Reimagining community spaces for young children and caregivers in 10 winning cities
The Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge is hosted by the Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, in collaboration with Van Leer Foundation and with the technical support of WRI India. This Challenge aims to incorporate a focus on neighbourhood-level improvements that promote healthy early childhood development (0-5 year-old children) in the planning and management of Indian cities.

This document recognizes efforts of the 10 winning cities of the Challenge and highlights some of the implemented projects that apply the early childhood lens. The winning cities have scaled up neighbourhood-level interventions by seeking convergence with existing programs, mainstreaming young children and caregiver's needs in urban local bodies, strengthening institutional capacity and conducive policies, and fostering partnerships with local communities to improve quality of life of young children and their families. These projects were implemented between January 2022 to December 2023.

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The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has been anchoring a suite of programs aimed at addressing human development of every urban Indian. This has required taking a people-oriented approach to reimagine our cities and communities. Rapid urbanisation needs focus on large-scale infrastructure to keep cities productive. But beyond that, we need small-scale interventions in everyday spaces that improve the social fabric and everyday lived experiences of citizens.

In partnership with the Van Leer Foundation and technical support from WRI India, we are investing in cities to nurture early childhood development and to make cities work for young children and their caregivers. Shaping cities that are healthier, friendlier places for the very young and those who care for them, including women and senior citizens, and vulnerable communities in particular – is key to building future urbanscapes and stronger communities.

This compendium highlights the various processes, adopted by leading cities, which can continue to become references for decision-makers and urban practitioners for implementing and scaling up young children-friendly public spaces across the country. I congratulate the 10 smart cities who are leading this change on ground, to enhance our public spaces and streets for the citizens of this country.
The Smart Cities Mission has been a platform for re-imaging cities from a people-centred lens and for applying innovating ways of thinking about urban issues in India. Challenge formats with a test-learn-scale approach have helped city leaders with new ways of seeing and doing urban development.

The Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge has brought young children and their caregivers to the front and centre of infrastructure projects. This is especially critical for India as giving a good start to children is essentially linked with strong long-term social, economic, and developmental outcomes – thus helping the nation harness its demographic dividend.

The 10 winning smart cities have been working towards developing safe, inclusive, accessible, green and playful community spaces. This document highlights the efforts undertaken by them towards scaling up neighbourhood-level interventions across the city by seeking convergence with the existing programs, mainstreaming young children and caregiver’s needs in the urban local bodies by strengthening institutional capacity and conducive policies, and fostering partnerships with local communities.

I would like to extend my hearty congratulations to the 10 winning smart cities, who have been adopting inclusive and sustainable scale-up plans towards long-term sustenance of young children and family-friendly development.

Message from the Mission Director, Smart Cities Mission, MoHUA

The Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge is an inspiring example of how innovation and change-on-the-ground can happen when partners come together for a common goal. It is commendable to see cities starting from developing pilots at the neighbourhood level that reimage and improve public spaces and early childhood facilities for young children and families, to now adopting inclusive and sustainable scale-up plans towards long-term sustenance. Throughout the challenge, cities adopted various processes that facilitated scalable concepts and models that can serve as inspiration for decision-makers and urban practitioners for implementing and scaling up young children-friendly initiatives across the country.

An early childhood lens in urban planning and design, especially at a neighbourhood-scale, is a sustainable and inclusive way to reimagine our cities. A focus on core infrastructure and better quality of life for a city’s youngest residents ultimately benefits all people. The Van Leer Foundation aims to support partners in making cities places where infants, toddlers, and their caregivers can thrive, and this challenge is a massive step in this direction, as we continue our engagement with the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge cities in their journey.

We would like to thank the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Smart Cities Mission for launching and leading this important initiative and the WRI India for its continued technical support. Congratulations to all the winners as well as each participating cities for making this challenge an enormous success.

Message from Van Leer Foundation
It is heartening to see how Indian cities enthusiastically participated to make public spaces, streets, and facilities more accessible to infants, toddlers, and their caregivers. We are thankful to the Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for providing cities a platform to ramp up early childhood-friendly interventions and to the Van Leer Foundation for their support in making this work possible. We are grateful to the cities for taking a lead, embarking upon the process of experimentation, co-creating solutions, implementing projects across the city, measuring results, learning on the way and modifying their approaches, scaling up, and bringing together citizens and civic groups in the process. We are grateful to all the partners including NGOs, experts and other organisations who have been a part of this journey.

This book depicts the stories from the local communities behind these public spaces – how they were conceived and co-created. Beyond that, this book also demonstrates the institutionalisation processes that cities are undergoing, such as having an institutional set up, looking at not just projects but policies as well, data-driven decision making, strengthening capacities of staff across all levels, building partnerships, and adopting sustainable finance mechanisms. We are happy to see that cities are leading this movement with enthusiasm from various sections of the administration and civic groups.

We congratulate the top 10 Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge cities who strove for change on ground and are taking steps towards scaling and sustaining the initiative in the long term. Making our cities more walkable and accessible, with a focus on the most vulnerable, is critical to shaping a resilient, low-carbon and liveable future.
INTRODUCTION TO NURTURING NEIGHBOURHOODS CHALLENGE

Photo by: Visakha KA, WRI India
A good start for all children

Why 0-5 matters

Research indicates that in the first few years of life, a child’s brain makes as many as 1 million neural connections per second. A child’s development from the prenatal stage till the age of five shapes lifelong social and developmental outcomes. Therefore, they need access to a safe and stimulating physical environment that enables positive experiences and supports them to achieve their full potential.

Young children aged 0-5 years (also referred to as infants and toddlers) are dependent on their caregivers and experience the public realm as a unit. Caregivers could be parents, grandparents, pregnant mothers, elder siblings, other family members or any paid caregivers taking care of young children.

There is compelling evidence that investing in early childhood development can translate to better health, greater ability to learn and work with others, and higher incomes in adulthood.
Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge

The Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge encourages action towards adoption of an early childhood-centric approach to city planning, design, and management. This could be achieved through a focus on neighbourhood planning especially public spaces most used by young children and their caregivers in their daily lives.

Objectives
Neighbourhoods that are...

SAFE  GREEN  ACCESSIBLE  INCLUSIVE  PLAYFUL

Cities could implement projects from 4 solution domains -

Reimagine parks, gardens, outdoor play spaces
Improve access to early childhood services – anganwadis, PHCs with play spaces
Make streets safe, playful and walkable
Adapt public spaces and transit facilities with early-childhood amenities

Further details: Infant, Toddler, Caregiver-Friendly Neighbourhood (ITCN) Framework

Cities applied: 63
Projects implemented: 70+

PHASE I: GOOD TO ‘GREAT’

Application
Cohort of 25 cities

63 Cities applied
10 winning cities scaling up to
70+ Projects implemented

NOV 2020  MAR 2021  JAN 2022  DEC 2023

PHASE II: SCALE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Increase footprint of physical improvement
Establish mechanisms to sustain
Engage with more people and spread awareness

103 Projects implemented

Refer to the stories from the field to know more about Phase 1 of the Challenge
10 cities are working towards becoming flagbearers for young children and family-friendly urban development

**Phase II – Scale and Sustainability**

**Adopting inclusive and sustainable scale-up programs**

1. Higher footprint of physical improvement
   - Multiple projects across the city
   - More projects within the improved neighbourhoods
   - Replication of improved neighbourhood modules
   - Integrated and complementary projects

2. Establishing mechanisms to sustain
   - Dedicated finance
   - Changes in plans and policies
   - Dedicated institutional setup

3. Engagement with more people and spread awareness
   - Capacity building of officials and service providers
   - Build public campaigns and involve local leaders
   - Create network of champions and experts

Influencing positive behaviors and attitudes towards...
Projects implemented in Phase 2

103 Projects implemented

50 Parks, gardens and outdoor play spaces reimagined

36 Access to early childhood services - anganwadis, PHCs improved

8 Streets made safe and walkable

9 Public spaces, government offices and ECD facilities adapted with caregiver amenities

1.3 lakhs Potential young children to be benefitted

This includes young children estimated to have benefitted from visiting the improved facilities, open spaces and amenities.

