

TOILET AND HYGIENE PROJECT
FOR THE GIRL CHILD

SEWA INTERNATIONAL



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Sewa International's **Toilet and Hygiene Project for the Girl Child** was conceived to provide sanitation facilities to girls who belong to the vulnerable section of Indian society so that they can overcome social and cultural norms of the till now accepted practice of open defecation outside of the home.

Sewa believes in “Right to Sanitation Facilities”, for women and girl children in India who face several challenges everyday just to attend nature calls in a safe and secure environment.

Sewa Project gets executed in three phases:

Assessment
Phase

Implementation
Phase

Training & Maintenance
Phase



ASSESSMENT PHASE

i. Sewa Criteria for Identification of Schools:

1. Schools constructed on government legal land and the school authorities should provide up to date school construction documents.
2. No objection certificate issued by the governing authorities for toilet installations.
3. Unavailability of functional toilets in the school premises.
4. A higher ratio of girl students in the school.
5. Total strength of the school to be a minimum of 50.
6. Support from school authorities and local government/municipal bodies during construction and long term maintenance of the toilets.
7. Provision for water supply for the newly installed toilets or support from school/government/local bodies/individuals for making such a provision.
8. Provision for the sewage system.
9. Availability of space within the school campus for the installation of toilets.

ii. Sewa Criteria for Identification of Slums/Villages:

1. Slums/Villages officially recognized by the state government
2. No objection certificate issued by the governing authorities for toilet installations
3. Unavailability of functional toilets
4. Minimum of 15-20 families living in the community
5. Families with a higher ratio of women and children in the community
6. Availability of space within the community for the installation of toilets
7. Support from local government/municipal bodies/community during construction and long term maintenance of the toilets
8. Provision for water supply for the newly installed toilets or support from government/local bodies for making a provision
9. Provision for the sewage system

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

The overall project will be divided into multiple subprojects. Each sub project executes the installation of 50 toilets in a given pre-selected region. Every subproject adheres to the timelines defined in the below section.

Region-specific Consultants will be hired part-time for every subproject execution. The consultant will coordinate with the local authorities for survey and licensing. The consultant will work with the vendors for material procurement and installation. Sewa field supervisors will closely work with these consultants for supervision and monitoring.

i. Toilet Models:

Sewa currently has two toilet models with cost effective bio-digester pit:

1. Pre-fabricated cement panel portable toilets
2. Brick & mortar toilets

ii. Installation procedure per toilet:

Portable model installation: This model comprises of pre-casted concrete panels made at factories and transported to the work site. These toilet blocks are assembled with nuts and bolts. This model takes a day to complete the toilet structure with commode installation.

Brick and mortar model installation: This is the traditional style of constructing a toilet with bricks, sand, and cement. This model takes 4-5 days to construct the toilet block with commode installation.

The dimension of the toilet unit: 4ft breadth, 6ft height, and 3.5ft length.
The dimensions of the pit: 6ft depth, 4ft length, and 5ft breadth
(It takes about 2 days to construct a bio-digester pit)

From our need analysis data, we realized more than 45% of the government schools do not have functional toilet units and 50% of these schools do not have water connection. In 2018, we focused on repair and renovation of these existing non-functional toilets.

Every toilet is installed with proper ventilation, water source, and sewage line. Once the toilet model is installed, the final phase of installation includes painting, logo, and handing over responsibilities to the community leaders/school authorities.

The overall timeframe for completion of each subproject with 50 toilets is elaborated in the timeline section.

iii. Timeline of each sub project:

Capacity Build-up and Initial Survey (15 calendar days);
Licensing (15 calendar days);
Construction (75 calendar days);
Training (15 calendar days)
Total = 4 months for completion.

iv. Bio-toilet features:

Zero Underground water pollution
Pathogen free water output
Minimum usage of Water
Low Maintenance Portable unit.
Cost-effective model



After several trial and errors, we felt this is the most economical and best solution for open defecation. Once it is built, it needs only once a year inspection.

