

Plan

Participatory Learning & Action Network

Annual Report 2020-21



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Introduction

PLAN (Participatory Learning and Action Network Foundation) envisions to bridge the gaps in design education through industry connect by educating, motivating and promoting individuals & organisations having keen interest to expand their focus on design thinking. Through hardware and software products, PLAN has been able to create various platforms of convergence for governments, experts, NGOs, academia and citizens for collectively solving the problem of solid waste management in Indian cities.

PLAN has been able to deliver design solutions through its programs like '**Hilldaari**' (Circular Waste Management Program) & **Tree Plantation Program**. These aim to drive collective change by re-imagining & developing inclusive, contextualised and resilient models for creating circular economies & sustainable waste management systems in ecologically sensitive hill and beach cities of India.

The various locations under the umbrella of PLAN include Mussoorie, Dalhousie, Nainital, Ponda, Mahabaleshwar and Munnar.

Preface

The global pandemic has profoundly affected our society, leading to the closure and reopening of cities as authorities strive to contain the spread of the virus. While the healthcare industry grapples with mounting pressure during these challenging times, another sector also faced significant struggles i.e. waste management. In addition to the waste generated by hospitals, there is a substantial volume of biomedical waste (originating from both home and institutional quarantine centres) that necessitates proper disposal and processing.

As of mid-year, the number of individuals under quarantine in India has reached 31.6 lakhs. This unnatural surge in pressure exposed waste workers to considerable risk. With 130 districts in India designated as COVID-19 red zones, (each containing multiple high-risk containment zones) all waste originating from these areas was classified as domestic biomedical waste, creating high-risk hotspots for potential infections. Consequently, despite the crucial role and responsibilities of waste workers, their safety was compromised.

In light of this, and considering Uttarakhand's three red zones comprising multiple containment zones, Hilldaari redirected its efforts towards assisting cities in surviving the pandemic through renewed objectives for effective waste management. These include:



Professionalizing waste workers during the COVID-19 crisis to provide comprehensive social security.



Establishing a four-part segregation and collection system to facilitate the proper disposal of domestic biomedical waste.



Establishing efficient communication channels during the pandemic to foster behavioural change and maintain the morale of waste workers and citizens alike.

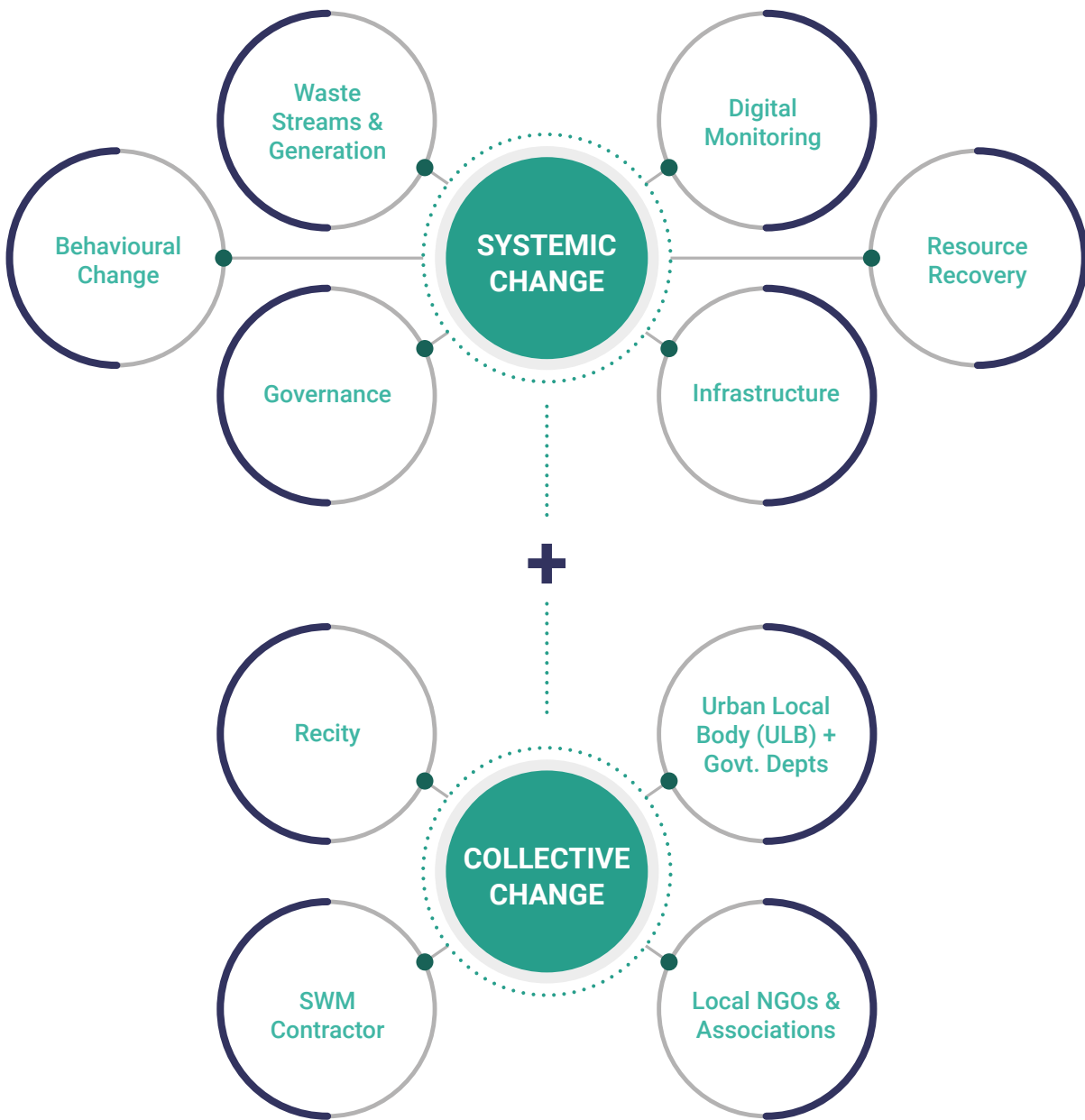
At PLAN, we not only focus on preventive measures for waste management but also strategise for a post-COVID world by adopting a global approach. We realigned our goals to develop a waste management strategy that caters to the needs of the post-pandemic era.

