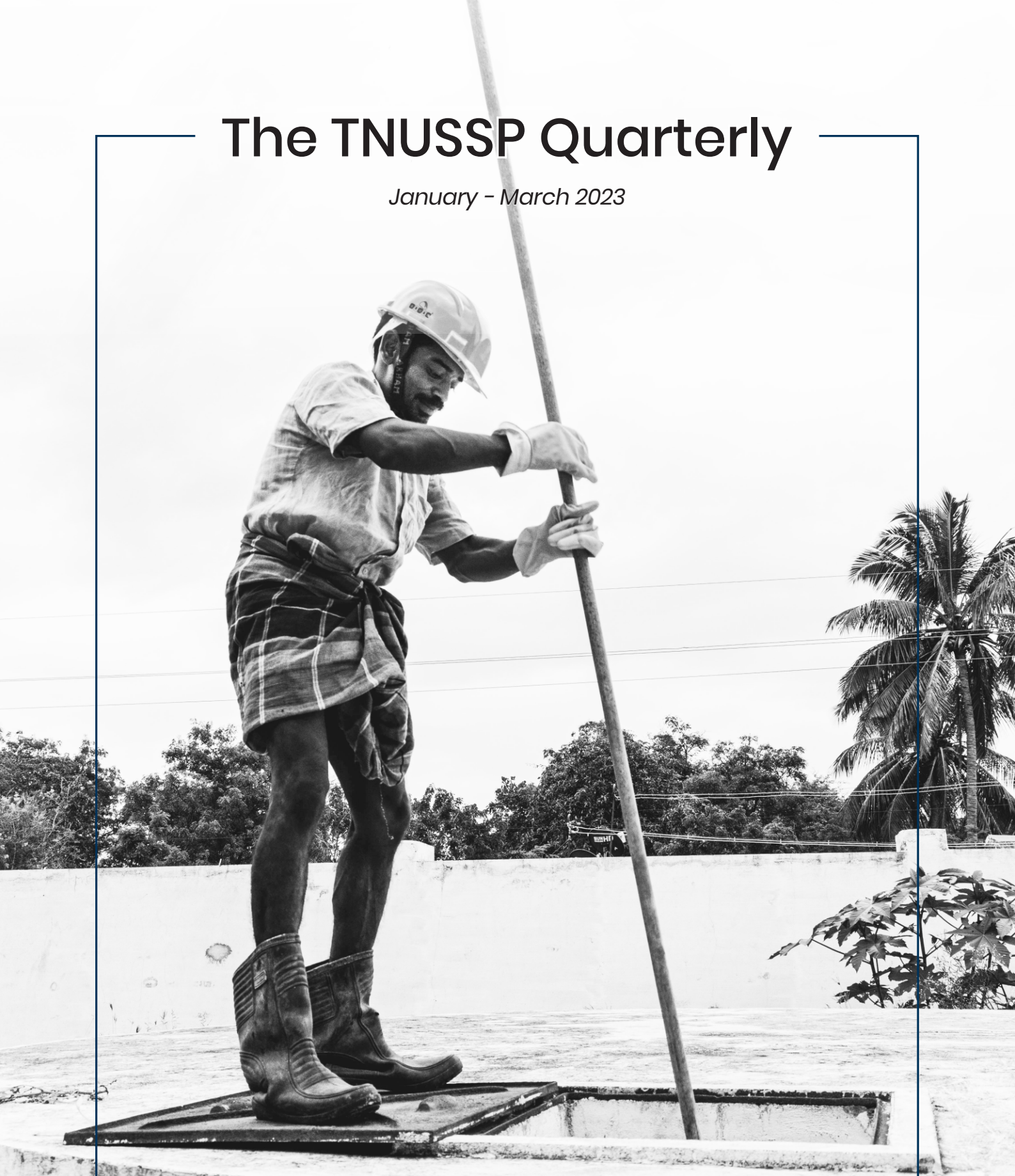


The TNUSSP Quarterly

January - March 2023



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INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS



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for more information.

