Community Driven & Managed Slum Well-being Programme in Agra City

Session on – ‘Impact of Urbanization on Public Health in India’
13th World Congress on Public Health, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
27 April, 2012, B: Aklilu Lema Hall (Millennium Hall), 1400-1530 hours

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*Formerly with UHRC
Agra City

• 3rd most populous City of the State of Uttar Pradesh
• 1.7 million population
• Known for
  • Tourism industry
  • Leather Goods
  • Handicrafts; Marbel
  • Metal, Electrical
• ↑ Slums/Informal settlements
Agra’s Urban Poor:
Struggle to Secure Essentials

• Information Gaps about Services/Entitlements
  – What are our Entitlements?
  – Whom & Where to Go?
  – What procedures to follow?

• Service Coverage Gaps
  – Unlisted slums not covered
  – Far few service points than required

• Community-Service Provider Linkage Gaps

• Weak Social Capital
Programme Development (2004-05)

- Listed and unlisted slum identification and plotting on City Map
  393 slums (215 listed and 178 unlisted)

- Slum Vulnerability Assessment
  183 slums (46%) identified as most vulnerable/needy

- Baseline Survey (2005) in 166 slums
  - 93% HHs no access to piped water supply
  - 3% infants initiated breastfeeding within one hour
  - 50% children below two years were underweight

- Planning meeting with all stakeholders
  - Govt. Depts., Municipal Bodies, NGOs
  - Development programme strategy to improve health and nutrition service reach/coverage

- Identified programme area slums-Community organizing & self-help as key strategies

*UHRC received Financial support from USAID India between 2004-September 2009*
Core Strategy

- Identification of 10-15 socially active women
- Formation of Women Groups (1: 3000 population)
- Building Groups Programme/Technical Capacity
  - Generate awareness and demand for services/entitlements/behaviours
  - Serve as a link with service providers
  - Generate & manage collective savings
- Building Groups’ organization capacity
- Networking groups into a Federation
## Number of Groups and Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Federation</th>
<th>Bhartiya</th>
<th>Parivartan</th>
<th>Chaetna</th>
<th>Vishal</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Slum cluster covered</td>
<td>Naraich</td>
<td>Ghadi Chandni</td>
<td>Tedi Bhagiya</td>
<td>Shahganj</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slums covered</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Covered</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>1,77,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Women groups</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Group Members</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formation Date</td>
<td>15.02.2008</td>
<td>15.10.2007</td>
<td>23.04.2010</td>
<td>22.01.2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity 1: Slum-level Awareness Generation & Behaviour Promotion

(Home visits, Community meetings, Rallies, Street plays, Conclaves, healthy mother and baby events)
Activity 2: Support Government Health Outreach Camps and Organizing Health Camps in left out slum clusters 
(in Partnership with Private Providers)
Activity#3. Collective Petitions to Civic Authorities

Use of legal tools: For - water, Outreach Nutrition Centre, Paving Roads, Drainage, And - Food Subsidy Card, ID, Address proof & Pension)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name of Federation</th>
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<th>Chaetna</th>
<th>Vishal</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Petitions submitted</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample of a Collective Petition

Petition from women’s group requesting water tap

Positive response of Civic Authority
Activity 3: Community-based Monitoring

(for monitoring population served, tracking immunization coverage, pregnancy care and planning)
**Activity 4: Collective Savings & Loans**

(for Health and related Emergency, Child Education, Starting a small business, purchasing food grains, Marriage, getting assets back from money lenders)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Federation</th>
<th>Bhartiya</th>
<th>Parivartan</th>
<th>Chetna</th>
<th>Vishal</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Collective Savings</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federations (Feb’12)</td>
<td>01,17,206</td>
<td>02,91,009</td>
<td>28,530</td>
<td>11,248</td>
<td>4,47,993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groups (’05-’12)</td>
<td>18,23,900</td>
<td>10,52,700</td>
<td>93,695</td>
<td>0434902</td>
<td>34,15,197</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>No. of Loans Given</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups</td>
<td>996</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>3235</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Activity 5: Slum-level Information and Resource Centre by 3 Federations

(to provide information on Services/Entitlements; How to Fill Application Form; Where and Whom to Submit and escorting the applicant, if needed)

Picture depicting inauguration of one of the Resource Centres
Activity 6: Children Groups

(to address social evils, use their energy constructively, play & build their self-confidence)
Programme Monitoring & Cost

0.03 USD per person per month

1 Part-time Project coordinator
1 Field coordinator

Grant to Federations
Programme Monitoring

UHRC Agra

Training, Monitoring & Supervision, problem solving

Linkage with Civic Authorities

4 Federations (Each has office bearers, 3 have bank account)

UHRC Delhi

50 women Groups; 49 slums
Scenes of Positive Change

2007

2011

2007

2011
Lessons/Implications

- Modest grants to Federations through UHRC with mentoring support from field monitoring person is helping sustain the program at modest costs, after end of funding cycle.
- The process is time consuming. Having implementing the approach/model in two cities (Agra and Indore), we find the Federation grantee (networked with community groups) model replicable at modest cost.
- Key factor for success - the approach has evolved organically through ongoing learning and re-learning.
- There are encouraging signs of the communities moving towards collective confidence and self-reliance.
- This is just an inspiring beginning. We have miles to go before we can rest.