

Khadda Basti Housing Rights and Rehabilitation Support Project

Pune, Maharashtra (2009–2011)

Maharashtra Social Housing and Action League (MASHAL) implemented a housing rights and rehabilitation support initiative for families displaced from Khadda Basti, an informal settlement located in the Shivajinagar area of Pune. The project focused on documenting the socio-economic conditions of affected households, assessing their housing vulnerabilities, and advocating for appropriate rehabilitation and resettlement measures.

Following the displacement of Khadda Basti residents, many families were left without secure shelter and were forced to reside on pavements, roadside locations, and temporary settlements under extremely vulnerable conditions. Recognizing the urgent need for intervention, MASHAL undertook a detailed field assessment to understand the impact of displacement on affected households and to support efforts towards securing safe and permanent housing solutions.

Project Objectives

The project aimed to:

- Assess the living conditions of displaced families.
- Document household-level socio-economic information.
- Identify housing vulnerabilities and rehabilitation needs.
- Map the original settlement and current locations of displaced residents.
- Generate evidence to support housing rights and rehabilitation planning.
- Advocate for inclusive urban development and secure housing for vulnerable communities.

Key Activities Undertaken

Household Socio-Economic Survey

MASHAL conducted detailed household surveys to collect information on:

- Family composition and demographic characteristics.
- Occupation and livelihood sources.
- Household income levels.
- Educational status of children.

- Access to government identity documents.
- Housing conditions and tenure status.
- Availability of basic services and social infrastructure.

The survey revealed that many families depended on informal occupations such as waste picking, daily wage labour, domestic work, and gardening for their livelihoods. Household incomes were generally low, and several children had either dropped out of school or faced interruptions in education following displacement.

Housing and Rehabilitation Assessment

The project documented the severe housing challenges faced by displaced families, including:

- Absence of permanent shelter.
- Lack of access to safe drinking water.
- Inadequate sanitation facilities.
- Exposure to environmental and health risks.
- Loss of community infrastructure and social networks.

Field investigations revealed that several families were living on footpaths and temporary roadside locations near Shivajinagar and Sancheti Hospital after losing their homes.

GIS Mapping and Settlement Documentation

MASHAL prepared maps documenting:

- The original location of Khadda Basti before displacement.
- The distribution of occupations and livelihood patterns.
- Locations of displaced households.
- Community-level socio-economic characteristics.

The mapping exercise created a spatial database that helped visualize the scale of displacement and the rehabilitation requirements of affected households.

Community Consultations and Case Documentation

The project engaged directly with community representatives and affected families to understand their priorities and concerns. Detailed household case

studies were documented to capture the human impact of displacement and to strengthen advocacy efforts for rehabilitation and housing support.

Project Findings

The assessment highlighted that displaced households faced multiple dimensions of vulnerability, including insecure shelter, inadequate access to basic services, loss of livelihood opportunities, and educational disruptions for children. Many households continued to possess voter identity cards and ration cards, indicating their long-term association with the city despite lacking secure housing arrangements.

Outcomes and Impact

The project generated a comprehensive evidence base on the housing and rehabilitation needs of Khadda Basti residents. The findings supported advocacy efforts aimed at:

- Promoting housing rights for displaced urban poor families.
- Facilitating dialogue with local authorities and stakeholders.
- Highlighting the need for permanent rehabilitation measures.
- Strengthening policy discussions on inclusive urban development.
- Supporting future housing and slum rehabilitation initiatives.

Project Significance

The Khadda Basti Housing Rights and Rehabilitation Support Project demonstrated MASHAL's commitment to protecting the rights of vulnerable urban communities affected by displacement. Through a combination of socio-economic surveys, GIS mapping, community engagement, and evidence-based advocacy, the project contributed to broader efforts aimed at ensuring access to safe, dignified, and secure housing for marginalized urban households.

The initiative further strengthened MASHAL's expertise in housing rights, slum rehabilitation planning, community mobilization, socio-economic assessment, and inclusive urban development.





