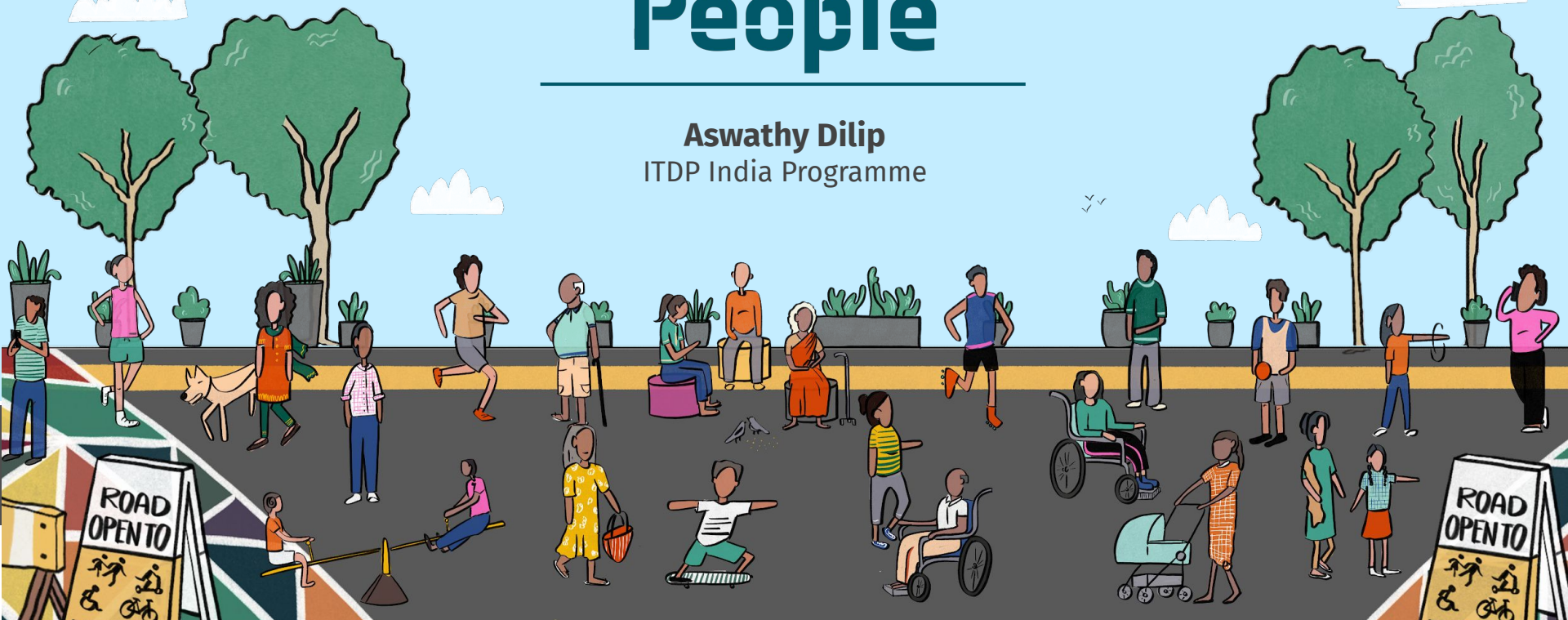


Reclaiming Streets for People

Aswathy Dilip
ITDP India Programme





2020: Who would have thought that the world would come to a halt!

Photo: Mumbai in lockdown, March 2020
Source: news18.com

... but walking and cycling booms in India (like everywhere in the world)



Cycling expected to
increase by
50-65%



Source: ITDP India survey on travel
behaviour post-lockdown



As Indian cities unlocked restrictions, LIFE was back on our streets!

Photo: Lockdown in Delhi, March 2020
Source: Getty Images



and so were the motor vehicles & traffic!

Photo: Post-lockdown in ITO, Delhi, May 2020
Source: PTI

How can we support Indian cities place

HEALTH and ECONOMY

at the core of their COVID-19 RECOVERY?

COVID-19 has highlighted

the **importance of streets as urban public spaces** for

HEALTH, RECREATION, and ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Improving streets for walking can increase retail sales by up to 30%.



Source: : ITDP India

New York has saved 80,000 jobs during COVID-19 through the Open Streets program.



Source: : The Zebra Press

Making streets safer and liveable for children also benefits health, air quality, and congestion.



