



## Notice

Undefined variable: count  
ee/legacy/libraries/Functions.php(680)  
: eval()'d code, line 91 [show details](#)  
• Severity: E\_NOTICE

India



## Ecological Sanitation

Ecosan Services Foundation (ESF)

Ecosan Services Foundation creates awareness about and demonstrates the impact of ecological sanitation in order to solve the issue of sanitation in a more efficient and sustainable manner.

Launched in 2006, Not-for-profit , Policy & Governance , Sanitation , Waste Management & Disposal / Re-use , Cross-sector , Cross-sector: Climate / Energy , South Asia: India

Partners: Ecosan works with central government ministries and departments, state level departments as well as international funding agencies to implement sanitation projects in rural and urban areas. A few prominent partners include the Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran, TTZ Bremehaven, seecon gmbh, and GIZ.

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### Problem Addressed

India has a high level of health risks because of its poor sanitation infrastructure. In urban India, it is estimated that around 50 million people defecate in the open every day. The increasing rate of urbanization, with 7 million people migrating to urban India every year, creates large unmanageable slums with no sanitation and hygiene infrastructure. The government struggles to provide basic hygiene and sanitation services effectively because they have poor data about the needs and habits of the residents and very little information on the existing infrastructure, such as plumbing and sewage lines. The government can make a huge impact in this space by creating strategic, long term and large-scale projects. However, to achieve this it is crucial to consider the unique features of different communities to customize ecologically responsible interventions accordingly.

### Innovative Approach

Ecosan works with the government and other organizations to drive the national sanitation agenda and ensure long term, large scale impact by leveraging existing sector knowledge to create tailor made solutions based on the community's needs, rather than one-size-fits-all policies.

Ecosan's program, which provides improved sanitation services to the underprivileged at a low cost and with a low water footprint, enhances health and hygiene practices. The model also promotes reusing waste and produces valuable resources from the excreta which reduces the negative impact on the environment.

### Program Solution

Ecosan Services Foundation (ESF) promotes the idea of ecological sanitation, which focuses on reducing health risks

caused by a lack of sanitation in an ecologically responsible manner, including recycling and reusing the resources obtained from the waste. The organization creates awareness and demonstrates the impact of ecological sanitation in order to solve the issue of sanitation in a more efficient and sustainable manner.

ESF conducts feasibility studies for various stakeholders, including the government, to determine the sanitation status of certain regions or institutions such as schools. Based on its findings, ESF then recommends customized ecological sanitation solutions. The services extend to creating action plans based on the recommendations, providing technical assistance, and monitoring construction and maintenance.

ESF partners with state and central ministries and departments, urban local bodies and other non-profit organizations to provide training and capacity building for urban local bodies (ULBs), engineers, officials, stakeholders, and practitioners. The courses are customized to cater to the needs of the audience and involve classroom training, e-learning modules, site visits and mentorship by ecological sanitation experts.