

# Integrating the Informal Sector in Municipal Solid Waste Management

# **SWaCH Cooperative, Pune**

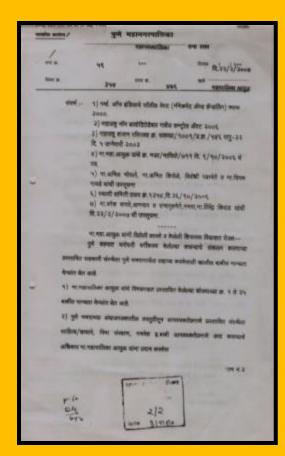






The wholly worker-owned SWaCH cooperative - born in 2007 to provide front end waste management services to the city of Pune and recover user fees, entered into a formal memorandum of understanding with PMC for door to door collection of waste in 2008.





# The SWaCH Model



- •SWaCH is the success story of how thousands of waste pickers in Pune, India came together to get first and rightful access to recyclable waste
- •Private contracts to Waste management companies threatened the livelihood of waste pickers who depend on recyclable waste (paper, metal, plastic, and glass) to sell and make a living

The cooperative is the direct result of the advocacy of KKPKP (established in 1993)

#### **SWaCH Cooperative - wholly owned by waste pickers**

SWACH
A higher level of self-reliance

➤ Better working conditions





#### **Democratic decision making**



- •The Cooperative has 2300 members (and growing) who are engaged in door step collection of waste in Pune who are KKPKP members or their family members
- •Members are not paid by municipality for this work but collect user fee for door step collection from citizens. Sale of scrap is their other source of income

The Municipality saves approx. Rs.12 each year in this model



## SWaCH: How it works

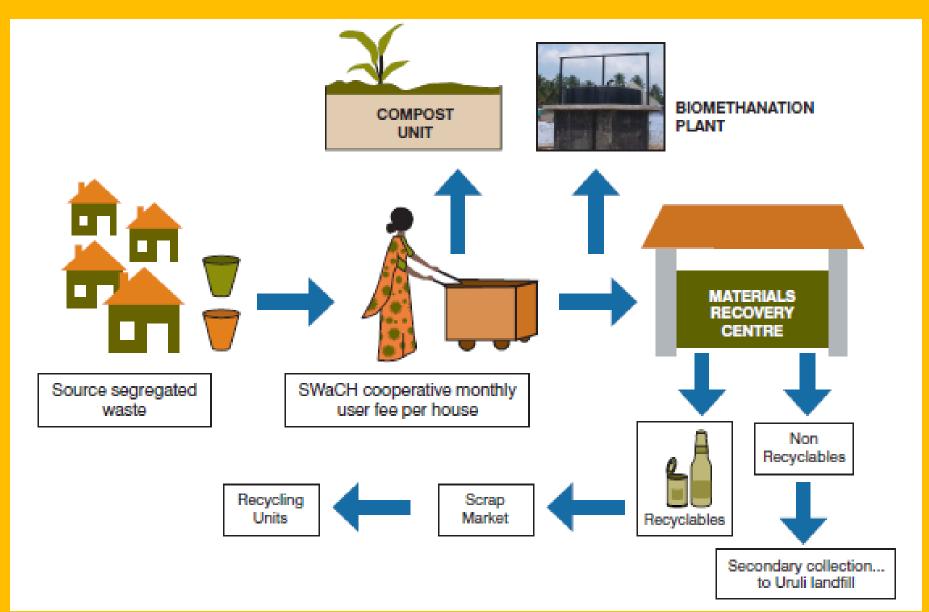
- ➤ Pairs of members of the cooperative are in charge of door-to-door waste collection for 250-350 households.
- ➤ Waste pickers **segregate waste** wet or organic waste and dry wastes such as plastics, glass, paper, etc.) from generators.
- Waste pickers further segregate waste and sell recyclables.

Waste pickers drop off non-recyclable waste at city-run feeder points.
Some SWaCH members provide composting services.



#### The Movement of Waste from Households in Pune







# PMC pays for Equipment and Management Costs











# SWaCH Model addresses -

- Segregation by citizens
- Better conditions of work for waste pickers
- Cleaner waste for recycling industry
- \* Reduction in municipal expenses for waste management



## SWaCH Model addresses -

- \* Compliance of MSW 2000 rules and Mah Acts
- \* Decentralized waste management and processing
  - Climate change mitigation
  - Poverty Alleviation
  - PPP
  - \* Better waste management



# SWACH A higher level of self-reliance:

### Other Activities/Initiatives by SWaCH members

- •V collect: Collection of unwanted household material that cannot be thrown in daily garbage
- Nirmalya Collection
- •Zero Waste Institutions, Green School Programmes, Working with Scrap Shops to increase recycling rates, collection of old clothes



#### V-COLLECT:

- OLD CLOTHES
- NEWSPAPERS
- ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC WASTE
- PLASTIC
- PAPER
- GLASS BOTTLES
- METAL
- OLD SHOES





# V Compost

 Creating and maintaining compost pits in the neighbourhood in a suitable space provided by the citizens



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The Composter Kit contains an aerator, neem powder, culture powder, sawdust, sample compost & tomato seeds





#### **SWaCH E-mail:**

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## **SWaCH Helpline:**

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