



GUIDELINES FOR SAAR COMPENDIUM 2.0

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1. Background

India's urbanization is an important and irreversible process, and an important determinant of its economic growth and poverty reduction.

Under the umbrella of the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), 100 smart cities are implementing around 8000 urban development projects worth ₹ 1,80,000 crore+. These projects are across multiple sectors such as WASH, Education, Health, Energy, Housing, Environment, use of Technology, Safety, governance etc. These diverse projects have been/are being implemented in the 100 smart cities, which address the local needs and aspirations of Indian cities and towns.

It is noteworthy to mention that one of the objectives of the Smart Cities Mission is to create replicable models which act like lighthouses to other aspiring cities. The learnings from the experience gained, through the projects undertaken in the mission, could thus be effectively utilized to support needs created by the rapid pace of urbanization in the country. A critical study of projects undertaken in Smart Cities is thus crucial to ensure replication in other cities.

2. Smart cities and Academia Towards Action & Research - SAAR (सार)

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), along with leading academic institutions of the country came together for an initiative called Smart cities and Academia Towards Action & Research - SAAR (सार). The objective of SAAR is to document the learnings from smart cities' projects, provide opportunities for engagement on urban development projects to students, and enable real-time information flow between urban practice and academia.

MoHUA, NIUA and the 15 premier colleges came together to prepare a compendium of case-studies of 75+ innovative urban projects, which have been compiled as an outcome of the process. These case-studies have been prepared by the students of these colleges, and would act as Indian references for urban development projects, which are multi-sectoral and across the geography.



**SMART CITIES AND ACADEMIA
TOWARDS ACTION AND RESEARCH**

- 15** Premier planning Institutes
- 47** Smart Cities
- 75** Case Studies



This first compendium - SAAR Smart Cities Project Compendium 1.0 (hereinafter referred to as 'SAAR Compendium 1.0') has been a pathbreaking effort. This opportunity provided students, scholars, and researchers a platform to learn, build connections, acquire skills, and gain recognition while working on actual projects on ground.

The work for SAAR Compendium 1.0 was conducted at a time when most of the projects under the Smart Cities Mission were in various stages of implementation. Smart City projects are a treasure trove of best practices. It was very difficult to capture many of them in the first iteration of SAAR. As more and more projects get completed under the Smart Cities Mission, immense learnings have emerged which await documentation.

It is quintessential that a focused approach on critical analysis of the projects undertaken by smart cities and the learnings from these projects may be carried out. Further, since India is leading the Urban 20 currently, it will be a golden opportunity to showcase local projects of India at the global level.

In view of the above, as a next step, SAAR Smart Cities Projects Compendium 2.0 (hereinafter referred to as 'SAAR Compendium 2.0') has been launched to continue capturing learnings from various Smart City projects for the benefit of peer cities.

3. Objective of Smart Cities Projects Compendium 2.0

As the Smart Cities Mission has reached its 8th year and is almost on the verge of completion, it is highly essential to document the on-ground learnings of this biggest experiment in the history of Urban India.

Under SAAR Compendium 2.0, each of the 100 smart cities will identify their key projects based on categories highlighted later in this document, partner with academic/ research institution(s) for their analysis of these projects and jointly document the key learnings from such projects as case studies. The learnings compiled under SAAR Compendium 1.0 and 2.0 would act as a reference to replicate similar solutions in other Indian cities.

4. Role and Responsibilities of Stakeholders

While SAAR compendium 1.0 was implemented, with MoHUA and NIUA identifying and reaching out to the partner institutions, SAAR Compendium 2.0 will graduate to the next step. Under the SAAR Compendium 2.0, the cities are expected to enhance their engagement with academia.

The roles and responsibilities of Stakeholders: each of the 100 Smart cities, Partner institutions, NIUA and MoHUA, are elaborated as under:

- 100 Smart Cities

Each city must try to document 3-10 case studies of the innovative urban projects implemented in their city. To document these projects, the Smart City would need to engage with a Partner Institution.

Each Smart City will preferably collaborate directly with a Partner Institution. In case a Smart City is unable to establish engage/tie-up with a Partner Institution, it could alternatively reach out to NIUA/MoHUA seeking support to facilitate the engagement. NIUA/MoHUA may also arrange a discussion of these cities, with an academic institution or think tanks like NIUA, WRI etc. to undertake the analysis and document the projects for cities.

Respective Smart City and its Partner Institution will select their key projects for the SAAR Compendium 2.0. The Smart City will help provide project related information and all necessary facilitation in carrying out the activities under SAAR Compendium 2.0. such as arranging stakeholder consultation & interviews, logistical support etc., to the partner institution.