Since 2016, the IIHS-Sanitation Support Programme (TNUSSP) has supported the Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) in its pioneering endeavour to ensure safe and sustainable sanitation for all. TNUSSP has focused on scaling inclusive Fecal Sludge Management across all the urban local bodies (ULBs) in the state. These measurable impacts have propelled the state towards achieving sustainable and inclusive development.

SCALING FSM IN TAMIL NADU



The Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) is set to provide Fecal Sludge Management (FSM) services to a population of 18.5 million. It has, so far, completed the construction, and initiated the operation of 31 Fecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs), providing services to 2.01 million. Another 20 FSTPs are nearing completion and will soon become operational, covering an additional 1.28 million people. In addition, co-treatment of septage at sewage treatment plants is operational at 44 stations, serving 8 million people.

Over the next six months, the state plans to initiate co-treatment at another 16 stations, covering 2.5 million people. In Chennai, co-treatment is already underway at five locations, covering 4.7 million people.

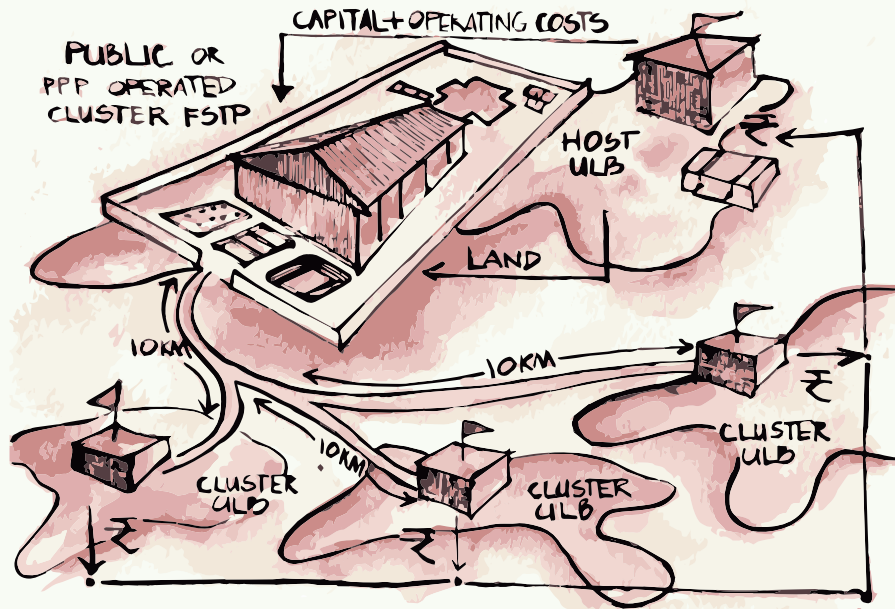
Stage	No.	Population (in million)	ULBs (including clusters)
FSTPs			
Operational	31	2.01	60
Nearing completion	20	1.28	45
Total	51	3.29	105
Co-Treatment			
STPs practising co-treatment	44	8.05	86
Planned in next 6 months	16	2.52	19
Total	60	10.57	105

Greater Chennai Corporation Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) practising co-treatment in 5 locations covering a 4.77 million population.

