

Webinar

# Online Workshop for Elected Women Representatives (Presidents) of ULBs in Maharashtra

10<sup>th</sup> November 2020



Online Workshop for

Elected Women Representatives (Presidents)

of ULBs in Maharashtra

 Date : 10th November, 2020

 Time : 16.00 to 17.30

TSU-Maharashtra State

**CWAS** CENTER FOR WATER AND SANITATION

**CRDF** CEPT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

**CEPT UNIVERSITY**



**RCUES**  
Mumbai

# Introduction and Context

With the Swachh Bharat Mission being implemented across the country, the focus on the elimination of open defecation and increasing coverage of individual toilets has received much-needed impetus. To move towards “safely managed sanitation” as per Target 6.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and to attain ODF++ (open defecation free) status, however, it is necessary to move beyond the current focus on toilet construction and ensure that all faecal waste is safely collected and treated.

There is a need for urban local bodies to acknowledge this need to focus on Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM). For this, the local leadership has to be sensitized. The local leaders in turn can support efficient implementation of faecal sludge and septage management (FSSM). The planning, implementation, and management of FSSM has to be inclusive, ensuring that everyone has access to safely managed sanitation, which would also include active participation from women at all levels for all stages of FSSM. In addition, as per Goal 5 of the SDGs, it is important that the work on FSSM also addresses equality and women empowerment.

As a step in this direction, the Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS), CEPT University along with All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai, organized a workshop for the elected women representatives (Presidents) of all ULBs in Maharashtra.

The objective of the workshop was to sensitise Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) for effective functioning and participation in local governance focusing on FSSM. The training also aimed to orient participants towards importance of FSSM and how they can effectively contribute to implement FSSM in their city during and post-pandemic. The meeting also initiated discussions how women’s participation for FSSM can be increased and what interventions are required for the same.

# Panellists and Attendees

## Moderator

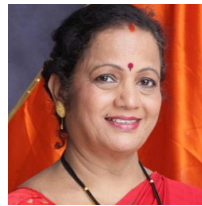


**Utkarsha Kavadi**

Director

RCUES, AIILSG-Mumbai

## Keynote Address and Panelists



**Ms. Kishori Pednekar**

Hon. Mayor of Mumbai



**Dr. Shubha Raul**

Former Mayor of Mumbai



**Aasim Mansuri**

Senior Program Lead  
CWAS, CEPT University



**Dr Pratibha  
Shinde**

President,  
Wai Municipal  
Council



**Mr. Anand Ghodke**

WASH Officer,  
UNICEF Maharashtra



**Mr. T.C. Benjamin,  
IAS(Retd.),**

Former Principal  
Secretary, GoM

## Attendees

Elected women Presidents  
from 50 ULBs in  
Maharashtra attended the  
workshop

# Reflections from sessions



Ms. Kishori Pednekar , Hon. Mayor of Mumbai

**“Women elected representatives need to reflect on the powers they have and more importantly use it to take informed decisions”.** Women elected representatives should not be dependent on men to carry out their responsibilities. They should realize that people have elected them because they are capable and thus, they should fight their own battle. It is extremely important that women are aware of the laws and roles and responsibilities as Presidents of municipal councils. They should make efforts to understand the laws while resolving any issue. They should also be bold enough to ask questions and strive to understand what they find difficult.



Dr. Shubha Raul, Former Mayor of Mumbai

**“We should acknowledge the role played by women towards improving sanitation conditions”.** Although a lot of progress has been made, there is a need for changing attitude and behavior of people towards importance of safe practices. There are serious health implications on health due to poor sanitation and passing this message is responsibility of elected representatives. Given the current pandemic it is now important for elected representatives to help in increasing coverage of individual household toilets in their cities and also understand reasons behind by people have not constructed toilets and try and address those barriers.

