

KalaWani

-The Voice of Art-

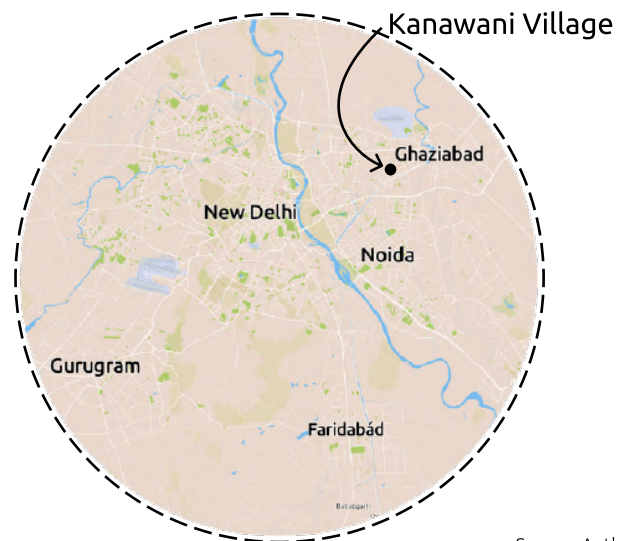
The Observation and Action Network
2021 Grants Program





ABSTRACT

The project aims at setting up a Skill Development Centre for women in Kanawani, an urban slum in Indrapuram, Ghaziabad. It provides an opportunity to the females of the community to come together and create something meaningful while nurturing skills through interpersonal teaching and guidance. The design intervention, imposed on an existing structure, includes a crèche facility as well. The proposal follows through till the marketing stage, helping the women acquire raw materials and establish a network of clientele to support their families and instill in them a sense of self esteem.



Source: Author



Source: Author



Source: Google Earth

Set against a backdrop of high rises, Kanawani is located along the Hindon River. Home to an array of migrants from states like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh among others, they primarily work as labourers in the adjacent construction sites apart from some auto drivers and rickshaw pullers.



Source: Author

THE PROBLEM

Women, in society, have been held to lower regard, especially in rural setups like Kanawani, since time immemorial. While some women are employed as househelp in the neighbouring societies, a lot of them are shackled to the confines of their homes. Unable to move out of the village for work prospects and lack of jobs within ultimately renders them unemployed.

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, as the world shut down, even the few employed women lost their jobs. People were reluctant to welcome them back to work, fearing infection. Those who did get their jobs back experienced a cut in their already minimal wages.

THE SITUATION

While the women are reduced to homemakers, interacting with the community revealed a plethora of innate talents among them which they were oblivious of. What they saw as something insignificant and inconsequential formed the very basis of this proposal- an opportunity to tap their vast potential for economic and social prosperity. Hence, a Skill Development Centre, a space where the women can nurture their talent, acquire new skills and grow together.



It is a man's world outside. The women in my family don't need to work. It is their duty to manage the household.

But who'll look after the children then?

I think women should be given opportunities to put their skills to better use, especially now when our wages are meager.



Source: Author

THE INITIATIVE

The skill development centre provides an opportunity for women to learn new skills, develop them, and earn a living through them. When connected to the markets, the income generated by selling their work will help them support their families through these times of cut wages.

The location of the project within the periphery of the village with an attached creche facility quashes any objection from the men while enabling the women to work and tend to their children simultaneously.

This will be a self-sustaining initiative, as the people of Kanawani will create employment themselves by teaching and helping each other.

PROPOSED SKILLS

The people of Kanawani come from different backgrounds: Mathura, Ghaziabad, Patna, Bengal, etc. The proposed skills reflect their traditions and revive their culture. This preserves the identity of the people and brings them together as a whole.