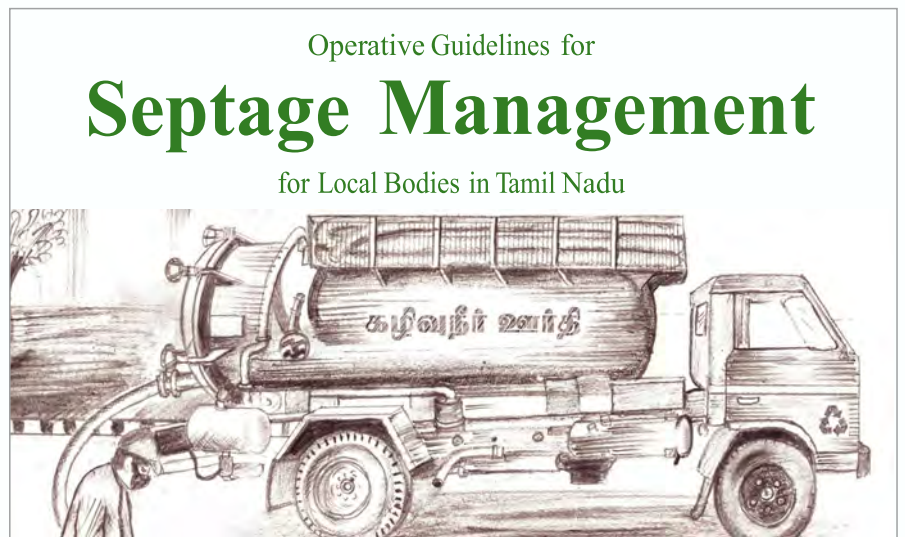
TNUSSP has been supporting the GoTN on two initiatives aimed at enabling around 98% of all Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) and all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to have access to treatment facilities:

Urban-Rural Clustering: A total of 12,525 RLBs were mapped to be connected with existing and proposed urban clusters with treatment facilities. The urban-rural clustering would enable access to treatment facilities for 9,344 RLBs, in addition to all 649 ULBs in the state. Currently, GoTN has initiated the clustering of 1,817 RLBs, i.e., around 20% of clustered RLBs, to existing treatment facilities.

Rural-Rural Clustering: Efforts are underway to cluster 3,181 RLBs not covered under any urban cluster to form rural clusters. A cluster mapping exercise was undertaken to cover 3,016 RLBs (i.e., about 95% of remaining RLBs), considering a clustering radius of 10- 15km, and 15 rural treatment facilities are planned as a pilot by GoTN.



In January 2023, GoTN revised the Operative Guidelines for Septage Management (2014), with inputs from TNUSSP, to prevent unsafe disposal of septage. Tamil Nadu became the first state in the country to include a chapter on Fecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM) in all state Municipal Acts.



INCLUSIVE SANITATION



Kakkaman Campaign Launched by GoTN



As part of the People's Movement for Clean Cities campaign, organised by the Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MAWS) department of the GoTN, TNUSSP's Kakkaman was officially launched on 10 January 2023 to expand the campaign's messaging on safe sanitation.

Kakkaman, a behavioural change communication campaign centred around a friendly, superhero-like mascot, was created by TNUSSP to make sanitation an everyday topic and help citizens and ULBs embrace sanitation with an increased sense of ownership. The campaign and its awareness messaging cover the full sanitation cycle, from maintaining hygiene at public and community toilets to safe septage disposal.



The Kakkaman campaign was launched in Chennai by Shiv Das Meena, Additional Chief Secretary, MAWS; Gagandeep Singh Bedi, Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation; P Ponniah, Director of Municipal Administration; Kiran Gurrula, Director of Town Panchayat; and R Kirlosh Kumar, Managing Director of CMWSSB.