# Disseminating experience about Wai as model city for sanitation

- Dr Pratibha was one of the panellist to share her experience about how FSSM was successfully implemented in Wai with the support of elected representatives. Some of the key points she mentioned during her session are as follows:
- Wai is small town with 50,000 populations with great historical significance. With the help of CSP and FSSM plan today it is safely managing the collected septage from septic tanks.
- For increasing IHHL coverage Wai implemented own toilet scheme where beneficiary received Rs. 22000 subsidy (Rs. 12000 from SBM and Rs. 10000 from Wai council).
- Further it successfully implemented 3 year scheduled desludging of all septic tanks within the city with support from private player. And septage collected it being treated at the FSTP. Currently urban forestation work is in progress to reuse the FSTP by products. In addition solar power plant has been constructed to make plant energy efficient.
- **During the implementation process the general body supported by passing necessary resolutions and creating awareness programs through various platforms. The councilors also supported the operators with on ground challenges in their respective wards.**
- She mentioned that this has been possible in Wai as the ULB, president, councilors, etc were aware of its roles and responsibilities. Wai has attempted to follow the guidelines prescribed by the government for sanitation, waste management, and other sectors.
- Dr. Shinde concluded by inviting the presidents of various cities to Wai to understand the ongoing FSSM operations and assured to provide possible support for moving towards safe sanitation.



Dr Pratibha Shinde  
President, Wai Municipal Council



# Urban Sanitation in Maharashtra

- For effective participation and sound decision making on FSSM it is important to have clarity on the basics of FSSM. The session on Urban Sanitation in Maharashtra aimed at orienting the participants on some key definitions and the sanitation service chain of FSSM.
- The session also highlighted the current focus on FSSM at the central and State level and ODF framework.
- Participants were explained about the current situation for FSSM and how and what approach should be adopted to address the challenges.
- Mr Aasim, also talked about the progress that has been achieved by Maharashtra State for FSSM. He stressed in improving the coverage of individual toilets and on involvement of women across the sanitation value chain for which elected representatives could play a key role.



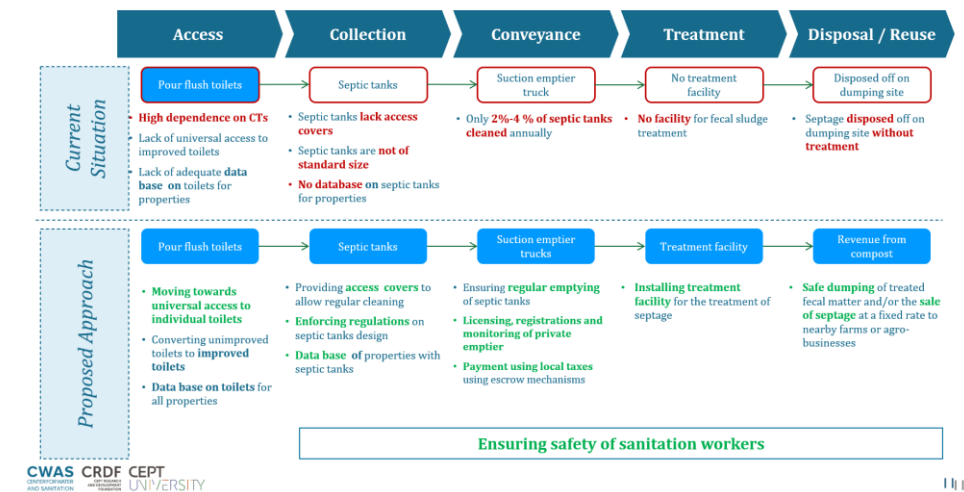
Aasim Mansuri, CWAS

## Approach to address challenges related to FSSM

**FSSM is one of the requirement to attain ODF++ status ...**

ODF	ODF+	ODF++	Water +
A city / ward can be notified/declared as ODF city/ ODF ward if, at any point of the day, not a single person is found defecating in the open.	Not a single person is found defecating and/or urinating in the open, and all community & public toilets are functional and well maintained	ODF+ AND <u>Faecal sludge/septage and sewage is safely managed and treated, with no discharging and/or dumping of untreated faecal sludge/septage and sewage in drains/water bodies/open areas</u>	All wastewater released from households, commercial establishments ,drains, <u>nallahs</u> etc. is treated to a satisfactory level before releasing the treated wastewater to the environment.

## FSSM as a solution for Moving from RED to GREEN



# Gender Inclusive Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Mr Anand Ghodke highlighted the impact of issues related menstrual hygiene management, lack of access to toilet and WASH related issues on women and children. He further said that in order to bring gender inclusiveness, there are 3 important lessons:

1. Improve governance and accountability for better and inclusive infrastructure
2. Need to bring behavior change for individual and institutions
3. Need to improve technological aspects and design of infrastructure.

