

Annual Report 2017-18

Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action

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President's Address

I am very pleased to present to you our Annual Report for 2017–18.

The report encapsulates, in brief, our engagements and interventions across the year. We furthered work across thematic lines, despite the diverse challenges faced, and endeavoured to intervene across centres with an eye on best practices and an integrated approach to change.

The year that was, saw us expand our work in the habitat segment with stronger community outreach, capacity building, and advocacy for secure housing for the marginalised. We set up our first Basic Service Facilitation Centre (BSFC) on a rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) site, helping us better understand challenges faced in such a location. We were able to further registration of informal workers, enhance their rights awareness, and encourage them to develop their collective networks. YUVA's work on the environment front was revived, and our sustainable agricultural practices and emphasis on agro-allied activities helped the rural communities benefit from the engagements. The models of work we created over the years, be it the BSFCs, Child Resource Centres (CRCs) or Anti-eviction Support Cell (AESC) have shaped up well, and we are looking for replicable strategies to expand our work.

In March 2018, we started a dialogue on all things urban beyond communities with ComplexCity, a week-long celebration open to people across Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. We reached out to 1,500+ individuals through the individual events organised, and hope to carry forward this participatory dialogue in the years to come as well. During the ComplexCity week we also launched the Urban Resource Centre, a living archive of the city's development history (both online and offline) which we hope to keep updating with our current engagements and footprints across the city.

It has been an equally challenging and exciting year for us, given all these developments. As I present to you this annual report, here's looking forward to another year at YUVA and all that it has in store for us.

In solidarity Amitabh Behar President, YUVA

Message from the Executive Director

It has been a challenging yet enriching year for us at YUVA, given recent socio-political developments and changes in the social sector landscape. With growing fear and intolerance, threats to democracy, and the shrinking of spaces for expression and interaction, our work has been challenged on many counts. The growth of inequalities and persistent poverty, coupled with the impunity of power, has painted a depressing picture.

Yet, we have taken all these opportunities to constantly question how we can better sustain work on human rights, and maintain fair and transparent methods and processes at all times. Our focus on the co-creation of just and inclusive urban spaces remains strong. Additionally, we are attempting to better link concepts of climate change and the power of non-state actors within the inclusive cities framework.

At YUVA, we have always tried to address the question of 'diversity' and we took many steps to further our commitment to this value last year. Within the organisation, we modified our staff policy to make it gender-neutral and non-discriminatory in every way. We also engaged with the city on this thematic through ComplexCity, a week-long dialogue on a range of urban realities. We explored this creatively through a seminar, a film festival, youth competitions, city walks and other formats, reaching out to 1,500 people across the celebrations organised.

In the year that was, we launched the Urban Resource Centre, a living archive based on our rich engagements across decades and continually updated from our current engagements.

At YUVA, we have always tried to address the question of 'diversity' and we took many steps to further our commitment to this value last year.

We hope that this space will serve as a vibrant collective research and engagement site for community members and academics alike. On the habitat front, we set up our first BSFC on an R&R site, helping us understand such complex spaces better. Within our work on informal livelihood, we were able to successfully complete several informal worker registrations under the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (BOCWWB) after a long struggle. We also engaged with children and youth extensively, organising the second edition of City Caravan, a course on co-creating inclusive cities with youth. Our parliamentary advocacy efforts received a strong thrust too, and we hope to take forward our evidence-based research and advocacy in the coming year as well, with a strong stand on urban affairs.

Overall, it has been an eventful year at YUVA and I am happy to share all the highlights with you as we take ahead our work in the next year.

In solidarity Roshni Nuggehalli Executive Director, YUVA

About Us YUVA

Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) was formally established in 1984. Its roots can be traced to a youth placement project of 1978 at Bombay's College of Social Work, Nirmala Niketan. YUVA began as a voluntary development organisation to support and empower the oppressed and the marginalised. The work began with the youth and youth groups from the slums of Jogeshwari, Mumbai. The organisation had clearly decided that its response would be to issues concerning the most marginalised people and it would not restrict activities to specific programmes and services, but develop a structure to accommodate multilevel action.

Over the years, YUVA formulated a model of integrated work on human rights issues, social security and legal protection of the unorganised sector as well as the strengthening of urban local governance. The organisation has worked on issues of urbanisation, migration and natural resource management, promoting people's participation in decision making and facilitating their empowerment. To secure citizen's identity in the city and promote their participation in decision making, YUVA established Basic Service Facilitation Centres (BSFCs), a Migration Resource Centre (MRC). Child Resource Centres (CRCs), and Livelihood Centres, to name a few. Currently, YUVA operates in the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Assam and New Delhi. Our strategy plan guided us to work on these separate urban environments, after a thorough shortlisting process three years ago.

Broadly, YUVA's work has focused on three different areas

Poverty Alleviation



Poverty violates human rights. It is multi-dimensional, caused by a number of interlinked factors, and hence must be addressed in a holistic and integrated manner.

Environment Sustainability



The environment includes both the natural and the human/social environment. Issues of quality, equity and sustainability relating to the development and management of natural resources and the quality of human life are critical.

Urban Governance & Planning



Work on governance centres around facilitation of the democratisation of power and decentralised access to and management of public resources.

Mission, Vision, Core Values and Core Purpose

Mission

YUVA will empower the oppressed and the marginalised by facilitating their organisations and institutions towards building equal partnerships in the development process, ensuring the fulfilment of the human right to live in security, dignity and peace. YUVA will also engage in critical partnership with the government and forge alliances with other actors of civil society such as people's movements, trade unions, women's groups, academic institutions and the private sector to enable and strengthen the people's empowerment processes.

Vision

We believe that development is a continuous struggle to create a humane society, which sustains all human beings, as well as nature, where women, men and children enjoy universal human rights.

A humane society based on the values of equality, distributive justice and secularism is liberated from oppression on the basis of caste, class, creed, gender, age, ethnicity, language; is free from all forms of exploitation and violence; and demonstrates integrity and respect for democratic polity and processes.

Core Values

YUVA has a set of five core values that it considers to be non-negotiable and it is through these core values that YUVA adheres to its commitment towards the fundamental principles of development. All of YUVA's involvement is based on these values.



Social Justice



Gender Justice



Environmental Sustainability



Honesty and Integrity



Secularism and Democracy

Core Purpose

Democratisation of society, polity and economy for all women, men, youth and children.

What We Do Our Approach

It is projected that by 2050, India would have added 416 million urban dwellers. Over the last few decades, millions of individuals have been migrating from rural to urban areas, driven by hopes of better employment prospects. Meanwhile, in cities, they continue to occupy a marginalised position, enduring appalling living conditions and denied access to adequate housing and basic services. Given the autocratic nature of urban planning processes, the people's voice and their rights have often been secondary, even when planning projects that directly disrupt their lives and livelihood prospects. The highly polarised urban development trajectory has made it extremely difficult for the urban poor to stake a claim over the city and its resources resulting in continued struggles for housing and basic services, employment, entitlements, and so on. The impacts of various development projects on the environment also paint a grim picture.

YUVA has always followed a holistic approach in the alleviation of poverty, keeping rural-urban linkages in view and engaging with both geographies to help set up just and inclusive spaces. The organisation has supported natural resource management in rural areas and supported the growth and sustenance of livelihood opportunities, while also building the capacities of individuals to help them work better and claim their rights. Intervention strategies in rural and urban areas have been aimed towards developing community-based people's organisations, building and strengthening the peoples leadership to secure their right to the city, and promote the growth of inclusive spaces.

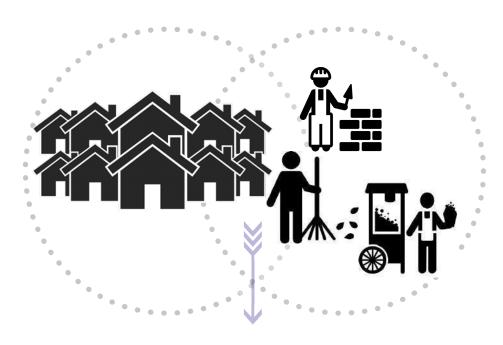
YUVA has always followed a holistic approach in the alleviation of poverty

YUVA's focus on co-creating inclusive cities comes from the Right to the City framework, which relies on internationally recognised human rights. It seeks to involve everyone, including the marginalised people, in the decision-making, development, resource utilisation and upkeep of cities. YUVA works with the local government to promote local policies and study and report its implementation on-ground. The organisation undertakes different initiatives to localise sustainable development goals (SDGs) and contextualise them to people's requirements, so that they can better understand how to work towards these goals. The strategies adopted by YUVA are aimed towards gradually building identity and citizenship for the urban poor to help them stake a claim over the city as its rightful citizens. YUVA strongly believes that it is not through limited schemes riddled with conditional criteria of inclusion but through increased participation of the urban poor in decision-making that the Right to the City can be achieved.