1.3 million Potential users in the immediate surroundings

This includes caregivers of young children estimated to have benefitted, anganwadi and health workers and residents using the projects.

3000 Officials and frontline workers trained

This includes senior officials, mid-level staff, supervisors of frontline workers and frontline workers.

*ECD facilities – Early childhood development facilities such as anganwadis, public health centres (PHCs), nutrition rehabilitation centres, coaches etc.
STORIES OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION

Following section shows various steps taken by cities towards scaling and institutionalization during NNC Phase 2 (January 2022 to December 2023)

Photo by: Kaustubh Chuke, WRI India
Scale-up programs from 10 cities

**Bengaluru**
- Transforming ECD facilities
- Developing capacity building framework for agencies across the state

**Hubballi-Dharwad**
- Improving the accessibility to the BRTS in the city and enhancing the public spaces along it

**Indore**
- Developing 50+ parks with play opportunities contributing to the blue-green infrastructure

**Jabalpur**
- Developing a Play Masterplan to create city-level and neighbourhood-level play spaces for all ages

**Kakinada**
- Creating a low-cost, replicable module for public spaces in abandoned plots and informal settlements

**Kochi**
- Creating outdoor play spaces in 29 anganwadis

**Kohima**
- Creating one pocket park each in 19 wards of the city

**Rourkela**
- Developing 125 anganwadis, 30 PHCs, and 138 public spaces in vulnerable communities

**Vadodara**
- Improving outdoor spaces for play in anganwadis across city

**Warangal**
- Developing young children-friendly parks and gardens through convergence with greening fund

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1. Establishing an institutional setup
2. Enabling partnerships and diverse leaderships
3. Building civic engagement
4. Capacity building programs for staff and stakeholders
5. Replicating projects across the city
6. Adapting data-based planning, evaluation and monitoring in decision making
7. Ensuring financial sustainability
8. Incorporating changes in plans and policies
Establishing an institutional setup

Cities have formed a multi-sectoral Nurturing Neighbourhood (NN) Cell and Advisory Committee. The NN cell is anchoring young children-friendly projects, coordinating across departments and agencies to enable partnerships, planning, implementation and monitoring.

10 cities created dedicated NN Cells

8 cities formed multistakeholder advisory committees

Rourkela has set up a multi-sectoral NN cell headed by Municipal Commissioner (RMC) and includes members such as Deputy Commissioners (RMC), Town Planner (RDA), Data experts and engineers, City Mission Manager, Child Development Project Officers (ICDS) and Anganwadi teachers (ICDS). The cell facilitates scaling of young children and caregiver centric projects across the city in partnership with diverse stakeholders.

Rourkela’s approach of involving all government and non-government stakeholders has helped to better understand and plan the city through young children’s lens.

Dr. Subhankar Mohapatra
Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation

Photo by: Rourkela Municipal Corporation
Rourkela’s NN Cell brings together stakeholders and financial convergence

Ruputola slum

Under the leadership of the Slum Dwellers’ Association (SDA) Chairman, the women Self Help Group in the slum got together to discuss potential transformation of the space.

SDA Chairman approached the Mission Manager of Jaga Mission.

The NN Cell leveraged various state and city level funds, to add an anganwadi, mobile library, play spaces, seating spaces, gym equipment, all connected through pathways, to create a multi-functional space for all kinds of users.

Graphics by WRI India

These men are making it difficult for our children to play safely.

Even we, women cannot gather safely in their presence. We should do something about this space.

How do you think this space should change for our children?

Now our children can play safely, we also have a space to exercise and conduct our meetings.

Thankfully, the men also use the space positively.

Let’s take a holistic approach to cluster various facilities and create opportunities for everyone.

Let’s make a holistic approach to cluster various facilities and create opportunities for everyone.

Graphics by WRI India

Please see the project on page 60

Ruputola slum

Ruputola slum had a huge open space, near the temple lying neglected, with men loitering and anti-social activities happening along the river.

These men are making it difficult for our children to play safely.

Now our children can play safely, we also have a space to exercise and conduct our meetings.

Please see the project on page 60

Graphics by WRI India

Graphics by WRI India
Enabling partnerships & leadership

For the sustained integration of young children-oriented development, cities have formed multisectoral partnerships within governments and non-governmental agencies, academia, early childhood development (ECD) experts, resident welfare associations (RWAs), and local leaders to collaborate and share responsibilities.

Kochi

enabling elected representatives to generate demand for equitable public spaces

Jabalpur

partnering with RWAs for daily operation and maintenance of parks

Warangal

partnering with self-help groups to maintain parks

Rourkela

partnering with self-help groups to maintain parks

Kohima

a hilly city where most of the land is with private stakeholders, is forging partnerships with the city ward panchayats, to identify pocket parks in each ward. This has also led to on-ground demand generation for public spaces within communities.

Mr. Peter Rengma,
Ward Chairman, Forest Colony, Kohima

Co-creating solutions is an effective way for governments to join hands with citizens for a better public realm.

Mr. Peter Rengma,
Ward Chairman, Forest Colony, Kohima
Kohima’s strong partnership with community

The land starved hilly city of Kohima faces scarcity of public spaces, with hardly any dedicated spaces for young children to play. Forest colony

Our children are exposed to traffic while playing on streets. They do not have dedicated space to play.

Neighbourhood residents joined hands in transforming the dump yard into a pocket park.

The pocket park is used safely by young children and their families regularly in Forest Colony.

Let’s develop 1 pocket park per ward.

That’s great. To know, we will develop 1 pocket park in every ward of the city. We will need your help in this process.

Graphics by WRI India
Building civic engagement

Cities are actively engaging with the community to co-create solutions and generate momentum around young children and family-friendly development.

Warangal
Inculcating sense of ownership in the community towards public spaces.

Rourkela
Responding to the demands of the community.

Indore
Activating public spaces through community engagement.

Jabalpur
Co-creating solutions with the community.

Kochi

"It is the responsibility of a people's representative to help execute the project in response to the needs and best interest of people."

Mr. T K Ashraf
Ward Councillor, Kochi Municipal Corporation

Kochi has conducted a series of public engagement sessions through the life-cycle of projects to understand the needs of the community, making them part of the process and creating a sense of ownership among neighbourhood residents.
Kochi is bringing people together to shape public spaces for young children

Poovath is a residential street with a huge derelict wall on one side. The space along the wall lied abandoned, with parking encroaching the street. This made the street unsafe for women and children. CSML identified the space to transform into a pocket play space.

The Ward Councilor convened a meeting with the residents to understand their needs better.

