

# Capacity Building for Smart Data and Inclusive Cities (SDIC)

## Summary of meetings with City Level Advisory Forum (CLAF)

### Faridabad Smart City Limited (FSCL)

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#### Introduction

“Capacity Building for Smart Data and Inclusive Cities” (SDIC) project is a three-year collaboration between the National Institute of Urban Affairs (India), the Institute of Development Studies (UK) and the 4 partner cities such as Faridabad (Haryana), Kochi (Kerala), Bhopal and Jabalpur (in Madhya Pradesh). The objective of the SDIC project is to support cities with the implementation of smart city proposals specifically by introducing new approaches along with necessary capacity building in the use of smart data for planning and governing cities. The NIUA- IDS team has been working with Faridabad Smart City Limited to identify challenges, issues and themes relevant at the city level. The project approach, which is referred to as “Smart Data for Inclusive Cities” turns the focus away from simply trying to use ‘smart’ technologies, and places the focus on being ‘smart’ about how we use technologies.

The project objective is to provide handholding support to the city in aligning their activities with the guidelines provided by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on data driven governance. The Smart Cities Mission Directorate has launched a Data Smart Cities strategy document (The documents can be accessed through - <https://smartnet.niua.org/dsc/>) and intends to implement it in the 100 smart cities. Under this strategy, one of the important objective is to develop a City Data Alliance for promotion of the localised data driven solutions for the city.

Based on our engagement with SPV representatives, the potential to develop a City Data Alliance has been realised. To support the formulation of an alliance, SDIC team initiated a round of consultative meetings with the City Level Advisory forum (CLAF) formulated under Faridabad Smart City. The intent of holding meetings with the CLAF members is to put meaningful stakeholder engagement processes in place to understand member’s role in SPV functioning as well as to gather their suggestions for the successful implementation of the smart city projects. This report will summarise the issues and suggestions received from members during the discussions.

#### The meeting- Purpose and Members

The purpose of the meeting is to identify the issues and develop collaborative future priorities for an effective data policy to support data driven urban governance and to foster an alliance of diverse city-stakeholders for providing a shared platform to develop an inclusive vision for the use of data within the smart city.

SDIC team initiated consultation with a total of eight CLAF members representing city Governments, other key actors in policymaking, representatives of leading academic and research institutions in the city, community organizations, and entrepreneurs. Following members of the City Level Advisory Forum consulted:

1. Sh. Devender Chaudhary; Sr. Deputy Mayor, Municipal Corporation Faridabad
2. Sh. Manmohan Garg; Deputy Mayor, Municipal Corporation Faridabad
3. Sh. Atam Prakash Setia; President, RWA, Sector-29, Faridabad
4. Sh. Gajender Bhadana ; Village Lakkarpur, Faridabad
5. Sh. Ajit Singh Patwa; Chartered Accountant, H. No. 614, Sector-15A, Faridabad
6. Sh. Komal Bhatia ; Head of Computer Engineering department, YMCA University, Faridabad
7. Sh. Dinesh Kumar (Suggested stakeholder by CEO, Faridabad); Vice chancellor, YMCA University, Faridabad
8. Dr. Amit Bhalla; Vice President, Manav Rachna International University, Faridabad
9. Sh. Sajjan Kumar Jain; Industrialist and Former President, FIA, House No. 1445, Sector-14, Faridabad

#### Important Sectors identified

During our discussion, various suggestions highlighted related to the following sectors in the city:

1. Drainage system
2. Water Supply
3. Solid waste
4. Quality of roads
5. Availability of the footpaths

## Recommendations and Suggestions:

Following are the recommendations and suggestion received from the CLAF members related to the above mentioned sectors:

- a) **Increase the number of CLAF Meetings-** All the members have shown interest on increasing the number of meetings to keep track of the progress of the projects. The members suggested to keep them involved in decision-making, planning and design/formulation, financing, execution/implementation and monitoring and supervision of the projects.
- b) **Inclusive Approach:** Most of the CLAF members suggested for an increase in representation of NGOs. RWAs, Industrialist organisation in the forum. Save Aravali, Eco Club, Bharat Vikas Parishad, Navachetna, and I love Faridabad are the few of the NGOs suggested by the members.
- c) **Institutional Strengthening:** In order to strengthen the capacities at the ULBs level, there is a need to include subject experts for the successful implantation of the smart city projects. The government and the SPV should take the count of the professionals required and hire them before they start the project. In addition to it, the capacity building needs should be addressed of the existing municipal officials.
- d) **Integrated Data at a platform and policy:** The CLAF members representing academic group suggested for data need to be assembled in an integrated platform and need for data driven decision-making. Non-sensitive data generated from city needs to be made available in public domain.
- e) **Improve the coordination:** The need for cooperation among different departments is to be acknowledged because of the involvement of inter department dependencies. The improvement the among the departments can complete the works on time.
- f) **Other Suggestion:** Convergence of activities, timely completion of projects, selection and designing of project based on end user (citizen) requirements.

## Way Forward

The cities selected under smart cities mission are still in the process of creating, deploying and contracting of new smart technologies in the city. Alongside its core roles, a further important function for city governments / implementing agency as smart cities evolve is around data integration & decision based on data to improve the transparency and ensure the accountability. Faridabad city is in the ideal position to pull together and integrate government, entrepreneurs (industrial, utility, corporate, community), academia and citizen to the greatest possible mutual benefits. The success of the role is strengthened by the trust that citizens commonly feel in their local city government, as representatives and protectors of their interests.

As part of project activities, following activities will be aligned over the next year to support the smart city projects:

- Formulation of the city data alliance by fostering a diverse citizen network including civil society organisations, slum dweller organisations, and researchers in the city for stakeholder consultations for city data policy.
- Process tracing of data related activities and data management practices through a draft template for co-creating of the city data policy.
- Handholding support in preparation of City Data Policy.
- To assess the progress in the teams learning and attitude towards data usage and inclusiveness, we administer a Knowledge, Attitude and Perception (KAP) Survey which also aid in assessment of future capacity needs of the participants.
- Peer to peer learning from other SDIC project smart cities like Bhopal, Jabalpur, and Kochi through Cross-city Workshops will be encouraged.

## Annexure 1: Meeting Photographs



Pic 1: Meeting with Senior Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayor



Pic 2: Meeting with Sh. Ajit Singh Patwa



Pic 3: Meeting with Sh.Atam Prakash Setia, President and other members of RWA, Sector-29,



Pic 4: Meeting with Sh. Gajendra Bhadana



Pic 5: Meeting Sh. Sajjan Kumar Jain, Industrialist and Former President of FIA



Pic 6: Meeting with Dr. Amit Bhalla, Vice President, Manav Rachana International University.