



 CFAR

Water for Women: India

Improving the health, equality and wellbeing of communities in India by *mobilising, facilitating and replicating socially inclusive WASH initiatives in India's urban slums*

Access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential to health and wellbeing.

Water for Women is partnering with the Centre for Advocacy and Research (CFAR) and Research Triangle Institute Global India (RTI) to reach some of India's most at risk people with transformative WASH intervention programs, benefitting an estimated 112,000 people.

Gender equality and social inclusion are central to Water for Women. Actively involving all people within communities (women, men, marginalised groups, people with disabilities) ensures more equitable and inclusive processes, which lead to more effective and sustainable outcomes in WASH.

Water for Women is the Australian Government's flagship WASH program and will be delivered over five years from 2018 to 2022.

Partnering with

 Centre for
Advocacy and
Research

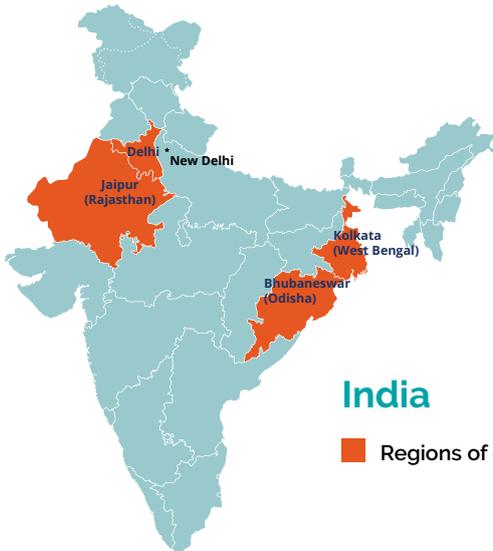
 RTI
INTERNATIONAL

Sanitation

Water

Hygiene

Benefitting an estimated
112,000
people



India

Regions of operation



CFAR

Mobilising, facilitating and replicating socially inclusive WASH initiatives in India's urban slums

The Australian Government is committed to delivering effective and sustainable WASH access. Water for Women will contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6), water and sanitation for all.

While the government of India has launched several initiatives to work towards sustainable sanitation services, many challenges to safe and equitable access remain:

- 76% of women must travel considerable distances, facing greater risk, to use sanitation facilities;
- 23% of girls who have reached puberty drop out of school due to lack of safe sanitation and menstrual hygiene facilities;
- Up to 1 in 3 women reduce food (and 1 in 4 reduce water) consumption to minimise toilet use.

India also struggles with many social barriers. Discrimination based on caste, identity, ability or religion, especially against women, can result in denial of WASH services.

Further, the power imbalance within the household and the lack of gender sensitivity can lead to many health problems and mental stress, particularly during pregnancy, menstruation, menopause and ageing. Lack of safe, accessible sanitation facilities in overcrowded urban areas of India creates physical insecurity and vulnerability to violence, harassment, rape, and assault.

"This funding will contribute to the strengthening of the WASH sector through the delivery of sanitation services that are shaped collaboratively by the communities we are targeting, including the most marginalised persons, groups and populations within these communities."

- Ms Akhila Sivadas, CFAR

The benefits of improved, safe access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are clear. Not

only does access to WASH prevent disease and death, it also has profound, lasting socio-economic impacts on a community and its ability to prosper, particularly for women and girls.

Water for Women will support opportunities and benefits in WASH for everyone in the community, with its emphasis on gender equality and social inclusion.

This will be achieved by mobilising demand and improving governance for equitable sanitation services (called the Single Window) and linking this to innovative approaches to equitable WASH access that are both community-friendly and scalable (called the WASH Hub).

The Project aims to directly support an estimated 112,000 people within urban settlements in the target regions.



The Australian aid program is investing in India over a five-year period. Water for Women is proud to be partnering with the Centre for Advocacy and Research (CFAR) and Research Triangle Institute Global India (RTI India) and local resource groups in each targeted state and city in India.