This flyer has been produced to document the impact that local government support has already had on Shelter Associates’ city-wide slum sanitation project.

Prabhag Samiti Meeting

Since the start of the Pune city-wide slum sanitation project in April 2013 Shelter Associates have been invited to present the project and the model for implementing the initiative, at many prabhag samiti meetings across the city. In all cases the local government demonstrated a willingness to support Shelter Associates to implement this privately funded sanitation initiative.

During the prabhag samiti meeting which was convened by Mr Jayant Bhosekar the assistant zonal commissioner of Tilak Ward (administrative ward 9), and attended by Mr Madhukant Garad the zonal commissioner, of Tilak Ward, a presentation was given by Mrs Pratima Joshi (Executive Director of Shelter Associates) on the status of sanitation in the slums across Tilak Ward; this presentation included the identification of the most vulnerable slums in the administrative ward.

Mrs Nagpure, one of the elected representatives of Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, the most vulnerable slum in Tilak Ward, was also present at the meeting and showed instant interest in collaborating with Shelter Associates to make the slum ‘open defecation free’.

Meeting at SA office

As a follow-up to the prabhag samiti meeting Mrs Nagpure visited Shelter Associates office, and at a later date, the zonal commissioner & the assistant zonal commissioner also visited Shelter Associates office. These visits were undertaken to understand more about Shelter Associates’ (1) methodology, (2) use of technology (such as the SA data collection system, Geographic Information Systems and Google Earth), and (3) the SA city slum profile for Pune.
Visit and meetings in Rajiv Gandhi Nagar

On 17th August 2013 the elected representatives (Mr Jagtap and Mrs Nagpure), the assistant commissioner (Mr Bhosekar), and the Executive Director & social workers of Shelter Associates carried out a coordinated visit at Rajiv Gandhi Nagar. This visit gave the slum community confidence in the prospect of the project materializing, and of the 61 families without access to sanitation 52 paid their required 20% contribution for an individual toilet. Three families opted for the Fiber Reinforced Plastic toilets and the remaining preferred the standard bricks and mortar option.

With the support of the councilors, a garbage pick-up service has also been able to start; the families are encouraged to bring their household waste down to a van which arrives at the base of the slum every morning.

Meetings to raise awareness about sanitation related issues are part of the SA methodology; but the importance of members of the local government attending key meetings, to demonstrate their support the project, and encourage the slum families to get their own individual toilets with support from Shelter Associates, cannot be overstated.