

Participatory SWM Planning: An Experiment in Bombay Hotel, Ahmedabad

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The process of urbanisation and the state's inability to keep up with it has led to the proliferation of informal settlements in our cities with poor access to basic services and vulnerable tenure security. Planning authorities deal with informal settlements largely by ignoring them, which means no improvement in service provision, or demolishing them, which increases hardships for the residents. The current topdown, expert-led, practice of urban planning is often nonreflective of existing realities and has so far proved inadequate to address the problems of informal settlements equitably. As a way of exploring alternatives to this paradigm, for the last 8 months, CUE has been working with two local NGOs

in Bombay Hotel, an informal settlement in the periphery of Ahmedabad, to plan for effective SWM with the residents. Avni Rastogi talks a bout the conception, planning and process of this experiment in participatory planning in an attempt to answer the question: what lessons does such an experiment hold for urban planning in Indian cities?



Avni Rastogi presenting at CEPT University



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