- Partner Institution(s)

A Partner Institution could be any of the premier Institutes of India such as IITs, NIT, SPA, CEPT, etc. Geographical proximity between the Smart city and the Partner Institution is advisable. Each of the Partner Institutions will identify a team of professors/students for undertaking the case-study for the SAAR Compendium 2.0. The Smart city and the Partner Institution can jointly identify/select the project(s) for preparing a case-study.

The Partner Institutes will undertake field investigation, data analysis, stakeholder consultation and documentation of the identified projects. The Smart cities are advised to provide required facilitation in terms of approvals, arranging stakeholder meeting, logistic support etc. to its Partner Institution. The Partner Institutions will document the case studies. The case studies will be approved and uploaded on the SAAR Compendium 2.0 webpage by the respective Smart Cities.

- National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

NIUA will be responsible for end-to-end successful preparation of the SAAR Compendium 2.0, right from guideline preparation to collation of the case studies undertaken by various smart cities.

NIUA (with support from MoHUA) will support the 100 smart cities in establishing linkages with Partner Institutions. etc., if required by the respective smart city. Further, necessary support related to the implementation if required, would also be extended through conference call/meetings with the city representatives.

Smart Cities will use SAAR Compendium 2.0 webpage- <https://niua.in/saar/compendium/case-studies-for-completed-projects-of-scm> for creating a repository of the case studies undertaken by the smart cities as final submission.

- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)

MoHUA will provide overall necessary facilitation to 100 Smart Cities, NIUA and Partner Institutions. MoHUA would also provide support to the Partner Institutions for coordination with the 100 Smart Cities. In addition to that, MoHUA would provide necessary financial support to NIUA.

5. Particulars Of SAAR Compendium 2.0

The required process under the SAAR Compendium 2.0, are asunder:

I. Selection of Partner Institution(s)

Smart Cities will collaborate with any of the premier institutes such as IITs, NITs, SPA, CEPT etc. for analysis of projects selected by the Smart Cities and compilation of the case studies on these projects. As an alternative, Smart Cities may reach out to the Ministry/NIUA, where the cities will be facilitated with tie-ups with academic institutions or research institutions.

II. Selection of Projects for case studies

Each Smart City and the Partner institution will identify 3-10 unique projects completed/undertaken under the Smart Cities Mission.

Smart Cities and the Partner Institutions will select the projects under the following three categories:

i. Project impact-based Case studies

This category of case studies highlights the specific projects and their impact in terms of problem solved. This category also captures the stories and testimonials of citizens who benefitted from the project.

ii. Process - based Case studies

This category focusses on the projects where process innovation was a highlight. It focuses on processes of how the team (SPV, PMU) executed the project, major issues faced, solutions considered to support on-ground implementation and resolution of issues (covering variety of challenges like procurement, on-ground difficulties, program management).

iii. Macro Impact Case studies

If the cluster of project(s)/ service(s) implemented under the Smart Cities Mission has led to significant impact backed by concrete data, the case study will fall under this category. This category can cover multi-dimensional impacts of the projects on people, place or other factors due to multiple SCM projects and initiatives. Impacts of data and technology initiatives, SPV management, State mission directorate coordination, ABD area impact, are some examples of projects which may be covered here.

Respective Smart City will have the discretion of selection of projects under these categories.

III. Uploading Case Studies on SAAR compendium 2.0 webpage

Smart Cities will upload the case studies on the SAAR Compendium 2.0 webpage as per guidelines for the above-mentioned three categories. A word limit of 2500 words for every case study is suggested.

IV. Operation and Finance of the SAAR Compendium 2.0 initiatives

The operational aspects of the SAAR Compendium 2.0 at the individual city level including facilitation to the partner institutions will be jointly negotiated by the respective Smart cities and partners.

Smart Cities can utilize A&OE funds under the Smart Cities Mission to undertake the activities under the SAAR Compendium 2.0.

An honorarium amount of ₹ 1 Lac may be considered for the categories- Project impact-based case studies and Process - based Case studies, while ₹ 3-5 Lac may be considered for the category of Macro impact case studies. These are indicative numbers, where the specifics may vary on case-to case basis and cities would be free to take context-based decisions.

V. SAAR Compendium 2.0 Working Group

A Working Group will be constituted to finalize the modalities and ensure smooth operation of the program.

6. Step by Step Process under SAAR Compendium 2.0

1. Launch of SAAR Compendium 2.0, Guidelines and Webpage

