



## About Project

**Launch Date of the Project**

18<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

**Project Duration**

48 Months

**Project Location**

Nagpur

**Target Sector**

Local Government Officials, State Government, Citizens, Urban Poor, Elected Representatives, Civil Society Organisation (CSOs)

**Final Beneficiaries**

Citizens and officials working in Local Authority and organisations

## Moving Towards EQUI-CITY

'EQUI - CITY' programme, conceptualised and funded by European Union, envisage to endorse equitable provision of municipal services alongside promoting diversity and capacity development of local government organisations. The targeted city is expected to be benefited in terms of overall growth, sustainability and market viability while justifying diversity besides establishing superior modes of communications with stakeholders through participatory governance.

Nagpur being the first Equi-City is gaining pace with the scheduled activities of the programme and their resultant developments. This city has significant growth potential and has large scope of economic improvement. Simultaneously, to fulfil the growing expectations of different stakeholders, the city local authority, Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC), is keen to improve service level benchmarks (SLBs) in a sustainable manner besides streamlining diversity and equality policy framework within the city.

## REVIEW

## EU Reviews Equi-City Progress

THE EQUI-CITY project (Funded by European Union) is moving ahead promoting diversity and capacity development of the local government organisations. Few delegates from the organisation visited Nagpur to take review on base line assessment of the current activities and future agendas.

This session was held to discuss about the activities to be conducted in the first year of the project. Mr. Shouvik Datta (Senior Programme Manager, EU) and Mr. Ramanath Sonawane (Additional Municipal Commissioner) showed interest in all the activities being organised this year. Presently, the main themes are Sanitation and Hygiene. Workshop in Gorewada Basti in Nagpur. Drawing/Painting competition also was organised on the same theme to set the



Equi-City Team along with EU and NMC members



enthusiasm up in the city. In addition to this, updates were given on the launch of Equi-City Website. Along with all the updates on the current activities being pursued in the project, an important discussion took place regarding initialization of City Development Forum, Inter City Forum and Diversity Committee.



# A step towards greater Equality, Diversity

Members of City Development Forum and Intercity Forum were finalised. Equi-City team also paves the way formation of Diversity Committee

### City Development Forum (CDF) and Intercity Forum (ICF)

FOR CDF AND ICF, a list of prominent people of the city has been prepared. These people were selected from different fields like environment, health, NGO's, management experts, journalists, teachers, and social workers, etc. Municipal Commissioner and other NMC officials finalised the list.

Out of the selected experts, CDF will comprise of 40 members and ICF will comprise of 15 members. The first round of communication has been done with the selected members and they have agreed to take part and contribute positively towards the greater good of Nagpur city. The first CDF meeting is scheduled in September, 2016.

### Diversity Committee

THE EQUI-CITY Team has started working on developing the Equality and Diversity Framework, which will foster the Local Authority and provide municipal services to varied groups of people in the city as per their relative needs and requirements.

- ◆ First CDF meeting to be organised in September

The framework will also identify the sectors requiring diversity in the Municipal Services. For example: Separate toilets for woman, better infrastructure in areas of a particularly marginalised communities etc.

Moreover, these Framework directs the organization to identify and assess the challenges, difficulties and opportunities which arise for the individuals and community due to inter relation between their protective characteristics such as age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion/belief, sex, and sexual orientation. The main objective of Equality Framework for Local Authority is to:

- ◆ Identify and eradicate the unlawful discrimination and provide equal opportunities for the people
- ◆ Identify, assess and sensitize the roles and responsibilities, between and within the stakeholders of the system
- ◆ Review and improve the performance of the services for the people. Equality Framework for Local Authority comprises of five performance areas:
  - ◆ Knowing your communities
  - ◆ Leadership, partnership and organizational commitment
  - ◆ Involving your communities
  - ◆ Responsive services & customer care
  - ◆ A skilled and committed workforce.

These performance areas are expected to improve the quality of services by making sure they are suitable and accessible to everyone. The framework will identify any possible discrimination which may exist and means of overcoming it, to develop a better understanding of the local communities; target resources efficiently and achieve best values and promote equal opportunities and good relations.

- ◆ 15 members for Intercity forum and 40 members for CDF to be selected
- ◆ List of prominent people prepared and approved by commissioner

### Diversity in NMC: A Status Report

AS PART OF the Diversity Survey Report, a questionnaire has been prepared in consultation with the Nagpur Municipal Corporation officials. The Diversity Survey will bring out the current status of the Departments of the Nagpur Municipal Corporation with reference to the Equality and Diversity Framework.

