

# Workshop on शहरव्यापी सर्वसमावेशक स्वच्छता, (City wide inclusive Sanitation) for Pune Division

By Divisional Commissioner Office Pune, supported by  
CWAS, CRDF, CEPT University at Yashada Pune

May 2023

**CWAS** CENTER  
FOR WATER  
AND SANITATION

**CRDF** CEPT RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT  
FOUNDATION

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# City wide inclusive sanitation (CWIS)

Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS)-CRDF-CEPT  
University  
Divisional Commissioner's Office, Pune

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# 1 Summary of key findings from the workshop

The workshop was organised with the aim to bring chief officers and sector experts on one platform and have an orientation and discussion of various aspects of CWIS and mainly how could ULBs implement them effectively.

It was led by RDMA (Regional Director of Municipal Administration), Pune, in collaboration with the CWAS team which brought in ownership from the ULBs to attend and participate actively.

Key focus areas of शहरव्यापी सर्वसमावेशक स्वच्छता, (City wide inclusive Sanitation) under the SBM 2.0 were mainly discussed which were FSSM, gender inclusivity, safety of sanitation workers and municipal strengthening.

## **ULBs are ready to improve their performance on inclusive sanitation through citywide FSSM services:**

ULBs showed readiness to increase coverage of individual household toilets (IHHT), implementing scheduled desludging, efficiently operating and maintaining Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) and STP. Since the workshop was conducted on a discussion mode chief officers raised the challenges or queries they had and the same were addressed by DRMA office and trainers from CWAS Team.

Most participants reported that it would be good to include more training content on I&D (interceptor and diversion) and used water management.

## **ULBs showed interest to explore gender inclusivity through formal engagement of Self-Help Groups (SHGs):**

Most of the chief officers showed interest in engaging SHGs for WASH related services. They were also oriented about the NULM-SBM convergence guidelines and its directives to engage SHGs for municipal service delivery. They had queries on certain legal and administrative aspects of engaging the SHGs, there were enquires about GRs /circular on SHG engagement from State, requirements related to training of the SHGs were also raised.

**Commitment to Sanitation Workers' safety was there among the chief officers:** ULBs showcased their commitment to the welfare of sanitation workers by agreeing to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). ULBs committed that they take measures to institutionalize sanitation worker safety in their respective cities.



**Exercise on CWIS ladder to assess performance of cities**

To make the session interactive and engaging and for COs to view their performance wrt to other cities an exercise on the CWIS ladder concept was conducted towards the end of the workshop. Each city was asked to self-rate themselves based on questions related to IHHT coverage, schedule desludging, FSTPs, STP, gender inclusivity etc. Quantitative questions were framed on these areas with each question having a marking from 0 to 5. The questions were divided in to two groups i.e. **service outcomes** and **systems functions** and were plotted on the x-axis and y-axis respectively. This exercise made CO think and plan for CWIS related activities.


### CITYWIDE INCLUSIVE SANITATION

**Name of City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of CO:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. ASSESS YOUR CITY

Assess your city using the questions on the right and assign scores from 1-5



#### 2. WHERE DOES YOUR CITY STAND?

Do summation of the marks based on the following two categories:

- A (Services) = Faecal Sludge and Septage Management + Municipal Strengthening
- B (Inclusivity) = Inclusivity + San-worker safety

Locate your city in the x-y graph below using the totals and check where your city stands

- Front Runner city
- Performer city
- Aspirant City

TURN THE PAGE FOR NEXT STEP

A (Services) = Faecal Sludge and Septage Management + Municipal Strengthening

#### Faecal Sludge and Septage Management

	5	4	3	2	1
1 Coverage of Individual Household Toilets in the city	>90%	80-90%	70-80%	60-70%	<60%
2 % of existing septic tanks desludged annually	10% of more	25-10%	10-25%	5-10%	<5%
3 Extent of faecal sludge treated at the FSTP	>90%	75-90%	50-75%	25-50%	0-25%
4 Extent of sewerage treated at the STP	>90%	75-90%	50-75%	25-50%	0-25%
5 Extent of treated water reused	>30%	15-30%	0-15%	5-10%	<5%

#### Municipal Strengthening

6 Complaints related to sanitation are addressed within 24 hours	>90% addressed	60-90% addressed	40-60% addressed	20-40% addressed	0-20% addressed
7 Monitoring for sanitation (Swachhata app/ GPS on trucks/ PPE register maintained/ Desludging app/ Sanitation points in Adhava meeting/ STP visited physically/ S&B published on website/ CT/PT visited physically)	7 or more used	3-6 used	3-4 used	1-2 used	None of these used
8 Percentage of sanctioned staff positions filled for sanitation services in ULB	>90%	75-90%	50-75%	25-50%	0-25%
9 Allocation of budget for provision of FSSM services (DBM of FSTPs and scheduled desludging services)	Allocation done				No Allocation
10 Adequacy in collection efficiency of property tax	>80%	75-80%	50-75%	25-50%	0-25%

