



A Monthly Newsletter

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## About the Project

**Launch Date of the Project**

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

**Project Duration**

48 Months

**Project Location**

Nagpur

**Stakeholders**

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

**Beneficiaries**

Citizens and officials working in Local Authority and organisations

## Equi-City moving forward with draft training policy

The Equi-city Team started working on both the draft Training Policy for the NMC and Equality & Diversity Framework for the Nagpur Municipal Corporation under the guidance of the Diversity Committee. The Training Policy will mainly consist of minimum quality standards for training of NMC employees, training procedure, the appointment of trainers. The Diversity Committee will formulate guidelines for handholding support and training to the staff on the new roles and responsibilities. It will also be in charge of collaboration and advocate for budgetary allocations for training with the Local Authority. The Diversity Committee will also be in charge of a Grievance Redressal Forum which will be headed by a senior official, an NGO representative, and legal person. They will act as a forum for handling complaints related to diversity such as gender related issues, promotion, equitable representation of minorities, arbitrary selection and promoting criteria, not necessarily on merit.

This activity of creating an Equality Framework will enable municipalities to assess their Human resources structure from an equality and diversity perspective. It will be an internal assessment tool to ensure diversity within Local Authorities. It is about recognizing the needs, values and contribution that employees from diverse backgrounds can make to the local government and encourage their participation at all levels. It will seek to promote diversity in leadership and decision-making roles, including elected representatives and senior staff.

## Strengthening our local government through Capacity Building

The Equi city Team moved forward with the ongoing process of achieving aims and objectives of the Equi city project. Two training workshops were conducted for officials of Nagpur Municipal Corporation on 28<sup>th</sup> July and 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at Ambedkar College, Nagpur. These workshops were based on-

- ◆ Sanitation/Solid Waste Management focusing on Target Group of Sanitary Inspectors.
- ◆ Sanitation/Solid Waste Management focusing on Target Group of Jamadars and Sweepers.

### Insights from the First Workshop

The First Workshop started with the welcome address delivered by Shri Jayant Pathak, Regional Director of AILSG Nagpur Center, followed by the inauguration ceremony by the lighting of the lamp in the august presence of Dr Ramnath Sonwane-CEO, Nagpur Smart and Sustainable City Development Corporation Ltd., Shri Jayant Dandegaonkar-Dy.Addl. Municipal Commissioner, Shri Mahesh Dhamecha-Asst. Commissioner of Nagpur Municipal Corporation.

The workshop was divided into two sessions delivered by Professor Dr Sneha Palnitkar, CEO, WMRC, AILSG, Mumbai and Dr. Atul Vaidya, Sr. Principal Scientist, NEERI, Nagpur respectively.

The first session of the workshop dealt with Solid Waste Management Rules-2016 with the focus on segregation of solid waste, advanced technologies developed for SWM followed by

a Question and Answer (Q&A) session. While, the second session of the workshop consisted of topics namely, Community Participation in SWM – focus on segregation, SWM-Composting and Good Practices in SWM: A Case Study of Nagpur for the target group of Sanitary Inspectors followed by a Q&A Session.

The workshop proceeded as an interactive session between the Speaker and the Participants mainly focusing on operational problems faced by sanitary inspectors on a daily basis in the administration of Sanitation/Solid Waste Management in Nagpur City.

### Insights from the Second Workshop

The Second workshop held on the second day also consisted of two sessions by Dr Prof. Sneha Palnitkar, CEO, WMRC, AILSG, Mumbai and Dr Mohan P. Joshi, Associate Professor, Community Medicine, NKPSIMS and RC, Nagpur respectively.

The first session of the workshop dealt with Roles, Responsibilities and Duties of Sanitary Staff, Solid Waste Management-Segregation First, Public Health and Sanitation followed by a Q&A Session.

While second session of the workshop facilitated discussions on various topics among the officials of NMC and respected speakers. The topics of discussions were Safety measures for solid waste collection and disposal and Public Health and Sanitation followed by a Q&A Session.



# Solid Waste Segregation at Household Level

Population explosion, coupled with the improved lifestyle of people, results in increased generation of solid wastes in urban as well as rural areas of the country. At present, the municipal solid waste disposal methods followed in many of the cities and towns are unsystematic & unscientific and involve dumping in low-lying areas. Most of the disposal sites are just uncontrolled dumps where a mixture of domestic, commercial, industrial and hospital wastes is 'thrown away' at the dumping sites. Apart from creating air pollution, groundwater contamination & soil contamination, open dumping of wastes generally becomes the breeding ground for various dreadful disease causing pathogens and vectors, particularly in the vicinity of the disposal sites. Further, with increasing awareness of the public on environmental and health issues, there is a general opinion that the standard of services with respect to collection and disposal of municipal solid waste is progressively declining. It is also true in many cities as half of the solid waste generated remains unattended. For adequate management of solid waste generated in a city, it is necessary to segregate solid waste at the source, the collection of wastes from different waste generating establishments on regular intervals, proper transportation mechanism, processing and disposal.

Segregation of waste as per the Municipal Solid Waste rules 2016 describes to separate the municipal solid waste (MSW) into the groups of organic, inorganic, recyclable and hazardous waste. It is clearly stated that it is the responsibility of Municipality for, the proper collection of waste from waste generating establishments within the municipality and encouraging waste segregation at Household level.

## Why is Segregation Important?

Over a period of time, it was observed that the attempts to segregate waste after collection remained futile which caused a problem in the disposal of solid wastes after collection. The continuous failure in the separation of dry and wet waste at source lead to excessive quantities of garbage as well as problems in its disposal. Segregation is important due to the following reasons:

### ◆ Contamination of Ground water

If the waste is not separated properly, it gets mixed up in landfills. Due to the mixing of biodegradable and

non-biodegradable wastes, the biodegradable waste decomposes and non-biodegradable waste mixes with the decomposed matter. This decomposition leads to the production of compounds which contaminate soil. The danger of this is that they all leak after a period of time, resulting in leachate or toxic soup at the bottom, which can contaminate ground water and release explosive methane gas.