Poverty Alleviation

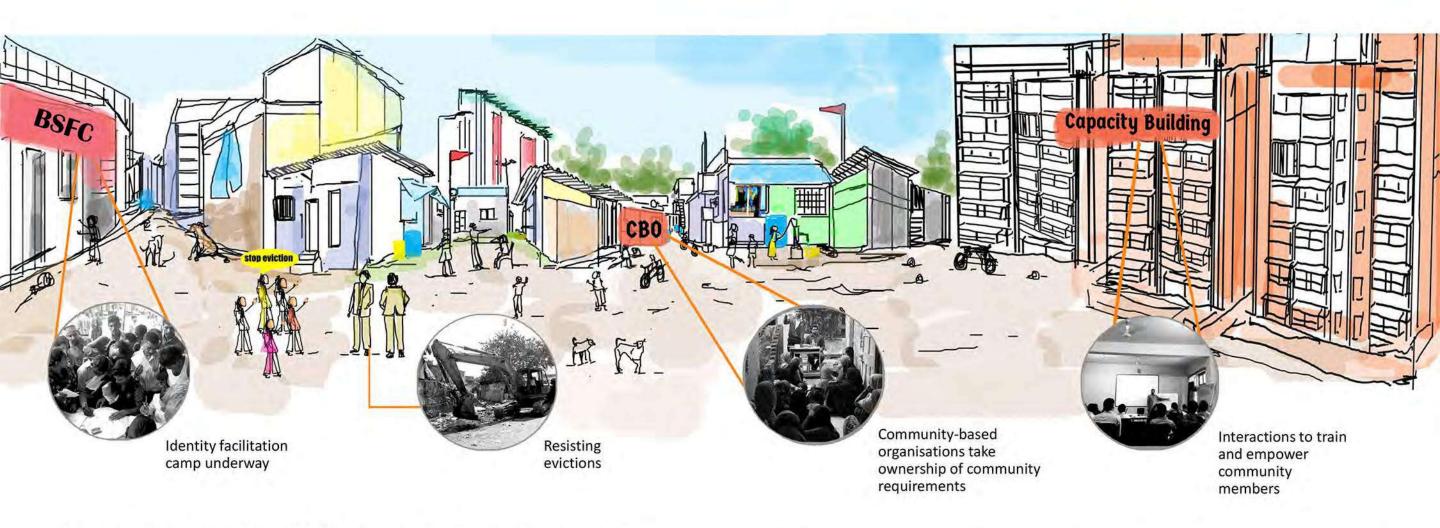
27.6% of urban Indians (104 million) are poor, as per recent figures of the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC). The urban poor not only struggle for a living, they also find it difficult to access basic services and resources such as housing, water, electricity, healthcare and education facilities, even compared to their rural counterparts. They often pay much more to access resources due to corruption, lack of identification documents, and higher cost of living. YUVA creates a space for engagement with the urban poor so that they can participate in decision-making for themselves and realise their 'Right to the City'.

The quality of one's life is determined by the kind of habitation and work prospects available. Mindful of this, YUVA works on both thematics, especially the interconnections between them, exploring how people's right to habitat and work can be upheld within just and inclusive societies.



When right to habitat and right to work is upheld, we are able to move towards the ideal of just and inclusive cities

Right to Habitat



YUVA's interventions in habitat include work with marginalised and homeless communities, advocating for land rights, basic services facilitation, and the operations of the anti-eviction support cell.

Our engagements focus on capacity building, research and advocacy, and participation in campaigns and networks for the co-creation of sustainable habitats and just and inclusive cities. The work is spread across seven cities - Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Delhi, Indore, Guwahati, Bhubaneshwar and Nagpur.

Basic Service Facilitation Centre



Facilitating access to entitlements to protect identity in urban spaces



Conducting community meetings for capacity building and linkage to government schemes



People-generated on-ground data collection and research

YUVA's 11 BSFCs help address the needs of the urban poor in an organised manner. They play a crucial role in safeguarding the health and identity of individuals in the city by facilitating their access to legal entitlements and basic services. Without these necessities, an individual can claim no rights to the city.

The BSFC also educates community members on their fundamental rights, laws, policies and schemes, and conducts leadership training, skill building and vocational courses to empower community members, so that they can take ownership and drive such processes in future.

This is a model that YUVA facilitates for a few years, which the community is then supposed to take ownership of and drive forward. The BSFC is a powerful medium through which YUVA is able to develop community networks to generate grassroots data on people who are otherwise invisibilised within the city's discourse.

Total entitlements: 5,303 Community-based organisations formed: 8

Mumbai

Vashi Naka

In 2017–18, YUVA set up its first BSFC in a resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) site at Vashi Naka. With frequent evictions and resettlement of the urban poor, understanding how R&R sites operate is critical for us to work better. The BSFC outreach is among 30 buildings with 490 households. People living here have entitlements, but not in their current address, owing to relocation. Through interactions with the local corporator (elected representative), 180 entitlements have been updated/created so far. A community-level women's action group (Mahila Mandal) has also been formed.

Ambujwadi

Apart from regular facilitation of basic services and entitlements, the work focused on understanding the process for water connection applications.

Awareness sessions on the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) water distribution policy were organised to ease the application process.

Through the Ambujwadi Vikas Samiti (a people's empowerment collective) sessions regarding land reservation in the revised Mumbai Development Plan (DP) 2014-2034 were organised. This has been in continuation with our earlier work on the DP.

Mandala

There have been regular camps for outreach on entitlement provision. Community meetings were organised, specifically on resolving the water issue through collective mobilisation and action.

Bandra

Evictions were the major challenge faced this year. Around 163 families (eligible for rehousing) were rehabilitated from Bandra to Mahul. Their struggle for survival has not stopped since Mahul offers harsh living conditions. Other families are still fighting legal battles and waiting for rehabilitation, and half the community is homeless.

The building of community-based organisations (CBOs) and their strengthening continued this year. Apart from the functional 2 CBOs, we facilitated the formation of another youth CBO, helping in their registration. This CBO is now working on youth and children issues in the community. 3 temporary toilets were also constructed in the Garibnagar and Pipeline areas.



Navi Mumbai and Homeless Communities

Navi Mumbai

Issues of informality are tackled very differently in Navi Mumbai, a planned, greenfield city. YUVA set up a BSFC at Tata Nagar to cater to 8 communities comprising of 1,200 households. The BSFC was demolished during an eviction drive, and since then it has operated in a mobile mode. This is a reality we face while working in non-notified slums. Monthly meetings have taken place to develop community-based organisations, build leadership to drive housing-related negotiations, and facilitate entitlements.

A public hearing, the first of its kind in Navi Mumbai, was also organised where 500+ individuals voiced their housing concerns. The hearing was widely covered on social media too.

Homeless

Through the Beghar Mazdoor Ekta Sanghatana (a people's collective of the homeless) access to legal entitlements was facilitated. Food security is a major concern for the homeless community. The team organised periodic meetings with ration officers to promote justification of this need and ensure smooth service facilitation. Despite the difficulty in facilitating processing of ration cards due to absence of address proofs, 50 ration cards were created and ration provisions restarted on 60 cards terminated earlier due to corrupt practices.

A public hearing was held on schemes and policies of the homeless, with government representatives, nonprofits and lawyers listening to concerns raised by the homeless.

With ongoing advocacy efforts, a new homeless shelter was set up by the MCGM in Saki Naka, Andheri. However, the women refused to move there owing to the 6 months stay period enforced by the shelter, and its dorm-like structure which did not allow families to live with them. The team efforts towards continuous advocacy on shelter homes for homeless continued this year as well.



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Nagpur

YUVA facilitated access to basic services and entitlements in slums of north Nagpur, with outreach in 13 communities comprising of 2,119 households. A CBO was formed to create awareness and motivate women to come forward to raise their demands for basic services. Training on housing schemes and land tenure rights, and capacity building workshops continued.

YUVA engaged with the Maharashtra government and Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) to facilitate in-situ affordable housing for households affected by the Nag Riverfront development project under the Smart Cities Mission. At the state level, YUVA engaged with a civil society collective that is monitoring the Smart Cities Mission in Maharashtra. Our work on promoting awareness on access to land rights (malki patta) has been through Mohalla Sabhas which help strengthen local governance.

Due to constant advocacy efforts, on 3
January 2017 a Government Resolution
was passed, extending land tenure
rights to all the informal settlements of
Nagpur. It remains to be seen how this
resolution will be implemented on the
ground-level.

Guwahati

During YUVA's second year in this city, 1,010 beneficiaries received entitlements in 8 slum settlements. Outreach was extended to 3 new communities, and a socio economic survey was conducted to assess the living conditions of people in intervening areas. YUVA also organised a health camp for communities engaged in waste recycling, and an awareness campaign with a partner organisation on the issue of D-voters of Assam.

