INFANT, TODDLER CAREGIVER - FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURHOODS CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

KNOWLEDGE NEEDS ASSESSMENT (KNA) REPORT

The KNA study was conducted to understand the knowledge and skills gap and the related demands by city officials to design and create ITC friendly built environments in neighbourhood and cities.

Areas of Inquiry

What is the awareness about ITCN components?

What is the approach towards child centric planning especially from the ITCN aspect?

Relevant sources of data and resources?

The implementation mechanisms within the cities identified?

How is the statutory implementation of ITCN within cities?

Emerging Capacity Building Needs for ULB officials on ITCN components

- Capacity building on Early Childhood Development
- Urban design and engineering components specific to ITCN needs
- ITCN centred planning of education and health facilities
- Manual/toolkit/lectures on engagement techniques for young children and other stakeholders (engineers, citizens, caregivers) in the planning process
- Basic learning on safety protocols and disaster management
- Basic understanding of data and its use - developing city dash boards
- ITC specific basic infrastructural and design features (ITC guidelines and toolkit) and On site visits along with a demonstration of best practices

Cities Piloted for the KNA Study

- Bhubaneswar
- Hyderabad
- Chennai
- Pune
- Indor
- Udaipur
- Gwalior
- Chandigarh
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- Hyderabad
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Case Stories from Pune and Gwalior

Pune City has successfully implemented the first phase of the city’s young children focused programmes with focus on developing gardens, balwadis, maternity hospital and children traffic park, incorporating the Urban 95 elements. The scaling up and replication across the city are the next steps in achieving an ITC-friendly city. The next phase shall focus on creating open spaces, primary education centres, day-care centres, young children-friendly streets and health units across the city.

City officials faced challenges in prioritizing young children and care giver needs due to the demands to focus on other needs such as public health infrastructure and road development. Often, city authorities change programmes and target groups to suit various political motivations, goals and agendas. Therefore, advocacy by city stakeholders is required to push for inclusive planning approaches that target vulnerable groups.

Gwalior City Corporation is working on child-friendly development from a health and nutrition perspective and has taken the initiative to operationalize 1,500 Anganwadis under the ICDS scheme. In Gwalior, under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Urban), fully equipped tot-lots are being planned at strategic locations for children. All residential layouts focus on the green environment provisions and facilities such as primary health centres for mothers and children.

“Cities must work for their people and build a vibrant atmosphere, particularly for their young generation, by knowing their requirements and fulfilling their expectations”

- Mr. Hitesh Vaidya
  Director, NIUA

“It is good to see consistent, active efforts towards making cities in India infant, toddler, caregiver-friendly; and the Knowledge Needs Assessment Study, conducted as part of the Infant, Toddler, Caregiver-Friendly Neighbourhoods Capacity Building Programme by our partner, the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), is a perfect example.”

- Ms. Rushda Majeed
  India Representative, Bernard van Leer Foundation

“The KNA study fosters urban planning processes to take cognizance of development needs and provisions necessary to create urban spaces and stakeholders involved in the process of young Children friendly cities.”

- Mr. Ajay Suri
  Senior Adviser, Inclusive Cities Centre, NIUA

“Recommendations of the KNA Study will help in developing training curricula for urban practitioners to make Indian cities young children and caregiver-friendly.”

- Mr Krishna Kant Pandey
  Team Leader, ITCN Capacity Building Programme