

The Story of Wadarwadi

Creating a Garbage-Free Slum

Wadarwadi is a densely populated slum under Shivajinagar ward, with high municipal solid waste (MSW) generation per person and low levels of waste collection on a daily basis. Waste dumps have adverse impacts on the environment and public health problems.



The Problem



- Only 18% level of collection.



- 3 Chronic Spots



- No Source Segregation



About The Project

Handling waste was a critical concern for PMC. With a large population staying at Wadarwadi, incorporating the right waste management practices was a challenge. To address this concern, 'Garbage-Free Wadarwadi', a pilot project commemorating the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, was started on 15th August 2022 on the occasion of the 75th year of Independence

Collaboration between

Pune Municipal
Corporation
(PMC)

+ Pune Platform for
Collaborative Response
(PPCR)

+ Social Lab
Environmental
Solutions

*Pune's leading organization
supported by leading industrialists
and business people.*

Main objectives of the project:

- 100% door-to-door collection,
- Increasing segregation at source,
- Capacity building
- Removal of chronic garbage spots.

Baseline Study

To understand the problem and current SWM system, a Baseline Assessment of Wadarwadi was conducted. The baseline analysis helped to understand what actions are needed to improve the situation.

There were 12 waste pickers working in Wadarwadi area. On a daily basis they were collecting waste from an Average of 653 households from a total of 3630 households in Wadarwadi.

- There was less than 20% of the collection level.
- There was no actual source segregation of waste
- 3 Chronic spots were identified

Addressing The Problems

To address the identified problems, Social Lab and PMC adopted the “Information Education and Communication (IEC)” approach to spread awareness and develop capacity among the residents of Wadarwadi locality about sustainable waste management practices. It included waste classification, awareness about hazards associated with improper waste disposal practices, and waste segregation techniques conveyed through several citizen engagement activities



The project interventions continued over a period of 3 months. We monitored 100% of the households daily for waste segregation, 117 segregation demos were completed, 3000+ segregation stickers were distributed and waste collection routes were optimized.

Results

Households covered for waste collection

82%

Increase in No. of houses for waste collection from 653 to

1,697

Source segregation increased to

55%

Extra income generated for eleven Waste pickers

53,845

Decrease in the accumulation of waste at chronic spots

65%

Garbage collection from chronic spots reduced from 3 trucks per day to

1 Truck/day



The project ended on 15th November 2022, however it was heartening to see the citizens continue to take efforts to manage waste responsibly in the right manner. As they could see visible cleanliness in the locality, they will sustain these efforts. The project resulted in making waste management easier and creating a safer and healthier environment in Wadarwadi. We believe this same model can be scaled up and replicated in other settlements to achieve similar results.



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