#### Inclusivity

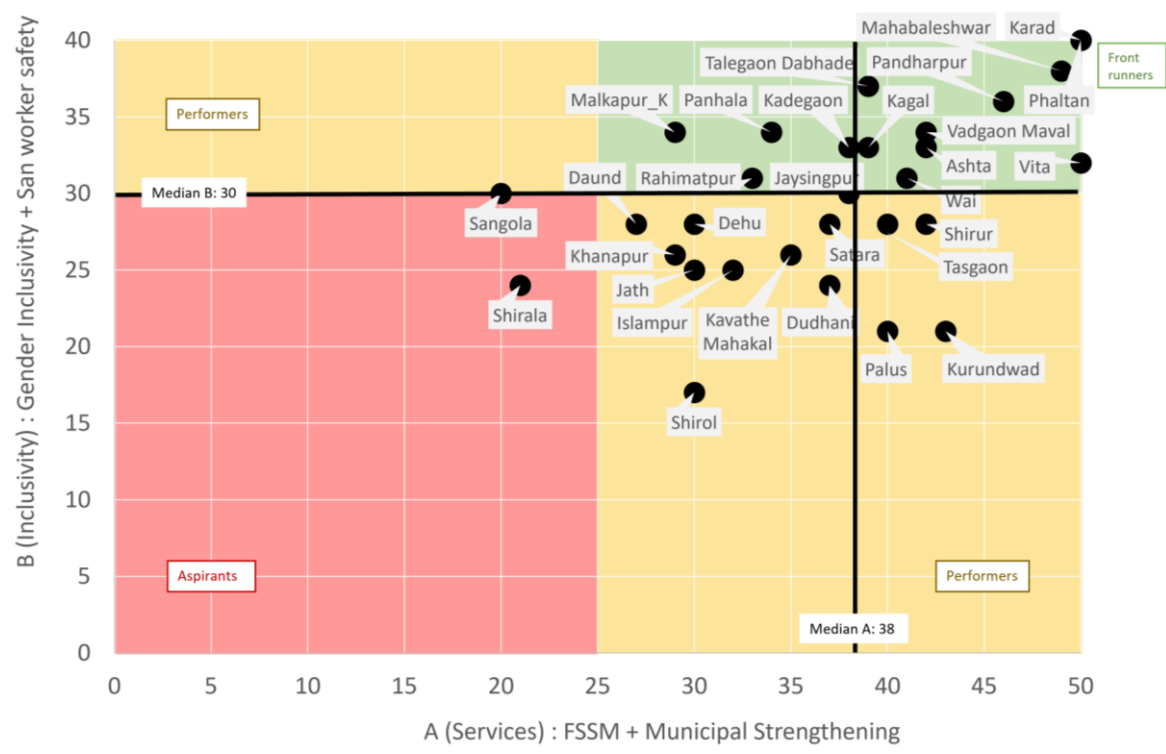
11 Number of formal contracts given to SHGs for municipal service delivery	More than 9	7-8	4-6	1-3	0
12 Percentage of CT/PT that have functional MHM facilities	>25%	10-25%	5-20%	0-5%	0%
13 Coverage of Individual Household Toilets in slums	>90%	80-90%	70-80%	60-70%	<60%
14 Funds allocated and utilized for slum development and women-child development	>90%	75-90%	50-75%	25-50%	0-25%

#### San-worker's Safety

15 How frequently are the PPEs provided to sanitation workers?	Once every 1 month	Once every 3 months	Once a year	Only in the beginning	Never
16 Extent of utilisation of funds earmarked for purchase of PPEs	>90%	75-90%	50-75%	25-50%	0-25%
17 How frequently are medical camps held for sanitation workers?	Once every 1 month	Once every 3 months	Once a year	Only in the beginning	Never
18 Mechanization is done for - Drain cleaning, septic tank desludging, sewer line cleaning, FSTP operations, solid waste management	1 of these activities mechanized	2 of these activities mechanized	3 of these activities mechanized	4 of these activities mechanized	5 or less activities mechanized

Total A (Services) = Faecal Sludge and Septage Management + Municipal Strengthening

Total B (Inclusivity) = Inclusivity + San-worker safety



## 2 Introductory session

The workshop on citywide inclusive sanitation (CWIS) was conducted at Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development (Yashada) in Pune for the chief officers (CO) from five districts of Pune Division, namely Solapur, Pune, Satara, Sangli, and Kolhapur. The workshop aimed to orient COs on key focus areas of CWIS and to effectively plan and execute CWIS principles with a focus on the management of faecal sludge and septage (FSSM) focusing on increasing coverage of individual household toilets (IHHT), gender inclusivity, safety of sanitation workers and the use of technology for efficient sanitation management.