EMBROIDERY



IMPOSSIBLE BOTTLE



HANDCRAFTED EARRINGS



SEWING



BASKET WEAVING

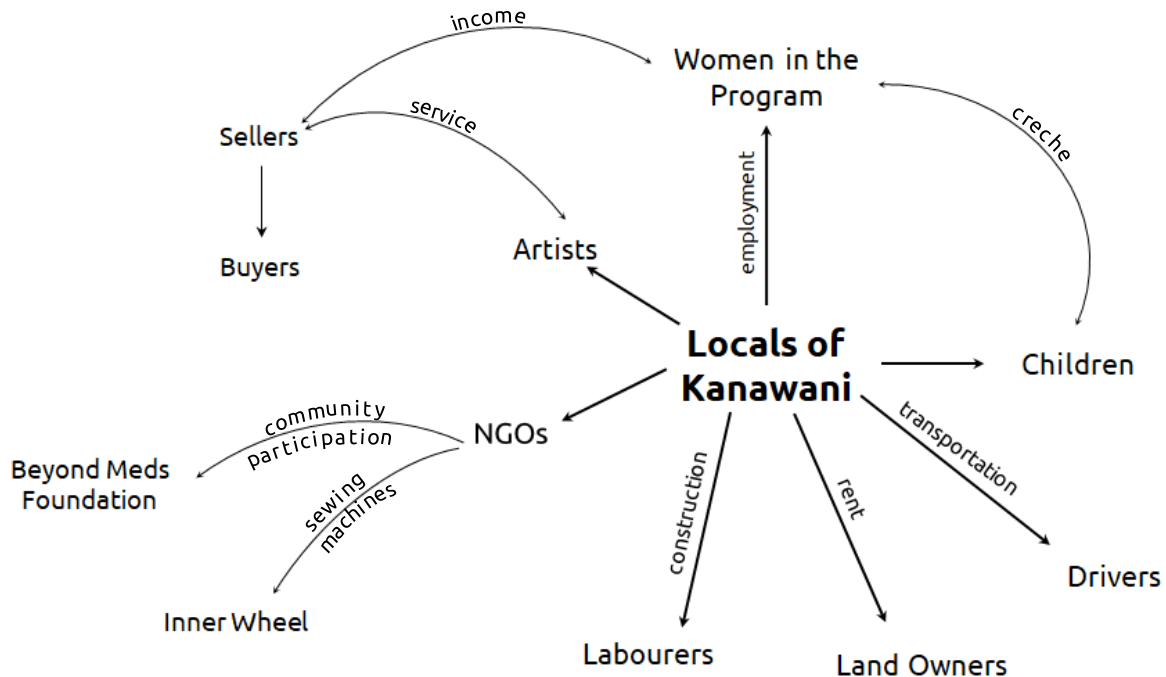


HANDCRAFTED TRAYS

Source: Author

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Kalawani is directed towards the upliftment of women, who are the major stakeholders. Both the people teaching and the people learning will be Kanawani's people. The development of this space warrants some repairs and additional construction on the existing site. This way, a significant part of the community will be engaged : construction workers. Transportation to and from the market would involve the rickshaw and auto drivers.

