

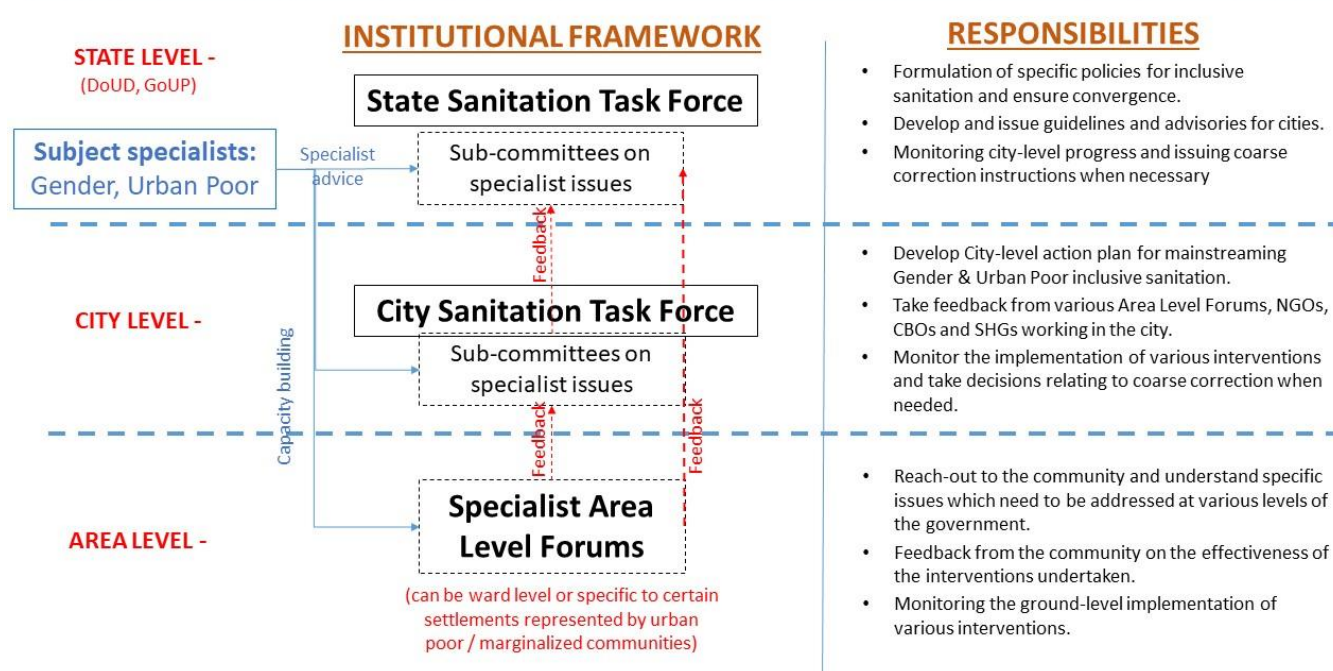
Inputs for State FSSM Policy from CSE - PSU

Addressing Gender and Urban Poor: City-wide Inclusive Sanitation and Effective FSSM in Uttar Pradesh

Prioritizing the 'Human Right of All to Sanitation'. Strategies and programs need to address adequately most vulnerable and marginalized communities – in particular women and others (like the children, elderly, third gender) with special focus on urban poor – in particular habitations in informal settlement. This includes empowering qualified staff and taking incremental interventions for addressing these challenges supported by an institutional framework with political, technical and managerial leadership with earmarked sufficient funds for investment and O&M.

Figure 1: Institutional Framework for Inclusive Sanitation

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR GENDER / URBAN POOR INCLUSIVE SANITATION



Chapter: Addressing Gender Issues in Sanitation

India has committed to achieving Sustainable Sanitation Goals (SDG) by the year 2030. The SDG Goal number 6 targets to have 'access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, end open defecation while paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those who are in vulnerable position'. Despite such commitments, the country is grappling with ground realities that are leading to widespread gender inequalities in our communities.

According to study by UN Women (2018), an average Dalit woman in India dies 14.6 years younger than those from higher castes, the cause being poor sanitation and inadequate access to water and healthcare. Likewise, transgender persons are often harassed, attacked or denied usage of public sanitation facilities. Pregnant and lactating women, elderly, people with disabilities also have underlying special needs and expectation from sanitation infrastructure.

