



# Enduring Commitment to Social Transformation



# 40

YEARS OF COMMITMENT  
TO SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

साल से सामाजिक परिवर्तन  
के लिये निरंतर कटीबद्ध

चाहते हैं ऐसा एक जहाँ,  
सम्मान और सुरक्षा हो वहाँ

जोर जुल्म का न हो निशां,  
अमन से रहे सारा जहा

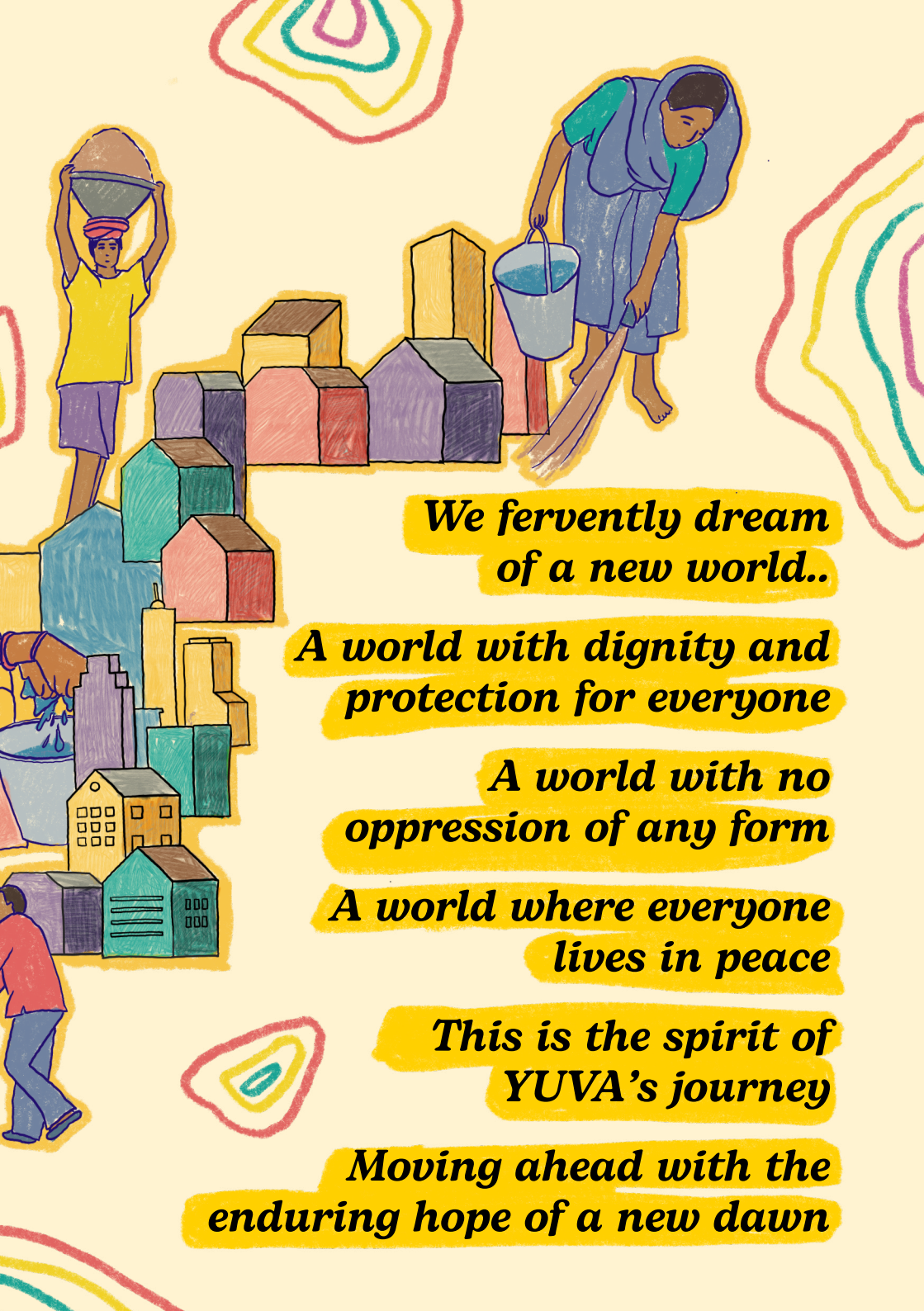
ऐसा ही सफर है  
युवा का

आशाओंके साथ  
नई सूर्य के लिए

Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) is a non-profit organisation that works to empower people and facilitates access to human rights. Our on-ground interventions are complemented with advocacy efforts and policy recommendations. Founded in Mumbai in 1984, currently our work is present at locations across Maharashtra, Assam and Jharkhand.