Indore

YUVA provided entitlements to 834 beneficiaries in 8 slum settlements. Of the Mohalla Samitis formed, 2 are now officially registered. 35 representatives from 15 organizations participated in a strategic meeting organised at Jan Vikas on the housing scenario and status of forced eviction in the city of Indore. As part of the Research Study on the Indore Master Plan, 2 capacity building workshops of community leaders were held in collaboration with Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), training 80 leaders in the process.

Bhubaneshwar

YUVA's 2 BSFCs facilitated 924 entitlements across 15 slums. A Grievance Redressal Day was organised to record issues in entitlements and 85 complaints were registered. We facilitated toilet constructions under the Swachh Bharat Mission in 4 settlements, and 27 toilets have been constructed so far.

YUVA actively participated in a state-level movement on land and housing rights for slum dwellers, and a memorandum was submitted to the Chief Minister. In 2017, the Odisha Land Rights to Slum Dwellers Act was passed. It is expected to benefit over 8 lakh people by offering land pattas to people who have held land prior to February 2006, except those in 5 Municipal Corporations, Bhubaneswar included. YUVA with Bhubaneswar Basti Unnayan Parishad, consisting of representatives from across 50 slums in the city, connected people to urban local bodies and state representatives to take forward people's demand for land rights.

YUVA was also a part of the Civil
Society Drafting Committee to frame a
memorandum regarding effective
implementation of Odisha Municipal
Laws (Amendment) Bill 2015 and the
74th Constitutional Amendment Act.

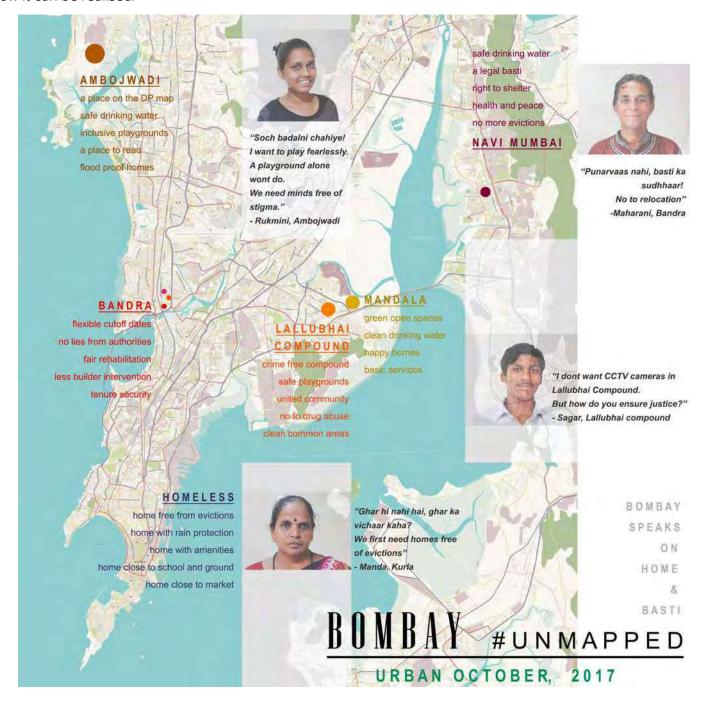
Activity Highlight

Celebrating World Habitat Day across India

In the first week of October 2017 teams in Mumbai, Indore, Bhubaneshwar, Guwahati and Nagpur celebrated World Habitat Day, by engaging with community members on the theme 'affordable housing'. The celebrations focused on raising awareness on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11, and refocused attention on habitat issues.

In Guwahati, the team organised discussions with community members on their housing demands and how it can be realised.

The Indore team celebrated this day with Mohalla Samitis, hosting discussions on issues faced by the basti residents and how it can be addressed. The Nagpur team organised a convention on realising SDG 11 and land tenure rights. The Mumbai teams engaged community members from bastis across the city in a one day programme. The Bhubaneshwar team organised a drawing competition for children on the habitat theme.



Anti-Eviction Support Cell

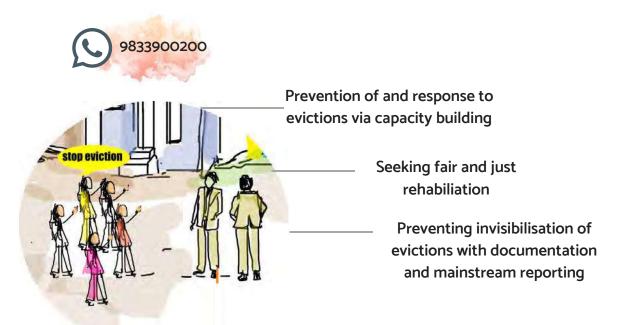
The Anti-Eviction Support Cell is a helpline-based outreach for vulnerable persons and communities, connecting them to YUVA and its partners in various cities before, at the time of, and after evictions. It is the first of its kind in the country, having undergone several modifications since being set up in 2015, to effectively cater to the people in its present form, and offer not just a response to evictions but their prevention in the first place.

Once a call is received, the Support Cell documents and forwards it to partner organisations and independent activists. Interventions often take the form of legal support, advocacy with representatives and commissions, and awareness building to help the community respond to evictions.

This year, the Anti-Eviction Support Cell's activities spanned across 7 cities, providing support to 30 communities before, during and after the threat of forced eviction.

YUVA offers strategic guidance, training and capacity building of communities and organisations on how to handle forced evictions, and seek fair and just rehabilitation. We also undertake trend mapping of communities through different planning studies and onground research efforts. We have intervened in many cases through the judiciary, supporting communities in Mumbai, Indore, Bhubaneshwar, Cuttack, Delhi, Puri, Patna, Ahmedabad and Ranchi. The Support Cell is based on the Basic Principles and Guidelines on Development-based Evictions and Displacement by the United Nations, and the human rights framework.

Over the years, the Anti-Eviction Support Cell has grown in strength, helping us take initial steps to address the huge gap in mainstream reporting of evictions. We recently launched the Cell's website (http://antievictionsupport.org) to further document activities, with its impact on associated issues such as livelihoods, adequate housing, childhoods, etc.



Evidence through Research

YUVA continued collaborative research in 2017-18, working with a specialised institute such as Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) to bridge the gap between community and grassroots work, and academic discourse and technical expertise. We launched two reports in the City Se series, to build evidence on inequalities which are deliberate and systemic in cities.

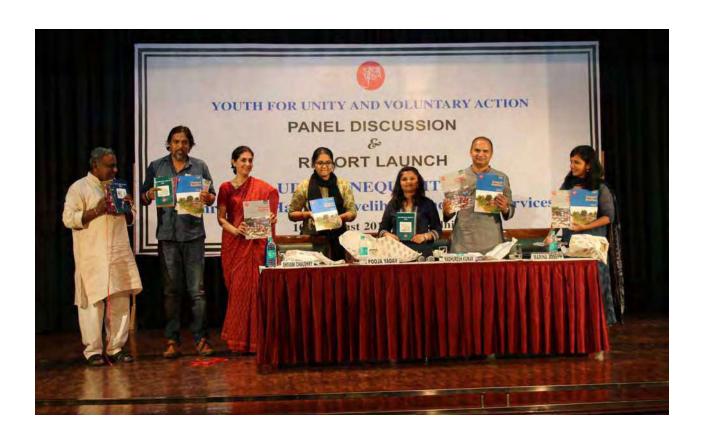
The reports launched by us were:

- > Forced Evictions in Five Indian Cities
- > Identity, Housing and Basic Services in Four Indian Cities

We also began focusing on urban planning and existing housing schemes in Indore. This is an ongoing research.

In Navi Mumbai, YUVA conducted one of the first studies on informal settlements of this area. The study focused on forced evictions, housing and access to basic services across 16 informal settlements. A sample study of 100 street vendors was also completed in Navi Mumbai.

In January 2018 we also launched Parliamentary Watch Report: An analysis of questions asked on urban issues in the Indian Parliamentary in 2017, to hold governments accountable to commitments, both global and local, and place people at the centre of development.



Influencing through Advocacy

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)

Advocacy on PMAY(U) was initiated in 4 cities and efforts are on to consolidate city-wide demands into the national civil society memorandum on PMAY(U).

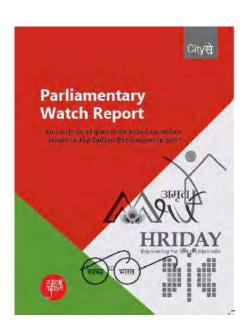
In Guwahati, the team carried out the demand survey on PMAY(U) in the outreached slums in collaboration with the Guwahati PMAY team, and 315 forms were filled. YUVA also engaged in continuous advocacy with the Town and Country Planning Department on the status of PMAY(U) in the city. In October 2017, based on the people's demand, a memorandum on PMAY(U) was forwarded to the State Mission Director.

Similarly, in Indore and Nagpur alongside local level advocacy the teams actively filed RTIs to generate information/data on PMAY(U). In Nagpur, 8 community meetings were held in collaboration with partners on PMAY(U) and land tenure rights.