Source: : ITDP India



Before

A few Indian cities have already been
reimagining its streets

Pondy Bazaar, Chennai
Source: ITDP India

After

from vehicular conduits to paradises for people

How can we support
all Indian Cities quickly
transform their streets into
walking and cycling havens?

Introducing Tactical Urbanism

Tactical urbanism interventions are quick, temporary, and low-cost projects characterised by a community focus to build support for long term change.



Embracing a 'TEST-LEARN-SCALE' Approach

Phase 1

Test
pilots



Source: CNews

Create a scale-up
proposal



Source: ITDP India

Building support for
walking & cycling



Source: ITDP India

With Citizens — By Citizens — For Citizens

Listening to our citizens

*Discussions and perception
surveys*



Mapping their issues

Audits and site surveys



Creating design solutions

Design competitions



Launching national Walking and Cycling programmes



Scaling up efforts in the long term

Advanced Phase - Upcoming

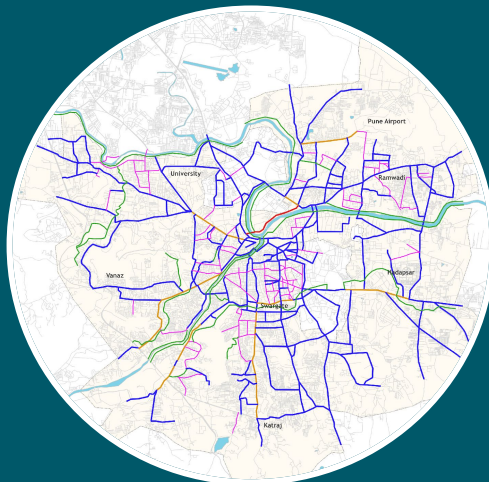
Implement the
scale-up proposal



Source: Incredible India

+

Adopt NMT policy,
allocate budget



Source: ITDP India

+

Establish supportive
institutional framework



Source: ITDP India

How did cities embrace the national programme?

A Nationwide Walking-and-Cycling Revolution

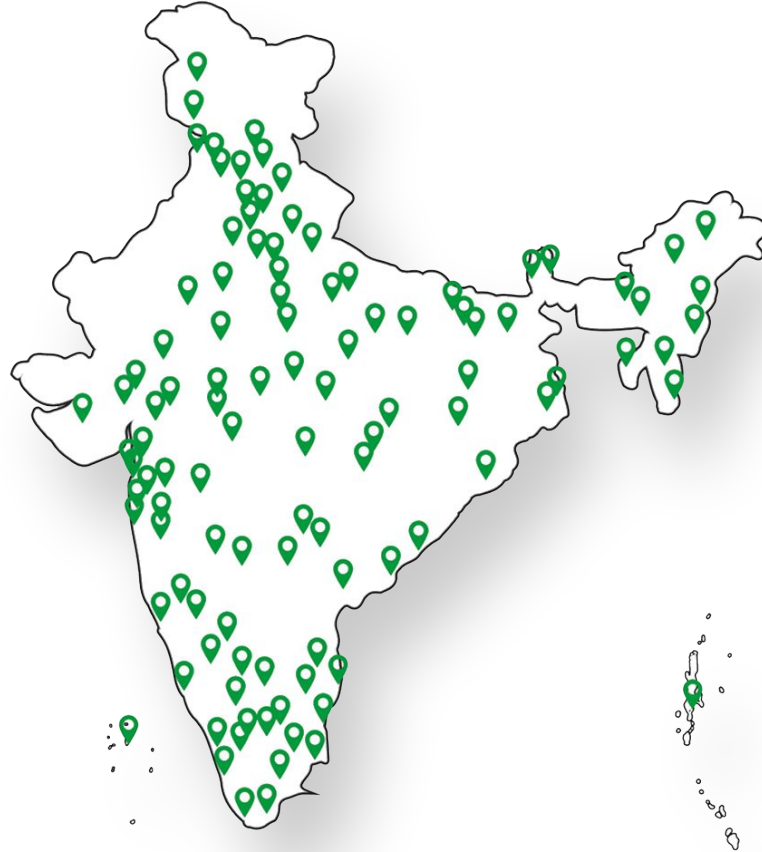
100+

cities participating



INDIA
CYCLES 4 CHANGE
CHALLENGE

**Streets for
People**
CHALLENGE



Identified sites with support of citizens and Over 600 civil society organisations



Capturing concerns of over **60,000 citizens** through perceptions surveys and discussions



City-led design competitions

Call for ideas

The competition is an important step in the **Streets for People Challenge**. It aims to crowdsource innovative ideas from professionals and students from architecture, urban planning, and other relevant fields to design streets for people in their cities.