We Speak Too Series Travels to Bhopal

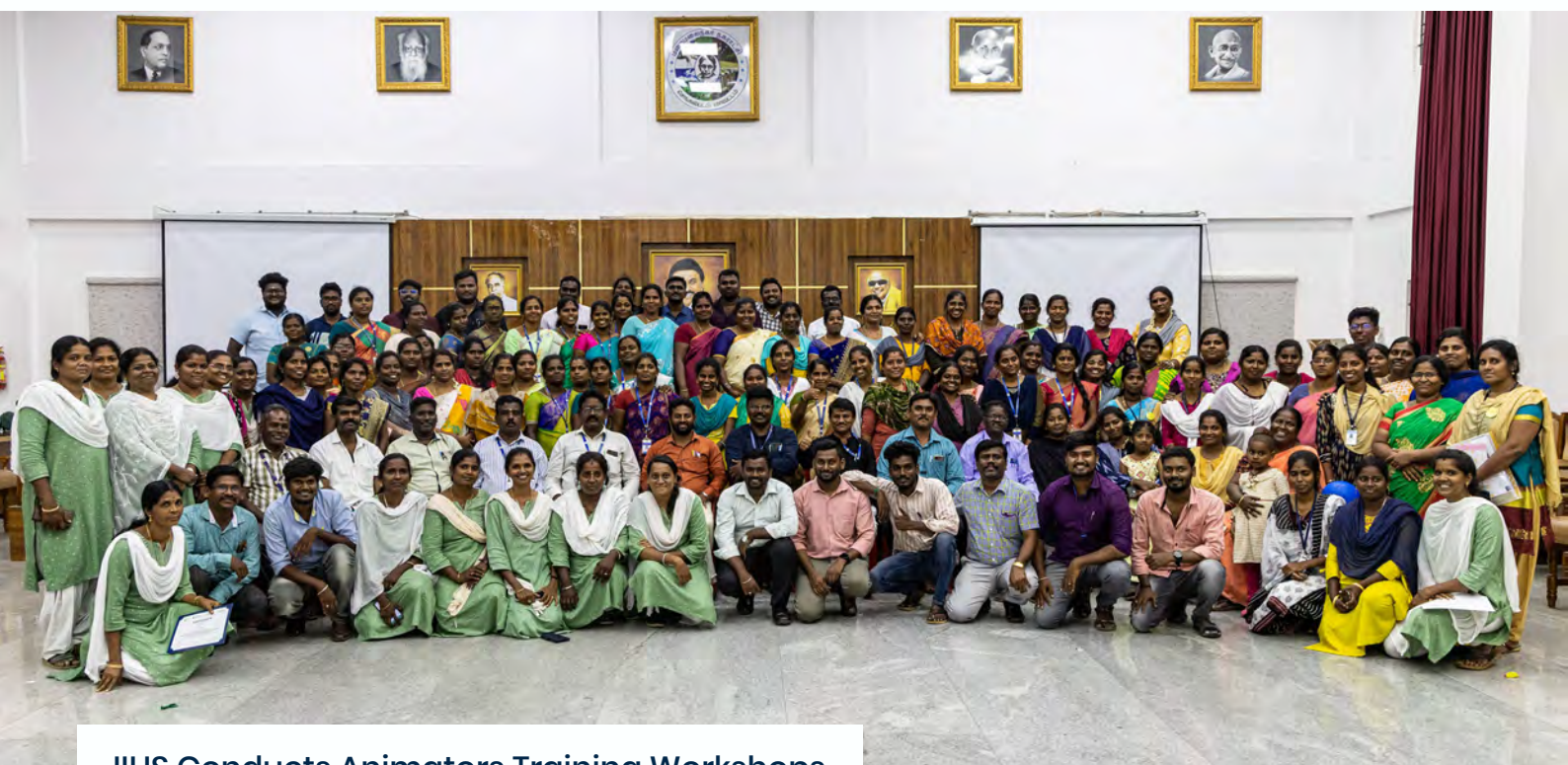
IHS-TNUSSP is creating safe spaces for sanitation workers to talk about their lives, aspirations, and problems through a series of multi-city seminars called “We Speak Too, By Sanitation Workers.” So far, the seminar series has been held in four cities - Bangalore, Mumbai, Dehradun and Bhopal. More than 20 sanitation workers – across the value chain- have participated in the seminar and shared their insights and lived experiences.

The fifth part of the seminar series was held in Patna on 29 April 2023.



Women in Sanitation Campaign Launched

In line with the International Women's Day theme – #EmbraceEquity – TNUSSP launched the fourth edition of its Women in Sanitation campaign to showcase the personal journeys and achievements of women professionals in the sanitation sector, thereby furthering the gender agenda. This time, the series includes participants from across Asia and Africa, making it truly representative of the Global South.



IIHS Conducts Animators Training Workshops

Under SBM2.0, IIHS conducted a series of training workshops for animators, who are ground-level workers responsible for raising awareness and engaging citizens in the overall SBM mission and sensitising communities to tackle open defecation. The workshops were held in Salem, Namakkal, and Chengalpattu districts of Tamil Nadu and trained nearly 500 animators working under 7 Corporations and 34 municipalities.