As part of the Diversity Report, a questionnaire has been formulated in consultation with the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) officials for departmental survey. As survey being the important component of the framework, it will be conducted in all departments of NMC in order to understand the diversity structure within the Nagpur Municipal Corporation. The departments include Date and Birth, Panch Project, Tax, General Administration, Accounts and Social Welfare. The Diversity Survey will not only deliver the current status of the NMC departments but also enable the formulation of policies and strategies based on facts and not on assumptions.

# Young Minds Paint Equi-City



*The Equi-City Team monitoring the Competition.*

AS A PART of the awareness campaign for the Equi-City project, drawing and painting competition was organized in Sanjay Nagar Hindi Secondary School, Nagpur on July 13, 2016.

The school was selected based on the local dynamics and discussion with Mr. Prakash

Warade, Asst. Commissioner, NMC. Sanjay Nagar Hindi Secondary School, was established in 1990. It is run by Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC). It is an English medium school affiliated with Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (MSBSHSE) providing education from class 5 to 10. The technical assistance for conducting workshops was provided by the Assistant Municipal Commissioner of NMC and also by Mr. R.V. Gawante (School Headmaster).

A total of 50 students participated in the competition. As the theme for the painting competition was Sanitation, the students were asked to draw and paint on the theme using their imagination to present the solution for the problems related to sanitation and hygiene. The participants were provided with the stationery like pencil, eraser, drawing sheets and colour box by the Equi-City team. The Equi-City team monitored the class during the competition and answered the queries of the students.

The students were found to be very enthusiastic and came up with very creative ideas which reflected in their paintings.

The students also wrote messages and quotes on their paintings.



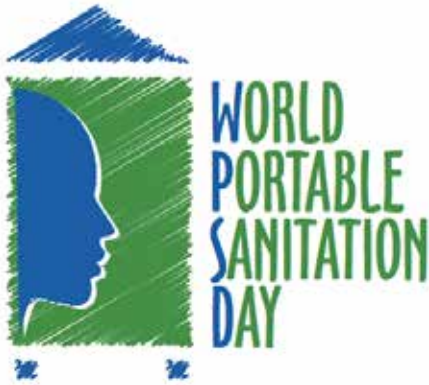
*Participants painting their ideas*





August 15, 2016

# The Way Forward



## Upcoming Events

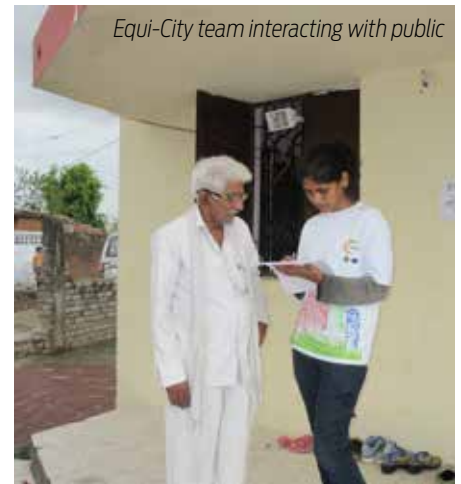
Sensitization Workshop on Sanitation And Hygiene (Ward Level)



AS WE MOVE towards the end of July, we can say that it has been one of the most happening months. Since, the beginning of the Project, some of the most essential activities and tasks being carried out in time.

The formation of CDF (City Development Forum) and ICF (Inter-City Forum) is one of the core activities of the Project and the finalization of the members for these Forums is one of the achievements of this month. With the members being finalized, the preparations for the first CDF meeting have got a real boost. The Equi-City Team is working hard for the meeting and aims to organize the meeting in the second week of September 2016.

Simultaneously, the work has been started for the next important activity in this month, which is the creation of a Diversity Committee. This is one of the major steps towards the final output of a Diversity report.



*Equi-City team interacting with public*

A questionnaire has already been prepared in consultation with the NMC Officials for the Diversity survey which is required for Diversity report preparation.

The Drawing competition organized in this month at Sanjay Nagar School, Nagpur has been a success in associating the young citizens of the city with the project. This has further added to the inclusivity component of the awareness campaign of the project.

## PARTNERS



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