The workshop included presentations, discussions, and reviews wherein speakers addressed various important aspects of sanitation, emphasizing the broader scope and significance of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) beyond GFC (Garbage free city) and ODF (Open Defecation Free) certifications.

Dr. Mallinath Kalshetti, Deputy Director General (DDG) from Yashada, conducted a session where he provided an overview of the sanitation scenario in Maharashtra. He highlighted the need to extend the focus of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan beyond achieving basic certifications. He also discussed the implementation of a plastic ban across Maharashtra and shared the case study of Kolhapur, where plastic was banned in the temple trust area.

Ms Poonam Mehta, Joint Commissioner, Pune Divisional Office elaborated on the crucial aspects of sanitation and urged chief officers to prioritize the operation and maintenance of various sanitation facilities within the city. She emphasized that while these facilities are established with funding from central and state sources, the challenge lies in ensuring their proper upkeep. Ms. Mehta stressed that operational and maintenance activities should continue post the initial capital investment.

Prof Dinesh Mehta, Center Head, Center for Water and Sanitation, CEPT University highlighted the significance of city-wide inclusive sanitation in the context of Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0. He emphasized the role of self-help groups (SHGs) in sanitation-related activities, suggesting that they could be formally engaged with Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). He also underscored the importance of mapping, planning, and implementing interceptor drains to manage used water effectively and sustainably. He also mentioned the need for scheduled desludging to maintain the ODF++ certification as per Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0.



Prof Meera Mehta, Center Head, Center for Water and Sanitation, CEPT University focused on the safety of sanitation workers to prevent accidents and ensure their well-being. She emphasized the importance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and the mechanization of sanitation tasks to enhance worker safety. She reiterated the role of self-help groups in sanitation-related activities, emphasizing their contribution to achieving improved sanitation outcomes.



The workshop brought together sector experts to share their insights and experiences, encouraging chief officers from various districts to adopt a comprehensive and sustainable approach to sanitation initiatives. The discussions covered various aspects, including waste management, infrastructure maintenance, community engagement, and the well-being of sanitation workers, all with the goal of achieving broader and more impactful sanitation outcomes across Maharashtra's cities.



## 3 Thematic Sessions

### 3.1 Session on Gender Inclusivity in WASH

Gender inclusivity is an integral part of CWIS principles for which the aim to have convergence of two missions of **NULM and SBM**. The workshop aimed to orient the participants on how to bring in this aspect mainly through SHG engagement and through safe access to sanitation for all women and enhancing their leadership skills.

The session was conducted by Ms. Arwa Bharmal from CWAS where she highlighted four main aspects of gender inclusivity in sanitation initiatives. These aspects included:

**Access to Individual Toilets:** Importance of providing access to individual toilets, particularly for women, to ensure their privacy and dignity.

**Maintenance of Community and Public Toilets:** The session underscored the significance of proper maintenance of community and public toilets, creating a clean and safe environment for women to use these facilities.

**Formal Engagement with Self-Help Groups (SHGs) for Municipal Services:** Ms. Bharmal discussed the benefits of formally engaging SHGs in municipal services related to sanitation, waste management, and maintenance, empowering women, and enhancing the effectiveness of these services.

**Women Taking Leadership in Decision Making:** The session highlighted the importance of women's leadership and

participation in decision-making processes related to sanitation and urban development.



To illustrate successful gender-inclusive practices, the relevant case studies were provided. In the case study of Wai, menstrual hygiene management was carried out at community and public toilets through the formal engagement of SHGs. Another case study from Jalna city demonstrated how sanitation credit was mobilized from banks through SHGs and aggregator support.

The convergence of the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) with the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was emphasized to promote gender inclusivity and engage SHGs with ULB. The NULM-SBM convergence guidelines, "Empowering Marginalized Groups Convergence Between SBM and DAY-NULM," were issued by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. The Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA) in Maharashtra has been leading the NULM-SBM convergence activity since 2020, with technical support from sector partners.



A state strategy for NULM-SBM convergence was developed based on consultations with 30 cities in Maharashtra, with support from the Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS). The center also organized a webinar for women representatives in Maharashtra to enhance their capacity and enable their active participation in local governance and decision-making processes.

## 3.2 Session on Faecal sludge and Septage Management (FSSM)

The key highlight of the workshop was on FSSM implementation in cities as part of the CWIS program.

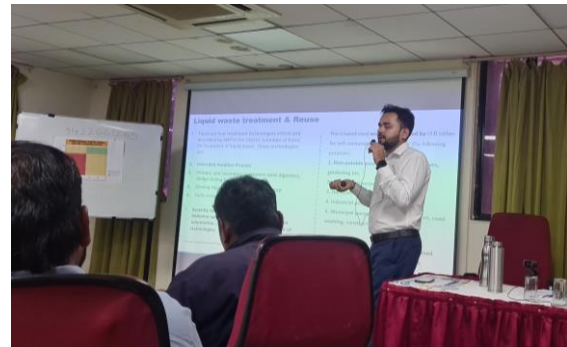
The session was taken by CWAS team member Mr Omkar Kane. His session covered both best practices in FSSM and the challenges associated with the operation and maintenance of FSTPs in Pune Division. During the session, discussion of best practices in faecal sludge and septage management took place including efficient collection methods, safe transportation, treatment processes, and environmentally friendly disposal practices. These practices are crucial for ensuring proper sanitation and public health in urban areas.