Following the **test-learn-scale approach**, the competition is looking for economical solutions that are quick, innovative, and easy to test.

The winning designs will be tested on ground using cost-effective tools, in collaboration with the local community.

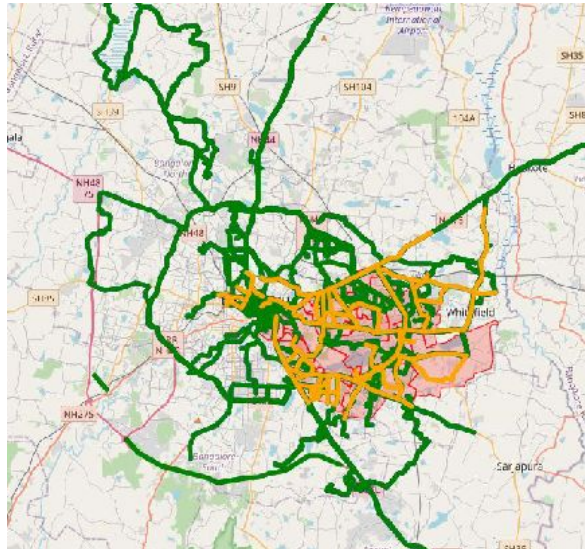


Register here for the competition

Bringing together about 2000 participants



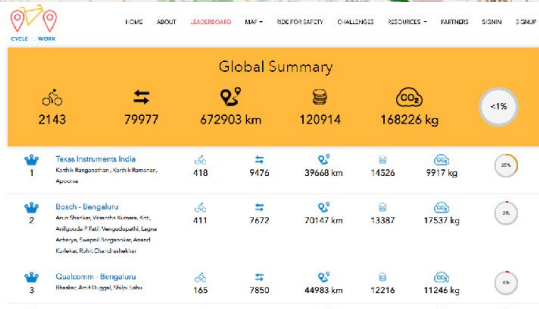
Creating ~400 km for pilot transformation



Source: Sathya Sankaran



Source: K/MMCL



A proposal for a **17km cycling corridor**, leading to **India's first pop-up cycle lane!**

Creating ~400 km for pilot transformation



Testing and learning from their pilots



Source: Kohima



VISION SITABULDI DISTRICT

CURRENT PROBLEMS

- The street is prone to accidents, owing to heavy vehicular traffic and unauthorized entry
- There are no designated lanes for the two-way traffic
- Pedestrians cannot use the road safely

THE PLAN

To make the road pedestrian-friendly, make it a dynamic and vibrant shopping and cultural destination of the city by creating multifunctional spaces

TRAFFIC DIVERSION

Unwanted traffic to be re-routed from the main street. Secondary routes to function as auto-rickshaw drop offs & call-de-cac. Parking spaces at vacant plots within 250m

AMENITIES PLANNED

- Cycles on rent
- E-rickshaw service and pick-up laybys
- Green nodes
- Barrier-free space and zebra crossing
- Seating on plastic fruit crates

SAFETY IN

DESIGN FEATURES

- 1 Amenity plaza** | A welcoming space with essential amenities like an info guide, bike rental office, bathrooms
- 2 Non-motorised vehicle (NMV) lane** | 5m | For bikes & dedicated e-rickshaw. To have benefit at intervals to make the street permeable and introduce programmed pockets
- 3 Hawk-3ers lane** | 2.5m | To accommodate vendors and create a new shopping experience
- 4 Food Bazaar** | To come up on the vacant courtyard of a school. To have city's famous food joints



- 5 Safe crosswalks** | Zebra crossings with tactile pavings to increase pedestrian safety
- 6 Dynamic linear park** | A pop-up everyday market space for activities like outdoor chess, hopscotch etc before 10am
- 7 Pedestrian promenade** | 5m | Enhanced pedestrian access to market shaded with trees
- 9 Drop-off points** | Designated e-rickshaw drop off and pick up points along NMC lane
- 8 Pop-up events plaza** | A part of the market zone near a library. Transforms into an exhibition/book fair space

Pedestrians at core of Sitabuldi main road makeover plan

Redevelopment focuses on making shopping pleasurable on a clutter-free street where various activities can be planned

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Sitabuldi, the city's most bustling commercial pocket, promises to become pedestrian-friendly. The redevelopment of the 1km long Variety Square-Loha Pul Square Sitabuldi main road envisages earmarking 84% of the road space for pedestrians. Currently, a major portion of the Sitabuldi main road is gobbled up by hawkers, moving and parked vehicles, roadside vendors leaving a mere 5% for the pedestrians. This are findings of a study carried out under 'Reimagining Sitabuldi Market' proposal prepared by Summit Asia Architects, Nagpur (SAA) and The Blank Slate (TBS), Mumbai.