The National Policy on Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (2017) prioritizes the need to mitigate gender-based sanitation insecurity directly related to FSSM, reducing the experience of health burdens, structural violence, and promote involvement of both genders in the planning for

and design of sanitation infrastructure. The policy further highlights that the burden of poor sanitation (compounded by the lack of FSSM services) disproportionately affects women, especially the urban poor, since they are primarily responsible for 'care giving' roles related to children, elderly as well as responsible for household level sanitation and cleaning activities.

Following the lines of Nation Policy on FSSM (2017), the state aims to empower women as active agents and participants of change and not merely as recipients or victims of policies. In order to address gender issues in sanitation during planning, designing and O&M of sanitation services, the following strategy is proposed:

- The state and the city level governments would ensure the availability of gender disaggregated data to better analyse and appreciate gender related issues. The data should include access and usage of safe sanitation for women, involvement of women. For example, location specific demographics can be developed by engaging local groups and organization which can then be used for better planning and designing of sanitation infrastructure and services like to determine toilet seats ratio for men, women and third gender.
- The Figure 1 above provides an institutional framework for Inclusive Sanitation in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Specialist sub-committees on Gender can be set-up within State Sanitation Task Force at the state level, the City Sanitation Task Force at the ULB level. Specialist Area Level Forums on gender issues can be set-up at settlement and ward levels to highlight important issues related to gender. Gender specialists can be engaged by the Department of Urban Development who would provide policy related advise to the state, help develop guidelines & advisories and build capacity of the ULB and area level committees and forums.
- Quotas can be formalized to secure position for women in state and local committee related to sanitation is ensured. At-least, 1/4th of the positions in the gender sub-committee at State and ULB level can be reserved for representatives of SHGs and CBOs related to gender inclusion.
- Women's groups need to be directly engaged in the planning, designing and implementation of sanitation infrastructure to ensure specific needs of all genders. Incorporating the gender needs in the design include issues such as having toilets specifically designed for women and the third gender e.g. retrofitting existing toilets and building specific 'SHE' toilets incorporating the needs of all gender, provision for Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) like vending machines & disposal of sanitary pads, gender neutral toilets for third gender etc.
- Supporting women entrepreneurs, Women's Groups (SHGs) in sanitation services including O&M of community toilets, desludging services etc through access to subsidized financing, specific government subsidies, handholding in women entrepreneurs in instituting enterprises. Engaging such agencies in FSSM Value Chain.
- Capacity building of women in developing skillsets and to encourage them in entrepreneurship and joining the workforce in sanitation value chain (including masons, desludging and O&M of community toilets & FSTPs). Example Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand are capacitating women mason as 'Rani Mistries'.
- Ensure that the provision under National Guidelines on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) issued by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation are followed while planning and designing sanitation services and infrastructure.
- Educating women and adolescent girls including Urban Poor and Marginalized communities on the dangers of poor and inadequate sanitation practices.
- The state and the local government should ensure sufficient budget to adopt gender-inclusive approach for sanitation

- The state and the local government shall directly address and prohibit any discriminatory behaviour associated with sanitation and gender inequality. For example, Nepal Government has outlawed a practice known as 'Chaupadi' which placed restrictions on menstruating women like sleeping in different rooms, not allowed to enter kitchen or touch food & water, denied entry to religious ceremonies etc.
- Capacity building shall be undertaken for government staff as well as decision makers to sensitize them on the role of gender in sanitation such that they commit to prioritize and implement gender-inclusive sanitation planning.
- Promote Government led sanitation campaigning and IEC to break gender stereotypes. Women local leaders, transgender groups, women/men from slums committees to be encouraged as leaders and motivators of behavioural change in their respective communities. Persons showing remarkable work and leadership in spearheading the sanitation agenda to be facilitated.

Chapter: Addressing issues related to Urban Poor & Marginalized Communities in Sanitation

Urban Poor: refers to individuals and families living Below Poverty Line in urban areas, who are unemployed / underemployed, incapable of meeting their basic needs, are homeless or living in slums, squatters and informal settlements.

Marginalized Community: Groups confined to the peripheral edge of the society and are denied or left-out of involvement in mainstream social, economic, political and cultural activities. They may include lower caste, refugees etc.