The workshop helped animators better understand their roles in implementing the various components of SBM 2.0. The participants have committed to implementing three action points from their learnings in the next three months.

EVENT SPOTLIGHTS



TNUSSP at UN 2023 Water Conference

IIHS-TNUSSP participated in the first global water conference in 50 years, co-hosting one on-site event and organising two virtual side events.

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INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SECURITY STUDIES

TN US SP

SDG 6.2 – A Pipe Dream Without a Professional Sanitation Workforce

Tuesday, 21 March 2023

8 AM - 9:30 AM EST (New York)
6:30 PM - 8 PM IST

In Partnership With

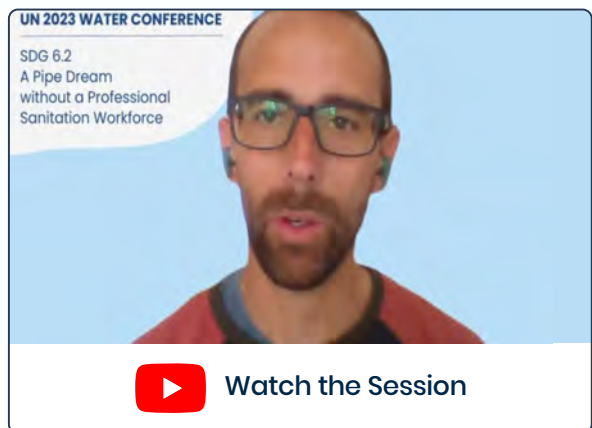
WaterAid, World Health Organization, SNV, Sustainable Sanitation Alliance, International Labour Organization, THE WORLD BANK, UN HABITAT

Event 1: SDG 6.2 – A Pipe Dream Without a Professional Sanitation Workforce

This event was conducted in partnership with eight global institutions – Pan-African Sanitation Actors, WaterAid, World Health Organization, SNV Netherlands Development Organization, Sustainable Sanitation Alliance, International Labour Organization, World Bank, and UN-Habitat.

This session brought together practitioners, researchers, and sanitation workers to raise awareness about the well-being of sanitation workers, highlight their voices, and explore pathways to progress based on experiences from several countries.

Kavita Wankhade, Head of Practice at IIHS, spoke about the integral role sanitation workers play in achieving SDG 6.2, despite often being invisible. She emphasized that health, safety, dignity, employment security, and quality of life are basic human rights, and it is vital to ensure that sanitation workers have access to them.



The session also featured voices from the ground, including Mukula Mutale, Sanitation entrepreneur, Zambia; Sita Gautam, Private FSM provider, Nepal; Kanchana Ramesh, Community Toilet cleaner, Trichy; and Isaac Maina, Emptier, Kenya (via pre-recorded video), where they shared their experiences and challenges.



Event 2: Localising SDGs, Accelerating Urban WASH: Lessons from Tamil Nadu

This event was held in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and the Government of Tamil Nadu. During the event, Roshan Shrestha, Deputy Director, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene at BMGF, highlighted the key challenges to accelerating access to sanitation. He emphasised the disparities between and within countries, and issues surrounding equity and safety.



Following Mr. Shrestha's presentation, TNUSSP team comprising Kavita Wankhade, Project Director; Santhosh Ragavan, Team Leader; Niladri Chakraborti, Team Leader-CWIS, and Mahima Vijendra, Specialist, presented their experiences in designing, developing, and implementing unique context-based solutions for total and inclusive sanitation.

IIHS-TNUSSP also pledged to advance the UN Water Action Agenda by enabling access to and sustainable management of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities.



WASH Practitioners from Africa Visit Tamil Nadu to Study Inclusive Sanitation Approaches

A 27-member delegation of WASH practitioners from seven African countries visited Tamil Nadu in February to learn about scaling Fecal Sludge Management. The visit was led by OVERDUE Just Sanitation, an action-research project in Africa, and University College, London, and hosted by TNUSSP.

