



Momentum for Change: Women for Results Category

Women's Action Towards Climate Resilience for Urban Poor in South Asia *Bangladesh, India, Nepal*

This project, led by an Indian NGO [Mahila Housing Sewa Trust](#) (MHT), is on a mission to organise and empower women in low-income households to increase their resilience to impacts of climate change. To date, MHT's initiatives have helped 25,000 low-income families across seven cities in India, Bangladesh and Nepal. The project is centred around an integrated model wherein women take the lead through collective action and technology incubation to devise locally relevant, pro-poor, gender-sensitive and climate-resilient solutions. For example, women were trained to be energy auditors who encourage households to switch to more efficient products, forming a women-led distribution network of green energy and building products. Other solutions include using sprinkler taps to reduce the flow of water, harvesting rainwater, and other behavioural changes leading to more than 60% of households reporting to have increase in water quantity and more than 32% having sufficient water during summers.

Key Facts

- Mahila Housing Sewa Trust (MHT) has helped organise 114 Community Action Groups, who have reached out to 27,227 women in 107 slums. Of the women they've worked with, 8,165 women were recorded to demonstrate an increase in "knowledge seeking behavior".
- Over 1,500 women have been trained as climate-saathis, who are responsible for communicating the issue of climate change with their community in their local language. Through this communications exercise, the proportion of participants who viewed climate change as who viewed climate change as an act of god reduced from 26% to 9%.
- To date, around 28,000 energy audits have been undertaken in slum communities, which have saved families over USD 700,000 per annum in electricity costs. These money and energy saving interventions have included installing over 200 modular roofs and 500 roofs with solar reflective white paint, while having also led to a reduction of 105 tonnes of CO₂e per annum.

More information

Digital assets are available for download at <http://bit.ly/mfc-2019>

Project Contacts

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Website

<http://www.mahilahousingtrust.org/about/mission-and-approach/>

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