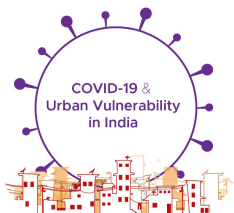


The Impact and Promise of Smart Cities for Post-COVID 19 System Change: Creating Gender-Responsive Smart Cities to Advance the New Urban Agenda

Elsa Marie D'Silva

RedDot™
Foundation

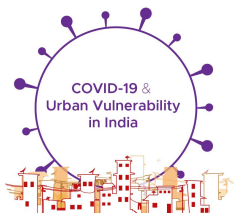


About the organisation



Red Dot Foundation established
in **India**
in Nov 2014

Red Dot Foundation Global
established in the **USA**
in Mar 2017



About the organisation

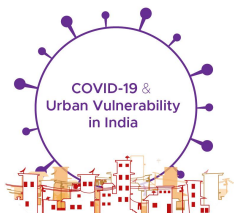


Vision

Safer & Inclusive Cities & Communities for women & girls

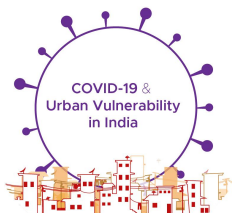
Mission

Ending violence against women and girls through education & advocacy using crowdsourced data for citizen action



The Problem

- Sexual Violence is a **global pandemic**
- **1 in 3 women on an average experience sexual violence at least once in their lifetime according to UN Women**
- **In India, there is a rape every 20 mins according to the National Crime Report Bureau**
- **80% choose not to report it officially due to socio - cultural factors and police insensitivity**
- This creates a **“data gap”** between daily reality faced by women and girls and under-reported statistics



The Problem



Non verbal

- Staring / Ogling
- Taking pictures
- Indecent gestures
- Showing pornography



Verbal

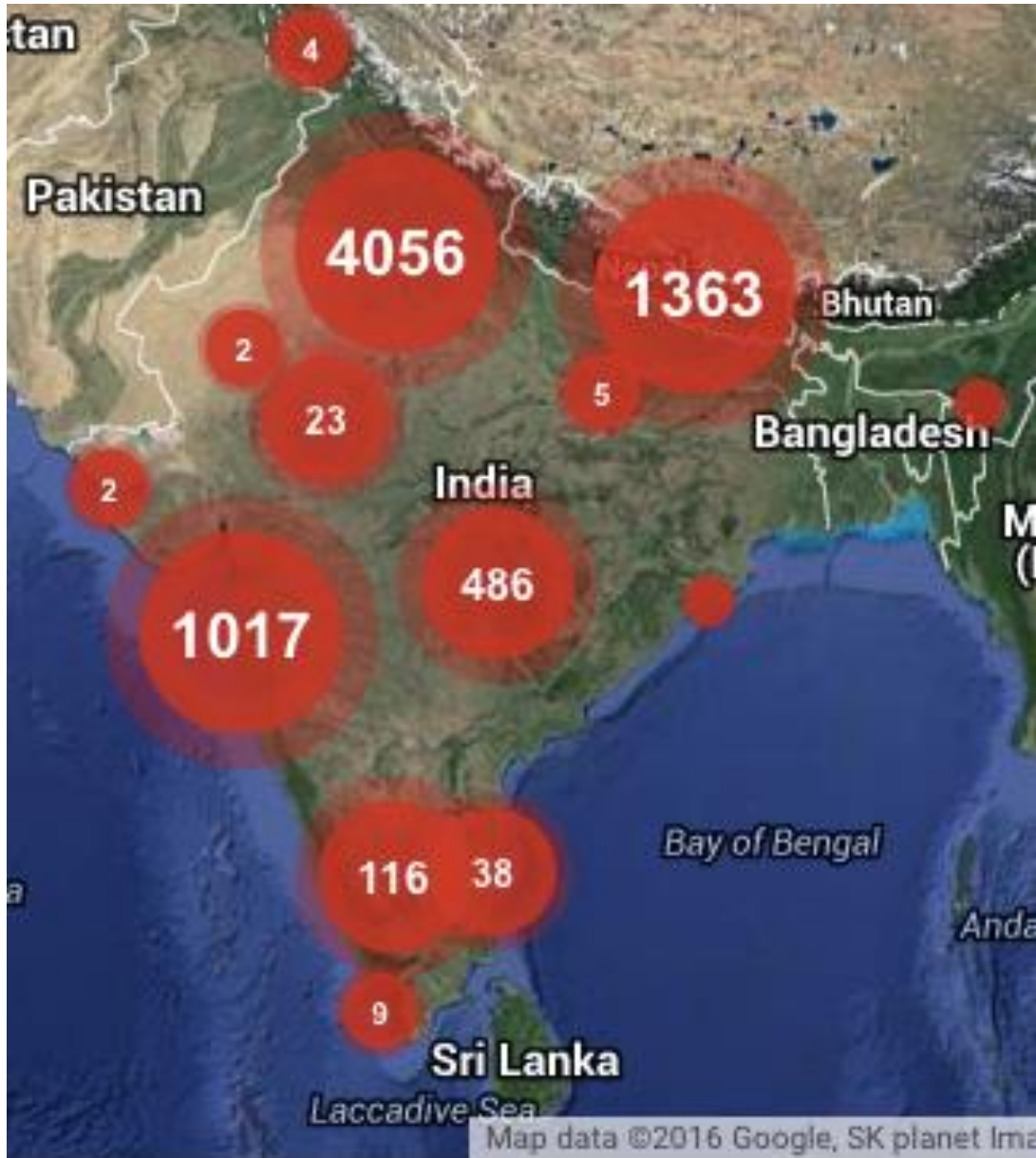
- Commenting
- Catcalls
- Sexual Invites
- Online Harassment