Furthermore, specific issues and challenges that relate to the operation and maintenance of FSTPs within Pune Division were addressed. Discussion with ULB officials about technical challenges, resource allocation, budget constraints, regulatory compliance, and community engagement.

The session provided valuable insights and practical guidance to the chief officers from the five districts within Pune Division, helping them better understand the complexities of faecal sludge and septage management and enabling them to develop strategies for

In the case study of Sinnar was highlighted, where SHGs were engaged in the operation and maintenance of an urban forest and garden by reusing treated wastewater and sludge. This innovative approach not only contributed to better sanitation but also showcased the role of SHGs in sustainable urban development practices.

effective implementation and sustainable maintenance of FSTPs. The goal is to ensure proper sanitation practices that contribute to public health and environmental well-being.



### Operation and maintenance of FSTPs:

Certainly, the parameters and factors mentioned below are crucial for evaluating the performance of FSTPs and ensuring their effective operation and maintenance. These considerations are essential to maintain proper sanitation standards, protect public health, and manage faecal sludge and septage efficiently.

Parameters for Evaluating FSTP Performance:

**Regular Emptying Monitoring:** Consistent monitoring of the emptying process ensures that the FSTP operates within its designed capacity and prevents overflow or backup issues.

**Landscaping and Water Reuse:** Developing landscaping around the FSTP site and reusing treated water contribute to the overall aesthetics and environmental sustainability of the facility.

**Proper Section Maintenance:** Maintenance of key sections like Settling and De-gritting Basins (SDB), Anaerobic Baffled Reactor (ABR), and Planted Gravel Filter (PGF) is essential for effective treatment and proper functioning.

**Media Replacement:** Regularly changing the filter media is necessary to maintain optimal treatment efficiency and prevent clogging.

**Chlorination Unit:** Ensuring the functionality of the chlorination unit is crucial to disinfect the treated effluent before release.

**Logbooks and Lab Test Reports:** Proper documentation of plant activities, maintenance schedules, and lab test results helps in tracking performance and addressing any deviations.

Reasons for Good FSTP Performance in Pune Division:

**Landscaping and Water Reuse:** Developing landscaping not only improves the aesthetics of the site but also enhances the sustainable use of treated water, reducing environmental impact.

**Proper Section Maintenance:** Adequate maintenance of key treatment sections ensures that the treatment process remains effective, preventing system breakdowns.

**Private Players and SWM Contractor Involvement:** Involving private players or Solid Waste Management (SWM) contractors in

FSTP operation and maintenance can bring expertise and efficiency to the process.

**Scheduled Desludging and Regular Emptying:** Implementing a schedule for desludging and ensuring regular emptying of the FSTP helps maintain its efficiency and prevents overloading.

These reasons collectively contribute to the success of FSTPs, ensuring they operate effectively, meet regulatory standards, and provide a sustainable solution for faecal sludge and septage management.

FSTPs in Bhor, Malkapur\_S, Malkapur\_K, Vita, and Dahiwadi, showcase how effective management practices and adherence to these parameters can result in successful FSTP performance and contribute to improved sanitation in the Pune Division.

## Scheduled desludging

The session aimed at stressing the need for scheduled desludging, highlighting that many cities currently empty septic tanks only every 8-10 years, which is not in line with the norms set by the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organization (CPHEEO). According to CPHEEO norms, septic tanks should be desludged every 3 years to maintain their efficiency and prevent issues like manual scavenging and sludge hardening.



**Reference to Government Resolutions (GR):** Government Resolution (GR) dated November 30, 2023, which likely outlines the importance of scheduled desludging of septic tanks every 3 years. Additionally, he mentioned that the Maharashtra state government has issued a GR related to FSTP Operation and Maintenance (O&M) and mechanization activities for "Safaimitra Suraksha," highlighting the government's commitment to sanitation improvement.

**Performance Linked Annuity Model (PLAM):** The concept of a Performance Linked Annuity Model for private players involved in desludging activities was discussed. This model ensures timely payments to the contractor based on their performance by setting up an escrow account. This approach promotes accountability and efficiency in the execution of desludging services.

**Implementation in Wai City:** Scheduled desludging has been successfully implemented in Wai city, where the first cycle of desludging was completed. Wai passed a resolution for a dedicated sanitation tax, providing free service for the community.

**Expansion to Other Cities:** Scheduled desludging has been initiated in other cities as well, including Igatpuri, Satara, Kolhapur, Chandrapur, and newly added areas in Pune. This expansion demonstrates the commitment to improving sanitation practices across multiple regions.