As winners of the Street for People Challenge (an initiative by Smart Cities Mission, MoHUA, Government of India), architects and urban designers from SAA and TBS aim to transform the bustling Sitabuldi market into a vibrant public space for Nagpurians.

The main challenge in this competition rolled out by Nagpur Smart and Sustainable City Development Corporation Ltd was to expand the potential of the street by proposing new activities with maximum focus on enhancing the shopping experience. The overflowing pedestrian movement, increased vehicular traffic and on-street parking leads

Times View

The plan to reserve Sitabuldi main road for pedestrians is decades old. Still, it is good that a new version is coming up. While it is without doubt a good idea, where such things often fail is at implementation level. The biggest problem is that NMC and cops have been unable to remove vendors from the road for decades. How will they prevent vendors from occupying space meant for walkers in new plan is not clear. Far from being a pedestrians' paradise, road may become even more of a vendors' paradise.

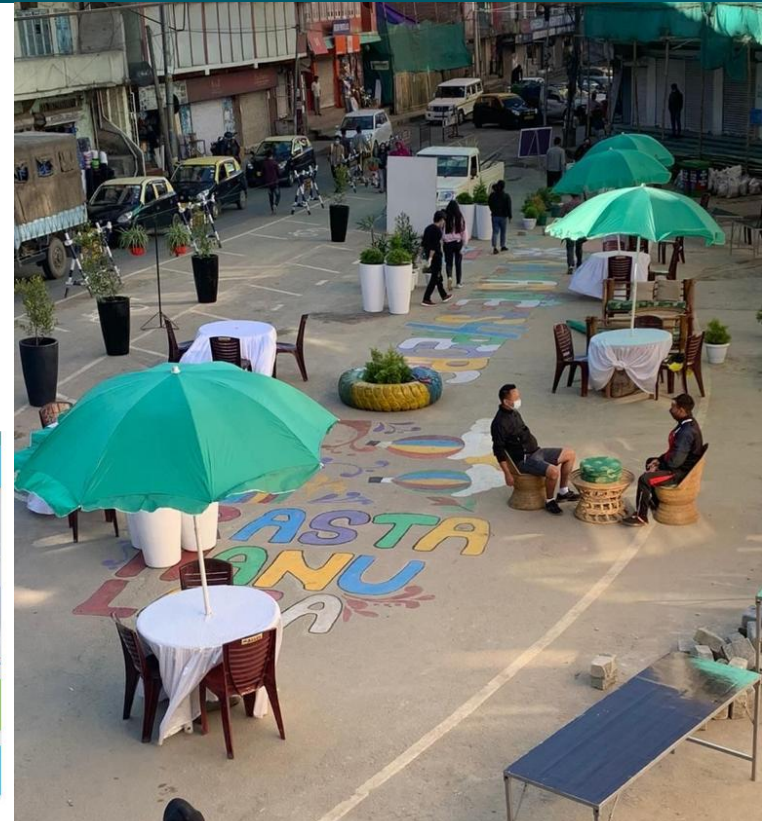
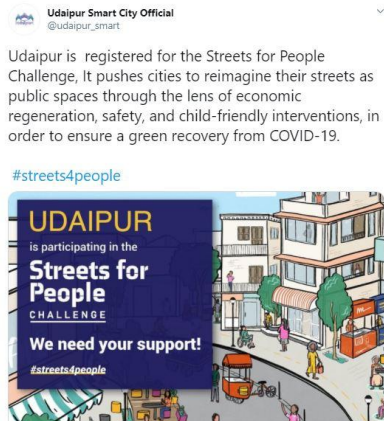


The distinct features were not only designed to allow better use of the street but also to provide a pleasant experience for the shoppers. The safe and accessible crosswalks, a non-motorised vehicle (NMV) lane, e-rickshaw drop-off points, and pedestrian promenades are some of the features.

Also, there are provisions for an amenity plaza, dynamic linear park, pop-up events plaza, a hawkers' plaza, and a food bazaar dispersed throughout the length of the street.