CSML recognized the need to involve the community and started with the Ward Councilor.

Poovath street My son has no safe space to play near our home. This is very much needed in our ward. There is lack of open spaces and I am in complete support for such a transformation.

Currently we do not access the space at all, we don’t allow our children to step out after evening.

We need to shift the parking to the other side to ensure safe access. The space is full of parking and gets dark at night.

The space is full of parking and gets dark at night.

Children from the community were engaged to generate ideas through a painting competition.

Data collection through door-to-door surveys will help us better understand the space.

City authorities facilitated data collection to better understand the on-ground situation.

Currently we do not access the space at all, we don’t allow our children to step out after evening.

City authorities facilitated data collection to better understand the on-ground situation. Children from the community were engaged to generate ideas through a painting competition.

With parking shifted, and the vibrant wall mural, the space now provides safe door-step play opportunities for children and is a pause point for caregivers.

I am so happy to see my son’s painting replicated on the wall here.

Poovath street

The Ward Councilor convened a meeting with the residents to understand their needs better.
Cities are conducting systematic capacity-building sessions across different levels of governance – including senior officials, mid-management, front-line workers and their supervisors – based on the principles of young children and family-friendly interventions.

Jabalpur
building capacity of senior officials and mid-management city officials

Vadodara
building capacity of supervisors of anganwadi workers

Kakinada
building capacity of senior officials and mid-management city officials

Karnataka
is planning to roll out a state-wide capacity building program for the State urban development department.

Rourkela
has leveraged monthly capacity building programs, for front-line workers in anganwadis, to sensitize them about the importance of ‘outdoor play’ and using ‘play’ as a learning aid, converging with the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) training.

Sharing our unique approach towards young children-centric interventions and its impact in the monthly meetings helped in the widespread adoption of the same at other anganwadis.

Ms. Kapda Hansdah
Anganwadi teacher, Durgapur One

Photo by: Arunima Saha, WRI India
Cities are scaling up young children and family-centric interventions by carrying out projects and documenting learnings to create replicable templates for quicker implementation and creating programs to generate larger citywide impact.

Kochi is developing outdoor play ‘Aangans’ in 29 anganwadis across the city.

Kohima is developing 1 pocket park each in 19 wards across city.

Rourkela is developing 120 anganwadis with dedicated play areas and nursing stations.

Rourkela is developing playful public spaces in 138 slums across the city.

Indore is enhancing the blue-green network of the city by scaling a network of 500+ neighborhood parks and gardens, through programs such as Ahilya van (urban forests) and Umang Vatika (all abilities’ park).

Neighbourhood parks and gardens

“Ahilya Van” (urban forests)

“Umang Vatika” (all abilities’ parks)
Indore’s efforts to transform flood-prone zones into playful sponge points

Indore plans to develop 500 parks and gardens for young children and caregivers with an eye towards building the climate resilience of the city.

The city officials identified Sanskriti Nagar – a low-lying area with issues of waterlogging during monsoons as one of the sites, based on city wide mapping and analysis.

While the city adopted nature-based solutions to transform the water-logged site into a sponge point and relocated an anganwadi at the site, the loitering of men and anti-social activities continued. City leadership motivated the community to activate the site by conducting events on a regular basis.

With residents actively using the park for various events, young children now have a safe space to play and learn in the neighbourhood.

Children do not feel safe when men are loafing around.

Conduct community events with the residents regularly to make them become custodians and protect the space.

Please see the project on page 80

Graphics by WRI India
Bengaluru has developed waiting spaces with play opportunities in healthcare facilities, in consultation with visitors, to ensure the convenience of caregivers. The city is now scaling up such spaces across public health centres (PHCs) and public maternity homes.
Bengaluru’s template of playful waiting spaces in healthcare facilities

The maternity home lacked adequate waiting and seating space for the patients, which included pregnant women, women with babies, patients with toddlers, causing inconvenience during their long waiting hours at the OPD.

The Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) conducted in-depth interviews with the visitors and patients to understand the issues.

Based on the interviews, the Maternity Home was reimagined to accommodate waiting spaces in front of the building, a toddler’s play area, and herb garden.
Cities are encouraged to adopt evidence-based planning by mapping of citywide young children and caregiver-oriented data to prioritize neighborhoods and projects. Cities are adopting a data-based monitoring and evaluation framework, collecting project level user data, before and after implementation, to learn and improve periodically.

**Kochi**

Activity mapping to understand site conditions

**Warangal**

User data through interviews to address needs of young children and caregivers

**Indore**

Mapping of young children-oriented facilities towards equitable distribution

**Kohima**

Mapping traffic and pedestrian volumes for junction improvement

**Rourkela**

has leveraged young children and caregiver-oriented data to identify vulnerable settlements with limited access to early childhood development (ECD) facilities and public spaces. This helped them prioritize development efforts to bridge the gap in demand and supply, fostering greater inclusion for the vulnerable settlements.

Map showing extent of young children-friendly public spaces and facilities with ped-shed across Rourkela city

Map showing extent of newly added young children-friendly public spaces and facilities with ped-shed across Rourkela city
Rourkela’s story of prioritizing public spaces for vulnerable settlements

M H Nagar slum
Legrosy inflicted families living a secluded life in slums, along the fringes of the city, continue to face social stigma

City wide mapping revealed the unequal distribution of public spaces in slums vs rest of affluent colonies

City officials conducted a transact walk with slum residents to understand on ground situation better

A formal play space was developed for young children in the slum through tactical intervention

Consider the growing footfall at the play area and usage of the surrounding space by residents, the city formalized the play area with equipment, added shaded seating spaces and gym equipment, closed drains to make a holistic public space for all users.

We are happy to see that, other communities are coming to our slum now to use the park, gym and for many other activities. This makes us feel dignified.

We feel we have become same now. There is no difference between us and them.

Let’s conduct more studies to understand their needs.

We should create public spaces for young children and families in these slums.

There is no park in the community. Children play in sewage water and stagnant water. That leads to infection.

There should be more such interventions across the city for other communities as well.

We are holding our SHG meetings here as well.

We are having health camps for slum residents as well.

We are having the gym space for different age groups as well.

We expect that this space will become a haven for the young children and families in this community.

Please see the project on page 61.
Building financial sustainability

To ensure financial sustenance for scaling up young children-oriented development, cities are converging funds from different local, state, and national-level schemes and missions, along with crowdsourcing funds and leveraging CSR funds.

Rourkela leveraging convergence of national, state and city level schemes for scaling up

Vadodara securing CSR funds to retrofit anganwadis with play and amenities

Kohima leveraging crowdfunding to develop pocket parks in neighbourhoods

Indore securing funds by creating young children-oriented programs such as Umang Vatika

Warangal has allocated 10% of its annual municipal budget for a ‘greening fund,’ which, combined with funds from other programs, is being used to expand parks and open spaces for young children and their caregivers across the city.

Ms. Gundu Sudharani Mayor, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation has earmarked 10% of its municipal budget as a ‘green fund’ for taking up plantation activities and developing parks and open spaces in the city.

Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Ms. Gundu Sudharani
Mayor, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Warangal
Greening fund leveraged for parks across Warangal

City aims to create vibrant, safe, green and playful spaces for young children and caregivers, especially in vulnerable settlements

City officials identified a vulnerable settlement with no space for young children to play

Let's develop a park here with locally available and recycled materials from the GWMC general fund. Horticulture components could be undertaken with the greening fund

Our children are not allowed in the nearby play spaces. They are forced to play in these narrow streets

Let's use the greening fund to develop more such young children friendly playful spaces across the city

The slum residents are very happy with the park development

Leveraging the greening fund, the city transformed the dumpyard into a pocket park for young children and caregivers in the slum, using locally available and recycled materials

GWMC – Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Graphics by WRI India

Please see the project on page 66
Cities are adopting changes in policies and plans to mainstream young children and caregiver-friendly development in the cities' programs and planning processes.

**Policy changes**

**Karnataka** is making amends in the guidelines for young children and caregiver-friendly transit stations through SUTF funding checklist.

**Jabalpur** is developing a young children-oriented Play Masterplan.

**Indore** is adopting park guidelines for “Umang Vatika” (all abilities’ parks).

**Rourkela** is institutionalizing data-based planning to develop new anganwadis and playgrounds.

**Indore** set up a carpentry workshop and allocated dedicated funds under the municipal budget of 2023-2024 to upcycle excess local wood to develop age-specific, customized play equipment for public spaces. This has enabled them to adopt a sustainable model to mitigate the challenges of meeting expenses.

*Photo by: Kshitija Pendharkar, WRI India*
Jabalpur

is formulating a Play Masterplan for systematically scaling up young children-friendly play spaces across the city.

Currently we are developing a play masterplan for Jabalpur that aims to gradually incorporate valuable play spaces in every neighbourhood of the city.

Mr. C.P. Gohal
Former CEO, Jabalpur Smart City Limited

Inspired by the Istanbul Play Masterplan, Decision makers from Jabalpur decided to develop a Play Masterplan for young children and caregiver friendly public spaces in their city.

The city is currently in the process of developing the play masterplan, in consultation with experts.

Let’s make a Play Masterplan for Jabalpur

Graphics by WRI India
STORIES OF PROJECTS

Following section shows selected projects implemented by cities during NNC Phase 2 (January 2022 to December 2023)

(This is not an exhaustive report of all projects)
Public spaces in vulnerable settlements

1. Young children and caregiver friendly cluster at Rupotola slum, Rourkela
2. Public space at Leprosy pada, Rourkela
3. Mobile library and children-friendly public plaza at Satatala Chawk, Rourkela
4. Pocket park at Prem Nagar slum, Indore
5. Neighbourhood park at Kanaya Pathar slum, Jabalpur
6. All age park at Brijmohan nagar, Jabalpur
7. Chitti park: Pocket park at M H Nagar slum, Warangal
8. Neighbourhood park at Christian colony, Warangal
9. Pocket park at Biro Chowk, Rourkela
ROURKELA

Clustering facilities and play spaces in slums

The cluster of young children and women-oriented facilities along with age-specific play opportunities has provided a multi-functional public space for all users. This community-driven transformation done by leveraging funds from various government schemes has enabled multitude of activities in one public space, encouraging social interaction and quality outdoor time spent by young children and caregivers.

ROURKELA

Inclusive public space for the marginalized

The integrated public realm in the Leprosy colony has provided a much-needed outdoor space for the slum residents. The public space has brought together people from the colony and nearby settlements to use the children’s play area, attend activities such as medical camps, self-help group meetings frequently. The public space has effectively blurred the physical and social boundaries that once existed between the communities.

0-1 yr 2-3 yr 4-5 yr Other

- Inclusive play space
- Open gym
- Toddler play equipment
- Low height seating
- Tire swings
- Sandpit
- Mobile library for children by RMC
- SandpitSoft surface: grass
- Mamta griha (nursing centre)
- Toddler play equipment
- Low height seating
- Open gym
- Community space by RSCL
- New Anganwadi Centre by DMF fund
- Community space
- Colorful wall mural
- Dedicated play space for young children
- Gym equipment for caregivers

Photo by: Arunima Saha, WRI India

Photo by: Rourkela Smart City Limited

Photo by: Rourkela Smart City Limited

Photo by: Rourkela Smart City Limited

600 sqm

650 sqm
ROURKELA

‘Nala Road’ to a thriving public space

The public space has been developed through the convergence of funds from various programs highlighting the contribution of frontline workers and service providers in the efficient functioning of Rourkela city. The development along the main corridor of the city clusters a public plaza with play opportunities and facilities related to SHG and livelihood for safe access.

INDORE

Pocket play space in vulnerable settlement

The open space along the entry of the community which was dumped with materials was being under-utilized. The space was reimagined to create a public space for children through temporal interventions. The process enabled the community to rethink about their surroundings and an alternate usage of the space for their children and various age groups.
Jabalpur

Accessible play space in vulnerable settlement

The city created a play space for children by reclaiming a vacant plot along the entry to the slum. The play space was defined, natural features of the site were retained, sand beds were created around them to enable nature-based play, a gazebo was installed to create shaded space, along with few equipment. This has enabled access to play for young children from over 400 households in the vulnerable neighbourhood.

All age park at Brijmohan Nagar

The city revamped a vacant plot near the low-income housing with age specific play and space for community events. Specific areas were identified for various age groups and appropriate play elements were added. This has provided outdoor play opportunities for young children from 380 families living in the vicinity.
WARANGAL
Pocket park in a vulnerable settlement

Reclaiming an unused pocket for developing a pocket park for families in M H Nagar Slum has created a stimulating play space at a walkable distance from homes for young children.

BEFORE

Chitti park: Pocket park at M H Nagar slum

AFTER

0-1 yr 2-3 yr 4-5 yr Other

Porous boundary
Shrub plantation
Toddler play equipment
Low height seating
Sandpit
Balancing beam
Lighting
Stepping stones
Colorful wall mural
Sensory pathway

WARANGAL
Dumpyard to play space

The transformation of the dump yard into a park has provided an inclusive, accessible, vibrant and age-specific play opportunities for young children in the vulnerable settlement, enhancing their time spent outdoors.

BEFORE

Dumpyard to play space

AFTER

0-1 yr 2-3 yr 4-5 yr Other

Porous boundary
Shrub plantation
Toddler play equipment
Open gym
Low height seating
Permeable paving
Toilet
Sandpit
Balancing beam
ROURKELA
Pocket park along public amenity

The play area, clustered with a public toilet complex near vulnerable settlements, has been created as a multi-functional space for young children and women as a daily used interface space for the community.

Streets with play areas as public spaces

1. Family-friendly recreation space at Poovath Street, Kochi
2. Child friendly pocket park at NMT corridor, Jabalpur
3. Unity park at New Minister’s Hill, Kohima
4. Street improvement along Sensory Park, Rourkela
5. Street improvement along Netaji Subhash Park, Rourkela
6. Footpath improvement with pause points at Scheme 78 roads, Indore
7. Refurbishment of street infrastructure and junction improvement at Gandhi Square, Kochi
8. PHQ junction improvement, Kohima
9. Public plaza at Hudson circle, Bengaluru

These are selected projects implemented by cities during the NNC Phase 2 (January 2022 to December 2023)
**KOCHI**

Doorstep play space along street

The community-driven reclamation, with support of the Ward Councillor, of an abandoned streetside space to create door-step play opportunities has increased the footfall of the residents, especially women and enhanced outdoor time spent by young children and caregivers of the neighbourhood.

