

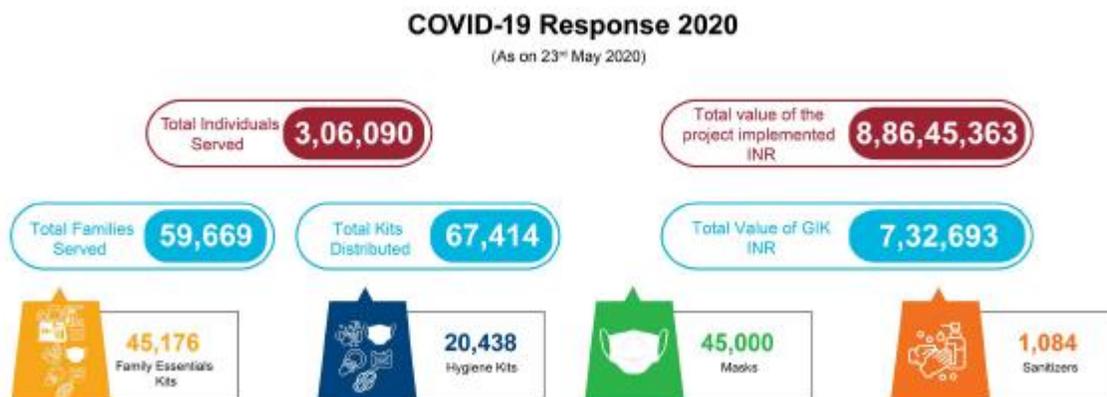
## Habitat for Humanity India COVID-19 Pandemic Response

As the country extends the lockdown, we at Habitat for Humanity India are supporting families and individuals living in vulnerable conditions with no safety net by providing families with Hygiene and Family Essentials Kits. While housing is at the heart of everything we do, Habitat for Humanity India has been sensitizing and raising awareness on the importance of hygiene and sanitation through our WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) program. Through an abundance of caution, Habitat for Humanity India is not deploying our staff on ground but is mounting our response in partnership with state governments, local government administrations or government agencies. We are actively collaborating with governments, institutions, corporates and well-wishers to help families with focus on prevention, protection, recovery and reconstruction.

As the country implements unprecedented measures amidst the global health emergency of COVID-19, we are supporting families and individuals by providing them with family essential kits and hygiene kits. Family Essential Kits Basic consists of essentials required for daily household chores such as liquid hand wash, floor disinfectant, soaps, sanitary napkins, protective masks, utensil bar soap, handkerchief along with essential food items make up the Family Essentials Kit Aid Kit.

Hygiene Kit include liquid hand wash, floor disinfectant, soaps, sanitary napkins, utensil bar soap, handkerchief along with protective masks and hand sanitizer. Hygiene Kit is part of the Family Essentials Kit.

## IMPACT



## **The Way Forward: Solving The Acute Lack Of ‘Safety Net’ Among India’s Migrant Labourers**

A report published by International Labour Organisation (ILO) indicates that almost 400 million<sup>1</sup> working

in informal sector in India have lost wages and employment during the lockdown, thereby pushing 40% of the India economy to a crisis situation. Migrants started to move to their respective villages or towns after consecutive extension of the lockdown measures. A study by Eric Denis et al<sup>2</sup> shows that rural population in India as increased by 7% while cities lost between 4% and 11% according to their typology such as metropolis to small census towns respectively during the lockdown.

We can visualize that there is rapid change in the demographic characteristic of the rural and urban population and also there is severe socio- economic impact on the families thus pushing them into poverty.

Habitat India is planning multiphase programs focusing on the destination and source of the migration. Proposed beneficiaries, their vulnerabilities and suggested interventions are in line with the three-phased Pathways to Permanence strategy developed by Habitat India.

<sup>1</sup> ILO Monitor Briefing Note: [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/briefingnote/wcms\\_740877.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/briefingnote/wcms_740877.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-02551780/document>

### **Story from the field**

Mohamad Iqbal,  
Central- East Kolkata

70-year-old Iqbal and his wife live in a hut just beside a railway track at Park Circus Railway Station in Central - East Kolkata. His wife worked as domestic help and her monthly income was 3500 rupees per month. They have three daughters and a son - all the three daughters are married and they live far away. His son rides the rickshaw and sells fruits some time. His business is seasonal. The family runs with minimal income. Iqbal lost his left arm when he fell from the train 12 years ago. He lost his livelihood too. Because of the lockdown his son could not ring much money to run the house.

“I am very grateful for the provisions from Habitat. This help has been timely because it came in the greatest time of need when all hopes were lost. May God bless the people behind this work,” says Iqbal.

### **About Habitat for Humanity India**

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat for Humanity began in 1976 as a grassroots effort. The housing organization has since grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in more than 70 countries. In India since 1983, Habitat for Humanity has supported more than 35 million people to build or improve a place they can call home.



**A world where everyone has  
a decent place to live.**

Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower.

To learn more, donate or volunteer, visit [www.habitatindia.org](http://www.habitatindia.org)