Physical

- Touching / Groping
- Stalking
- Sexual Assault
- Rape
- Domestic Violence

Our Solution

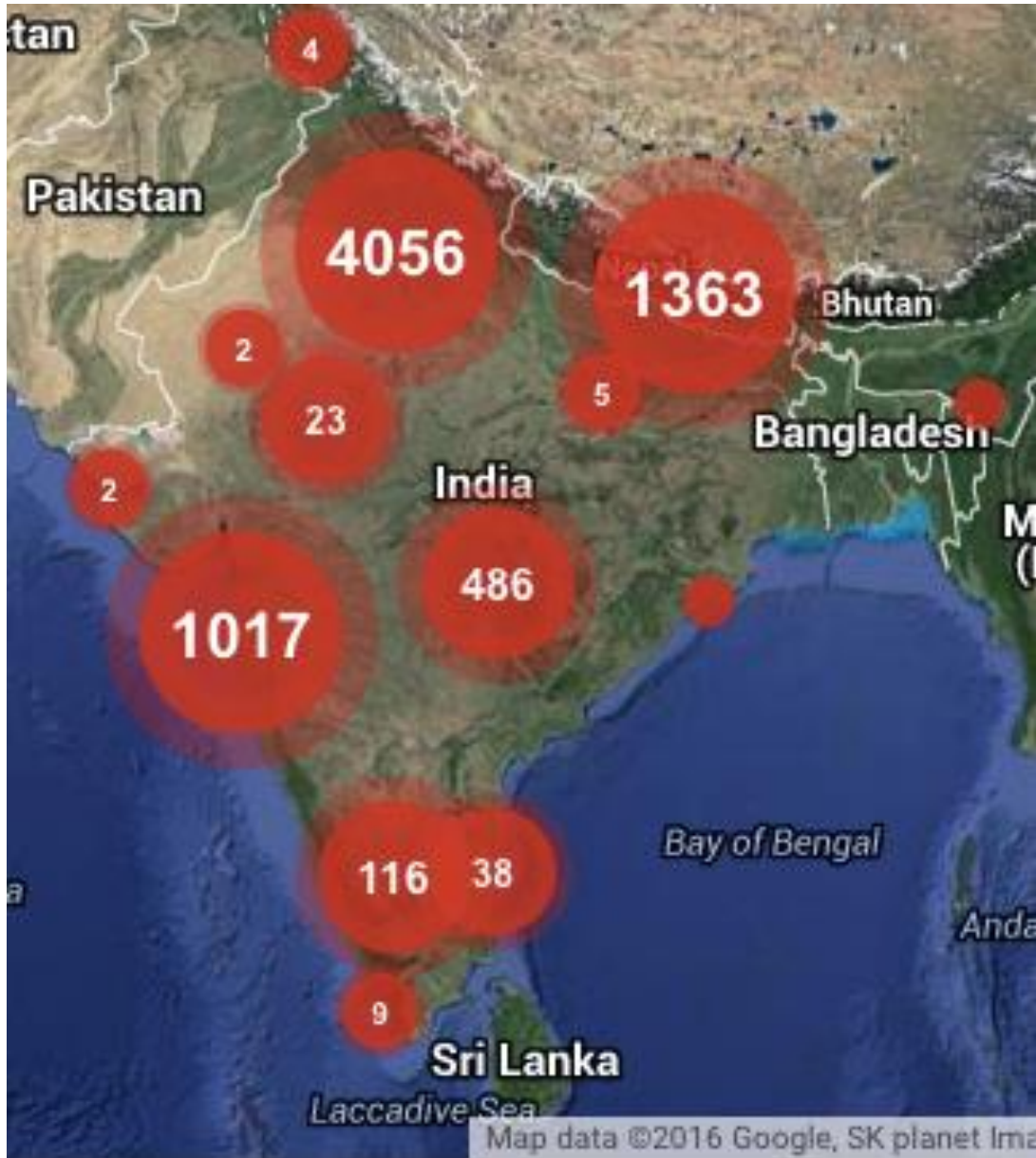


Source: www.maps.safecity.in

- *Anonymous reporting platform (web and mobile) for sexual and gender based violence.*
- *Open Source Data Visualisation and analytics to explain the problem at a local level.*



Our Solution



Source: www.maps.safecity.in

➤ This information allows us to **design safe and inclusive safe cities and communities** through

- **Individual awareness & action**
 - Safe space to report
 - Education and Information on rights
- **Community engagement**
 - Data to take action
 - Creating community support
- **Institutional accountability**
 - Data driven decision making
 - Gender lens to policy making

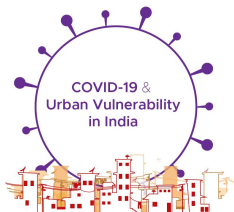


Realities during Covid19

- WHO also issued a Joint Leaders' statement titled *“Violence against children: A hidden crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic”*:

“Movement restrictions, loss of income, isolation, overcrowding and high levels of stress and anxiety are increasing the likelihood that children experience and observe physical, psychological and sexual abuse at home – particularly those children already living in violent or dysfunctional family situations. And while online communities have become central to maintain many children’s learning, support and play, it is also increasing their exposure to cyberbullying, risky online behavior and sexual exploitation.”

