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Participatory Planning Approach For Upgrading Slums

Slums have been an inevitable outcome of rapid urbanisation and the deficiency on urban policy and planning in bringing new interventions for slum upgradation. In spite of all the government efforts for implementing a wide range of schemes and programmes for slum upgradation over the years, slums are still a threat to development. However, the main drawback with these policies is in recognising the real needs of the poor and involving them in the planning process. Failure to mobilise community participation in slum upgradation projects have resulted in local protest and unwillingness of beneficiaries. The Participatory planning for Slum upgradation is a city-wide inclusive approach with economically and socially feasible models for integrating slum dwellers into the broader urban fabric.

This research work attempts to make a strong argument on the importance of participatory planning in upgrading slums by understanding the various concepts and theories in Slum upgradation and Participatory planning and then comparing different global, national and local level participatory and a non-participatory slum upgradation projects to examine the impact of beneficiary participation in slum improvement. Using

Arnstein's ladder of participation as a methodology for comparison, the degree of participation at different stages of slum upgradation and the impact of it in various interventions involved in slum upgradation is analysed. Based on this specific Tools for beneficiary participation over various stages of slum upgradation are recommended which can be adopted for formulating an appropriate framework for participation in upcoming slum upgradation programmes.

Keywords: *Slum Upgradation, Participatory Planning, Community Participation, Slum Improvements*