He also highlighted that hygiene plays an important role in what UNICEF calls a life cycle approach - from pregnancy till the girl child in in adolescent age. He urged that women presidents should look into these details and do as much as possible for the cause.



Mr. Anand Ghodke, UNICEF

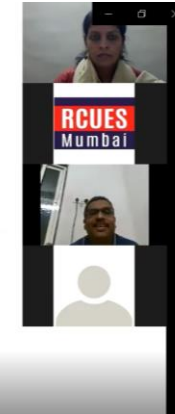
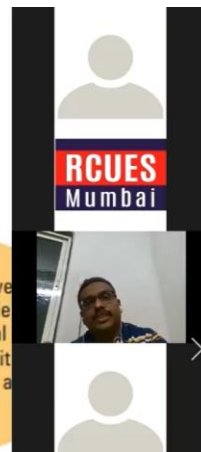
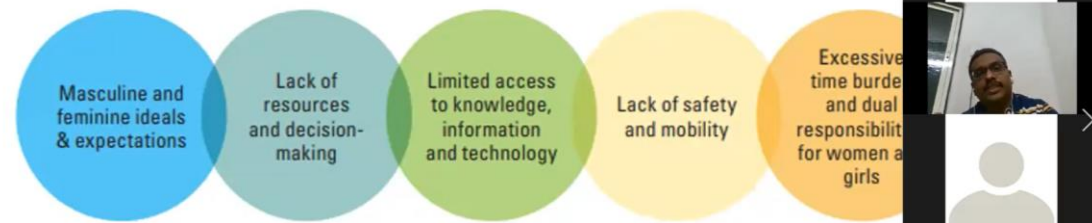
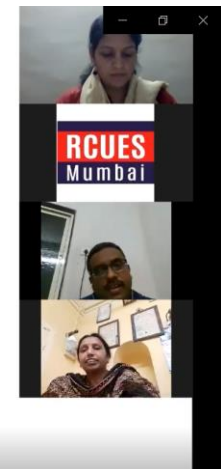


FIGURE 1: COMMON GENDER-RELATED BARRIERS AND BOTTLENECKS



## Roles - Lessons Learnt

- ✓ Unless directly addressed, inequalities will not be eliminated
- ✓ **Governance and accountability** are essential to ensure sustainability
- ✓ Behaviour change is a starting point – **individual and institutional**
- ✓ **Technology aspects and designs**
- ✓ Innovation is a prerequisite for results
- ✓ The impacts of climate change must be addressed
- ✓ Emergencies and development activities are complementary.



# Municipal Acts and Rules (Applicable to Municipal councils of Maharashtra) for Sanitation)

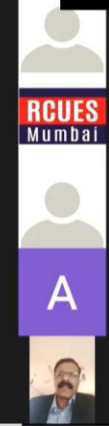


Mr. T.C. Benjamin, IAS (Retd.),  
Former Principal Secretary, GoM

- Mr Benjamin stressed on the importance of sanitation in the current pandemic situation. He shared his experience about how he had facilitated construction of individual toilets for 14 slum areas by using the district development fund. He recollected that it proved to be a very useful step in securing the health and safety of the slum dwellers who are part of vulnerable groups in any city.
- He mentioned one of the major function of the municipal administration of any city is to reduce vulnerability. ULBs can take benefit from AMRUT and smart city schemes for funding the underground drainage and treatment facility.
- ULBs generally take measures to address public nuisance which consists of acts such as open defecation, urination or spitting. For which he suggested forming a squad of retired service persons. Under the Bombay service act 1951 ULBs can permit them to collect fines from any person performing above acts. This is very successful in big towns like Mumbai and Pune, where ULB can finance the squad from the collected fines

## Sanitation

1. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
2. The Maharashtra Municipalities Act, 1965
3. Pollution Control Board Rules



## Sanitation and Sewage

- Importance of underground drainage and sewage treatment plants (STPs)
- Linkages with public health : The Solapur Experience
- A Wholistic (Not Piecemeal plan of the sewage network. Locating STPs at the lowest contour.
- Publictoilets / Urinals - gender sensitivity
- Campaign against defecation/ urinating / spitting in public
- Nuisance detection squads





## Suggested Citation:

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## About Us

The Center for Water and Sanitation(C-WAS) at CEPT University carries out various activities- action research, training, advocacy to enable state and local governments to improve delivery of services.