***We fervently dream  
of a new world..***

***A world with dignity and  
protection for everyone***

***A world with no  
oppression of any form***

***A world where everyone  
lives in peace***

***This is the spirit of  
YUVA's journey***

***Moving ahead with the  
enduring hope of a new dawn***

# Our Approach

YUVA's work spans interventions on habitat, informal work, rights of children and young people, on climate justice, governance, narrative shifts, and learning and development. We facilitate:

**A 360-degree approach at the community-level,**

*using an integrated development model for people's empowerment*

**People's participation in governance**

*through community leadership, evidence based research and advocacy.*

**Transformation through networks and collaborations**

*on issues that impact communities and cities*

We believe *जिनका सबाल उनका नेतृत्व* (solutions and approaches are best derived from those facing the problems themselves). Our community-driven model of change ensures that marginalised communities remain at the forefront and centre of social and ecological transformation initiatives.

We have played a substantial role in enabling hundreds of community-based organisations over the past four decades. We have seeded, strengthened and shared solidarity with several grassroots-led networks and social movements.

**Read more about our work here:**





# What We Do

## ENABLING ADEQUATE HABITATS

YUVA works to ensure people's access to land and housing as a right. We work with communities living in insecure housing conditions, facilitate access to identity documents, social protection and basic services in settlements. We facilitate collectives, build the capacities of communities to handle the threat of forced evictions and secure their right to housing.

## ENSURING DIGNIFIED WORK

YUVA works with a range of urban informal and migrant workers (construction workers, street vendors, domestic workers and home-based workers), towards their right to recognition, just wages, working conditions and social protection. We facilitate worker's collectives, ensure access to government registration and entitlements, conduct research, and participate in and lead networks for change.



## Impact in numbers

**FROM 2013-23**



**900+**

collectives  
facilitated



**72k+**

identity  
documents and  
social protection  
schemes  
facilitated



**₹1.5  
crore**

wages facilitated  
by YUVA's Labour  
Helpline



**₹1.23  
crore**

worth social  
protection  
entitlements  
delivered under  
different schemes



## BUILDING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOR ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

YUVA enables the empowerment and livelihood enhancement of young people. We facilitate young people's self determination, offering them platforms to express their opinions, organise themselves into collectives and advocate for their rights.

## CREATING CHILD RIGHTS FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES AND CITIES

YUVA strives to develop child-friendly communities and cities, with the active participation of children as equal stakeholders. We facilitate platforms for children to express their opinions, organise themselves into collectives, and advocate for their rights. With children in marginalised communities experiencing multiple vulnerabilities, YUVA's interventions facilitate their holistic development.

## UPHOLDING SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

YUVA partners with communities in climate-sensitive areas, who face intersecting vulnerabilities to the impacts of climate change. We support coping and adaptation to the impacts, losses and damages of climate change. Through a climate justice lens centring people's lived experiences, we collaborate on nature-based placemaking, alternative livelihoods in rural areas and strengthen people's ability to advocate for inclusive climate policies.

## SHIFTING NARRATIVES

YUVA works to shift the narrative on how the urban poor are viewed in cities, and to involve every urban stakeholder to co-create inclusive futures together.

Through our annual urban festival, ComplexCity, we curate a safe space for conversation, questions and creative expressions.



# YUVA Centre

YUVA Centre, with its residential facilities, offers an open, reflective space that is ideal for meetings, workshops and conferences. It provides a welcoming and conducive environment for training. The Urban Resource Centre within the premises houses 12,000+ books and media on urbanisation and human rights.



## REINFORCING GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY

YUVA furthers participatory governance with people's inclusion in planning and development efforts. We work with individuals and communities and help them develop a stronger voice to demand governance accountability. Advocacy strategies are strengthened with our participation in networks and alliances.

*Learn more about our work  
and engage with us:*

[www.yuvaindia.org](http://www.yuvaindia.org)

To know more please visit  
at <https://yuvaindia.org/yuva-centre/>  
or email us at  
[yuvacentre@yuvaindia.org](mailto:yuvacentre@yuvaindia.org)

## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

YUVA's strong culture of learning is reflected in the organisation's journey through the years. Our rich experience over decades has shaped learning and development programmes designed for civil society. These are adapted basis specific training requirements, and updated periodically.



# Who we are and how we work

Our strength lies in diversity. We nurture accepting and inclusive working environments, guided by feminist leadership principles. Everyone is a leader at YUVA, working mindfully with ownership.

YUVA's work is carried out by full-time staff and consultants. Across the year, volunteers and fieldwork students support our work. Separation of the management and governing board ensures strong oversight principles and processes.

**Youth for Unity  
and Voluntary  
Action (YUVA)**

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