The delegation visited multiple project sites and interacted with TNUSSP specialists, field workers, and sanitation workers to understand the various components of the full cycle of sanitation being implemented in the state. The visit concluded with a panel discussion.

The visit culminated in a panel discussion on 16 February in Chennai, where speakers shared their learnings and insights from the visit. The session was moderated by Adriana Allen, Professor, Bartlett Development Planning Unit, UCL and President of Habitat International Coalition; and Kavita Wankhade, Project Director, TNUSSP and Head of Practice (Governance and Services) at IIHS.



The discussion revolved around the status of urban sanitation in both regions and ways to improve it, including achieving last-mile connectivity. The panel also emphasised the need to improve technical expertise and funding in the sector, and to have adaptive, innovative and flexible technology to suit local communities.



TNUSSP at the 7th Fecal Sludge Management Conference

TNUSSP participated in seven panel discussions and workshops at the 7th edition of the International Fecal Sludge Management (FSM) Conference held in Abidjan, which brought together water and sanitation professionals from across the world.

A four-member team from TNUSSP, led by project director Kavita Wankhade, participated in the conference along with Dr M Vaitheeswaran, Environmental Engineering Specialist, Government of Tamil Nadu.

Dr Vaitheeswaran delivered a keynote speech about Tamil Nadu's FSM scaling journey. He provided insights into the strategy and monitoring mechanism behind implementing FSM in the state. He also talked about the other elements of implementation, including capacity building, behaviour change, and supporting regulation amendments in the state. He concluded his address by speaking about the importance of inclusive sanitation and ensuring it is the next step in Tamil Nadu's FSM journey.

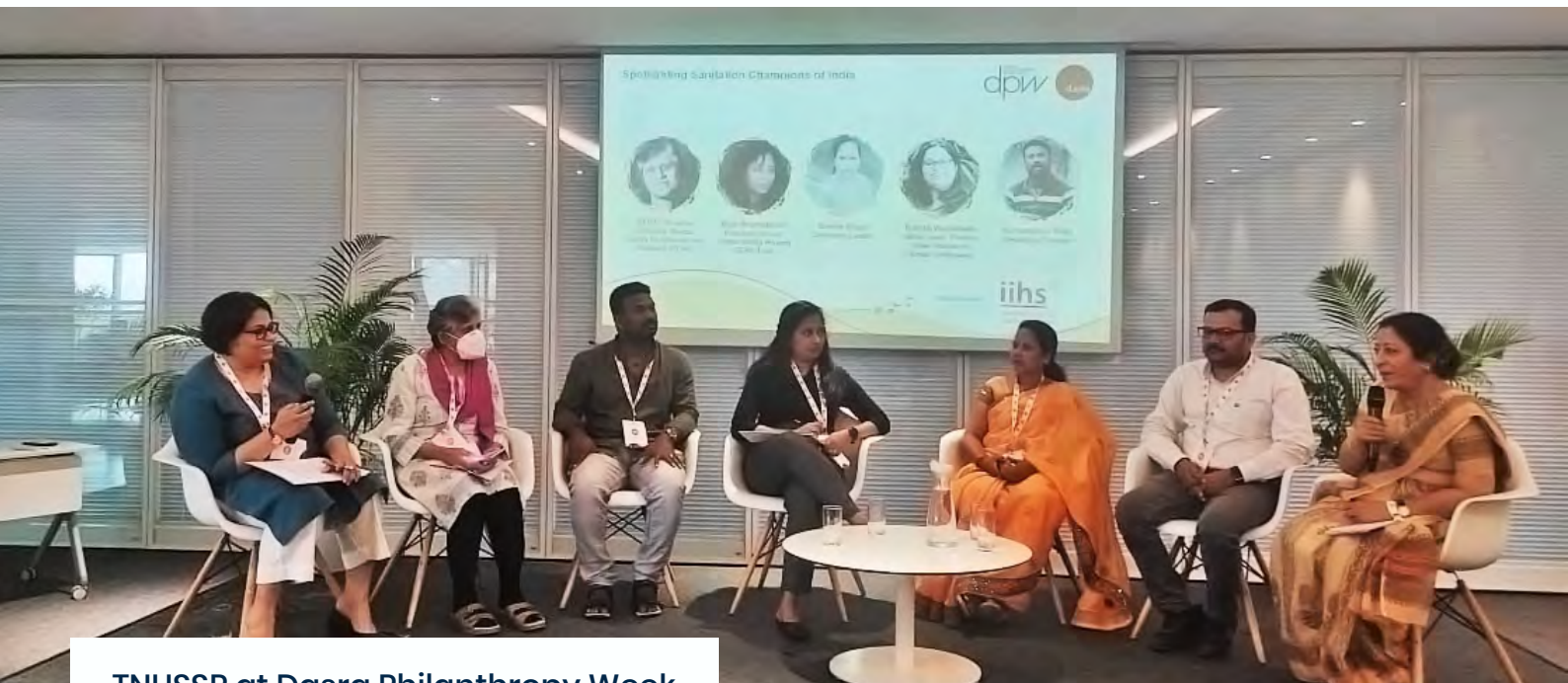
Kavita Wankhade spoke about the reviews and reforms in the institutional and regulatory framework in the water and sanitation sector. She briefed the delegates on key initiatives undertaken for sanitation workers in Trichy. She highlighted the challenges faced and the importance of support from governance systems and community mobilisation to implement and sustain such efforts.

