

# BASIIC

## Building Accessible, Safe & Inclusive Indian Cities



Inclusion Matters

# About US

The Building Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Indian Cities (BASIIC) is a programme spearheaded by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA). The programme aims to provide cities with technical assistance services to promulgate the ethos of inclusion and universal access into urban planning and design. Since its inception in 2019, the programme has been actively supporting the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to streamline the global and national commitments to disability inclusion. BASIIC has been pivotal in formalising an ecosystem of partners, stakeholders, and actors working on inclusion at large in the cities and community levels. The programme has significantly contributed to strengthening the urban discourse to promote universal access and inclusion and localising global good practices.

## Our MISSION

Encapsulating the principles of NIUA which is to 'understand urban issues holistically and take into account the cross-cutting impact that our work, as well as other interventions, can have'. BASIIC programme is committed to improving and ensuring the dignified living of persons with disabilities and other marginalised groups.

The programme seeks to act as an urban laboratory of action research and scalable solutions, policy advocacy, capacity development, and grounded interventions that are centred on the needs of marginalised communities, especially persons with disabilities.

## Our VALUES

We are committed to fulfilling the 3 'i's to perpetuate and strengthen the adoption of universal approaches to planning and practice;

**I** NCLUSION of the marginalized communities, especially persons with disabilities and their diverse needs within the urban development agenda.

**I** TEGRATE diverse set of stakeholders from all levels and hierarchies to collaborate towards achieving the goal of inclusion.

**I** NNOVATE systems and approaches to identify and promote state-of-the-art solutions to address accessibility issues in the cities.

*To celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in its truest sense, we must ensure that our future Indian Cities are barrier and stigma-free for everyone, irrespective of their abilities, age and gender. Let us commit to creating a better and inclusive India. I congratulate MoHUA and NIUA for coming up with the harmonised guidelines to mainstream inclusion in the day-to-day operation of cities.*

**- Shri Hardeep Singh Puri**  
Hon'ble Minister,  
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

*Accessibility remains the bedrock of inclusion and LNOB. An inclusive environment provides equal access and economic opportunities for all leading to economic growth.*

**- Mr Shombi Sharp,**  
UN Resident Coordinator in India


# Our OFFERING



# Our APPROACH

The programme strives for a balanced perspective that draws on the best of top-down and bottom-up approaches by contextualising international and national commitments at regional, state, city and communities level. Simultaneously the programme draws on the learnings and experiences from the ground to inform national programmes and policies.

Technical Assistance and Support Unit (TASU) has been established under the BASIIC programme to drive the efforts of disability inclusive urban development. TASU works with key stakeholders to strengthen global commitments, globalise local practices, and bring inclusive, contextual and collaborative development.

**Technical Assistance and Support Unit (TASU)**



**Mr. Utsav Choudhury**  
Team Lead



**Ms. Kanika Bansal**  
Senior Program Associate



**Ms. Veronica, QW**  
Learnings and Communication Associate



**Ms. Monica Thakur**  
Program Associate



**Ms. Abhisikha Das**  
Program Associate

# Our KEY FOCUS AREAS

Assuring a dignified quality of life for persons with disabilities means equal access to resources, leading to equitable opportunities, and meaningful participation in all aspects of city life. BASIIC focuses on participatory methods and inclusive approach to identify key sectors that can unlock socio-economic development of marginalised communities especially, persons with disabilities. The following are BASIIC’s key verticals but are not limited to;



# Our ACHIEVEMENTS

BASIIC has co-created a reservoir of knowledge products, guidelines, and IEC materials in collaboration with its vast global knowledge network across the globe. This includes stakeholders from government, civil society, research and academic institutions, and start-ups focused on the inclusion of the marginalised groups. These knowledge products encapsulate the learning from our on-ground interventions, advocacy initiatives and engagements with user groups. Some noteworthy achievements of the project include;

## Partners

	Development of the revised <b>Harmonised Guidelines and Standards for Universal Accessibility</b> in India 2021	 IIT Roorkee
	Formulation of an <b>Inclusive Cities Framework</b>	 IIT Kharagpur
	Integration of inclusive development principles in planning Guidelines and standards	
	City Audit and Assessment Study in Varanasi	 Global Disability Innovation Hub (GDI Hub)
	Preparation of a City Audit toolkit	
	Support Varanasi Smart City Limited in creating inclusive and universally accessible city infrastructure investment worth over 200 cr	 Varanasi Smart City Limited
	Developed a training programme for city officials on Fundamentals of Disability Inclusion	 All India Institute of Local Self-Government
	30 cities and 300 city officials trained on gender and disability inclusion	 Design Bridge Foundation UNITED NATIONS INDIA UN in India
	Launch of the 'Smart Solutions Challenge and Inclusive City Awards 2022	 UNITED NATIONS INDIA UN in India

# Our GOALS



## Built environment and Urban Infrastructure

- Support states and cities in development of built-infrastructure that comply with Universal Accessibility Standards
- Support in designing of 100 accessible place-making endeavours in all smart cities
- Accessible and affordable housing for persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups
- Initiate reforms in Procurement Policies to aid development of universally accessible and inclusive cities
- Identify, integrate and strengthen synergies with respect to inclusion between urban schemes



## Mobility and Transportation

- Mainstreaming accessibility in street design guidelines for improved walkability and safety
- Design and demonstrate interventions on inclusive public transport system



## Sanitation

- Handhold states and cities to make the entire sanitation value chain inclusive
- Uplift existing public sanitation facilities to meet universal design standards
- Creation of an inclusive sanitation value system



## Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate resilience

- Handhold select states to develop inclusive disaster risk reduction measures
- National and sub-national reforms in DRR strategies to make them more sensitive and responsive to the needs of vulnerable groups



## Data, Innovations and Technology

- Creation of an Assistive Technology Pipeline for urban specific accessibility issues
- Support innovators to develop localised solutions specific to their city/region
- Organise annual Smart Solution Challenge and Inclusion Awards to foster the innovation ecosystem in India
- Develop Data Dashboards on universal accessibility infrastructure in 25 cities



## Participatory Governance

- Develop a Data-Driven Decision Support System (DSS) for select Indian cities
- Develop frameworks for cities to utilise data and evidence in creation of policies and schemes

# Inclusive Cities NETWORK



30

Cities

.....

15

States

.....

318

Officials

.....

# Knowledge REPOSITORY



## Our Partners in CHANGE



Established in 1976, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) was tasked to bridge the gap between research and practice on issues related to urbanization, and suggest ways and mechanisms to address these urban challenges of the country. For more than 40 years now, NIUA has been the vanguard for contributing to, and at times, building the urban narrative for a fast-evolving urban India. The Institution has been actively working towards bringing forth key areas of concern for urban India in order to build the urban discourse at various scales.

It has utilized its competencies in research, knowledge management, policy advocacy and capacity building to address the urban challenges, and continuously strive to develop sustainable, inclusive, and productive urban ecosystems in India. It has emerged as a thought leader and knowledge hub for urban development in India, and is sought out by both Indian and International organizations for collaborations and partnerships for India's urban transforming journey. NIUA is committed towards aligning its efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through all its initiatives and programs.

**Empower  
through  
inclusivity**

#BASIC, NIUA  
#inclusionmatters  
#AccessibleCities  
#InclusiveCities  
#CitiesforAll  
#EmpowerthroughInclusivity

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