

The slum Atlas

MASHAL has compiled a Slum Atlas for Pune, India. Compiled over a two year period, the Slum Atlas is a docket of 15 booklets that provides analytical information of the demographic, socioeconomic profile, housing infrastructure provision and rehabilitation status of slum pockets in Pune. One booklet covers Pune City and the other 14 booklets detail Pune's 14 administrative wards. The detailed demographic information included in the Atlas make it a reliable reference document for professionals, academic institutes, social marketers, bilateral funding organizations, micro-finance institutes, real estate companies, political representatives and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) departments of various corporations. The vast potential of the Slum Atlas has already been witnessed by the Urban Community Development (UCD) department of Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) for the identification of target groups for welfare programs.

Slum Atlas of Pune and GIS-Based Socio-Economic Survey Initiative

Maharashtra Social Housing and Action League (MASHAL) successfully developed and published the **Slum Atlas of Pune**, a comprehensive knowledge resource documenting the demographic, socio-economic, housing, infrastructure, and rehabilitation status of slum settlements across Pune city. The Atlas was compiled over a period of two years and consisted of a series of 15 detailed booklets. While two volumes provided a city-wide overview, the remaining publications presented ward-level analyses covering all 13 administrative wards of Pune.

The initiative was undertaken to create a reliable and evidence-based database that could support urban planning, policy formulation, infrastructure development, and welfare interventions in informal settlements. The Atlas provided extensive information on population characteristics, housing conditions, availability of basic services, and rehabilitation status of slum communities across the city.

MASHAL was among the pioneering organizations in India to utilize **Geographical Information System (GIS)-based Biometric Socio-Economic Surveys** for urban development and slum improvement initiatives. The organization successfully implemented large-scale GIS-based surveys for

municipal corporations including Pune, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Nashik, and the Dharavi Redevelopment Project in Mumbai.

GIS technology enabled the integration of cartography, statistical analysis, and database management to capture, store, analyze, and visualize geographically referenced information. MASHAL effectively used this technology to map housing conditions, infrastructure availability, demographic characteristics, and socio-economic indicators within urban settlements.

Between 2004 and 2007, MASHAL conducted GIS-based biometric socio-economic surveys covering all 72 slum settlements within the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) jurisdiction. Similar initiatives were subsequently undertaken in collaboration with the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) and Nashik Municipal Corporation (NMC), contributing to the creation of comprehensive urban databases for informed planning and development.

Drawing upon its expertise in urban surveys and spatial analysis, MASHAL also played an active role in the preparation of **City Development Plans (CDPs)** for Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad. The data generated through these surveys served as a valuable foundation for urban governance, infrastructure planning, and inclusive city development strategies.

The Slum Atlas emerged as a highly credible reference document for a diverse range of stakeholders, including urban planners, researchers, academic institutions, development practitioners, social marketing organizations, bilateral funding agencies, microfinance institutions, real estate developers, elected representatives, and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) departments. The Urban Community Development (UCD) Department of Pune Municipal Corporation extensively utilized the Atlas for identifying target groups and planning welfare and development programmes within slum communities.

The preparation of the Slum Atlas was led by MASHAL in collaboration with the Urban Community Development (UCD) Department of Pune Municipal Corporation, the Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA), private sector developers, and CHF International. The successful completion of this initiative reflected the collective efforts, technical expertise, and commitment of MASHAL's team and partner organizations toward promoting data-driven and inclusive urban development.