![Family-friendly recreation space at Poovath Street](image)

**JABALPUR**

Play and pause point along NMT corridor

Pocket parks are being inserted along the popular pedestrianized walkway implemented under Smart Cities Mission. This acts as a pause point for pedestrians and a play area for young children using the corridor.

![Child friendly pocket park at NMT corridor](image)

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<td>Wooden log seating</td>
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**NOTES**

*NMT corridor – Non-motorized transport corridor*
The local community created a pocket park by reorganizing parking along the access to an important religious space to transform a residual space into a waiting and play area. This has evolved into a community anchor while also serving as a public space for young children and families visiting the area.

**KOHIMA**

**Reclaiming residual space for play**

The shaded, walkable footpath development with seating spaces at regular intervals has provided easy access to the Sensory Park for young children and caregivers and led to an increased safety and convenience for all pedestrians using the street.

**ROURKELA**

**Improving access to sensory park**

The shaded, walkable footpath development with seating spaces at regular intervals has provided easy access to the Sensory Park for young children and caregivers and led to an increased safety and convenience for all pedestrians using the street.
ROURKELA

Footpath improvement with pause points

The city improved access to one of the major parks in the city by providing pedestrian infrastructure, with continuous shaded walkways, clusters of seating areas, and play opportunities for children, away from the traffic movement. This has led to an attractive public space for young children and families.

*BEFORE*

*AFTER*

INDORE

People-oriented street with playful elements

One of the major shopping streets in the city was reimagined as a people-oriented street with shaded seating spaces, safe walkways, playful elements such as grass mounds, lighting and signage. This street has also emerged as a favorite morning walk destination for the local community.

*BEFORE*

*AFTER*
KOCHI
Reimagining iconic junction with road safety
The city incorporated safe pedestrian infrastructure such as refuge islands and crossings along the iconic Gandhi Square connecting important public spaces in the city. The city also conducts traffic awareness campaigns to enhance road safety practices among the users.

PHQ junction improvement
The city experimented with incorporating road safety measures such as compacting the junction, demarcating pedestrian crossings, creating refuge spaces for pedestrians, and organizing other activities to ensure a safe experience for pedestrians and other users. Considering the success of the experiment, the city is currently in the process of implementing it as a permanent design.

BEFORE
AFTER
The city created a public plaza by reclaiming space along a busy traffic intersection with play opportunities and shaded seating clusters. This has provided a safe waiting space for people along the entry to iconic Cubbon park and adjacent bus stops.

These are selected projects implemented by cities during the NNC Phase 2 (January 2022 to December 2023):

1. Anganwadi and park at Sanskriti Nagar, Indore
2. Model Anganwadi at Baganti Colony, Rourkela
3. Play space at Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre at Ranjhi, Jalalpur
4. Play spaces at anganwadis, Kochi
5. Child-friendly waiting space at Kaga Hospital, Kohima
6. BBMP Maternity home at Wilson Garden, Bengaluru
7. Science park at Govt. Lower Primary Practicing School, Hanamkonda, Warangal
8. Play and waiting area at H Siddaiah Rd. Referral hospital, Bengaluru
9. Play and waiting area at Dasappa Maternity Home, Bengaluru
10. Young children-friendly amenities at 30 anganwadis, Bengaluru
11. Primary health centre at Tilkanagar, Rourkela
12. Creche at Rourkela Municipal Corporation Office, Rourkela
13. Creche at 2 locations – MS building and KPSC office, Bengaluru
14. Retrofitting of anganwadis with play and amenities, Vadodara

*ECD facilities – Early childhood development facilities such as anganwadis, public health centres, nutrition rehabilitation centres, creches etc.

These are selected projects implemented by cities during the NNC Phase 2 (January 2022 to December 2022)
INDORE
Flood prone area to community public space

An open space at the center of the community, which was flood prone has been revitalized through a nature-based approach and children-oriented public space. This has resulted in reduced flooding and has become an extended play space for Anganwadi children and an outdoor space for the community.

ROURKELA
Model Anganwadis in vulnerable neighbourhoods

Rourkela is developing model anganwadis with outdoor play areas, kitchen gardens and Mamata griha (nursing centers). City-wide mapping was undertaken to compare locations of slums and coverage of anganwadis and under-served areas were identified to plan such interventions across 120 locations in the city by leveraging District Mineral Funds. The city is also incorporating multi-lingual curriculum suitable for local communities.
JABALPUR
Outdoor play space at health centre

The Nutrition Rehabilitation centre has been retrofitted with caregiving amenities and a play area on the adjoining terrace, to provide a much-needed relief space for both visiting young children and their caregivers.

KOCHI
Outdoor play ‘Aangans’ in anganwadis

Carving out spaces for outdoor play spaces in anganwadis by using residual spaces within the premises or in the immediate surroundings. This has benefitted over 100 young children, enhancing their time spent in outdoor play. The city is scaling up the initiative across 29 anganwadis.
KOHIMA
Better hospital experience for children

The city incorporated waiting spaces, play opportunities and amenities along children-oriented areas in the city hospital. The interventions in the courtyard provide much-needed relief open space along the children ward and helps to reduce the stressful experiences of the hospitalized or visiting children.

Child-friendly waiting space at Naga Hospital

Photo by: Sudipto Barua, WRI India

BENGALURU
Playful waiting experience at maternity home

The transformation of the spaces around the maternity home was undertaken in consultation with the visitors, to ease their experience while using the premises. Comfortable waiting spaces with adjoining play spaces, and amenities such as drinking water points and toilets were added. The city is replicating such interventions across multiple health care facilities in the city.

Playful waiting experience at maternity home

Photo by: Suhani Gupta, WRI India

Photo by: Directorate of Urban Land Transport

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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WARANGAL
Science park near school cluster

The science park has enabled the integration of outdoor play and learning opportunities for school children. Various science experiment models were installed along with sensory play opportunities focusing on young children were added. The city is scaling up such outdoor play areas in 34 primary schools.

BENGALURU
Retrofitting healthcare facilities with playful waiting spaces

The hospital lacked waiting spaces and available spaces were dark and uncomfortable. Pregnant women visiting the premise expressed need for airy, comfortable waiting spaces through interviews. The city reclaimed vacant spaces at the hospital premises to add multi-height seating spaces for all visitors, overlooking play pockets for young children.

86

235 sqm

Play and waiting area at H Siddaiah Rd. Referral hospital

Photo by: Suhani Gupta, WRI India
BENGALURU
Reclaiming space for people at ECD services

The central area in the public facility with a maternity home and offices was revamped to include shaded seating spaces and play area for all visitors including children and caregivers. This has also evolved into a public space for the surrounding community.

Play and waiting area at Dasappa maternity home

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The revamping of the primary school premises with play and 30 anganwadis with basic amenities such as child-height wash basins, drinking water points, ramps with safe railing and play areas has encouraged independent usage by children and increased time spent in outdoor play for young children.

Anganwadis with age-specific amenities

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Young children-friendly amenities at 30 anganwadis

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ROURKELA
Caregiving amenities in public buildings

Rourkela is incorporating amenities to support caregivers such as lactation pods in public health centres and incorporated daycare creche facilities at Rourkela Municipal Corporation office for the convenience of their staff.

BENGALURU
Integrating caregiving amenities in public buildings

The integration of daycare centres with a safe, playful environment for young children in public office buildings has enhanced convenience and sense of security among employees who are working parents.
VADODARA
Revamping anganwadis for play

The retrofitting of 30 anganwadis with basic amenities and outdoor play area in 5 anganwadis has led to enhanced convenience for anganwadi teachers and children. This has resulted in increased enrolment in the anganwadis.

