



*Case study  
special*

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As the temperature soars, we try hard to manage the heat stress, shortage of water and electricity, pollution etc. According to the India's first ever climate assessment report 2020 by MoES, it has revealed there will be rise of 4.4° C in temperature by the end of 2100.

Climate change is a natural phenomena. But due to urbanization, industrialization and intervention of human kind it has brought in detrimental changes in the normal climate pattern.

Women in informal settlement are the most vulnerable to impacts of climate change, as they are exposed to multiple stress factors, like financial vulnerability, health risks and infrastructure deprivation.

MHT focuses on building resilience for the urban poor to enhance their capability to survive, adopt and progress. It leverages technology to improve livelihoods, health status to enable them to be a part of governance in the urban development.

MHT's interventions coincide with the W20 the future engagement group under G20. Its mission is to organize and strengthen grassroots collectives of women in the informal sector. It facilitates dialogue and action to improve their housing, living and work environment.

MHT is combating global warming caused by carbon dioxide by actively engaging in renewable energy programs, particularly through the use of solar power to reduce carbon footprint.

With the impact of lock-down, the world scenario has undergone drastic changes. The global recession has impacted jobs and livelihoods. MHT did not distance itself to intervene and engage with the community in the crisis. It worked out three-fold responses Relief, Recovery and Resilience. It conducted financial counseling to the poor in the informal sector to understand their business processes.

Shri. Atul Prakash, Commissioner of Jodhpur Nagar Nigam North launched the heat action plan. It provides a framework to implement, coordinate and evaluate extreme Heat response activities that reduces the negative impact. This was in collaboration with National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) India.

Prince Talal International Prize for Human Development 2021: Climate Action SDG13 was awarded to MHT, under the subject: 'Women's action' towards climate resilience of urban poor in South Asia.

Congratulations to the team.

Cheers!



**-Lalita Krishnaswami**

## RENEWABLE ENERGY

The local administration of Amalner supplies water once a week due to budgetary issues. It affects the usage of toilets constructed under the Swachha Bharat Mission (SBM), which seriously affects the health of home-based workers.

To address this issue, MHT designed a City Level project report with 3R (Recharge, Retention and Reuse) to improve access to water for Amalner. It acted as a facilitating and coordinating agency for all stakeholders like division of Dharengaon to circle office, Jalgaon office of MSEB. MHT worked to ensure that approvals and co-financing was obtained to make the project operational.

A 45 KW Solar plant was installed at Ambarishi Hill Water Treatment Plant. This was in partnership with Sustain Plus programme of Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CINI), MHT and Amalner Nagar Palika (ANP).

Installing a solar power system can reduce electricity bills and increase savings, reduce carbon footprint and generate surplus electricity.



## BREAKING BARRIERS

To increase the participation of the urban poor specially women in urban planning and governance MHT has formed and created the Vikasini (Community leaders). It serves as a link between the government and urban slum dwellers, giving the poor a voice in matters affecting them.

Vikasini manch found that there was no mode of public transportation in Odhav area. The BRTS bus stop is 1 km away. It affects more than 30 thousand people, their livelihood, women's' safety, security, and girl child's education as well.



To resolve this issue, Vikasini manch conducted ward level meetings with the members of CBOs and discussed its issue with several slums/ challis / societies located in the intervention area. Vikasini collected the GPS co-ordinate to create a stronger evidence and to get the exact idea about the area by analysing data on the satellite image with the help of technical experts. They came up with the proposed route to get the bus services and ideal locations for the new bus-stop. They submitted application to Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), along with the proposed solution to resolve their problem, and to get public transportation services.

But unfortunately, the Issue remained unresolved for more than 3 years due to the pandemic. They continuously received “No budget” response from the authorities.

On the declaration of the AMTS budget, the Vikasini manch pressurized the AMTS “Why no allocation for us?” to provide transportation services by allotting a new bus stop. Subsequently the plan was approved. The bus stop was allotted and is now being used by the people of the area.

As a learning of the ODHAV EXAMPLE, eight new bus stops for sarkhej areas have been proposed!



## RAY OF SUNSHINE

Geetaben Runs home-based grocery shop. 70% of her income depends on the shop. She sells milk, buttermilk, yogurt & cold drinks which requires refrigeration. Electricity power cuts were a major issue that affected her business. In addition, she had to pay 25% extra electricity bill as per the agreement with the landlord.

MHT audited the energy consumption, which revealed that the refrigerator was consuming 60% of her electricity bill. With the support of SELCO Foundation 1KW Off-Grid Solar System was installed for the refrigerator, drastically reducing her electricity bill. This renewable sources of energy for her professional consumption was useful for sustaining and enhancing her business.



"Since the power cut is the issue in our locality, I faced monetary losses in my business. After installation of the solar system, Now I pay much less for the electricity."

**Geetaben Patel**

## BRIDGING THE DIGITAL GAP

"My name is Pappi Gaur and I live in Amrai, Naveen school, Bhopal. I live with my husband and two children. They have a smart phones for online education. I had a Keypad phone and use it only to make a call. My husband has a business of making snacks, which are prepared at home. I help him in preparing these snacks along with my housework.



"I am an Entrepreneur."

My knowledge of the smartphone was very limited.

Digital Training with MHT has been life changing for me. I am using the phone to enhance my husband's business now. I know the benefits of WhatsApp, zoom and other applications. I joined online cooking classes conducted by the Ministry of Skill development and Entrepreneurship Govt. of India. I received a stipend of Rs. 5000/- along with a multi cuisine cook certificate.

I am planning to start my own tiffin service from home, with my new digital skills. I am also planning to start sewing and stitching work.

Today, I am financially independent and take my own decisions.

## UNLOCKING WOMEN'S POTENTIAL

Lockdown resulted in the loss of livelihood and financial crises. MHT conducted financial counselling training, to understand the business processes of the poor women in the informal sector.

Ankita is a 24-year-old woman from Jay Ambenagar, Surat. She is married and victim of molestation by her husband. She lives with her parents and five other family members.

Her father is a street vendor and the family has limited income from their cloth business. Ankita is a seamstress.

She participated in the training of financial counselling conducted by MHT. It helped her to understand how to start a business, what business idea she can work on, how to manage profit, and understand the concept of losses.

She understood the prerequisites to initiate the business.

She started helping her father in his work. She has started stitching clothes at home and earns an income of 3000-4000 rupees per month. She has an aspiration to learn to be a beautician.

She is training to be a beautician and enhance her income further.



"The training has given me the realization of how to convert my passion in to a business."

**-Ankita**

# MHT's Interventions



Habitat and Infrastructure Finance

Habitat Based Livelihood



KARMIKA

HABITAT DEVELOPMENT

Affordable Housing



Access to Water and Sanitation

Land Rights and Land Tenure



Access to Energy



Flooding and Inundation

Water Resources Management



Heat

CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

Air Pollution

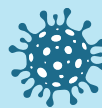


clean energy Transitions

Vector Borne Disease



DISASTER RESPONSE  
Relief, Recovery and Resilience



Advancing Sustainable Water and Sanitation System

Womens Participation in Budgeting



Leveraging digital technology

PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE AND URBAN PLANNING

Model ward Communities



Councilor Education

Women as Change Agent