### ◆ Increase of green house gases in the environment

Methane is a green house gas, which ultimately leads to climate change, extreme climates and droughts. The Impact of the increase in the green house gases is visible in the existing environment. Melting of glaciers and thinning of the ozone layer are the results of this increase.

### ◆ Deterioration of Health

Segregation protects health. When Rag pickers put their hands into the waste to clean it up, it results in cuts that further leads to infections, resulting in

deterioration of a rag picker's health. Also for segregation, the garbage is stacked for longer times at dumping site which contaminates the environment with foul smell and disease causing parasites. Hence, it becomes our responsibility to carefully segregate the waste that is generated at our homes.

### ◆ Wastage of resources

When the waste is not separated properly it leads to mixing of recyclable materials with non-recyclable substances. It causes a reduction in recycling because it is not easy to separate materials for recycling. Thus, it leads to wastage of many substances which might be recycled and reused if they were separated before dumping. Materials like paper and cloth fibres get spoiled if they are mixed with wet kitchen waste. Materials like metal pins, tin cans, tetra packs are easily recycled if separated. Substances like broken glass, broken china are dangerous when mixed with other garbage and are impossible to separate.

## Wet Waste (Biodegradable)

- ◆ Kitchen waste including food waste of all kinds, cooked and uncooked, including eggshells and bones
- ◆ Flower and fruit waste including juice peels and house-plant waste
- ◆ Garden sweeping or yard waste consisting of green/dry leaves
- ◆ Sanitary wastes
- ◆ Green waste from vegetable & fruit vendors/shops
- ◆ Waste from food & tea stalls/shops etc.



## How it can be done?

Segregation of waste is one of the critical activities in the Solid Waste Management as it saves undue efforts on transportation and disposal of recyclable or inert wastes. The segregation of such wastes, before they are transported to the processing /disposal site, should be carried out. In order to achieve this, the following strategy may be adopted:

### Promoting Public Awareness

- ◆ Waste segregation cannot be introduced without public awareness. The residents should be educated about the appropriate use of biodegradable waste like kitchen & garden wastes.
- ◆ Extensive awareness campaigns could be organized for educating the public on impacts of solid waste on environment & health, ill effects of littering & burning of wastes, segregation of municipal solid wastes, proper primary storage within their house premises, etc. The awareness can be spread through posters, distribution of pamphlets etc. Local government could organize awareness programs at project

school, hospital etc.

- ◆ Residents may be advised to develop the habit of segregating the biodegradable waste material like kitchen & garden waste and store in a separate bag or a bin installed at their respective houses.

### Educating Sanitation Workers

The Local Government should educate its sanitary workers about the revenue earning the potential of recyclable waste and various options to earn revenue. The sanitary workers should be advised to collect such waste separately.

The market potential with respect to the forward linkages for effective disposal of recyclable waste is to be identified and exploited by the Municipalities/Local Authorities for the purpose.

Collection & segregation of hazardous wastes from the workshops viz. used batteries, transformer oil, used oil, metal scraps etc. and selling them to registered vendors having Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) system.

The operator of waste processing/disposal

facility should be advised to carry out an inspection of waste received to further segregate recyclables and sell them to recyclers. If it is not feasible to segregate recyclables on their own, the processing/disposal facility operator may allow registered scavengers to enter the premises of the compost plant and pick the recyclable waste. This would ensure a reduction in rejects, reducing the burden on processing plant as well as landfill.

Local Government could register the names of recyclers for the recyclables such as plastics, newspapers, glass, metals etc. from residential and commercial sources and the names of registered recyclers should be published or made known to the public residing in the project/labour colonies/labour sheds. Residents, shop owners, hospital & school staff and NGOs/ Voluntary Organizations could be involved for working in the field of waste management in increasing awareness among the people to segregate recyclable material at the source and hand it over to a designated waste collector identified by Local Government.

## Dry Waste (Non Biodegradable)

- ◆ Paper and plastic, all kinds
- ◆ Cardboard and cartons
- ◆ Packaging of all kinds
- ◆ Glass and metals of all kinds
- ◆ Rags, rubber, House sweeping (dust, ashes etc.)
- ◆ Foils, wrappings, pouches, sachets and tetra packs
- ◆ Discarded electronic items from offices, colonies viz. cassettes, computer diskettes, printer cartridges and electronic parts.
- ◆ Discarded clothing, furniture and equipment



Segregation in simple words means separation of waste into DRY AND WET so that it is easier to handle it later. Solid Waste must be separated into different bins as dry and wet wastes at the household level. These wastes are further divided into biodegradable and non-biodegradable wastes. The biodegradable wastes are those substances which are organic in nature and non-biodegradable wastes are artificially made substances or metals. The easiest way to categorize day to day waste substances is to identify the substances which decompose. The waste like vegetables, Fruits, Flowers, Leaves from the garden, Wood Shavings, pencil shavings, etc is biodegradable. And the wastes like Plastic, Paper, Glass, Metal, Tetra packs, and Aluminum Foil etc. The biodegradable wastes could be further used for composting and non-biodegradable wastes could be recycled.



# Upcoming Events

- ◆ Third Training Programme on Town Planning.
- ◆ Fourth Training Programme on Administration Efficiency.
- ◆ Fifth Training workshop on Innovative Techniques in Education.
- ◆ Diversity Committee Meeting.



## Glimpses of the Workshops



## PARTNERS



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