These are selected projects implemented by cities during the NNC Phase 2 (January 2022 to December 2023)

1. Neighbourhood park at Srinagar Colony, Warangal
2. Sensory park at Phoolbari junction, Kohima
3. Neighbourhood park at Subhash Nagar, Warangal
4. Neighbourhood park at Gundu Bavi, Kareemabad, Warangal
5. Putazhi tiny park at Shantinagar, Bengaluru
6. Pocket park at Manjalpur, Vadodara
7. Toddler play area at Gandhi Nagar Park, Kakinada
8. All ages park at Saraswati Garden, Jabalpur
9. Sensory play area at Pachpedi Park, Jabalpur
10. Sensory Park at RSP Chowk, Rourkela
11. Nature-based play area at Civic center, Jabalpur
12. Neighbourhood park & Fitness park at Chend colony, Rourkela

Young children-friendly parks and open spaces
WARANGAL
Sensory play at neighbourhood park

The neighbourhood park provides variety of experiences such as natural and sensory play elements, with textured enclosures, grass mound tunnel, play equipment and seating, and plantation of native species implemented through city’s greening initiative, supported by State Greening fund.

0-1 yr 2-3 yr 4-5 yr Other

- Soft surface: grass
- Toddler play equipment
- Sandpit
- Sensory wall
- Permeable paving
- Stone boulder and wooden log seating
- Lighting
- Acoustic play

KOHIMA
Rooftop sensory park

The land-starved city strategically converted the rooftop space of a public toilet complex to create a sensory park with variety of play opportunities and community gathering, close to the high footfall area of the city centre.

0-1 yr 2-3 yr 4-5 yr Other

- Porous boundary
- Toddler play equipment
- Sandpit
- Sensory garden
- Gazebo with seating
- Bathroom stall
- Local heritage elements
- Permeable paving
Debris heaps to grass mound play

The neighbourhood park was reclaimed by converting the heaps of debris dumping into grass mounds for children to climb, along with play opportunities such as sand pit, xylophone and play equipment.

Reclaiming underused spaces for play

A vacant plot in the neighbourhood was reclaimed to develop a park with age-specific play opportunities for young children and space for community activities, walking track and amenities.
BENGALuru

Door-step play in dense housing

The pocket park offers diverse play opportunities for young children in dense government housing quarters. It has enabled caregivers to spend more time outdoors with their children, fostering a sense of belonging within the community.

Pocket at Puttaani (tiny) park at Shanti Nagar

- Acoustic play
- Sand pit
- Herb plantation
- Grass mound with tunnel

0-1 yr 2-3 yr 4-5 yr Other

- Herb garden
- Toddler play equipment
- Sandpit
- Grass mound
- Colorful wall mural
- Multi-height seating
- Ramps

Soft surface: grass

PHOTO BY: Suhani Gupta, WRI India

VADODARA

Pocket park with herb plantation

The pocket park has provided door-step play opportunities, with exposure to native medicinal plants in the neighborhood leading to an increased footfall of young children and their caregivers, and enhanced social interaction between caregivers.

Pocket park at Manjalpur

- Herb garden
- Toddler play equipment
- Sandpit
- Multi-height seating
- Porous boundary

PHOTO BY: Vadodara Smart City Development Limited

PHOTO BY: Vadodara Smart City Development Limited
KAKINADA
Creating age-appropriate play

The neighbourhood park was equipped with age-specific play opportunities for each age group, such as 0-3 year, 3-5 year and above, to increase time spent outdoors by families.

JABALPUR
Neighbourhood park for all ages

The neighbourhood park retrofitted with age-appropriate play opportunities is now an inclusive space for all and has enabled young children and caregivers to spend time outdoors together. The community is actively taking charge of the upkeep and maintenance of the park.
Jabalpur
Sensory play area in park
The city retrofitted the existing neighbourhood park with sensory play elements and multi-heighted seating spaces. The maintenance of the park is being undertaken by community members living adjoining the park. This has increased the footfall and the time spent by young children outdoors.

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Rourkela
City-Level sensory park
The city-level park has become a popular landmark providing multi-sensory and stimulating play experiences for young children and visitors. This also benefits people from vulnerable settlements located along the site.

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Sensory play area at Pachpedi Park

Sensory play area at RSP Chowk

Photo by: Kshitija Pendharkar, WRI India

Photo by: Rourkela Smart City Limited

Photo by: Rourkela Smart City Limited
The city incorporated age-specific play opportunities in a city-level park with high footfall. This includes play area with wooden play elements such as a balancing beam, obstacle course, wooden logs and grass mounds. This has resulted in increased time spent by families with young children.

The city retrofitted existing neighbourhood parks with play and recreational opportunities for young children. The city has partnered with women self-help groups to manage and maintain the parks. This has led to women feeling safe and has enhanced the time they spend with their children outdoors.

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Under NNC, over 3000+ officials have been trained in creating young children and caregiver-friendly neighbourhoods in cities through various capacity-building sessions conducted over two years in 10 cities.

Additionally, city officials participating in the challenge received capacity-building opportunities through exposure visits, online webinars, workshops, curated courses such as the Urban 95 Academy at LSE, and “Applying Behavioral Science for Early Childhood Development” at INSEAD. These sessions resulted in city officials undergoing training for over 500+ hours.

WRI India team members were concurrently trained through various trainings around social and behavioral change, Urban95 data framework and exposure visits to support city teams on the ground.
Urban 95 Academy

The Urban95 Academy is an executive education programme for municipal leaders worldwide who want to learn how to make their cities more young children and caregiver friendly. It is a joint collaboration between the Van Leer Foundation and the London School of Economics and Political Science building on their experience in executive education.

The programme features six weeks of online course content as well as weekly live virtual sessions. The selected cities are invited to attend a sponsored in-person training week at LSE in London.

Indore and Kakinada participated in the online course. Kolkata and Rourkela at Urban95 Academy Residence week Cohort 2, October 2022.

Jabalpur, Warangal and Vadodara participated in the online course. Bengaluru, Warangal and Rourkela at Urban95 Academy Residence week Cohort 4, October 2023.

ABC for ECD at INSEAD

Applying Behavioural Science for Early Childhood Development by INSEAD, Save the Children’s CUBIC and BVA Nudge Unit supported by Van Leer Foundation is to help city leaders and officials to adapt and apply behavioural science towards encouraging and sustaining positive behaviours for young children and caregiver-oriented development. The executive education course consisted of a week-long residency programme, followed by 6 months of virtual training and guidance for selected teams.

Jabalpur to attend residency week at INSEAD Singapore, February 2024.
Exposure visits

Copenhagen, a child-friendly city leader, hosted a study tour supported by Van Leer Foundation and Superpool. The trip focused on enabling exposure to the participating cities on ways to develop public spaces and services for young children and their caregivers.

Rotterdam’s Green Blue Schoolyards program, supported by the Van Leer Foundation, The Institute for Nature Education and Sustainability, and Frisse Blikken, tackles child-friendliness and climate adaptation by incorporating nature into schoolyards. The exposure visit highlighted how schools transformed outdoor spaces into natural play areas for outdoor educational projects and community use.

