# **Concept Note**

**Taste felt (Niwasi Sabha experience): A child learned to read, a woman returned to their in-laws, performance of teachers in the government primary school improved, better mid-day meal quality, hand pump got repaired…** this list of small micro improvements is endless.

These small benefits were neither the result of an NGO intervention nor were driven by influential community persons, but it happened because collectively related issues were raised at Niwasi Sabha meetings in the form of agenda, and decisions were taken collectively at the meeting and then acted on by a few residents on the behalf of the resident’s sabha decisions.

This is the experience of pilot testing of the processes that were developed at Sunai Consultancy for improving collectiveness of residents, to be used by development sector NGO and other implementation agencies.

**Idea at Sunai is to develop and design initiatives with the focus on collectiveness by residents in their community. Such processes could be used by residents themselves or could be used by an NGO and social organisations.**

**So Mission of this development is:**

To Facilitate Collective Initiatives of Residents with the Goal - Best public service facilities in our community - education, health, sanitation, social security... Best public infrastructure like road, rail, sports, garbage landfill etc... Education, health, nutrition for all children... All people receive Skill education, employment for all...

**Challenges that we are addressing:** Improving public services and facilities, with increased government expenditure, access to digital community and other favorable factors, there is a continuous decline in collectiveness of local residents. This, in many cases, results in reduced participation of residents in common services or facilities.

*Residents defined here as the persons who live in a close neighborhood community. A person as a resident enjoys common services and facilities like common roads, public schooling, public health, garden, footpath, public transport, waste management services, pollution free atmosphere etc.*

**Design of Niwasi Application and collectiveness:** SUNAI Consultancyhas worked extensively on the concept of Resident Sabha and developed various tools for resident sabha. Gradually this initiative emerged into a set of processes centered around various aspects of Residents. A comprehensive list of the processes for Niwasi initiatives **designed by Sunai team** is:

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| * Niwasi Sabha Facilitation, agenda and decision form * Mera Panchayat Mera Vichar * Capacity building program * Niwasi Samachar Patra * Projects for Students or learners: sulekh, swachh aaspados, mera panchayat mera vichar etc. * Sukun Bhara public place | * Niwasi App / niwasi.in / extensions – partner, student, info, help, community website * Niwasi Solution for electoral candidates * Data of a local community * Swachh Aaspados * Vasundhara gardening services * Everyone LEARNs Well * Niwasi Kendra |

**Related field experience of Sunai: These modules came into existence because we implemented and learned from on ground piloting and some small-scale interventions. Those are listed here -** implemented ‘Niwasi Sabha’ for about 2 years in 30 Gram Panchayats; Provided training to about 20 Niwasi Sabha facilitators; Participated and convened the Talash Monthly meetings; Formed a registered trust Ethical Foundation with goal to promote Talash messages and collectiveness. Organised debate and sambaad program; implemented Zero Waste services to 1000 families for 1 year; Ran compost unit with capacity about 500 kg of wet waste (collected from families in segregated form) per day for about 2 years; Swachh Aaspados campaign with over 10000 families and 9000 school students.

**This mission of resident’s collectiveness is being approached under the program named ‘Ham-Niwasi’. LINK READ MORE ABOUT ‘HAM-NIWASI’**