**Steps in Planning Scheduled Desludging:** Steps involved in planning scheduled desludging, which include:

**Zoning:** Dividing the city into zones for efficient desludging planning.

**Calculation of Daily Workload:** Determining the number of septic tanks to be emptied daily.

**Private Player Involvement:** Engaging private players in FSTP O&M and scheduled emptying.

**Human Resource Requirements:** Evaluating the manpower needed for desludging activities.

**Route Planning:** Efficiently planning routes for desludging activities.

**Financial Assessment and Tariff Calculations:** Determining the financial aspects and tariff rates for desludging services.

By discussing these points, valuable insights into the structured approach required for effective and regular desludging of septic tanks, leading to improved sanitation practices and public health outcomes in the cities were provided.

## Moving towards water plus cities

In this section of the workshop, two key targets for sanitation improvement were highlighted:

**Achieving 100% IHHL Coverage:** Importance of achieving 100% coverage of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) was emphasized, which are essential for ensuring proper sanitation and hygiene at the household level.

**Ensuring 100% Safe Collection and Treatment of Faecal Sludge and Used Water:** The need to focus on safe collection and treatment of both faecal sludge and used water to prevent contamination and environmental hazards.

The components of the City Sanitation Action Plan (CSAPs), which are comprehensive plans developed for ULBs to address sanitation issues in their areas. For ULBs with populations below 1 lakh, CSAPs include provisions for Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), Interceptor and Drainage (I&D) systems, and desludging vehicles. For all the

cities, CSAPs outline the provision of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs), community toilets, and public toilets according to required standards.

Issues and challenges related to IHHLs were addressed during the session, including concerns related to land tenure, space availability, awareness, and behavioural issues. Examples of successful approaches were discussed, such as the conversion of community toilets in Gadhinglaj into a lock and key model and the construction of community septic tanks in Khopoli city.

Used water management practices were emphasised, highlighting the steps that ULBs should take to establish necessary infrastructure under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0. Closed drains were provided for small and medium towns, and the mapping of

Infiltration and Drainage (I&D) systems was discussed as part of the used water management strategy. ULBs are expected to prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) based on the funding allocated in CSAPs. They should ensure technical and administrative sanctions for DPRs to receive funding for used water management initiatives.

This portion of the workshop underscores the multifaceted approach required for achieving comprehensive sanitation goals, including IHHL coverage, safe faecal sludge and used water management, and the development of necessary infrastructure. By discussing challenges, examples, and strategies, Mr. Kane provided valuable insights to guide the participants in their sanitation initiatives and contribute to the overall improvement of sanitation practices in their respective areas.

### 3.3 Session on safety of sanitation workers

During the session conducted by Ms. Kasturi Joshi, the focus was on the safety of sanitation workers and the challenges faced by ULBs in ensuring their well-being. Ms. Joshi also highlighted the guidelines provided by the central government under the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge and the efforts made by Maharashtra to enhance the safety of sanitation workers.

#### Key points discussed during the session include:

**Safety Efforts in Maharashtra:** Maharashtra has taken significant steps to ensure the safety of sanitation workers. The state has issued letters and circulars that establish

standards for uniforms and promote mechanization of sanitation activities to minimize direct contact with sewage and faecal sludge.

**Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge (SSC):** The goal of the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge is to mechanize sanitation-related activities and ensure the safety of sanitation workers. The National Safai Karmacharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC), under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, provides loans and schemes for the social welfare of Safai Mitras. The SSC scoring is based on the availability of core equipment, special equipment, and safety gears. ULBs are evaluated based on CPHEEO standards and a scoring matrix, categorized as Saturated, Adequate, Minimal, or Inadequate.

**Expansion of SSC in Maharashtra:** The Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge has extended beyond corporations to include all ULBs in Maharashtra. ULBs are required to establish Emergency Sanitation Response Units (ESRUs), which include duty supervisors, telephone operators, and sewer entry professionals.

**Possible Solutions for Worker Safety:** Potential solutions to address issues related to worker safety:

**Funding Sources:** Exploring funding options for the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and machinery.

**Replacement and Monitoring:** Ensuring proper maintenance and regular replacement of PPE to maintain their effectiveness.

**Awareness:** Generating awareness among sanitation workers about the importance of using PPE and safety practices.

By highlighting the challenges, guidelines, and efforts in place, valuable insights into the measures being taken to prioritize the safety and well-being of sanitation workers were provided. This session not only underscores the importance of worker safety but also emphasizes the role of mechanization and proper safety practices in improving sanitation outcomes and protecting the health of those involved in sanitation-related activities.



### 3.4 Session on Municipal Strengthening

In the session conducted by Ms. Arwa Bharmal on municipal strengthening, the focus was on improving various levels of accountability within ULBs. The session highlighted the concepts of upward, internal, and downward accountability and discussed tools developed by the Center for Water and Sanitation to enhance City-wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) initiatives.