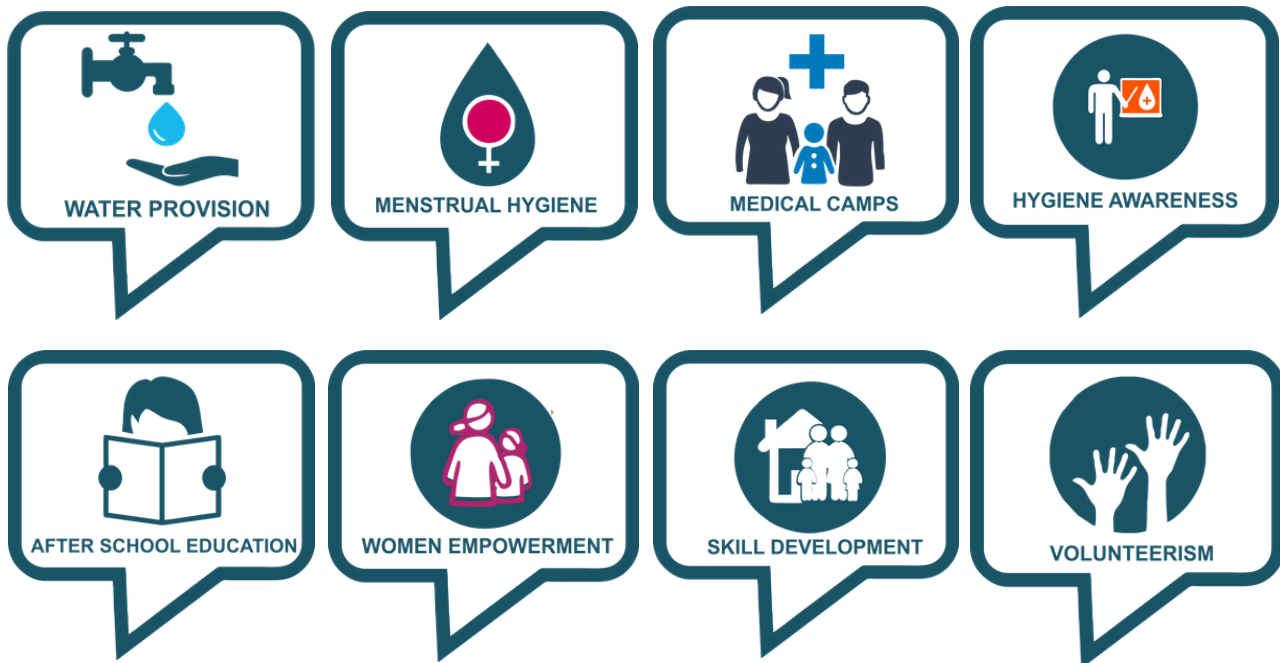
TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE PHASE

Sewa has been creating awareness programs within the community on the need and the proper usage of these toilets. Sewa also involves the local municipal bodies/ government authorities for their support to ensure the proper usage of these toilets.

Sewa conducts toilet and hygiene awareness programs and workshops for the recipients of these toilets. Sewa identifies local bodies (preferably someone within the community using these toilets) and entrusts them with the responsibility of maintaining the toilets.

Sewa provides 1-year maintenance of these toilets. During this maintenance phase, knowledge transfer on long term maintenance of these toilets will be provided to the community to ensure sustainability of the installations. Ad-hoc checks at regular intervals are done to ensure that the toilets are well maintained and in good condition.

Our Services around the Toilet and Hygiene Project



Through these extended services, we are able to focus on the overall development of the girl child at our project locations. (Sanitation, Healthcare, Education and Community development)

- **Water Provision:** One of the major challenges is the **lack of water supply** for the toilets - Sewa has been doing a detailed survey & need analysis of the identified location for water sources before the toilet installation phase. We are working with the local school authorities/government bodies/donors for providing a water source for these toilets on a need basis.
- **Menstrual Hygiene:** Infiltration of high chemical laden menstrual pads, without proper disposal of the sanitary pads; they fill up our lands, dogs dragging them around, cows consuming them, leaving them sick and many occasions causing death. - Sewa partnered with stone soup, who manufactures **eco-friendly** menstrual cups and Cloth napkins. We have launched this initiative in 14 different areas and distributed samples to young girls who wanted to be part of our program. The overwhelming response has made our team think ahead and move forward with this initiative in large numbers.
- **Medical camps & Hygiene awareness:** Sewa conducts medical camps, hygiene awareness programs and general healthcare in sewa project locations to educate the community people about the importance of sanitation for happy and healthy communities.
- **After school education centres:** We are nurturing these community children by providing them extra support to thier education. We have after-school education centers in Bangalore and Varanasi currently tutoring 1700+ children from a poor economic background.

Gaatakatha, an initiative by Sewa International is an exclusive online platform for Indian handloom weavers to showcase their products to a global audience. The GaataKatha project was born to bring social and commercial benefits to struggling traditional handloom artisans in India.

- **Women empowerment:** Gaatakatha supports rehabilitating women from human and sexual trafficking, women who were rescued from domestic violence and women from the poorest communities.
- **Skill development:** We educate the weavers and support the existing craft while simultaneously reviving faded art-forms. Empower the younger generation to uphold the rich culture and heritage of India through education
- **Volunteerism:** We have sewa volunteers who connect us with weaver families. In each Indian state, we have a volunteer who has 30-300 weaver families co-ops under their support and guidance.

Every single sale works towards the advancement of the handloom artisan communities: empowering their girl children, water and sanitation projects, menstrual hygiene project, free healthcare initiatives and improving the standard of living.