In Bhubaneshwar, the team met the PMAY state-incharge and gathered information on the scheme functioning in the city and state, and scope for intervention with respect to civil society monitoring to strategise on an action plan.

At the national level, we have been able to collate the demands from cities and present it to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). A national consultation on PMAY was organised, drawing the participation of civil society representatives from 16 Indian cities. YUVA drafted and submitted a memorandum to the MoHUA based on the discussion highlights.

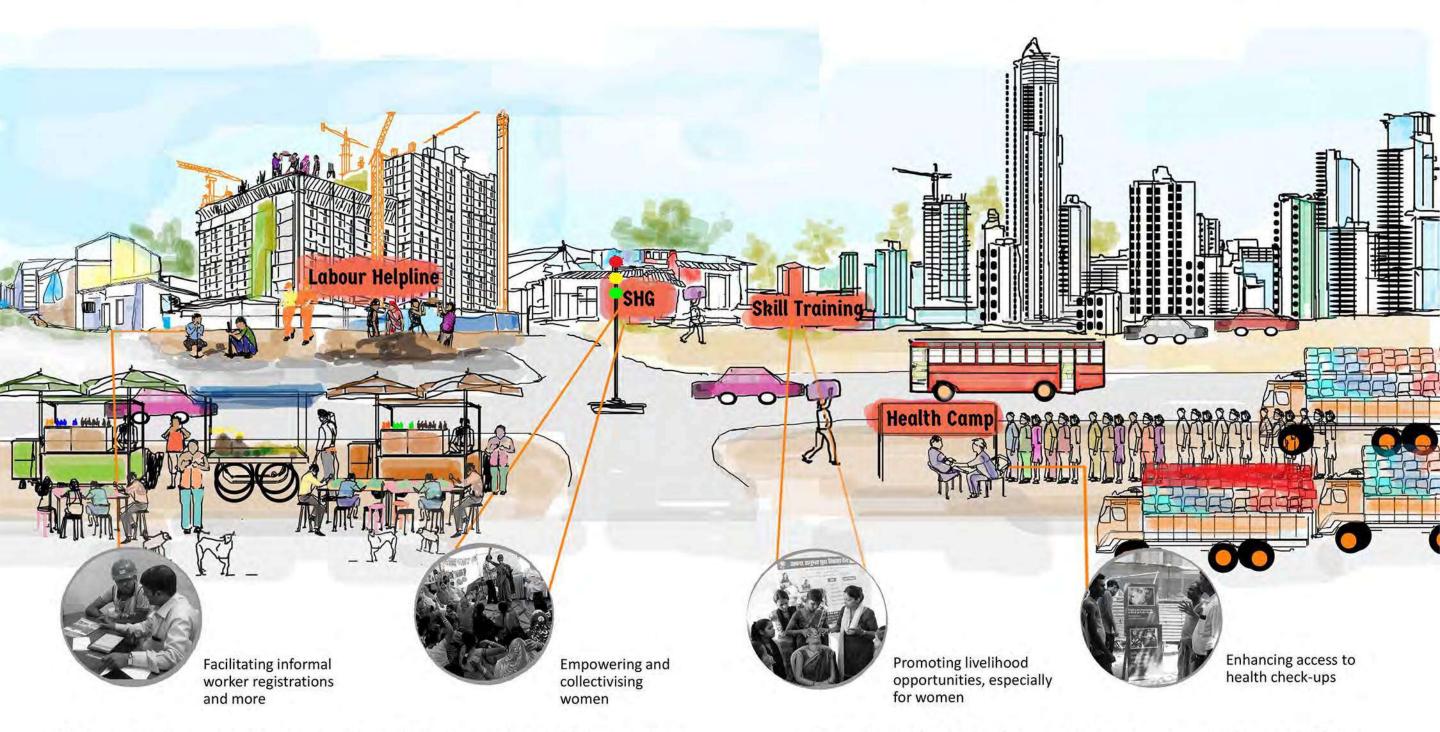
Parliamentary Advocacy with MoHUA



YUVA's advocacy work at the national level draws from our work onground, highlighting the strong local-national interlinkages. The knowledge derived from working across cities and the gaps identified find expression and convergence in our national advocacy efforts, helping us back our findings with strong data. YUVA closely follows the guestions asked and answered in the Parliament on urban issues. The team analyses questions asked in each session of the Parliament and on an annual basis a Parliamentary Watch Report is released. The team also engages in legislative advocacy with the Members of Parliament to discuss urban issues and status of urban schemes and requests them to raise questions in the Parliament. The team was given an opportunity to attend a session (question hour) in Rajya Sabha owing to constant networking with Members of Parliament. In 2017-18, the team met 19 MPs from different political parties.

Right to Work,

Wages & Welfare



YUVA works with a range of informal workers, facilitating entitlements and registrations, conducting research and advocacy, and participating and leading campaigns and networks

Each of our efforts intends to take forward the fight for informal worker rights and help develop inclusive urban spaces.

Engaging with & Empowering Informal Workers

Construction Workers

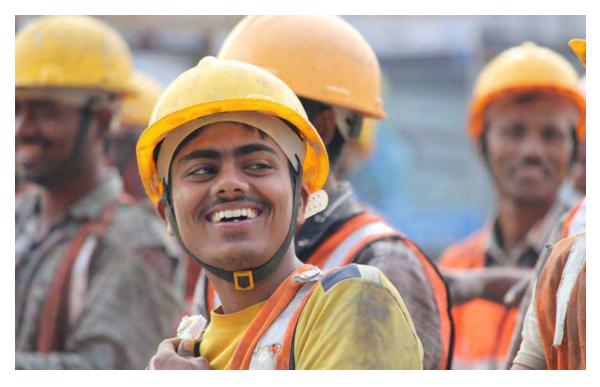
YUVA recovered INR 6.48 lakh worth wages through 28 cases registered at the labour helpline, part of the Migration Resource Centre. Regular meetings took place with the labour commissioner regarding worker registrations, and 68 IDs were received from the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (BOCWWB) and 48 more are under process. After a struggle for many years, and as a result of continuous advocacy at the local and ministerial level, the Maharashtra BOCWWB registered a few construction workers of Navi Mumbai, paving the way for their social security. In March 2018, the Supreme Court had lamented that over INR 28,000 crore funds meant for worker welfare was lying unutilised.

At the construction site in Thane, we demonstrated best practices with the support of our partners to improve the quality of life of construction workers. Basic entitlements were facilitated and onsite banking linkages happened.

Truckers

YUVA's work with truckers focuses on preventive healthcare practices. For those already diagnosed with disease, YUVA offers linkage with government and trust hospitals. Truckers addicted to tobacco are offered counselling facilities, de-addiction treatments, or rehabilitation, depending on the stage of the disease.

We have also started advocacy with the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, drawing from our on-ground work with construction workers



Street Vendors

In Mumbai and Navi Mumbai, YUVA conducted multiple workshops with street vendors at the national, state and city-level to increase awareness of their rights. Several meetings also took place with the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation for the implementation of the Street Vendors Act 2014, and with City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) for more information on the vending zone. In Vashi Naka, meetings were conducted with local street vendors, to help them secure their livelihood through the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM). In Ranchi, Delhi and Bhubaneshwar, research and advocacy efforts continued to ensure that state rules and schemes are in accordance with the provisions of the Street Vendors Act, 2014. YUVA facilitated access to legal aid for forcefully evicted street vendors. The integration of street vendors in Master Plans and state-sponsored schemes was studied in these three cities.

Domestic Workers

YUVA works for the empowerment of domestic workers in Bhubaneshwar, Navi Mumbai, Guwahati and Delhi. Research and advocacy efforts continued to work towards an inclusive policy for domestic workers at the national level. YUVA facilitated the formation of the All Odisha Domestic Labour Association with 1,700 members across 12 cities. In Guwahati, advocacy efforts continued with the State Labour Commission on the registration process of domestic workers. In Navi Mumbai, 70 IDs were received.



Habitat-Livelihood Linkages

Linking Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM)

YUVA facilitates and encourages the formation of self-help groups (SHGs) across cities worked in. The formation process is led by the women themselves. Once the groups have been formed and strengthened through regular participation, advocacy efforts begin with NULM office bearers in the urban local bodies, to train community members, help them register the SHGs, apply for bank linkages and facilitate the smooth operations of small-scale SHG businesses.



Mumbai and Navi Mumbai

Vashi Naka: The women formed 4 SHGs. It was challenging to register them, as none of the women had their current address on their household ration card and were denied SHG membership under the NULM scheme. After much negotiation with the NULM department, the women formed these SHGs with their Aadhaar card and the ration card of their previous address.

An exposure visit for the SHG women took place to an exhibition organized by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai that promoted SHGs trained through NULM and other government departments. This helped them build a vision for themselves.



Navi Mumbai: 10 SHGs were formed and linked to the NULM. They have undergone training, skilling, and one of the SHGs has already received a loan of INR 10,000 to begin its work.