The FSSM strategy and action plans shall be developed keeping the Citywide Inclusive Sanitation Principles (Appendix-16) into consideration and shall address the issues related to equity and inclusive sanitation:

- The Figure 1 above provides an institutional framework for Inclusive Sanitation in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Specialist sub-committees on Urban Poor & Marginalized Communities can be set-up within State Sanitation Task Force at the state level, the City Sanitation Task Force at the ULB level. Specialist Area Level Forums on Urban Poor and Marginalized Communities can be set-up at settlement and ward levels to highlight important issues. Specialists can be engaged by the Department of Urban Development who would provide policy related advice to the state, help develop guidelines & advisories and build capacity of the ULB and area level committees and forums in this regards.
- The State and City-level action plans to ensure sanitation services reach all including Urban Poor and are not restricted based on land-tenure status. There is a focus in providing access to safe sanitation to the informal settlements.
- There is representation from all marginalized groups and urban poor settlements through Area Level Forums as well as sub-committees in City Sanitation Task Force. The State-Level sub-committees need to ensure that issues flagged by various city-level and area-level forums are addressed at the policy level and specific guidelines and advisories are issued by the state government.
- Access to subsidized financing or government subsidies is made available to the Urban Poor & Marginalized Communities so that they have access to safe sanitation.
- Public funding is made available for sanitation related investment and O&M. The tariff or user charges for sanitation are designed to be affordable to the Urban Poor.

- Engaging with the marginalized groups and urban poor through Self Help Groups and Civil Society at the grass-root level for sensitization related to benefits of safe sanitation and generating awareness and demand for the government programmes and subsidies available for them.
- There is representation of the urban poor and marginalized groups through Community Based Organizations and Self Help Groups during the planning, designing and decision of infrastructure and services relating to sanitation in the city.
- Effective monitoring mechanisms to ensure the needs of the urban poor and marginalized communities are being addressed and ensure feedback on the interventions by the city.
- Capacity building of the city officials to engage with urban poor and marginalized communities in decision making process.

Annexure-16: Citywide Inclusive Sanitation: Principles

Everyone in Urban Areas, including the Urban Poor, benefits from equitable safe sanitation services	Services are inclusive: Authority mandates are based on Urban Planning principles, and do not restrict access to services based on land tenure, infrastructure options, or local political boundaries; transient and permanent populations needs are being met
	Inclusive services must be provided equitably; prices reflect service levels; public finance is available and legitimate irrespective of technology or on-plot/off-plot citing; subsidized finance is prioritized for the poorest
	'Services' means users' waste is safely managed; communities are free of others' waste
Gender and Social Equity should be ensured in the design and delivery of city sanitation services	Those who are marginalized, women, children, without formal tenure or access to sewers are intentionally engaged in decision making
	Specific needs, values and constraints of marginalized and vulnerable workers, customers, and communities are understood and incorporated into hiring, service delivery planning, and service delivery
Human waste is safely managed along the entire sanitation service chain	Infrastructure and service delivery systems protect workers, households, communities at all stages of the containment, emptying, conveyance, treatment and disposal/reuse
	Containment is managed to protect groundwater and environmental health
	Workers' health and rights are protected by occupational health and safety measures
	Hardware investments and service models enable resource recovery for more sustainable systems
Authority has a clear, inclusive mandate with performance targets, and is both resourced and accountable to deliver	Mandate for urban sanitation is clearly defined and assigned to service authority without overlap
	Mechanism for defining and setting authorities' performance targets
	Accountability mechanism sets clear targets, monitors relevant data, incentivizes performance absent political interference
	Authority can secure predictable and sufficient resources to execute mandate sustainably
Mandated authorities deploy a range of funding, business, and hardware approaches – sewered / non-sewered – to meet the mandate	Sanitation service mandates are technology agnostic; planning and investments support incremental and integrated systems
	Service authorities may deploy different business models to reach different customer segments within a city efficiently and equitably
Comprehensive long-term planning fosters innovation and is informed by city goals, resources, and development dynamics	Investment planning and prioritization processes are documented, transparent and engage stakeholders, standardization community engagement processes
	Investment and finance decisions and priorities are based on activity-based cost accounting, revenue and performance targets
	Investment and planning is informed by natural resources climate change context
	Plans and performance incentives strengthen service authority capacity, responsiveness, and innovation
	Revenue opportunities help to incentivize and sustain improved

	collection and treatment; resource recovery-based revenue should improve system performance but do not eliminate the rationale for public investment
	Planning is coordinated with other urban investments and services, e.g. neighbourhood upgrades, water services, storm water and grey-water management, roads
Political will and accountability systems incentivize service improvements in planning, capacity, and leadership	Commitment to safe inclusive urban sanitation is demonstrated at multiple levels of the government based on budget expenditure on both services and performance accountability
	Accountability systems, for example performance regulators, are designed to be autonomous and independent and to empower community voices
	Service authorities have support from politicians for effective institutional reforms, including tariff-setting and enforcement
	Performance monitoring and accountability are designed to support learning and innovation for improved performance, not just penalties