

## Mainstreaming Gender in Inclusive Sanitation - CDD's Initiatives on Hygiene and Sanitation to Women and Youth Groups

CDD society is committed to mainstreaming gender in inclusive sanitation and has taken many initiatives through women group engagement programmes. CDD has conducted many IEC activities to enable the participants (with special focus to women) to understand the importance of sanitation and hygiene practices in daily life. The main objective of these sessions is to bridge the gap in existing knowledge and practice in the following broad topics - Personal hygiene (including menstrual hygiene and toilet usage), Household hygiene, toilet leach pit/septic tank emptying, monitoring of (Faecal sludge treatment plants) FSTPs and Solid waste management (including menstrual waste management).

The aim of these initiatives is that the women will maintain good personal hygiene and ensure the same for their children, maintain a hygienic environment at home, use toilets properly and regularly and not dump solid waste or chemicals in them, and segregate and properly dispose solid waste including menstrual waste. The methodology of the sessions consisted of experts from sanitation field explaining the sanitation practices through theoretical, practical sessions, demonstrations, and individual exercises. IEC activities were conducted to participants from different Self-help group (SHGs) and to the adolescent girls and youth groups. The participants showed keen interest as evidenced by the many questions and comments raised during these sessions.

### Initiatives on Hygiene and Sanitation - Menstrual hygiene practices and waste management (MHWM) to women Self-Help Groups (SHG)

IEC sessions on MHWM were conducted to more than 600 women from different groups and associations like streeshakti sangha, women sanitation workers, anganwadi teachers, anganwadi helpers, elected representatives and functionaries of municipalities, SHG and Federation Members.

Following topics were covered during these sessions - stages of menstruation cycle, hygiene practices to be followed during menstruation and best practices for menstrual waste disposal. Most of these sessions were conducted on menstrual hygiene day and women's day to emphasize the importance of proper sanitation and hygiene practices for women.



Fig 1 & 2: Sessions to women on menstrual hygiene practices and menstrual waste management

### Initiatives on Hygiene and Sanitation – Solid waste management (MHWM) to Women Self-Help Groups

Community engagement programmes with special focus to women on solid waste management were conducted to different women groups.



Figure 3 & 4: Sessions to women groups on solid waste management



Figure 5 & 6: Exposure visit to Sanitation exhibition and demonstration on composting

### Initiatives on Hygiene and Sanitation – Solid waste management (MHWM) to women residents from the wards of the town municipality

Many community engagement programmes and sessions were conducted to the women from the wards of the municipality on solid waste management.





Figure 7 & 8: Awareness program on Solid waste management to women from the wards, Devanahalli



### IEC Session on Hygiene and Sanitation – Solid waste management and menstrual waste management (MHWM) to adolescent girls and youth groups

IEC sessions were conducted to more than 400 students including adolescent girls on Solid waste management and menstrual waste management. The objectives and the topics covered under these sessions were,

- To raise awareness of youth on solid waste issues and best management practices and its importance in reducing the negative health impact on the workers and the environment.
- To nudge the behaviour of the youth to realise the consequences of solid waste issues.
- To enable the participants to understand – what are the myths and facts about menstruation, menstrual hygiene practices, different types of sanitary pads, diet practices during menstrual periods, safe disposal methods.



Fig 9 – 14: IEC sessions to adolescent girls and youth on SWM and menstrual waste management

### IEC tools developed for conducting sessions to women groups

Following IEC tools and giveaways are developed on solid waste management and menstrual waste management – posters, brochures on menstrual hygiene, sun board size menstrual wheel, bookmarks and brochures on hand washing steps. These giveaways were distributed to the women participants during the sessions.



Fig 15: IEC tools and Give-aways developed

### Women in Faecal Sludge Management (FSM)

CDD society is monitoring and evaluating Faecal sludge treatment plants (FSTPs) across different regions of the country. Some of these FSTPs are operated by Self Help Group (SHGs). CDD society has involved and oriented these women operators in few FSTPs on data collection and monitoring.







Fig16-20: Orientation to SHG members of the FSTPs on data collection and monitoring