Bandra: 3 SHGs were formed and linked to the NULM, 2 of them have already received government grants to begin work.



Bhubaneshwar

2 SHGs were formed, which will be linked to the NULM, and the scope for advocacy and awareness building with regard to PMAY(U) will be explored.

5 Mahilya Kalyan Samitis (women empowerment committees) were formed, consisting of 120 members in total. They act as a platform for women to engage and take lead in issues concerning their community like electricity, water, toilet construction and payment under SBM, land rights claim, and so on.

Indore

4 SHGs of 40 members have been formed in 4 communities and 2 have been linked to the bank already and subsidised loans are being explored.

Guwahati

7 SHGs consisting of 70 women (10 members each) were formed this year. Members were provided training on systematic functioning, book-keeping, maintaining bank accounts, and so on by the NULM functionaries. So far, 2 SHGs have been linked to NULM and the process is ongoing for the others.

Right to Food

In Maharashtra, YUVA partnered with Anthra, Academy of Development Science (ADS) and Swayam Sikshan Prayog (SSP) to carry forward a rural-urban linkage project which intended to market good food produce mapped and listed from project locations.

YUVA offered the urban connect in the Good Food for All (GFFA) programme, connecting urban poor producers to urban poor consumers directly, so that it would be economically sound for both of them. This is the challenge we face, to maintain an economical balance, and that was the intent for connecting rural and urban populations. This initiative is closely tied to YUVA's core value of environmental sustainability and sought to empower rural women with enhanced food security measures. We are looking forward to explore this area in future with further initiatives.

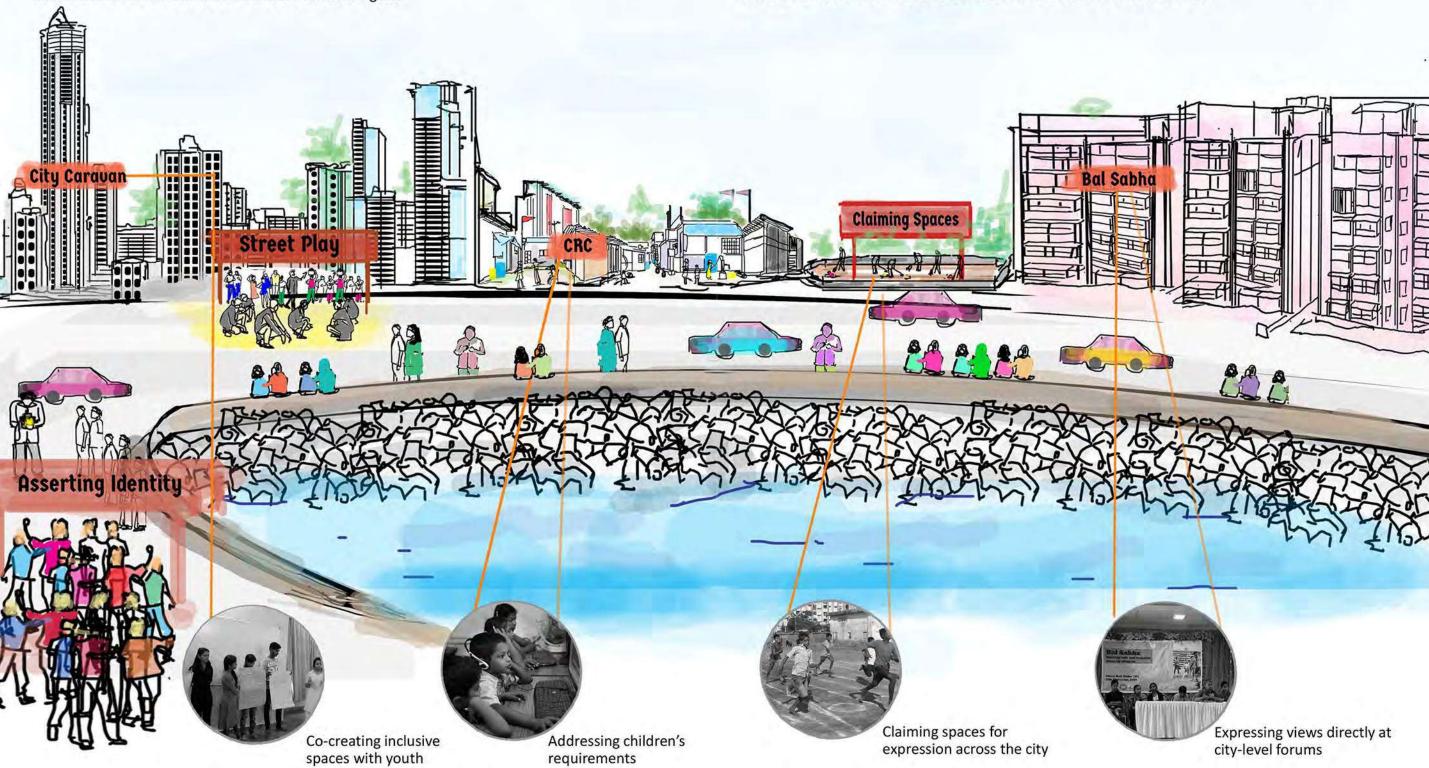


Child Rights &

Youth Rights

YUVA engages with children and youth, offering them platforms to express their opinions, organise themselves into collectives and advocate for their rights.

Children and youth play a critical role in the betterment of their communities and society at large, hence their conscientisation and participation is essential to drive change.



Child Rights

Creating Safe Spaces

Child Resource Centres

3 Child Resource Centres (CRCs) are operational in Mumbai (in Ambujwadi, Malad, and Lallubhai Compound, Mankhurd). Some of its regular activities include conducting computer classes, reading sessions, storytelling, dance classes, and so on. The CRC also contains a library, educational games and toys. Study sessions take place here. 40 boys and 30 girls regularly attend classes here from Lallubhai Compound. To promote the reach of the CRC among other children in the community, mobile CRCs have also been set up.

A model to address children's physical, cognitive and psychological development needs

Balwadis

YUVA's 13 balwadis were forced to end operations due to lack of resources. These pre-school care centres for children had been playing a crucial role in imparting early education and nutritional information to children and their parents. They comprehensively assessed the social, emotional, physical and mental well-being of children. Monthly health check-ups were conducted here and children in need of further care were being directed to urban health centres.

- 1900+ children outreach
- 219 children enrolled in schools via School Chalo Abhiyan



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Engaging with Systems & Developing Networks

Child Protection

In Lallubhai Compound, Mankhurd, activities with children, parents, local government officials and others focused on spreading awareness about child protection to help build safe communities. Sessions on child sexual abuse awareness and prevention were held with different stakeholders, such as parents, anganwadi teachers, police personnel and so on, to sensitize them on prevention, reporting of these cases and how to handle disclosure. In school, children were informed about child protection and toll free helpline numbers available to them. 3 Community Child Protection Committees were formed in three electoral wards of Lallubhai Compound.

Consultation

YUVA organised a city-level consultation, an experts roundtable on Impact and Experiences of Rehabilitation and Resettlement on Children and Young People. 4 nonprofits working in R&R sites of M-East ward, Mumbai, participated and discussed children's rights to space, health, education, play, protection, and so on. The freedom of children in expressing themselves was a point of attention brought up in the discussion. We are trying to further explore the link between housing and children, especially through an upcoming R&R study and campaign.

Research

YUVA conducted a survey which revealed that 500+ children are malnourished in Ambujwadi. Advocacy at the local supervisor level, with the Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) and Primary Health Centre followed. Home visits were conducted as part of the follow-up process to better understand the situation of children.

Engaging on Key Concepts

Children attended theatre workshops to gain confidence and improve methods of self expression, promoting their advocacy efforts. Workshops for a better understanding of gender, avoiding stereotypes and working towards gender equality were also held. The children also attended a workshop on social justice, understanding its link with the policy of reservation.

Global Action Month

Across November, children focused on 5 themes ending gender violence, ecological rights and environment conservation, child-friendly and safe communities, child-labour free communities and right to play and recreation—participating in different activities organised to promote awareness and understanding on it.

Road Safety Awareness

In June 2017, YUVA launched Mission Salamati, a road safety awareness project in partnership with Akzonbel and Navi Mumbai Traffic Police. We reached out to 4,300 students across 23 schools of Navi Mumbai in the following months, conducting interactive discussions and awareness promotion activities on road safety. The students participated in poster-making competitions, extempore speech, and so on to express their opinions. The concept of road safety was also taken to the public through street play performances at different sites.

Empowerment

Bal Adhikar Sangharsh Sangathan

Bal Adhikar Sangharsh Sangathan (BASS) is a children's collective which works for the rights of children in communities. They use many different mediums and initiatives such as street plays to discuss issues such as safety of children and the need for anganwadis in the community. BASS offers children a space for discussions and helps them develop networks to engage with community leaders, local police and ward-level authorities to work for social improvement.

