitated by the World Bank. Government also have ensured leadership, workshops and processes that are instrumental for developing model cities and ensuring the SDG 6.1 efforts in the state.

2009-2014

Early efforts in PSJM - Pre-SBM

MAHARASHTRA

FOCUS AREAS SUPPORTING MAHARASHTRA'S PSJM ACHIEVEMENTS

- Innovative Financing**
- Enabled Monitoring**
- Capacity Building**
- Single Window Approach**

NFSSM

CWAS publications



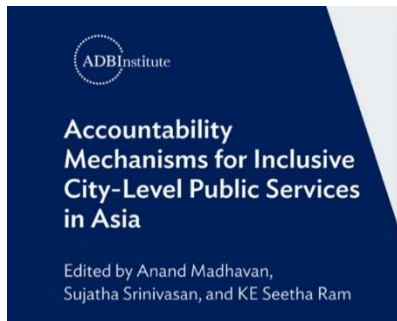
Blended Finance Bulletin | Issue 5

Case Study Of Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal (MAVIM)

Authors: Centre for Water and Sanitation (CWAS), CEPT Research & Development Foundation (CRDF) – CEPT University

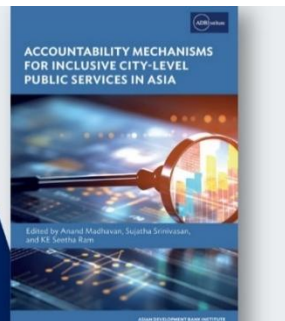
MAVIM has a strong presence in Maharashtra with over 50 CMRC in urban areas. These provide an excellent opportunity to scale up sanitation credit for SHGs in urban areas. Such credit will help households to gain access to good quality individual toilets and help move urban Maharashtra towards universal access to improved household sanitation. Based on the experience from the sanitation credit model in Jalna, MAVIM is scaling up these ideas across 10 Urban CMRC in Maharashtra.

Read the complete bulletin at www.blendedfinanceindia.org
(Link present in the caption)



Accountability Mechanisms for Inclusive City-Level Public Services in Asia

Edited by Anand Madhavan, Sujatha Srinivasan, and KE Seetha Ram



City-wide Swachhta fostering inclusive sanitation and transforming urban landscapes

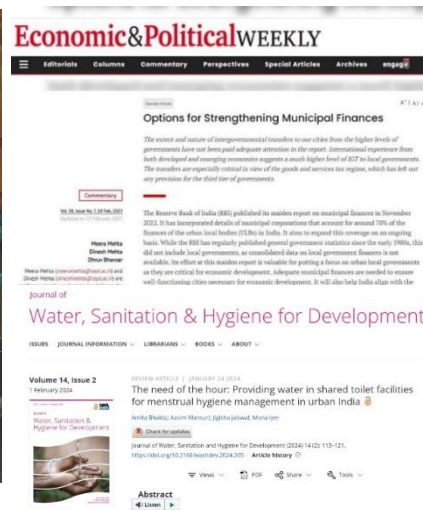
“India is moving with 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' mantra”



How unique business models in effective implementation of fecal sludge and septage management help

While access to sanitation facilities is the first essential milestone towards an equitable sanitation ecosystem, the regular emptying and conveyance of human waste is a crucial, yet often undervalued aspect of ensuring a safe and strong sanitation ecosystem

Meera Mehta And Arwa Bhamal | Last Updated: July 24, 2023 17:47:29 IST



Advisory on
Last Mile Connectivity for Water Supply


Upcoming events at CWAS

Scan To know

Global South Academic Conclave

6th – 7th February 2026, Ahmedabad

CWAS CRDF CEPT UNIVERSITY Gates Foundation viega foundation



WASH Economics Conference 2026

17 – 18 April 2026, Ahmedabad (India)

CWAS CRDF CEPT UNIVERSITY IFS Institute for Fiscal Studies LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE Gates Foundation

2000+

in-person and virtual attendees

200+

speakers and presenters

35+

countries represented

250+

organizations represented

Thematic areas



Monitoring
WASH and
climate



Governance and
Financing for
inclusive and
climate resilient
WASH



WASH
innovations in
technology and
service delivery

Registration Open
Scan QR Code to Register

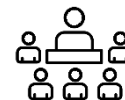


Deadline for abstract
submissions: 30th Sept, 2025

Notification of selected
abstracts: 30th Oct, 2025



Academic
Sessions



Policy
Sessions

To know more



Scan to Register



- Deadline for abstract submissions: 30th October 2025
- Notification of selected abstracts: 15th December 2025
- Full paper submission deadline for academic sessions: 15th March 2026

Partners and collaborations

Funding partners

Gates
Foundation

avpn

HDFC BANK
PARIVARTAN
A step towards progress

viega foundation

Global
Methane
Hub

HSBC

H T Parekh
FOUNDATION

ADB
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

SNV

विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

British
High Commission
New Delhi

EMPOWERMENT
FOUNDATION

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

EMPOWERMENT
FOUNDATION

NIUA
National Institute of Urban Affairs

NWO
Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek
WINDWARD Fund

dasa

Piramal

Arghyam
Safe, sustainable water for all

Government partners

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

सतत शहरी
स्वच्छता

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs
Government of India

सतत शहरी
स्वच्छता

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

Research and implementation partners

NFSSM
ALLIANCE

IWA
the international
water association

dasa

Urban
Management
Centre
Making cities work for everyone

TIYENDE SANICON
LIMITED

crea

यसुदा

स्वच्छता
मंच
MCMOR

एकपल, लक्ष्य
पाद स्वच्छ

JANAAGRAHA

ARID COMMUNITIES
TECHNOLOGIES

IHE
DELFT Institute for
Water Education

SCBP

KAM-AVIDA
ENVIRO ENGINEERS PVT. LTD.

tcs TATA
CONSULTANCY
SERVICES

MEDIA ACTION
TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH MEDIA
AROUND THE WORLD

CWAS
CENTER
FOR WATER
AND SANITATION

SIWI
FOUNDATION

IPE GLOBAL
Expanding Horizons. Enriching Lives.

Dalberg

pwc

PRIA

Samhita
Doing Good Better

Thank you

CWAS CENTER
FOR WATER
AND SANITATION

CRDF CEPT RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION

CEPT
UNIVERSITY

cwas@cept.ac.in

cwas.org.in



About us

The Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS) is a part of CEPT Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) at CEPT University. CWAS undertakes action-research, implementation support, capacity building and advocacy in the field of urban water and sanitation. Acting as a thought catalyst and facilitator, CWAS works closely with all levels of governments - national, state and local to support them in delivering water and sanitation services in an efficient, effective and equitable manner.



cwas.org.in



cwas@cept.ac.in
tiny.cc/pasenews



[CEPT_CWAS](https://twitter.com/CEPT_CWAS)



[cwas.cept](https://www.instagram.com/cwas.cept)



[cwas.cept](https://www.facebook.com/cwas.cept)



[cwas-cept](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cwas-cept)