



India



Factory Worker WASH Program

Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM)



Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM) supports WASH infrastructure and education for garment factory workers in their families at the factory, community, school, and household levels.

Launched in 2014, Not-for-profit , Drinking Water , Hygiene , Purification , Sanitation , Water Storage , South Asia: India

Partners: WaterAid India





<http://www.svym.org>

svym@svym.org.in

Problem Addressed

Among the population with which SVYM works, there is inadequate access to drinking water, water quality issues, open defecation practice, open dumping of waste, and inadequate WASH practices.

Innovative Approach

SVYM comprehensively tackles basic WASH needs for factory workers and their families. Their education program includes a comparison of financial treatment and social costs for health issues caused by poor WASH practices, with what it would cost to build and operate a toilet, for the groups to debate which is the stronger long-term solution. Training of trainers in factories allows this education to continue for new employees as time goes on, and the same is done with officials in schools.

Program Solution

Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM) aims to improve the health status of garment factory workers and their families and children by supporting them to sustainably adopt safe WASH practices. The project specifically includes: generating awareness; capacity building of the existing local groups and factory worker groups; and undertaking advocacy activities with the government through the local community groups.

The project is currently being implemented in 3 locations within Bangalore Corporation limits - Peenya, Bommanahalli and Nagavara. These locations in Bangalore have a large population of garment workers who reside in low-income areas. The project fulfills the workers' needs for basic amenities, and also strengthens the WASH infrastructure in schools and through innovative "edutainment" activities, in order to inculcate safe WASH practices in children. Most of these areas are located in slums or low income areas, and there is hardly any mechanism from the Bruhut Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to ensure safe water, sanitation and collect and dispose the solid waste.