"A mobile application is also proposed which is a one-stop solution for

Engaging thousands of citizens through campaigns and events



Setting up **training camps, cycle repair clinics**

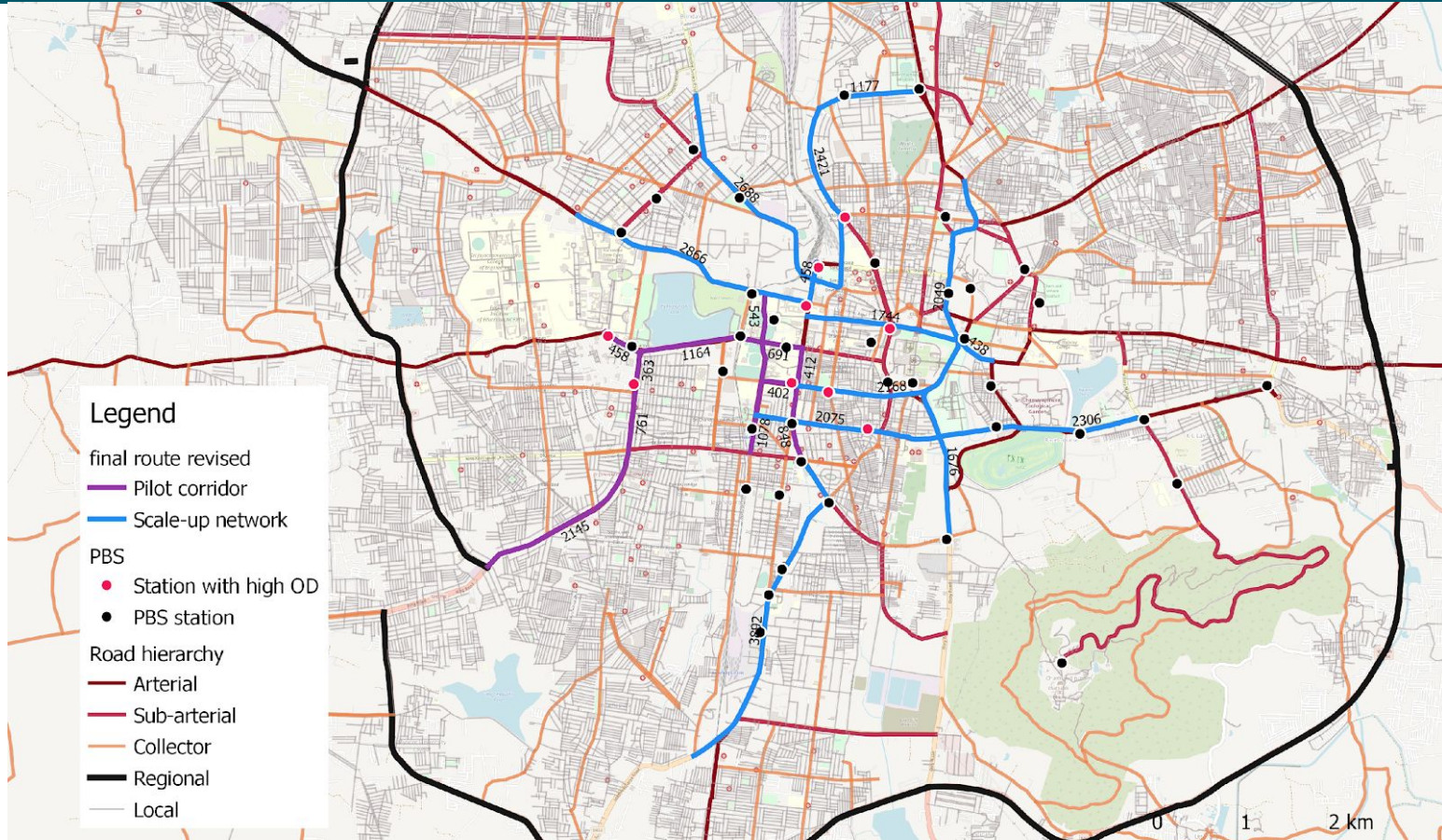


New Town Kolkata



Scaling up from TU's

Developing scale-up plans



Initiating adoption of Healthy Streets Policy



10 PILLARS OF HEALTHY STREETS



Building institutional resilience



How does the programme support Indian Cities?