#### Types of Accountabilities:

**Upward Accountability:** This involves the regular submission of data by ULBs to the state/central authorities. It ensures that accurate and up-to-date information is provided to higher levels of governance.



**Internal Accountability:** This pertains to internal processes within ULBs, such as financial transactions, bill payments, meetings, and reporting. It ensures transparency and effective functioning within the organization.

**Downward Accountability:** This relates to systems for addressing complaints and ensuring that ULBs are responsive to the needs and concerns of citizens. It also includes



exposure visits to showcase the work being done and build trust with the community.

## Tools for Municipal Strengthening:

**Budget Brief:** An excel-based tool is used for preparing budget briefs, which communicate the city's budget to councillors and citizens. This tool enhances uniformity and digitization in municipal strengthening efforts.

**Adhava Dashboard:** The Adhava Dashboard provides a summary report for Chief Officers, covering areas like scheduled desludging, septage treatment, septic tank emptying, solid waste management, drain cleaning, and maintenance of community and public toilets.

**Bill Payment Dashboard:** This dashboard aids ULBs in tracking bill payments. It summarizes

submitted, processed, and pending bills, helping in efficient financial management.

**Utilization of Women and Child Development Funds:** The session suggested effective ways to utilize funds designated for women and child development programs.

**Increasing Collection Efficiency of Tax and User Charges:** A study can be conducted to assess the demand collection of the ULB, followed by an analysis of previous years' collections. Recommendations can then be made to improve collection efficiency.

Through these tools and strategies, the session aimed to enhance various aspects of municipal governance, transparency, and efficiency. The focus on accountability and the development of user-friendly tools can contribute to better management, improved services, and more.

## 3.5 Divisional review

During the session aimed at tracking the progress of cities in sanitation-related activities and addressing administrative challenges, Ms Punam Mehta provided comprehensive reviews of various aspects related to Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) and Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in different ULBs. The session's focus was on assessing the functionality status, addressing challenges, and outlining roadmaps for sanitation improvement. Key points covered during the session include:

**FSTP and STP Functionality Status:** The city wise FSTP status and land availability status was presented by Mr Ninad Deshpande along with the remarks. Functionality status of FSTPs in ULBs was discussed, highlighting the operational and non-functional plants. The

status of STPs under the Namami Chandrabhaga program for 13 ULBs in Pune and Solapur District was discussed, emphasizing treatment plant progress.



**Review of Each City's Progress:** Ms. Punam Mehta conducted a review of each city's FSTP functionality, emphasizing the importance of proper operation and maintenance of these facilities. The review extended to STP functionality, land availability for STPs, and the progress of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0.

### **Importance of DPR and Operational Management:**

Under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, disbursement of funds is contingent upon cities having prepared and technically sanctioned DPRs, as well as having land available for STPs.

The focus shifted beyond merely building treatment plants; operational and maintenance aspects were underscored. Proper Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plans are essential, and private players can be engaged where necessary to ensure smooth operations, maintenance, and monitoring. By providing these detailed reviews and emphasizing proper functionality and

management, the session aimed to drive improvements in sanitation-related activities within the cities.

This comprehensive approach, covering both infrastructural development and operational sustainability, is key to achieving the sanitation goals set out in the Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and ensuring long-term public health and environmental benefits.



## 4 Key points from interactive session

Towards the end of the thematic sessions an interactive session was conducted to have a discussion on the challenges faced and possible solutions for the same. The session was also aimed for cross learnings and a platform for ULBs to share their good practises with other cities.

### Challenges and possible solutions for scheduled desludging

#### 1. Levy of Sanitation Tax:

**Concern:** Chief Officers (COs) from ULBs expressed concerns about the process of implementing Scheduled Desludging (SD), particularly regarding the levy of sanitation tax. They highlighted the perceived complexity of obtaining clearance from the General Body.

**Response:** CWAS team along with DRDMA responded that scheduled desludging needs to be considered as a public service approach just like SWM. Various guidelines, GRs etc on scheduled desludging were shared which could be shared by Cos during the general body meetings.

#### 2. Less Demand for Desludging:

**Concern:** A Chief Officer (CO) raised concerns about the low demand for septic tank desludging in their city. They noted that smaller cities might have larger septic tank sizes, resulting in fewer immediate complaints regarding desludging.

**Response:**

CWAS team responded that instead of demand-based desludging the ULB should implement scheduled desludging that way they would not have to be concerned about low demand since all septic tanks would be cleaned as per schedule. The FSTP would then also be utilized fully.

Treatment Plants (FSTPs) can ensure that the collected sludge is effectively managed and treated, even in cases of lower immediate demand for desludging.

### Challenges and possible solutions for FSTP O&M

#### 1. Accessibility Issues:

**Challenge:** The absence of a durable, all-weather access road to the FSTP posed challenges for desludging vehicles to reach the site effectively.

