

Urban Wage Employment Initiative (UWEI)/MUKTA

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A Star is Born

- Pandemic -> Health crisis -> Economic crisis
- Return of migrants (covid triggered) ~10 lakh
- 25% urban population (informal workers, daily wagers, urban poor) lost jobs & livelihoods
- Women, Widows, Persons with Disabilities, Elderly, Children – worst hit
- Inadequate urban safety nets + resilience measure
- Swift Odisha Response – UWEI on 18th April 2020 with INR 100 cr allocation



Unique Model


- Founded on Govt. 5T mantra and closely aligned to UN SDGs
- Convergence & Integration with ongoing development schemes, resources and innovative technology
- Envisioned to be MGNREGA for urban areas
- Creation of Sustainable and Climate Resilient Community Assets – aimed at reducing vulnerabilities and enhancing physical resilience
- Deep Community Involvement in Planning & Implementation (W-SHG & SDAs co-opted as Implementing Partners)
- Decentralized Asset Management with Community Accountability
- Middle-men & contractors eliminated


Achievements

- Projects: 22,500
- Person-Day Generated: 26 lakh
- Wage Seekers Benefitted: 5 lakh
- W-SHG/SDA Partnered: 12,456
- Incentives Paid: INR 7 cr
- Expenditure: INR 182 cr
- Wages Paid: INR 85 cr
- Rain-Water Harvesting Structures created: 12,996
- 6,337 Projects worth INR 1000 cr Identified & Ready for Grounding


Issues & Challenges

 Mobilisation and Skill Mapping of Beneficiaries

 Ensuring Participation of Communities for Planning and Implementation of Projects

 Weak Technical and Financial Capacity of Implementing Partners - CBOs

 Timely Payment to Workers through DBT where most of them lacked Bank A/Cs

 Reluctant ULB functionaries due to legacy nexus with local contractors

 Weak HR capacity of ULBs to manage enhanced expenditure

Mitigation Measures

- Working capital up to INR 2.8 lakhs- credit from Banks on submission of Work Order-Interest subvention by GoO
- Incentives for Community Participation - Supervision Charges
- Weekly Direct Benefit Transfers to Motivate and Mobilize Workers
- Selection of Implementing Partners based on Evaluation
- Capacity building and Hand-holding of Community Institutions
- Skill Mapping of Vulnerable Wage Seekers
- Area-wise Action Plans, Creation of Shelf of Projects - Participatory Approach
- Standardized Engineering Design and Model Plan & Estimate for Speed and Scale



Key Lessons Learnt

- Well-designed public works programs in urban areas within the framework of 'Social Protection' promote socio-economic resilience at the same time increase resilience to climate change
- Making CBOs Self Reliant & Empowered
- Structured Communication and Capacity Building Programme for CBOs
- Robust Grievance Redressal Mechanism and Direct Feedback from CBOs and Beneficiaries pays
- Need for MUKTA portal for monitoring Workflow and Payment Automation System



Ripple Effect

- UWEI was made a regular scheme with enhanced budgetary allocations – INR 1000 cr
- GOI appreciated Odisha model – replicated in Jharkhand and Tamilnadu with an urban population of 43 million
- Community Partnership Model of UWEI is now being followed in other Schemes of the Govt.





Thank You

Rainwater Harvesting Structure (RWHS)

Basket of Projects



DRAINAGE AND
SEWERAGE WORK



MULTI PURPOSE
COMMUNITY CENTRE



PAVERED WALKING
TRACK



WALL PAINTING



RAIN WATER
HARVESTING
STRUCTURE



WATER BODY
RENOVATION



OPEN SPACE
DEVELOPMENT