Niladri Chakraborti, presented at a session titled, 'Interlinkages for Greater Gender and Social Inclusion: Stories from the Field', where he discussed gender equality and various programmes implemented in Trichy for gender inclusiveness and well-being. He also talked about the challenges faced by women in the WASH sector and the importance of POSH in the WASH sector.



Shamna Yaseen, a Specialist at TNUSSP, spoke about the challenges of implementing governance mechanisms for sharing FSM Services. She highlighted the importance of creating a supportive regulatory environment, adopting contextualised strategies that respond to feedback and ensuring persistence in implementation by both the state and implementing agencies.

Senthil Kumar Govindraj, specialist, TNUSSP, discussed the utilisation of an axle load sensor connected to GPS to monitor de-sludging operators from the collection of septage to its disposal. He explained how this model was being pilot tested in Trichy.



TNUSSP at Dasra Philanthropy Week

Dasra Philanthropy Week (DPW) is an annual event that brings together diverse stakeholders and voices from the development ecosystem to convene, converse and continue sustained action towards the quest for a billion Indians to thrive with dignity and equity. The 14th edition of the DPW was held from 27 February - 3 March in Mumbai.

At DPW, Kavita Wankhade moderated two sessions. The first one was 'Cities for Future: Building Sustainable Cities and Communities', where speakers from various Indian Cities shared their perspectives on the shifts required to make cities more sustainable and enable climate-resilient urbanisation. The second panel was 'Spotlighting Sanitation Champions of India', which drew attention to the impact of having local leaders championing the needs of their communities and reiterated the strong connection between their journeys and the need to look at Inclusive Sanitation in India.

Abhilaasha N, Senior Specialist at TNUSSP, was one of the speakers at the session, "Seven years since the inception of the NFSSM Alliance- Learnings and Way Forward". The session reflected on the many learnings across seven years of the NFSSM Alliance's existence and shared insights on the vision they have for the future.



TNUSSP Joins Pan-South Asian Effort to Achieve SDG 6

TNUSSP is now part of a pan-South Asian effort to achieve SDG 6 through the "Rising for Rights for Strengthening Civil Society Network in South Asia to achieve SDG 6" programme executed by the Freshwater Action Network South Asia (FANSA), and its seven-member countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to scale up city-wide inclusive sanitation.

Abhilaasha N represented TNUSSP and CWIS in the inception workshop held in Kathmandu from 7- 8 February 2023, where she shared the highlights of the CWIS Trichy experience and reflections from setting up the Tamil Nadu Urban WASH Network, a 30-member NGO platform that aims to advance the urban WASH agenda in the state. The discussions at the event also revolved around adopting learnings from CWIS Trichy to other countries for improving their urban sanitation models.