Methodology & Approach

PLAN uses a two-pronged approach for its programs

Systemic Change

Collective Change





Executive Summary

With the onset of country wide lockdown and the tourism industry in all Hilldaari cities coming to a halt, PLAN took measures to not only maintain the waste management services in the city but also initiated efforts to mitigate unique waste problems arising out of the pandemic. One of the most crucial measures was the introduction of **4-part segregation**. Multiple workshops for waste workers & IEC activities for citizens were conducted across all the three Hilldaari locations. Furthermore, a helping hand in the form of food and sanitation kits were distributed to the waste workers in Mussoorie to support them during such dire times as many of them becoming sole earning members of their families.

Even though the shops and the hotels were closed, the team made sure that the household units received regular collection. Special equipment and mechanisms such as gloves, sacs and direct storage at hospital bins for collecting the domestic biomedical waste were introduced to avoid any dangers of infection.

Visible change activities in the form of clean-up drives in Mussoorie and Nainital and Chamba art wall painting at Dalhousie honouring waste workers as COVID warriors have been the biggest highlights during the unlock phase of the year. This year also witnessed 2 locations being added under the Hilldaari program i.e. Mahabaleshwar situated in Maharashtra and Munnar situated in Kerala.

Results And Impact: Hilldaari (April 2020 – March 2021)

Diverted waste from landfills

Cities	Cumulative Waste Diverted (MT)	Dry Waste Diverted (MT)	Wet Waste Processed (MT)
Mussoorie	3162.4	109.14	2958.4
Dalhousie	5.5	5	0.5
Nainital	14.63	2	11.6
Ponda	1018	24	0
Mahabaleshwar	3.06	3.006	0
Total (MT)	4204	143	2971

Clean-up Drives



Clean-up Drive in Mussoorie

Cities	No. of Clean-up drives	Waste Collected from the Drives
Mussoorie	79	12.7
Dalhousie	1	0.065
Nainital	67	9.632
Ponda	2	0.62
Mahabaleshwar	2	0.2
Total (MT)	151	23

PU's were surveyed for tech implementation across the 5 cities

Cities	Property Units Surveyed
Mussoorie	14020
Dalhousie	0
Nainital	2127
Ponda	1500
Mahabaleshwar	0
Total	17647

Waste Workers Professionalised



Opening of bank account for the SHG (left) & training session for waste workers (right) in Mussoorie

Cities	Mussoorie	Dalhousie	Nainital	Ponda	Mahabaleshwar	Total
Upskilled Training Sessions Conducted	35	4	10	4	4	57
Occupational IDs	34	9	26	0	0	69
Health Camps	1	0	0	0	1	2
Safety Gears Distributed	210	5	99	0	0	314
Waste Workers Professionalised	160	20	80	N/A	N/A	260
Government Benefits Availed	51	0	0	0	0	51
	e-Shram	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Revenue generated for the ULB

Cities	Revenue
Mussoorie	873,367
Dalhousie	17,520
Nainital	1580
Ponda	732,107
Mahabaleshwar	0
Total	162,457

Number of Residents/ Students/ Tourist Engaged

Cities	No. of Residents/ Students/ Tourist Engaged
Mussoorie	106,075
Dalhousie	4520
Nainital	32,667
Ponda	16
Mahabaleshwar	40
Total	143,318

Visible Change



Upcycled playscape in Dalhousie (left) & Installed Litter Bins in Mussoorie (right)

Cities	Visible Change
Mussoorie	Litter Bins Wall Art
Dalhousie	Upcycled Playscape Wall Art
Nainital	N/A
Ponda	N/A
Mahabaleshwar	N/A

Results And Impact: Tree Plantation (April 2020 - March 2021)

Sapling Plantation Figures



Tree Plantation in Mussoorie

Cities	No. of Saplings Planted
Mussoorie	1500
Dalhousie	0
Nainital	0
Ponda	0
Mahabaleshwar	0
Total	1500

Plan

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