- 90 BASS leaders attended life skill sessions
- BASS organised and conducted activities during summer camp and Global Action Month



Claiming Spaces

In Lallubhai Compound, children mentioned Lal Maidan and Cement Maidan to be unsafe spaces, as they were frequented by substance abusers, bullies and eve-teasing was reported often. To reclaim grounds and make them accessible to the children, we organized a football tournament which saw the participation of children, police personnel and officers of the M-East ward office. Through the year, children also managed to reclaim space in society offices, with BASS group leaders conducting sessions at these spaces since then.

Bal Sabha

On 18 November 2017, children across the city belonging to different BASS groups and children's collectives participated in the Bal Sabha, speaking against the many injustices they have to tolerate, their right to an adequate home and impact on them when their rights are violated. This was an opportunity for children living in notified and non-notified settlements and R&R sites to voice issues on a common platform. The children expressed their need for privacy, spaces to be made available to them for studying, recreation and playing, among other demands.



Youth Rights

Livelihood

At Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Livelihood Training Centre, Ambujwadi (Malad) we conducted the following training courses:

- Computer training (basic, tally and DTP) with SNDT Women's University – 36 students
- Tailoring classes with the support of Rotary Club –
 20 students
- Retail training with Garware Institute 40 students
- Spoken English course run privately with the support of interns
- 33 trained youth now working as beauticians
- 41 youth offer at-home beauty services
- 21 youth working post computer training
- Upto INR 7,000 monthly salary of beauticians
- INR 7,500-9,000 monthly salary after computer training

In Bandra, the following courses took place:

- Retail training with Garware Institute 18 students
- Basic computer course 144 students
- MS-CIT, IT literacy course 5 students

Scholarships were provided to 51 students across communities in Mumbai – Bandra, Jogeshwari, Vile Parle, etc., and 7 youth were referred for training at HDFC Centre and for nursing specialisation. 110 Youth were also provided financial literacy training in collaboration with CRISIL Foundation.

A job fair and career guidance workshop was organised with 50+ youth attending.

Empowerment

Anubhav Shiksha Kendra (ASK)

Implemented since 1993, ASK (an experiential learning programme) presently operates across 28 districts in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. We reached out to 35,264 youth in 2018-19, from students, to drop-outs, employed youth, unemployed youth, from different castes and classes. The level of self-confidence, self-awareness, social awareness among youth is very low due to a lack of opportunities and space. ASK offers a platform to tap their potential and sensitise them on values such as gender equality, social justice, democracy, among others. It involves the youth in village level governance, politics and self-employment processes.

A state-level youth conference was held with 3,500+ participating youth. Orientation sessions were organised in ten colleges across Mumbai.

Multiple awareness sessions took place to help the youth emerge as competent leaders. Training on government scheme portals and village development plans helped build capacity of the youth.

Youth Collectives

There are 4 youth groups in Malvani (Malad) that are actively working on a range of issues, and 8 Mumbai district youth groups in 7 wards of the city. The collectives focus on group binding, capacity building, and promotion of livelihood opportunities. They are invested in social transformation efforts themselves and are associated with different networks to further strengthen their movements.



City Caravan

YUVA conducted the second edition of the City Caravan, a residential course on co-creating inclusive cities with 20 youth. The course has evolved from the urban animator programme which YUVA ran in its early years. The sessions focused on skill and attitude building and helped develop perspectives on the urban. An interesting outcome was how, in the process of developing a larger city vision, the course led to personal transformation of the participants. Over two modules, the youth became more confident and articulate with a better understanding of issues, assertive of their identity and their rights. The experience of living away from home and interacting in a new environment proved empowering for many who mostly come from marginalised settings with limited access to exposure. In our outreach, we aimed to involve youth from different class backgrounds.

The course included 8 hours of class time per day, with time for group discussion and also an hour for 'journal writing' as a space for personal reflection. City walks were conducted to understand alternative histories of a city hidden under the mainstream discourse. Project work between both the modules consisted of studying elements of their respective cities and presenting it in the form of a film, module preparation, community walk, and so on.



Claiming Spaces

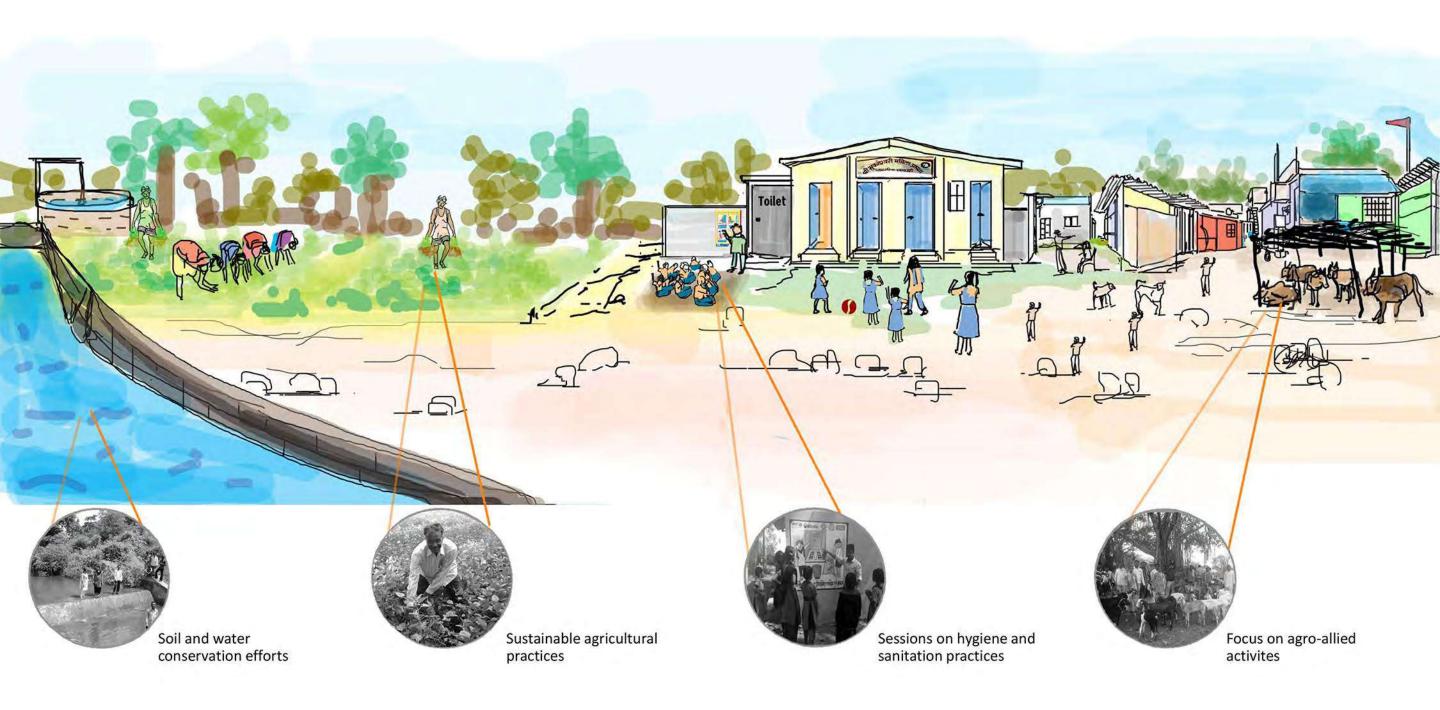
This is a unique campaign by the youth which seeks to help them claim their space and assert their identity in the city. This year, YUVA facilitated the identification of multiple spaces (Anand Nagar in Jogeshwari, spaces under the Western Express Highway Bridge and so on) that need to be reclaimed for use by the youth and the community. Efforts were also focused on strengthening youth groups which will be taking forward this campaign.

Once the localities were identified, the relevant authorities were contacted, and community awareness about the use of these spaces has started. Through the claiming spaces campaign, the youth have also supported the playing of sports in Vile Parle and Santa Cruz, among other areas. In Malvani and Jogeshwari, where the claiming spaces campaign made its first mark, efforts continued to strengthen youth movements.



Environment

& Rural Impact



YUVA's engagements have included natural resource management and improvement of the human environment, expansion of livelihood opportunities, and the improvement of sanitation facilities in rural schools of Maharashtra.

The projects are spread across three districts—Akola, Wardha and Nashik—in Maharashtra.

Environment Sustainability

Transforming Villages

YUVA has partnered with Maharashtra Village Social Transformation Foundation on a two-year project, beginning January 2018, to enable poverty alleviation, income generation and sustainable livelihoods for rural families of 22 villages (from 10 gram panchayats) in Barshitakli Tehsil, Akola. So far, the Detailed Project Report has been revised and the Village Development Plan has been created.



Working in the Water Sector

The South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers and People (SANDRP) core activities include monitoring the water sector in India with focus on big projects like dams, hydropower projects, irrigation projects, and working towards achieving greater democracy, greater attention to environmental issues and for sustainable, equitable and participatory development and sustained existence of ecosystems like rivers.