- NCW reported a 94% increase in distress calls and messages in the first 3 weeks of the lockdown.



Realities during Covid19

- **Inadequate helplines** - Numbers are varied and not easily available
- **Shelter Homes not accessible** - In Mumbai one of the One Stop Crisis centres is labelled a Female Beggars Home
- **No access to alternate accommodation** - Apartment complexes are not allowing new intakes without testing
- **Access to the Internet and Mobile** - Earlier surveys indicate barely 43% of women all over India have access to a phone. Only 35% of internet users at an all-India level are women and only 31% percent of rural women have access to the internet.
- Lack of transport leading to **reduced mobility**
- Spouses are renegeing on alimony and support



Our COVID19 Programmes



Safe Circle

- Weekly listening circles
- Support for Survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence



Online Knowledge Cafes

- Domestic Violence Laws & Rights
- Sex Ed / Gender sensitivity programs
- CyberSaathi - Online Harassment prevention



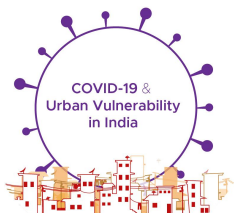
Legislation

- Public Interest Litigation to list Domestic Violence Services as essential
- Advocacy through Media articles and [change.org](https://www.change.org) petition



Inclusive Cities

- Weekly webcasts
- Convene thought leaders like Smart City CEOs, politicians & urban experts



Red Dot Foundation





QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION