



## About

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Founded in 2000, CREA is an international, feminist human rights organization based in New Delhi, India. Working at community, national, regional and global levels, CREA is one of the few international feminist organizations based in the global South. It builds feminist leadership, strengthens movements, challenges unjust power structures, expands sexual and reproductive freedoms, and advances the human rights of structurally excluded people.



## Gender & Sanitation

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The interdependence of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is nowhere more evident than in the area of WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene). The SDGs that address WASH, health and gender equality cannot be seen in isolation.



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## Integrating Gender, Sexuality and Rights with Urban Sanitation

# Project Goal

Our program, 'Integrating Gender, Sexuality and Rights with Urban Sanitation', was begun in 2020 to work towards meaningfully integrating a gender, sexuality and rights perspective with the WASH sector in India.

CREA centers the voices of structurally excluded groups affected most by the lack of access to sanitation and sanitation facilities. We highlight the gendered sanitation needs of menstruating girls and women, perimenopausal women, pregnant persons, transgender persons, sex workers, persons with disabilities and the elderly. We also work to promote the safety and rights of sanitation workers.

CREA provides technical support to organizations working as state technical support units in the sanitation sector in India.

- Ernst & Young, in Odisha
- Administrative Staff College of India, in Andhra Pradesh
- Indian Institute of Human Settlements (IIHS), in Tamil Nadu
- Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), in Maharashtra
- National Institute of Urban Affairs, in Uttarakhand
- Centre for Science and Environment, in Uttar Pradesh
- and WASH-Institute, India

We also work closely with Dasra and the National Faecal Sludge and Septic Management (NFSSM) Alliance. Key stakeholders include civil society organizations (CSOs), state technical units, urban local bodies (ULBs), sanitation workers and community-level WASH committee members.

# SDGs Covered



SDG 5  
Gender Equality



SDG 6  
Clean Water &  
Sanitation



SDG 10  
Reduced  
Inequality

Access to water and sanitation is not just a right but fundamental to a person's health and dignity. Sanitation is a gendered affair, regardless of location or culture, as household cleaning tasks invariably devolve on women. In addition, the female body being a construct of mystery and secrecy has led to women and girls desiring and needing privacy for bathing, defecating, and managing menstrual hygiene and pregnancy. The impact of poor sanitation services on women and girls is multi-pronged and leads to increased burden of work, poor health of self and family, violation of privacy, safety, dignity, and gender-based violence, and threat to their livelihoods.

# Program Objectives

Our goals are to:

- Build capacities via training – of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) grantee organizations, governmental and para-governmental institutes, and other regional bodies – to enhance sanitation provisioning for the urban poor. These trainings will also focus on building capacities vis-à-vis gender, especially its integration with sanitation programs.
- Offer technical assistance to BMGF grantee organizations so they can assimilate a gender lens into their perspectives and policies for city, state and national governments, urban local bodies and municipalities.
- Establish CREA as a Center of Excellence (CoE) for Gender Integration within Urban Sanitation and as a hub for knowledge production and capacity-building through partnerships with other spokes/regional centers.

Our expected outcomes:

- Greater capacity and engagement of government departments, policymakers, ULBs and CSOs to apply an intersectional perspective to their work in sanitation and WASH policies and programs and ensure inclusive sanitation rights for all.
- Improved understanding of the gendered nature of sanitation including stigma and discrimination among communities, government and CSOs.
- Developing a curriculum on a gender-transformative approach which can be included in existing capacity-building initiatives on water sanitation and hygiene.