

Stakeholder Dialogue- 4

Mainstreaming Sustainable Social Housing in India (MaS-SHIP)

1st February 2018

One of the main outputs of the MaS-SHIP project is to provide policy/practice briefings for policy makers and practitioners based on the key findings of the study with respect to mechanisms for mainstreaming sustainability (environmental, social and economic) aspects in social housing at national and sub-national level in the country.

The fourth Stakeholder dialogue held on 1st Feb 2018 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi was primarily focused on gathering inputs from policymakers, government officials, financial institutions, developers, academicians, and housing practitioners on how these policy briefings can complement the Indian government's current initiatives towards social housing developments. The project's existing policy briefing themes were endorsed by the experts, who also suggested directing the briefings towards specific institutional mechanisms or frameworks within the country for e.g. the technology awards and technology submission etc. in the PMAY Urban Space. Directing policy briefings towards influencing the tendering processes in this arena was also suggested.



Image 1: Discussions at Stakeholder Dialogue-4

Prof. Rajat Gupta from Oxford Brookes University, introduced the project, provided the rationale and background as well as the major outputs coming out of the project-which include 1) the Sustainability Index (SI) to evaluate building technologies based on attributes developed and 2) Decision Support Tool (DST) to provide guidelines for integrating sustainability in social housing projects. Sanjay Seth from TERI briefly highlighted the project's progress and deliberated the discussion on development of attributes of the Sustainability Index (SI).

The team members from TERI & DA presented the project activities highlighting methodology adopted and its expected outcomes. DA presented the data collected for different building

materials, and also shared early findings from the householder surveys and developer surveys of five social housing case studies located across the five different climatic zones in India.

Further, emerging building materials & technologies, validated and promoted by BMTPC and already established construction practices currently considered in the project were concisely mentioned. Building material catalogue, based on the data collection through the surveys, was also presented. The key concern highlighted during the discussions attributed to data unavailability in the country.



Image 2: Participants at Stakeholder Dialogue-4

The event catered to the participants in providing a better clarity on various aspects of the project output. Some of the experts pointed out the effects of building materials on occupant health being missing from the list of attributes of MaS-SHIP SI and emphasized that the access to basic services like public transport, location of amenities etc. should also be an integral aspect of social housing projects in India. The project team clarified on these issues by reiterating the current focus and scope of the project and indicated the possibility of these aspects being considered while detailing the guidelines for the Decision Support Tool (DST) or in the briefing document.

The highlight of the event was the MaS-SHIP Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) survey online link shared by TERI, to be filled during the Stakeholder Dialogue. The project team received 23 responses from the building professionals having relevant experience in sustainability and who influence the selection of construction materials from throughout the construction value chain.

Overall, Stakeholder Dialogue-4 was well received and an active participation lead to interactive and productive discussions. The dialogue certainly provided the MaS-SHIP team with an impetus to further ponder on the possible conclusions that can be drawn from the AHP survey, the scope of Sustainability Index and policy briefing themes.