**Solution:** To address this challenge, involving key stakeholders such as the collector, administrative head, and political head is crucial. Collaborative efforts can lead to obtaining special permissions and constructing a robust access road to enhance accessibility to the FSTP site. The importance of good access roads for desludging was emphasized.

#### 2. Security Issues:

**Challenge:** Security risks and theft were concerns at the FSTP site.

**Solution:** Implementing security measures such as constructing a compound wall or fencing around the site and establishing a security guard room were recommended.

Assigning a supervisor or caretaker on-site can further enhance security. By implementing these measures, both the FSTP and solid waste management (SWM) projects can be safeguarded effectively.

### 3. Payment Challenges:

**Challenge:** Delayed payments due to funding unavailability or opposition from the general body posed challenges.

#### **Solutions:**

**Introduction of Escrow Account:** The concept of an escrow account was introduced. Case of Sinner Municipal Council was discussed. This mechanism can mitigate the risk of delayed payments.

**Performance-Linked Payments:** Participants emphasized the importance of performance-linked payments tied to predetermined targets, ensuring operational excellence and adherence to contractual obligations.

**Leveraging Finance Commission Grants:** Participants proposed using 15th Finance Commission (FC) grants as a source of payment for services rendered.

## Challenges and possible solution for implementation of SBM 2.0

The workshop discussions highlighted key concerns and strategies related to sanitation initiatives and infrastructure development.

### Preparation of STP DPR:

**Concern:** ULBs expressed concerns about the process of empaneling agencies for the preparation of Sewage Treatment Plant Detailed Project Reports (STP DPRs).

**Solution:** Guidance on the empanelment process, advising ULBs to concurrently initiate land procurement and agency empanelment

was given. This approach streamlines the process, optimizing time management and minimizing potential delays in STP DPR preparation.

### Implementation of I & D:

**Concern:** ULBs need to map drainage systems and incorporate the Interception and Diversion Drains (I & D) component under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) 2.0.

**Solution:** The CWAS team advised ULBs to inform consultants about the drainage system mapping and integrate the findings into the Detailed Project Report (DPR). The I & D component should be prioritized and included in the DPR alongside the sewerage infrastructure. CWAS team clarified the state's approach to the Used Water Management component under SBM 2.0, providing clarity to concerned officers.

These discussions showcase the importance of effective planning, streamlined processes, and strategic integration of different components within sanitation initiatives. By addressing concerns and providing practical strategies, stakeholders can ensure the efficient implementation of projects under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and contribute to improved sanitation infrastructure and practices within their cities.

## Challenges and possible solutions SHG across sanitation chain:

CWAS Team discussed case studies showcasing the participation of SHGs in sanitation-related activities.

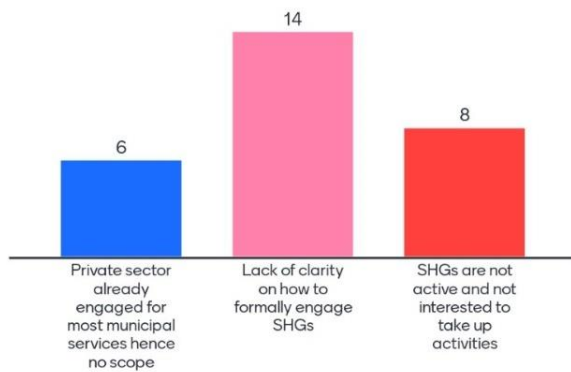
Activities such as FSTP O&M and desludging services were emphasized as tasks that SHGs can perform through agreements with ULBs.

### ULBs' Interest and Concerns:

ULBs expressed interest in involving SHGs in sanitation activities, acknowledging the potential benefits. However, concerns were raised about the absence of proper guidelines for engaging SHGs in such initiatives.

ULBs suggested that a policy-level decision at the state level would be valuable to address the lack of guidelines for involving SHGs in sanitation activities.

What are the 3 main challenges you have faced or are likely to face for implementing gender inclusivity in IHHT and CT/PT?



## Challenges and Possible solutions for sanitation worker safety

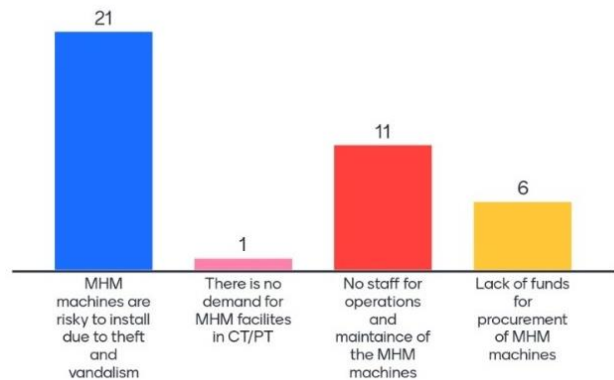
Presentation on the safety of sanitation workers highlights the importance of prioritizing the well-being of those involved in sanitation-related activities.