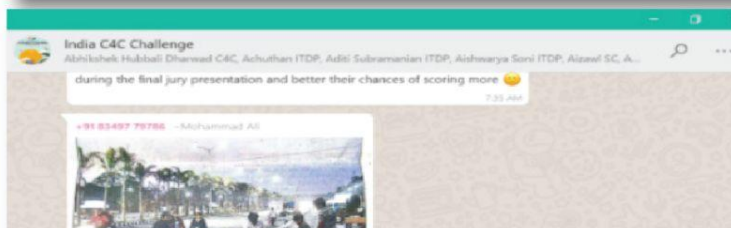
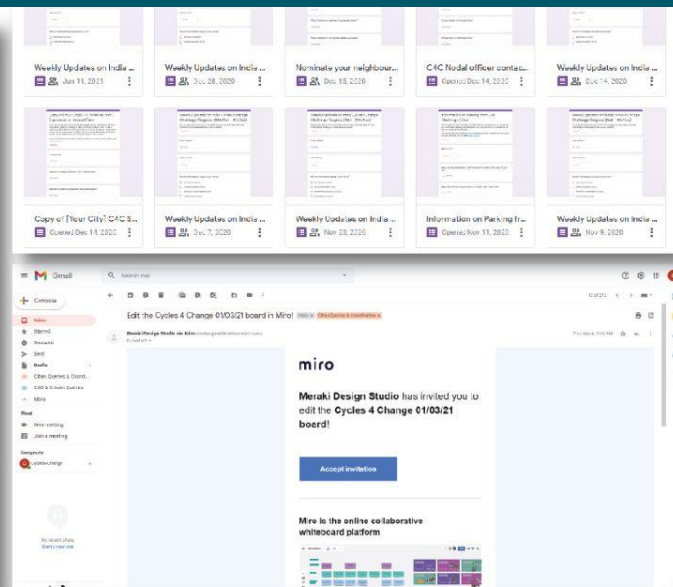
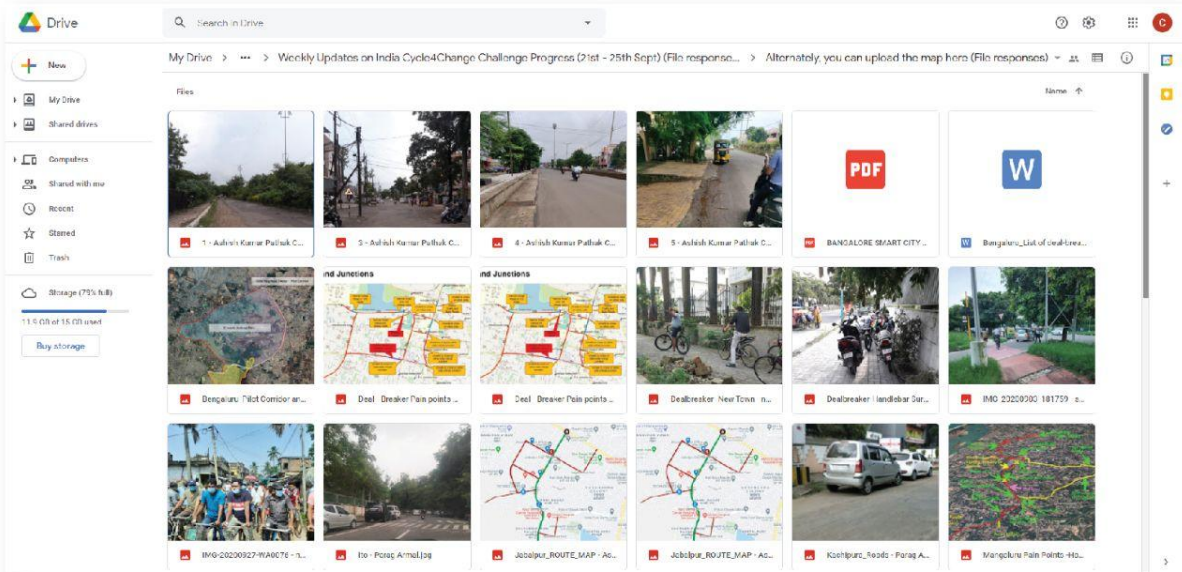
Technical assistance: **Workshops**



Technical assistance: **Resources**



Collaboration and Coordination: Creating platforms for peer to peer learning



My reflections

Creating **happy cities** through **healthy streets**

*Thank you to the entire team of the Smart Cities Mission
and ITDP India Programme who worked relentlessly on this
work over the last year.*

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