CITY WIDE INCLUSIVE SANITATION (CWIS)



CWIS Project in Trichy Becomes a Learning Hub for WASH Practitioners

A team of 34 government officers from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Uttarakhand, visited our sanitation project sites in Trichy on February 1 and 2. The team, led by the National Institute of Urban Affairs, came to study the inclusive sanitation practices adopted in the city.



Similarly, a 12-member team from the Small-Scale Sustainable Infrastructure Development Fund (S3IDF) in Bangalore, visited CWIS projects in Trichy on a two-day learning tour. S3IDF implements projects and provides advisory services through a market-based approach to improve the lives and livelihoods of underserved communities.

Between 18 and 20 January, a team of 18 officers from Uttar Pradesh, led by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), engaged with the Swachh Bharat Mission, state Project Management Units and municipal council, and visited project sites in Trichy and Coimbatore to learn from the CWIS programme implementation and replicate it at their respective ULBs. The participants were acquainted with inclusive sanitation approaches taken for sanitation workers, urban poor users, and from a gender perspective.

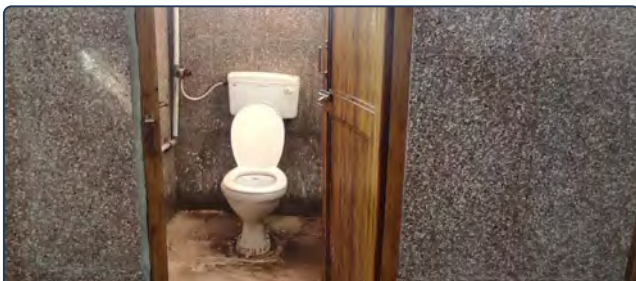


First Aid Training for Sanitation Workers and Desludging Operators in Coimbatore

CWIS organised a first aid training workshop for the sanitation workers of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation and private workers operating underground drainage cleaning jet machines and septic tank desludging lorry services. The training included a mix of presentations and mock demonstrations of the first aid measures to be carried out in an emergency.

The Coimbatore Municipal Corporation's Deputy commissioner, City Health Officer, Assistant Commissioner, Zonal Sanitary Officer and Swachh Bharat nodal officer attended the workshop and encouraged the participants to benefit from the best of the training. Individual first aid kits were distributed among sanitation workers for use during emergencies.

TNUSSP IN THE MEDIA



Revamping the Public Toilets of Chennai



Untouchability to Lack of Security and Safety: Bhopal Sanitation Workers Voice Concerns



City-wide Inclusive Sanitation: Why it is Pathway to Scaling Sustainable and Safe Sanitation Systems



African Delegation Visit T.N. to Study the Complete Chain of Sanitation Model



Officials from 5 States Visit Waste Management Facilities



Inclusive Urban Sanitation Practices Implemented Well in TN



Sanitation Solutions in the Pipeline



Campaign to Showcase 'Women in Sanitation'



Surprise, Surprise! These Toilets at 9 Places are Clean



 Watch the Media Articles Carousel

ABOUT US



The Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) is a national education, research, practice and capacity development institution committed to the equitable, sustainable and efficient transformation of Indian cities and settlements.

A proposed Institution of Eminence (IOE), IIHS aims to transform the current nature of urban education as one of the most important drivers for India's national development and sustainable global futures. Its interdisciplinary approach to research and practice helps build new global knowledge and train urban professionals.

Since 2016, the Tamil Nadu Urban Sanitation Support Programme, a consortium led by the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, has been proactively supporting the Government of Tamil Nadu in making improvements along the entire urban sanitation chain in cities. We work towards strengthening septage management as an economical and sustainable complement to network-based sewerage systems and aim to scale Fecal Sludge Management (FSM) across 649 towns in the state, covering a total urban population of 30 million.

Visit our [website](#) to know more about our work.

Reach us at: Floor 7A, Chaitanya Exotica, 24/51 Venkatnarayana Road, T Nagar, Chennai 600 017. Phone: +91 44 6630 5500 / 6555 6590



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