Peer Workshops

Officials from 10 NNC cities came together every year for Peer Learning workshops, a platform for constructive dialogue among cities, experts, and stakeholders to exchange ideas.

The 1st Peer Learning Workshop in Pune, an Urban95 lighthouse city, enabled cities to learn from exposure visits to the young children and family-friendly public space projects in Pune and collaboratively devise strategies to scale and sustain child and family-friendly neighborhoods.

The 2nd Peer Learning Workshop, hosted in Rourkela, focused on enhancing city teams’ capacity in applying the social behavior change lens to ongoing projects. The 10 cities showcased their work and also visited young children and family-friendly public space projects, especially in vulnerable settlements, implemented under NNC.
All the city level government and non-government stakeholders came together to discuss strategies for scaling young children and caregiver friendly public spaces. The workshops curated various activities for the stakeholders to better understand each other’s roles along with a co-creation exercise that helped them identify key strategies for scale up and build their capacity towards creating young children oriented public spaces.

**Stakeholders collaborating on long-term vision of the city**

Street and Public space design toolkits shared with the city stakeholders

Capacity building session towards design of streets, public spaces and ECD facilities

Hands-on exercise for creation of public spaces

**Urban95 Experience Sharing: NNC Webinar Series**

- Creating inclusive play spaces for young children and families in vulnerable communities by Rourkela and Indore
- Developing a network of open spaces with age-appropriate play opportunities across the city by Jabalpur and Warangal
- Beyond Physical Transformation: What it Takes to Make a City Young Children-Friendly
- Reimagining early childhood development facilities as crucial public spaces by Bengaluru, Kochi and Vadodara

**Webinars**

Various webinar series and online workshops have enabled in enhancing the capacities through sessions by ECD experts and global Urban95 peer cities and learning exchanges on various overarching thematic areas. This has helped agencies to take an informed approach towards implementation of projects, exchanging ideas.

Experience sharing webinars

- Lessons from India’s Nurturing Neighbourhood Challenge scaling up model and implementation
- Copenhagen Urban95 Study Tour: Experience-Sharing by CEOs of Rourkela, Jabalpur, and Indore
Following section is to recognize and appreciate efforts of all agencies and experts during NNC Phase 2.
We would like to thank all the Champions of the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge across cities. Your leadership and sincere efforts have played a vital role in shaping neighbourhoods for young children and their caregivers.

We wish to take this opportunity to appreciate all the Commissioners, Joint and Deputy commissioners, CEOs, other Nodal agency heads, Nodal officers, all Government and Semi-Government departments and agencies and their entire teams, District Collectors, Mayors, Department of Women and Child Development, Garden departments, Health departments, Traffic departments, Horticulture departments, Education departments, Frontline workers, Self-help groups, Residents Welfare Associations, NGOs, Civic groups, Elected Representatives, Ward Councilors, Individual experts, Contractors and Consultants, Interns, Citizens especially Children and their Caregivers for taking initiatives, giving constructive feedback to review and improve the projects, spreading the word regarding young children-friendly spaces and amenities, and for getting involved at every stage to achieve infant, toddler, caregiver-friendly spaces and laying a clear path to scale up this approach across the country.

Champions of Nurturing Neighbourhoods

Bengaluru

K. Srinivas, IAS
Former MD, Bengaluru Smart City Ltd.

Soumya Kumara N. KAS, IAS
MD, Bengaluru Smart City Ltd.

Bassavraj R. Kabadle
Chief Engineer, Bengaluru Smart City Ltd.

V Manjula, IAS
Former Commissioner, Director of Urban Land Transport

Monica Kashkari
Special Officer, Directorate of Urban Land Transport

Ann Jacob
Nodal Officer, Senior Urban Planner, Director of Urban Land Transport

S. Bharati, IAS
MD, Hubballi-Dharwad Bus Rapid Transport System

Champions of Nurturing Neighbourhoods

Bengaluru and Hubballi-Dharwad

Indore

Harshika Singh, IAS
Former Commissioner, Indore Municipal Corporation

Pratibha Pal, IAS
Former CEO, Indore Municipal Corporation

Rahet Gupta, IAS
APMCL, Indore Smart City Limited

Dhiren Singh, IAS
Former Commissioner, Indore Municipal Corporation

Roopal Chopra
Nodal Officer, Assistant Planner, Indore Smart City Development Limited

V Manjula, IAS
Former Commissioner, Director of Urban Land Transport

Monica Kashkari
Special Officer, Directorate of Urban Land Transport

Ann Jacob
Nodal Officer, Senior Urban Planner, Director of Urban Land Transport

S. Bharathi, IAS
MD, Hubballi-Dharwad Bus Rapid Transport System

Pratyashri Honmar
Nodal Officer, Senior Urban Planner, Directorate of Urban Land Transport

Jabalpur

Nidhi Rajput, IAS
Former CEO, Jabalpur Smart City Limited

C P Gohal, IAS
Former CEO, Jabalpur Smart City Limited

Prateek Yadav, IAS
Municipal Commissioner, Jabalpur Municipal Corporation

Swapan Wadekhode, IAS
Commissioner, Jabalpur Municipal Corporation

Sambhav Ayachi
Nodal Officer, Assistant Commissioner, Jabalpur Municipal Corporation

Champions of Nurturing Neighbourhoods
Champions of Nurturing Neighbourhoods

Kochi

T. Lanusenla
Administrator, Kohima Municipal Council

Swapnil Dinkar Pundkar, IAS
Former Municipal Commissioner, Kakinada Municipal Corporation

K. Ramesh
Former Municipal Commissioner, Kakinada Municipal Corporation

Nasrul Ahmad
Head Office, Infrastructure and Architect, Kohima Smart City Corporation Ltd.

Kohima

Adv. M. Anilkumar
Mayor, Kochi Municipal Corporation

Shanavas S, IAS
Former CEO, Cochin Smart Mission Ltd.

Er. K. Theunuo
CEO, Kohima Smart City Development Ltd and Former Engineer in Chief, Nagaland Public Works Department

Kakinada

Kokho S., IAS
Former CEO, Vadodara Municipal Corporation

Shaji V. Nair, IAS
CEO, Cochin Smart Mission Ltd.

Aswathy Vinod
Head Office, Manager, Public Relations, Cochin Smart Mission Ltd.

Kochi

Dibyajyoti Parida, IAS
Former CEO, Rourkela Smart City Ltd.

Praveena P. IAS
Former Municipal Commissioner, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation and CEO, Greater Warangal Smart City Corporation Ltd.

Gunde Sultharani
Mayor, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Dilip Rana, IAS
Municipal Commissioner, Vadodara Municipal Corporation

K. Ramesh
Former Municipal Commissioner, Kakinada Municipal Corporation

Dr. Subhanbaker Mohapatra, IAS
CEO, Rourkela Smart City Ltd and Former Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation

Vadodara

Shalu Agarwal, IAS
Former Municipal Commissioner, Vadodara Municipal Corporation

S. K. Patel, GAS
CEO, Vadodara Smart City Corporation

Dr. Subhanbaker Mohapatra, IAS
CEO, Rourkela Smart City Ltd and Former Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation

Warangal

Praveena P. IAS
Former Municipal Commissioner, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation and CEO, Greater Warangal Smart City Corporation Ltd.

