



Copyright © 2022 by Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI)

All rights reserved. No part of this publication, including the cover, may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the express authorisation in writing of the publisher.

Published by the **Urban Design Research Institute**

Image Credits

Purti Hardikar

Executive Director

Anuradha Parmar

UDRI Studio Team

Anuja Vora | Harsh Shah | Mehak Tikur | Manish Sharma | Raveena Gadkar | Shruti Vanne

The research project is carried out by the Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI) along with various contributors through household surveys, observation surveys, photo documentation, community interviews and secondary research, spanning over an eighteen-month period from June 2018 to December 2019. It is an unbiased study which presents factual information at the time of the survey, and a technical assessment of the same. UDRI does not lay any claim to the substantiation and accuracy of the facts, the data or the content, relying rather on the information gathered through the surveys at that point in time. UDRI, therefore, cannot be held responsible for any data and representations.

Introduction

The Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI) has been working with the indigenous communities of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) – the *koliwad*s, *gaothans* and *adivasi*padas – to understand and assist in determining, defining and addressing several of their urban issues through planning policy and governmental frameworks. The fundamental issue lies in the fact that these settlements have not been demarcated by the civic administration since the 1960s, leading to complex issues of place ownership, threatened livelihoods and poor or no essential infrastructure. As a result, these communities, albeit some of the oldest in the Region, are beginning to lose their identity. Their settlements, encumbered by extremely congested living conditions, are being incorrectly labelled as slums, and the community faces eviction notices on a regular basis.

Under the larger rubric of *Empowering indigenous communities and primary livelihoods of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region including facilitation of housing upgradation and sanitation infrastructure* and through continuous engagement with the communities since 2017, UDRI has been working towards achieving solutions for:

- i. Inclusion in the Coastal Zone Management Plan to protect *koli* settlements (fishing villages) and their primary livelihoods, which are entirely dependent on the sea;
- ii. Demarcation of core and extended *koliwad*s, *gaothans* and *adivasi*padas to regain their space and identity in the city, and inclusion in the Development Plan;
- iii. Formulation of Special Development Control Regulations (DCRs) for the demarcated settlements to facilitate upgradation of their housing and fishing allied activities;
- iv. Empowering primary livelihoods and empowering women through establishing their presence in market places, upgrading the market infrastructure and protecting the market places from being usurped for redevelopment;
- v. Settlement infrastructure upgradation to address micro-level issues of:
 - Water
 - Sanitation
 - Solid waste management
 - Social amenities and facilities

This handbook aims to serve as a guiding document for the various stakeholders involved in empowering indigenous communities i.e. community members of *koliwad*s and *gaothans*, bureaucrats, architects, planners, social workers, amongst others. A series of handbooks comprising technical information has been compiled to supplement planning for indigenous communities.

LIVELIHOOD RIGHTS



Aim: Empowering indigenous communities and primary livelihoods of the MMR; establishing their presence in market places, upgrading the market places and protecting these from being usurped for redevelopment

Core Issues



Lack of provisions for cleaning Sea Food



Lack of appropriate waste management strategies.



Absence of community toilets



No provision for crèche/day care for children



Lack of loading/unloading facilities

UDRI'S suggestions

- Establishing the presence of indigenous communities in market places
- Solving the issues regarding vending licenses of traditional fish/ sea food vendors
- Facilitating market upgradation and protecting these spaces from usurped development

Why are livelihood rights important?

The lives and livelihoods of the kolis and East Indians are entirely dependent upon the sea. Their daily activities include fishing, fish drying & sorting, net weaving, boat repair and fish selling, amongst others.

What are the issues faced by the koli community with respect to livelihood?

- For years, the fishing communities have been coping with environmental and community endangerment due to climate change
- Fish markets are at the risk of usurped redevelopment
- Local fish markets lack suitable vending infrastructure; basic necessities like ramps, washing stations, community toilets and cold storage facilities are falling short and crumbling
- Poor solid waste management in and around the fish markets is leading to an unhygienic environment
- Coastal development projects and large scale trawlers are proving to be a threat to the livelihood of the traditional fisher folk

Who is responsible for the planning and upkeep of fishing and fish markets?

- Department of Fisheries, GoM
- National Fisheries Development Board
- The Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) or other administrative bodies

Who are the stakeholders involved?

- Members of the koli and gaathan communities
- Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs)
- Members of Parliament (MPs)



Enclosed fish market in Versova Koliwada



Open to sky fish market in Versova Koliwada



Community bins next to a fish market in Mahim



Space for washing/ cleaning sea food in Versova

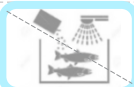







Fish vending in Thane






Semi-covered fish market & storage of wares in Gavanpada

Livelihood issues faced by the kolis

No		Issues related to livelihood faced at the fish markets
1		Lack of provisions for cleaning fish and other sea food
2		Absence of ramps in certain walled fish markets, leading to senior citizens avoiding entering the market
3		Less space for storage of wares; Lack of appropriate cold storage facilities.
4		Presence of an open community bin for disposing of fish and other municipal solid waste – unhygienic surroundings due to the open bin and flies
5		Absence of appropriate loading/unloading facility for tempos & trucks transporting fish
6		Constant threats of eviction by municipal corporation

Palette of ideas and interventions

Potential solutions to help resolve issues	Stakeholders in charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating a series of wash basins/washing facilities within the fish market (if fish market is semi enclosed/enclosed) 	Private/NGO Support Team, Technical Team, ULB & Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of ramps in walled fish markets 	Private/NGO Support Team, Technical Team, ULB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study for feasibility of cold storage facilities Provision of appropriate cold storage facilities 	Technical Team, NGO Support Team & Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program and planning of fish waste management and recycling 	Community representatives, ULB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study the feasibility and plan for suitable infrastructure for easy transfer of fish/ sea food and other wares 	Community representatives, ULB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compulsory vending and market licence for registered fish vendors 	Local MP, ULB, community

No		Issues related to livelihood specific to women at the fish market
1		Absence of community or public toilet in close vicinity of the fish market
2		Lack of provisions for cleaning up after winding up fish sale
3		No provision for crèche/day care for children, while women sell fish

Potential solutions to help resolve issues	Stakeholders in charge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning a self-managed and sustainable community toilet in the fish market CSR funding 	Private/NGO Support Team, Technical Team, ULB & Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning a self-managed and sustainable community toilet in the fish market CSR funding 	Private/NGO Support Team, Technical Team, ULB & Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning a self-managed and sustainable Balwadi/ Crèche/Anganwadis/ ICDS for women and child care near/in the market Multiuse space with crèche (revenue generating activity) 	Trusts, ULB, MSCERT, ICDS, NGO support team & community