In 2017–2018, a SANDRP coordinator was included within the 11-member Government committee on Ganga flood and silt in Blhar.

India Rivers Day was observed on 25 November 2017 and joint publications were launched on that day.

SANDRP, Veditum colleagues and supporters also walked 600 km along the Ken River to better understand how people use and interact with the river, how much they know about the Ken Betwa Link Proposal and how they see it. This was one of the most important initiatives of the year.

This year, writing on the Ken Betwa Rriver Linking Project continued, on the SANDRP blog and across media, to help challenge the project in different ways. The project remains stalled.

Promoting Sanitation in Schools

YUVA helped improve sanitation facilities in 30 schools across Nashik and Akola, consisting of 4,200 students. This was done via infrastructure support and through water conservation efforts, with an eye on creating sustainable water sources. We offered community-based awareness sessions and led different intervention efforts, also conducting research and engaging with existing schemes of the government under the Swachh Bharat Mission. The project sought to inculcate positive behavioural change with the adoption of hygienic sanitation practices and initiate community-led monitoring and maintenance of toilets.

YUVA also worked in 16 government ashramshalas in Nashik, located in a tribal area. A holistic approach was followed to impart knowledge on sanitation practices, with the support of the school's child cabinet, peer groups, the school monitoring committee, teaching and non-teaching staff. Discussion took place on the importance of hand wash, effects of open defecation, waste management and so on, to help individuals understand their role in transformation efforts. Adolescent girls were engaged on menstrual hygiene practices.



Urban Governance and Planning

Advocacy on SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda

An important new area of intervention for us was with the SDGs, since we realised that the current ruling class in India is very concerned about the international community's perception. Hence engaging with the SDGs is both a strategic consideration, as well as an opportunity to reorient traditional development paradigms towards a Leave No One Behind agenda.

Our main outcomes of this engagement were to input into the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2017 and specifically to support a Shadow Report to the India Voluntary National Review (VNR) 2017. YUVA contributed a chapter on the shadow reporting on Progress of Goal 11 (the urban goal), as part of a larger Shadow Report put together by a Civil Society network called Wada Na Todo Campaign.

The document was developed by first doing an intensive mapping of government policies and schemes aligned to Goal 11. It was followed by stakeholder consultations and drafting of the Shadow Report. This Report was presented by representatives of Wada Na Todo at the HLPF in New York in July 2017, and also used for advocacy at the national government level.



We also conducted an analysis of questions raised to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in Parliament between 2014 and 2016. This document has helped us in our Parliamentary advocacy on urban issues with various Members of Parliament.

Role of Mohalla Sabhas

YUVA has facilitated the formation and functioning of Mohalla Sabhas across cities, promoting this under the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act process of decentralisation and decision-making at the basti level mandated under the Area Sabhas.

In Mumbai, Nagpur, Indore and Bhubaneshwar teams are involved in the advocacy of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act with urban local bodies.

In Bhubaneshwar a network meeting was organised at the city level with 20+ organisations participating on the status of implementation of the 74th Amendment Act, the functioning of Mohalla Sabhas and urban governance. Drafting of a memorandum on effective implementation of the Area Sabhas is in process.

In Mumbai, the People's Manifesto for participative governance was formulated before local elections in Mumbai where people laid out their charter of demands to the potential candidates.

In Nagpur, advocacy at multiple levels towards securing land tenure rights has been done through Mohalla Sabhas.

In Indore, the team has facilitated formation and registration of Mohalla Samitis in the outreached communities and is actively involved in capacitating them to promote participative governance.

Participation in Wada Na Todo Abhiyan

YUVA is a part of the Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA), a national platform of civil society organisations focusing on governance accountability to eliminate poverty, discrimination and social exclusion. We are a part of the Steering Committee where we represent the urban and the Maharashtra thematic. YUVA was a part of the national launch of the Citizens Report on Three Years of the NDA Government – 2014-18: Promises & Reality and organised the Maharashtra state release of this report.

Participation in International Networks

WUF9

YUVA was an active participant in the preparatory sessions leading to the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and also at the Habitat III Conference where the final draft was released. As part of the follow-up process, a delegation of eight from YUVA participated in the 9th World Urban Forum at Kuala Lumpur Malaysia (WUF9) along with 22,000 participants from 165 countries. The group reflected the diversity of YUVA's work in the urban space with a focus on habitat, planning, labour, children and youth. As participants, speakers (at 7 panels) and audience, we engaged in showcasing our work, building alliances and influencing confluences both at the micro grassroots level and at the macro policy informing level, sharing India's urbanisation concerns and its action towards the NUA as well as learning from experiences of fellow nations.

Cities Alliance Assembly

YUVA participated at the Cities Alliance Assembly Meeting from 13-15 December at Jinja, Uganda, calling for greater global accountability on forced evictions with the sharing of views on urban futures and human rights.



Narrative Building

ComplexCity 2018

In 2016, India was one of 160 countries to adopt the New Urban Agenda (NUA), as an outcome of Habitat III, United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, committing to sustainable urban development for the next 30 years. Yet, much still remains to be done. YUVA envisioned the coming together of the city as the first step to promote awareness of varying urban realities.

ComplexCity, a week-long celebration of and engagement on urban values, history, culture, socioeconomic realities, and much more aimed to encourage people from different walks of life to come together, even if briefly, and gain a glimpse into each other's way of living and being. Through the awkwardness that could result from such encounters. we aimed to promote dialogue and a better understanding of individual identities. The festival was driven by the belief that in the absence of any pre-emptive dialogue, a section of society will continue to be denied their rights, and be forced to the margins as they are repeatedly exploited, greeted by ignorance and apathy of their condition from the other side. YUVA offered knowledge-sharing platforms and spaces for the open debate and discussion of ideas, through the events organised.

Organised from 23 March–28 March 2018, the events included:

- > Launch of YUVA's Urban Resource Centre, a living archive that draws from the organisation's history and also engages with current urban realities
- > Equipolis, an academic seminar focused on urban praxis
- > Living Mumbai, a film festival with stories that relate to the world of the urban
- Bolti Bombay (photography, street play and debate competitions) that promoted critical thinking on urban issues
- > Making Mumbai, a youth convention to showcase youth action across city spaces
- > Culture Kaun, a series of cultural programmes presenting and attempting to preserve indigenous traditions, performances, and so on