### Safety of Sanitation Workers:

### Response and Assurance:

In response to these concerns, the Regional Director of Municipal Administration (RDMA) and the CWAS team assured ULB officials that discussions would be initiated at the state level to address this matter. A menti-meter survey was done to take a poll from all participants on type of challenges faced.

What are the 3 main challenges you have faced or are likely to face for implementing gender inclusivity through formal engagement of SHGs?



CWAS team delivered a presentation on the safety of sanitation workers. The presentation covered government mandates and initiatives aimed at ensuring the safety of sanitation workers.

### Safai Mitra Suraksha Challenge:

The presentation emphasized the inclusion of the Safai Mitra Suraksha Challenge as a crucial aspect of the Swachh Survekshan.

This challenge is now mandatory for all cities, underscoring the government's commitment



to safeguarding the well-being of sanitation workers. The challenge aims to address safety concerns by promoting the mechanization of sanitation-related activities.

#### **Awareness Campaigns and PPE Usage:**

ULB officials agreed on the necessity of conducting awareness campaigns to promote the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) among sanitation workers.

Encouraging the proper usage of PPE can significantly enhance the safety of workers in their day-to-day tasks.

#### **Funding for PPE Procurement:**

ULB officials raised inquiries about the allocation of funds for procuring PPEs for sanitation workers. Funding allocation is a key consideration to ensure that the necessary protective gear is accessible for workers.

Overall, the presentation sheds light on the efforts being undertaken to prioritize the safety of sanitation workers. The inclusion of the Safai Mitra Suraksha Challenge and the emphasis on awareness campaigns and proper usage of PPE highlight the collaborative efforts of the government, CWAS team, and ULBs to create a safer working environment for sanitation workers.

During the workshop, attendees had various queries and discussions related to scheduled desludging and FSTPs. Here is the summary of the discussions and queries raised by different Chief Officers:

**Mrs. Sanjivani Dalvi, Chief Officer of Rahimatpur:**

Raised concerns about the low number of demands received for scheduled desludging. CWAS team advised her to raise awareness among the public about the importance of scheduled desludging. Emphasized the necessity for scheduled desludging to effectively manage sanitation.

**Mr. Gavali, Chief Officer of Sangola:**

Expressed interest in scheduled desludging and mentioned that the council had floated a tender for GIS mapping of septic tanks.

Discussed the possibility of imposing a sanitation tax linked to the service of scheduled desludging.

**Mr. Santosh More, Chief Officer of Kavathe Mahakal, and Mr. Atish Walunj, Chief Officer of Dudhani:**

Both showed interest in scheduled desludging. Mentioned that their respective FSTPs are well maintained.

Explored the idea of imposing sanitation tax. Highlighted the unresolved land issue since December 2019, involving pending forest NoC (No Objection Certificate).

These discussions highlight the engagement of various Chief Officers from different cities in addressing concerns related to scheduled desludging, FSTPs, and the challenges they face. The emphasis on awareness, taxation, and collaboration with relevant authorities demonstrates a proactive approach to sanitation management and improvement.



## 5 Feedback from the workshop

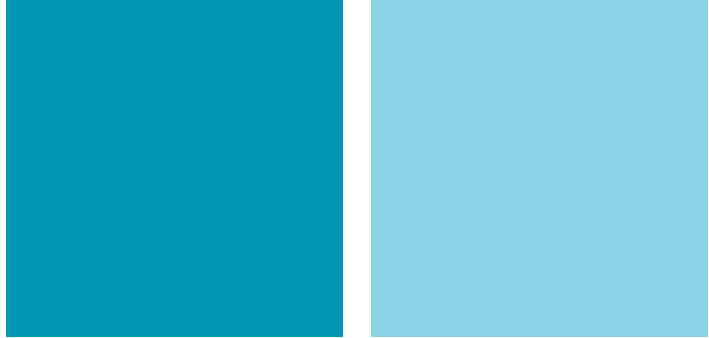
RDMA Pune and ULB officials appreciated the CWAS team for their informative sessions that covered the eligible components of SBM 2.0 related to sustainable sanitation and used water management.

Some of the key feedback

- The session on used water management was very helpful, especially the interceptor details under SBM 2.0.
- The session on gender inclusivity and SHG was very helpful in understanding the role of women in the sanitation.
- The session conducted by Ms Punam Mehta was effective, the STP land identification and preparation of DPR is utmost important.
- The exercise on mentimeter software was interesting and a quick way to get feedback from participants.

The workshop provided a valuable platform for discussions, enabling ULB officials to engage with critical topics in sanitation management, address challenges, and explore ways to enhance the implementation of sanitation initiatives.





## CENTER FOR WATER AND SANITATION

The Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS) is a part of CEPT Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) at the CEPT University in Ahmedabad, India. 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 for delivery of water and sanitation services in an efficient, effective, and equitable manner.

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