Arpith Sagar, IAS
Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Vadodara Municipal Corporation

Gundu Sudharani
Mayor, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Srinivas Rao
Former Nodal Officer, Former Chief Horticulture Officer, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Balidi Ramesh
Nodal Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

Rizwan Basha Shaik, IAS
Municipal Commissioner, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation and CEO, Greater Warangal Smart City Corporation Ltd.

Srinivas Rao
Former Nodal Officer, Former Chief Horticulture Officer, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation

H. J. Prajapati, GAS
CEO, Vadodara Smart City Development Limited and Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Vadodara Municipal Corporation

Asitik Rath
Nodal Officer, Architect, Shaneep Smart City Ltd.
### Champions of Nurturing Neighbourhoods

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Experts and Panelists in our offline Peer Workshops: Phase II

- Vikram Kumar, IAS, Municipal Commissioner, Pune Municipal Corporation
- Mukesh Pujari, Superintendent Engineer, Udaipur Municipal Corporation
- Uttara Bharath Kumar, Senior Program Officer at Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs and Associate at the Department of Health, Behavior and Society
- Parshu Sharma, Senior Fellow, WRI India
- Sara Candinacci, Associate Director, International development, ARUP
- Ranjit Gadge, Program Director, Pune, Pune
- Uttara Bharath Kumar, Program Manager, CCC-I
- Ankita Kumar, Program Manager, CCC-I

Sustaining young children-oriented development in cities by fostering positive behavioral changes, Pune, 2022

- Sandhya Nagarkar, Child Development Project Officer, Hadapsar
- Priya Narayanan, Program Manager, Urban Development, WRI India
- Austin Davis, Head, Skill Development Lab (Gandhinagar Campus), National Institute of Design (NID)
- Selva Gurudaran, Architect and Partner at Superpool Ltd.
- Dr. Soumya Raj TJ, Nodal Officer, District Mental Health Programme, Ernakulam
- Padmavathi Sashidhar, Regional Director, Medical and Health Services, Kakinada
- Dr. B. Laxminarayana, MBBS, DCH-Pediatrician, Warangal
- Dr. Prasanta Kumar Patra, MDD, Paediatrics, Rourkela Government Hospital
- Ashwini Godse, ECD expert, Program Director, Shared for Kids & Founder, Learning Planet

Experts and Panelists in our offline City Level Workshops: Phase II

- Monica Kashkari, Special Officer, Directorate of Urban Land Transport and CEO, Karnataka Non-Motorized Transit Authority
- Rishav Gupta, IAS, Former CEO, Indore Smart City Limited
- Nidhi Singh Rajput, Former CEO, Jabalpur Smart City Limited
- Sambhav Ayachi, Assistant Commissioner, Jabalpur Municipal Corporation
- Dr. Subhankar Mohapatra, IAS, Former Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation and Former CEO, Rourkela Smart City Limited
- Victoria Chavez Bartiga, Urban95 Expert, Van Leer Foundation

Lessons from India’s Nurturing Neighbourhood Challenge scaling up model and implementation 2022

- Dr. Arunava Dasgupta, President, IIDI and Professor, Urban Design, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
- Uttara Bharath Kumar, Senior Program Officer at Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs and Associate at the Department of Health, Behavior and Society
- Dr. Venita Kaul, Professor Emerita and Founder Director of Center for Early Childhood Education and Development, Ambedkar University
- Kapra Hansdah, Durgapur One Anganwadi teacher, Rourkela

Webinar on Copenhagen Urban95 Study Tour: Experience-Sharing by CEOs of Rourkela, Jabalpur, and Indore

- Dr. Subhankar Mohapatra, IAS, Former Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation and Former CEO, Rourkela Smart City Limited
- Dr. Shubhankar Mehta, IAS, Former CEO, Indore Smart City Limited
- Nidhi Singh Rajput, Former CEO, Jabalpur Smart City Limited
- Victoria Chavez Bartiga, Urban95 Expert, Van Leer Foundation

How 10 Indian cities are reimagining neighbourhoods for young children and caregivers, 2022

- Dr. Prasanta Kumar Patra, MDD, Paediatrics, Rourkela Government Hospital
- Jyoti Gill, Chairsman, IIA Vadodara and Founder - J. G. Gill Architects
- Kapra Hansdah, Durgapur One Anganwadi teacher, Rourkela
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- Dr. Subhankar Mohapatra, IAS, Former Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation and Former CEO, Rourkela Smart City Limited
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Creating inclusive play spaces for young children and families in vulnerable communities

Beyond physical infrastructure: What does it take to make a city young children and caregiver friendly?

- Dr. Subhankar Mohapatra, IAS, Former Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation, Former CEO, Rourkela Smart City Limited
- Ronit Kumar, Deputy Commissioner, Raurekala Municipal Corporation
- Divyenk Singh, IAS, CEO, Indore Smart City Development Limited and Additional Commissioner, Indore Municipal Corporation
- Reopal Chopra, Assistant Planner, Indore Smart City Development Limited
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- Parsh North, CEO and Co-founder at Dev Insights Pvt. Ltd.
- Ishwar Nath, Resident of Prem Nagar Slum
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- Prof. Arunara Desgrupa, President, IUDI and Professor, Urban Design, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
- Harshad Abhyankar, Director, Save Pune Traffic Movement
- Srinivas Aalaelli, Fellow, Integrated Transport and Road Safety, WRI India
- Dr. Bhairavi Joshi, Director, BYCS India Foundation
- Kirti Zala, Project Head, aProCh
- Peter Rengma, Ward Chairman of Forest Colony, Kohima
- T.K. Ashraf, Ward Councilor & Standing Committee Chairman (Health), Kochi Municipal Corporation
- Jyostna Kisan, Secretary, Ruputola Slum Dwellers Association, Rourkela
- Ganesh Bharate, Resident of Sanskriti Nagar, Indore

Developing a network of open spaces with age-appropriate play opportunities across the city

- Gundo Sudhacar, Mayor, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation
- P. Pravinya, IAS, Collector, Warangal District Administration
- Mr. Rizwan Bashah Shafi, IAS, Municipal Commissioner, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation
- Swapnil Wankhede, IAS, Former Municipal Commissioner, Jabalpur Municipal Corporation
- C. P. Gohal, Former CEO, Jabalpur Smart City Limited
- Samblav Ayachi, Assistant Commissioner, Jabalpur Municipal Corporation
- Srinivas Rao, Former Chief Horticulture Officer, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation
- Argil Na, Assistant Urban Planner, Jabalpur Smart City Limited

Reimagining early childhood development facilities as crucial public spaces

- Priyadarshini Mohanty, Early Childhood Development Specialist Women & Child Development Department, Government of Odisha
- Aswathy Vinod, Senior Manager, Projects, Cochin Smart Mission Limited
- Indu V S, Chief Development Project Officer, ICDS, Kochi Urban 2
- Kusala kumari, Anganwadi teacher, Anganwadi 1, Fort Kochi
- Basavaraj R. Kabade, Chief Engineer, Bengaluru Smart City Limited
- Ann Jacob, Senior Urban Planner, Directorate of Urban Land Transport
- Dr. Cauvery, Medical officer, Wilson garden Maternity Home, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
- Ambika Jayavel, Child Development Project Officer, West Zone, ICDS, Vadodara Municipal Corporation
- Pratikkshoben Bariya, Anganwadi teacher, Subhanpura 1, ICDS, Vadodara Municipal Corporation

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