Scenes from ComplexCity 2018



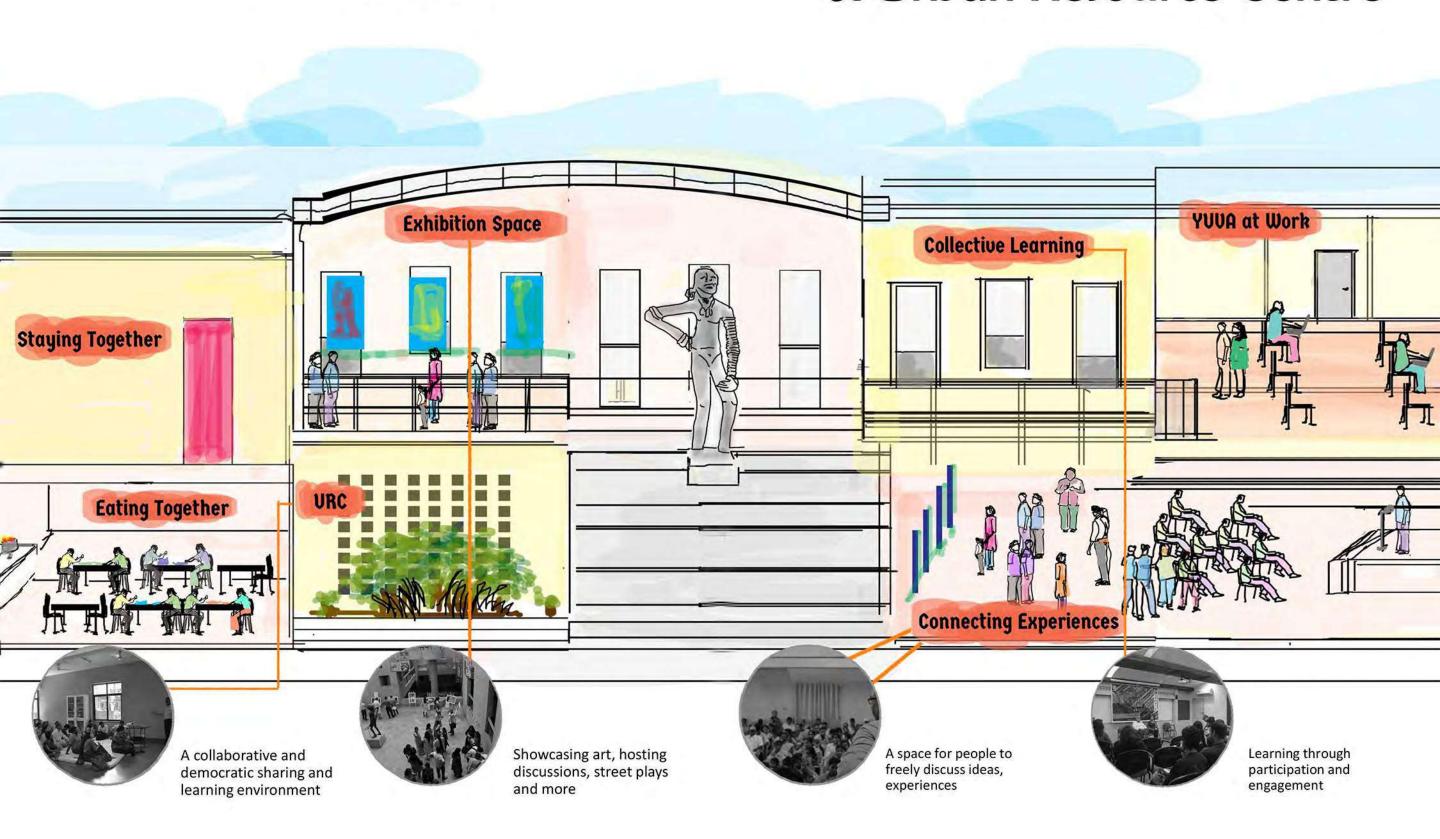


Connecting Experiences



YUVA Centre

& Urban Resource Centre



YUVA Centre

YUVA Centre offers an open, reflective space, ideal for meetings, workshops, conferences and other training initiatives. The Centre offers residential facilities too. 200+ events were hosted here in the previous year, organised by non-profits, community-based organisations, corporates, government bodies, and others. While 9% of its earned income was from corporate and government sources each, 30% was from non-profits and other civil society organisations and 45% consisted of internal bookings.



Urban Resource Centre

The Urban Resource Centre (URC) is a space that aims to democratise and disseminate urban knowledge, both contemporary and historical, to resist the mainstreaming of the city's imagination. It hosts multimedia resources documenting urban developmental trajectories from the early 1980s. The URC has a bank of content (generated from our engagements since 1984), complemented by stories continually generated from our existing work. In this way, the material is continuously being added to, modified and updated, so that the collection widens with time. The resources aim to record the lives and livelihoods of individuals and communities, especially of the marginalised who are often directly impacted by developmental agendas, yet whose voice is not often heard.

An important goal for us at the Centre is to find ways in which collaborative environments can be set up, so that communities can engage with the knowledge that is created alongside academic and other mainstream discursive forums. This year, we were able to digitise 430 books, 471 hours of video footage and 5,000 photos were digitally scanned and categorised out of the total archive of 13,000 photos.

The informative resources can serve communities, students, teachers, schools, colleges, universities and a range of other stakeholders interested in widening their knowledge of urban development. In the coming months, a range of events are being planned at the URC to further engage on the urban with a wider audience.





Life at YUVA

YUVA offers an accepting, inclusive space for individuals, helping them explore multiple ways in which they can further the organisation's objectives. Transparent reporting and accounting systems are followed, to build trust in the process and help employees (we call them saathis) contribute better. The organisation does not follow any hierarchical structure. Everyone is a leader here, charting their concrete path of growth with the support of their team members and others.

We are conscious of maintaining diversity within the organisation. Our first saathi from a gender-minority background joined us in 2017-18, and since then we have modified our internal policies to make it genderneutral, and even set up an appropriate toilet for use.

The staff strength at YUVA consists of approximately 50 full-time staff. Across last year, about 50 volunteers/interns/researchers/field-works students also worked with YUVA in different projects across locations.

We have always encouraged YUVA saathis to document their experiences at work and their journeys of personal transformation. To further this objective, we launched yuvaonline, a bilingual blog in January 2018, which publishes weekly stories on what's happening at YUVA. So far, we have published 13 stories on YUVA's participation at the Mumbai Marathon 2018, World Urban Forum, and other engagements.

HR Update

All the employees in the contractual category to be changed to Regular category. The purpose was to be statutorily compliant and to support this change many labor lawyers were consulted. In continuation of this change, we had to make it mandatory for all the employees to opt for Provident Fund and Gratuity Contribution. Initially the organization use to pay 8 per cent of gratuity, which was then changed to 4.8 per cent as per the Gratuity Act 1972. Therefore, their take-home will increase as the gratuity contribution is decreasing from 8 to 4.8 per cent. Henceforth, the absolute amount of Gratuity will reduce as the percent of deduction will come down from 8 to 4.8. A change in the salary scale was another important aspect that was discussed in the review to ensure more employee friendly salary structure and also, to remove DA allowance and have Basic at 40 per cent to help retain and improve a better take-away for the staff

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Governing Board

Name	Position in Board
Amitabh Behar	President
Mohan Surve	Secretary
Archana Shrivastava	Treasurer
Lysa John Berna	Member
Gagan Sethi	Member
Kavitha Krishnamoorthy	Member
Dr Nandita Shah	Member
Nisreen Zafar Ebrahim	Member
Rajendra Babulal Joshi	Member

No remuneration was paid to any board member during 2017-18.

No board member has any blood relation with another board member or with any of the staff members

2017-18 board meeting was held on 4 October 2017.

ICC Report

Annual report of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)

Number of complaints of sexual harassment received over the year	0
Number of complaints disposed off during the year	0
Number of cases pending for more than 90 days	O
Number of workshops/awareness programmes conducted for the employees	2
Nature of action taken by the ICC and the management	NA

Schedule - VIII [Vide Rule 17 (1)]

Youth For Unity And Voluntary Action (YUVA)

Registration No.: F-10304 (Bom)

Balance Sheet as on: 31st March 2018

Funds & Liabilities	RS.	RS.	Property and Assets	T 00 T	
Trust Funds or Corpus :-			Immovable Properties :- (At WDV)	RS.	RS.
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	3,36,63,516		(As per Annexure "B")		
Add: Corpus Donation received			(As per Amexure B)		87,96,701
Add: Capital Expenditure From Earmarked Funds	15		Movable Properties :- (At WDV)		
Less: Amount transferred from Earmarked Fund	48	3,36,63,531	(As per Annexure "C")		14,61,875
		-,,,	() per rumexure c /		
Other Earmarked Funds : -			Investment		
(Created under the provisions of the trust			Fixed Deposit with Banks		1 75 54 046
deed or scheme or out of the Income)			(As per Annexure D)		1,25,54,846
As per Annexure "A"		76,66,619	The second secon		
			Advance :-		
Liabilities :-			Deposits	3,81,479	
For Expenses	21,27,365		Project Advances	20,05,538	
For Amount received in Advance	2,000		TDS	11,95,576	
For Deposits	-	21,29,365	Receivables	9,75,194	45,57,788
			Cash and Bank Balances :- (As per Annexure "E")		
			Cash In hand		
			1. 200 pt 10 magnetic	70,223	
			Balance with bank	57,56,578	58,26,801
		1	Income and Expenditure Account :-		
			Balance as per last Balance Sheet	1,20,50,207	
			Less: Excess of Income over Expenditure	(17,88,702)	1,02,61,505
Total Rs.		4,34,59,515	Total Rs.		
ignificant Accounting Policies as and Sake July					4,34,59,515

Significant Accounting Policies as per Schedule

The above Balance Sheet to the best of our belief as per our Audit Report contains a true account of the Funds and Liabilities and of the Property and Assets of the trust

As per our report of even date

For CNK & ASSOCIATES LLP

Chartered Accountants

ICAI Firm Regn No. 101961 W/W-100036

CHARTERED

ACCOUNTANTS

Suresh Agaskar Partner

Reg. No. 110321

Place: Mumbai

2 5 AUG 2018

For Youth For Unity and Voluntary Action(YUVA)

Amitabh Behar

President

Mohan Surve

Secretary

Archana Shrivastava Treasurer



March
Gender Rights Month

Continuing the fight for a gender just society



February YUVA @ World Urban Forum 9



Engaging on the New Urban Agenda and SDGs with a global audience

2018

December Season of Giving

Driving awareness and action on unequal realities: A fundraising initiative



November Child Rights Month



Promoting the dialogue on urban childhoods #childrenspeak





Reports Launched



Publishing research on forced evictions and access to basic services





Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) is a non-profit development organisation committed to enabling vulnerable groups to access their rights. YUVA encourages the formation of people's collectives that engage in the discourse on development, thereby ensuring self-determined and sustained collective action in communities. This work is complemented with advocacy and policy recommendations. Founded in Mumbai in 1984, currently YUVA operates in the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Assam and New Delhi.

At the community-level, through an integrated 360-degree approach, YUVA delivers solutions on issues of housing, livelihood, environment and governance. Through research, YUVA creates knowledge that enhances capacity building. Through partnerships in campaigns, YUVA provides solidarity and builds strong alliances to drive change.



YUVA Centre,
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