



WASH-IPC Response to COVID-19

for vulnerable communities in urban Maharashtra

About the Project

The '**Urban WASH-IPC response to COVID-19**' is an initiative of the Maharashtra Urban WASH-ES Coalition (Maha UWES-C) to support the vulnerable communities in urban slums of Maharashtra, during the unprecedented times of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project is a collaborative effort of Maha UWES-C's partner organizations across nine cities in Maharashtra. It incorporates diverse strategic activities to ensure targeted intervention for sustained observance of COVID Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) and WASH Behaviour to help accelerate the COVID relief efforts at the local level. In addition, essential WASH supplies will be provided to over 2,50,000 identified vulnerable people. The project brings together Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), WASH experts and other crucial stakeholders in WASH service delivery with the support of UNICEF Maharashtra and RCUES of AILSG Mumbai to build resilience in the community.

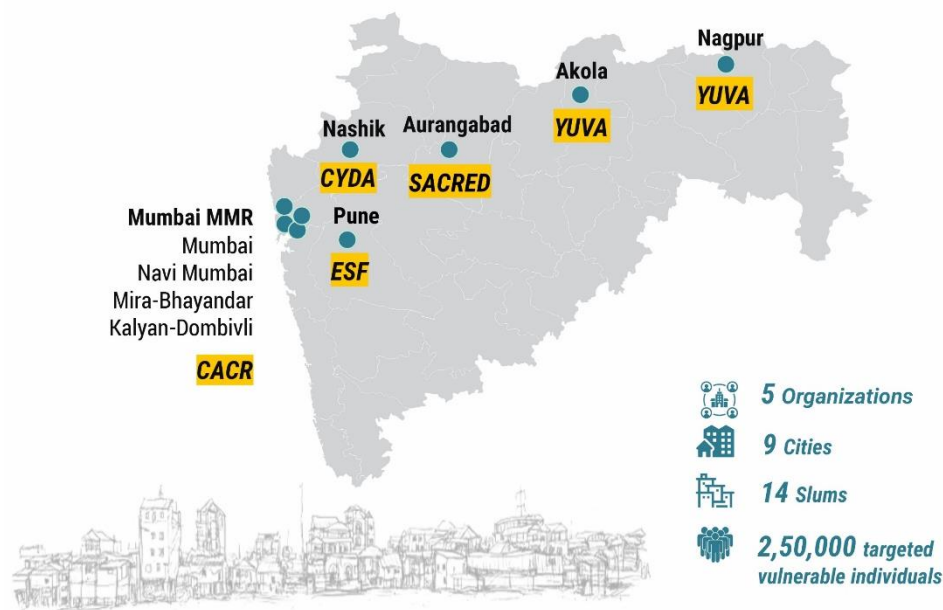


Objective of the Project

Through the 'Urban WASH-IPC response to COVID 19' project, the development partners of the Maha UWES-C will ensure service delivery of essential WASH supplies to strive towards improved access to WASH services and community outreach which will help address and bridge awareness/knowledge gap which is magnified during the pandemic.

Key Objectives

- ❖ Community participation through engagement of local stakeholders and social mobilisers
- ❖ Focused outreach programme to vulnerable population
- ❖ Innovative awareness activities ensuring sustainable and incremental impact
- ❖ Ensuring equitable access to WASH supplies and handwashing facilities



Collaboration with Partner Organizations and Local Stakeholders

Maha UWES-C in partnership with five development partners will undertake urban WASH-IPC response in 14 slums across nine cities in Maharashtra with a target to reach out to over 2,50,000 vulnerable individuals. These partner organizations will work with support from the ULBs of the nine cities from the selected slums. In addition, the project also involves engagement of local stakeholders including self-help groups, youth groups, community-based organizations, ward offices and COVID management committees, to execute community outreach through innovative approaches that involve active participation of the local community.

Development partners of MAHA UWES-C and their work areas:

- ❖ Citizens Association for Child Rights (CACR) – Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Mira-Bhayander and Kalyan-Dombivli.
- ❖ Ecosan Services Foundation (ESF) – Pune
- ❖ Centre for Youth Development Activities (CYDA) – Nashik
- ❖ Society for Action in Creative Education and Development (SACRED) – Aurangabad

Role of the Secretariat- Maharashtra Urban WASH-ES Coalition – Implementation & Monitoring

The implementation of the field activities will be administered and monitored by the secretariat of the Maha UWES-C established at the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies of All India Institute of Local Self Government Mumbai. For the execution of day-to-day activities, the Secretariat will leverage its experience and network to enable partners in driving impact at the local level. The Secretariat will further ensure alignment of activities with existing COVID-19 relief efforts at the local and State level, by way of operationalizing support services, procurement of essential WASH supplies, and facilitation and participation in consultations with governments departments.



Activities under the Project

In order to achieve the project objectives and as the first stage of project implementation, the partner organizations will identify in the selected slums frontline workers, COVID-19 patients and other most vulnerable people from the communities who require focused outreach through Rapid Need Assessment. The development partners will design and lead awareness campaign in vernacular language(s) to ensure that communities adopt COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and to encourage vaccination. The awareness activities will enable the communities to build their knowledge on the infection prevention and control (IPC) from COVID-19, its impact and on ways to stay safe.

For sustainability and effectiveness of the awareness drives, the partner organizations with the support from UNICEF Maharashtra, have committed to distribute soaps, masks and provision for handwashing stations for the general residents in the slums. Further, the organizations will also provide PPE kits, personal hygiene kits and gloves to focused target groups within the slums. All the activities under the project will be executed following the principle of justice, equity, dignity and inclusivity (J.E.D.I.) for the most vulnerable section of our society.

Distribution of:

- ❖ Over 3 Lakhs bars of soap and 1 Lakh 50 thousand masks among the slum residents
- ❖ Over 10 thousand PPE Kits among vulnerable Frontline Workers
- ❖ 1000 Personal Hygiene kits among the Covid 19 patients
- ❖ 400 gloves to be provided to Sanitation Workers
- ❖ Installation of 400 elbow and pedal operated handwashing stations for the general slum population