

**AREAS OF COLLABORATION WITH SBM, MGNREGA AND VHSNC**

**Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)**

SBM is being implemented by the Ministry of Urban Development (M/o UD) and by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (M/o DWS) for urban and rural areas respectively. Under the Swachh Bharat Mission the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) can be sensitized about the source reduction methods for vector breeding.

- Inclusion of source reduction methods for vector control while preparing District Project Reports (DPRs) for solid waste management.
- The Ministry of Urban Development from time to time, are to bring to the notice of the States, through advisories and manuals, and other consultative mechanisms, various options available in technology for SWM projects, toilets and street sweeping. Such advisories and manuals can also include details of various vector control measures, particularly measures to control vector breeding, to ensure their inclusion in the SWM projects being developed.
- A key strategy under SBM (Urban) is behavior change communication to ensure that sanitation as an issue is mainstreamed with the general public at large. communication material for behavior change shall be designed in consultation with the M/o Information and Broadcasting, M/o Health & Family Welfare. Information about measures to prevent vector breeding and measures to prevent mosquito bites can be included in the communication material.
- States are to propose extensive capacity building activities and also convene national and regional workshops, various awards and best practice recognition, programme research, studies, international cooperation for capacity building and technology development. While undertaking such activities emphasis may be given on the measures to prevent vector breeding and methods to prevent mosquito bites.

**MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT, 2005**  
**(MAHATMA GANDHI NREGA)**

The mandate of the Act is to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Scope of collaboration in the following areas under MGNREGA may be explored:

- Specific source reduction activities may be added to the permissible works list.
- In the already identified permissible works under MGNREGA, emphasis on preventing and reducing potential vector breeding places.
- MGNREGA also has the scope of involving corporate sector organizations (CSOs), which can be explored for the implementation of vector control program activities.

**Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC):**

One of the key elements of the National Health Mission is the Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC). As the name suggests this committee is expected to take collective action on issues related to health and its social determinants at the village level.

**Areas of Collaboration:**

As per the VHSNC guidelines, it undertakes the following activities:

- Organizing an event where volunteers gather and clean the village – especially solid waste and pools of stagnant water –where mosquitoes breed.
- Motivate voluntarism by mobilization and serve as an inspiring village organization, or they could pay local village youth for the task, or contract labour for this purpose. This voluntary approach helps in community sensitization against poor environmental hygiene practices.
- Organizing teams for source reduction work- identify areas of mosquito larva breeding and taking appropriate anti-larval measures –
  - i) Pouring a oil (usually waste machine oil) on stagnant pools, closing up hollows and depressions where water accumulates,
  - ii) Deweeding the edges of ponds and tanks with a vertical cut

- iii) Ensuring that septic tanks are closed with no cracks and are fitted with a netting on the gas vent and
  - iv) Ensuring overhead tanks are well closed and not breeding mosquitoes. Insecticide spraying and introduction of larvivorous fish could also be done on the same day or soon after but such synergise efforts, need inputs from the health department.
- Such vector control activities may be emphasized upon to be ensured implementation.
  - Provide for any basic amenity necessary for programme implementation but not available in the supply
  - The VHSNC also plays the role as a forum for grievance redressal on the community level issues related to health, sanitation and nutrition. It should dialogue with the service providers in case of any complaints regarding the services and also proactively monitor the access of services and schemes to the marginalized sections of the village and look into any malpractices. It must also communicate grievances not re-solved at the village level to the district grievance redressal committee, where this is appropriate.
    - *Such grievance redressal mechanism may help in monitoring the quality of the services that are being provided under the program and the take corrective measures.*

### **OTHER POSSIBILITIES**

- *Issues related to the program implementation may be taken up and resolved at the Monthly meetings of the VHSNC.*
- *Untied village health funds may be utilized for programme activities.*
- *Scope of integration of activities under various programs can be explored and implemented.*
- *Measures to ensure supply chain management at the service delivery level.*