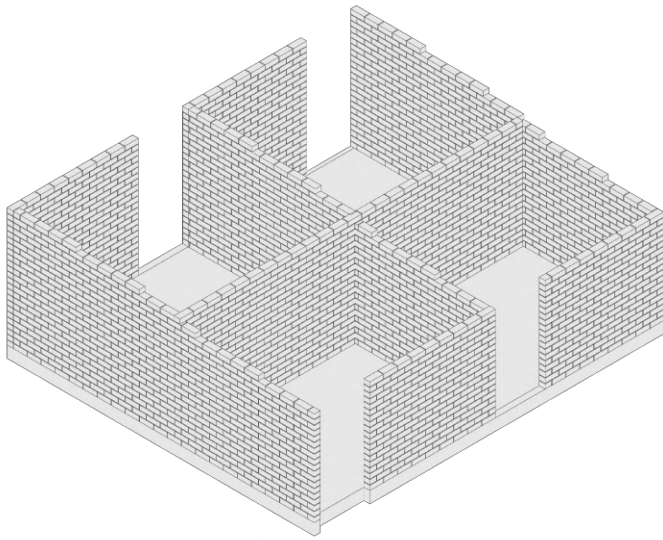


NGO CONTRIBUTION

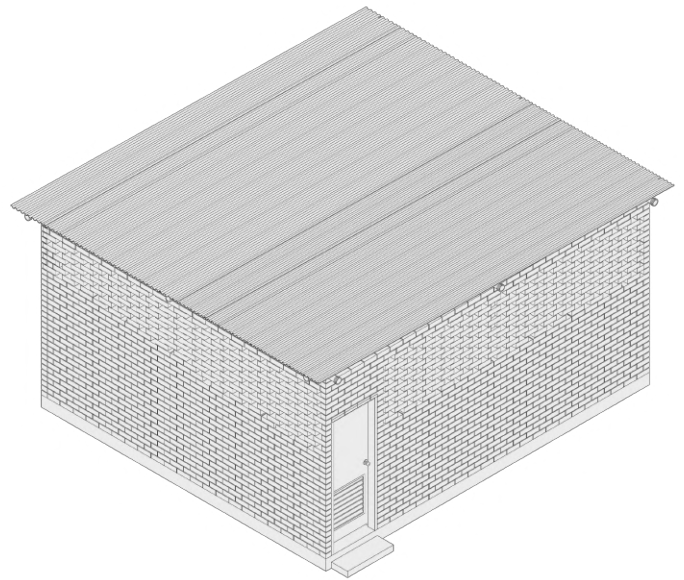
Inner Wheel, the international women's organization is a voluntary organization, working for women's rights, peace, girl child education, etc. A part of the ECOSOC Roster, Inner Wheel has a number of representatives at the UN. For this project, Inner Wheel will provide us with sewing machines and the raw material for sewing.



Beyond Meds Foundation is a Mental Health NGO, registered under Companies Act, 2013. They aspire to address myths and negative beliefs to eradicate the stigmas surrounding mental health. They are running a school for intellectually disabled kids in Kanawani. For this project the Foundation will provide us with their support, help conduct the activities, and help set up a market.



EXISTING
STRUCTURE



PROPOSED
STRUCTURE

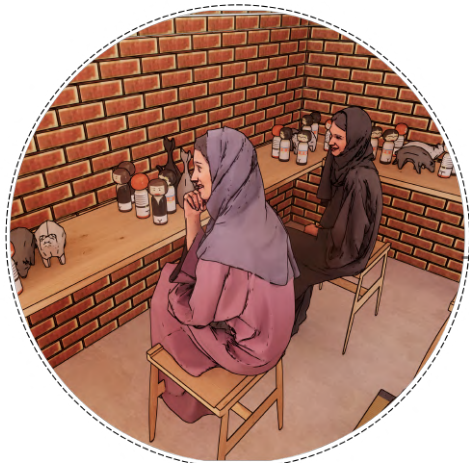
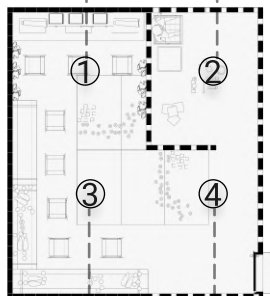
The Skill Development Centre will evolve from an already established structure. The site lies on unoccupied, private land with 4 small rooms separated by partition walls. Breaking down two of the internal walls makes room for a larger space devoted to skill development and leaves a smaller area to be developed as the creche. The intervention would include raising the walls higher using a brick jaali to enhance light and ventilation in the room while the jaali between the creche and skill development area provides visual connectivity without hindering individual functionality. Damp jute bags can be attached to the jaali walls during summers to provide a cooling effect. Additionally, a functional roof makes the space safe and inhabitable.



1. SEWING



2. CRECHE

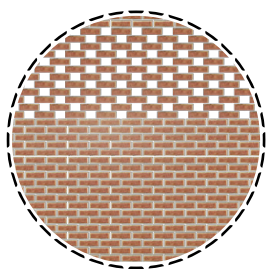
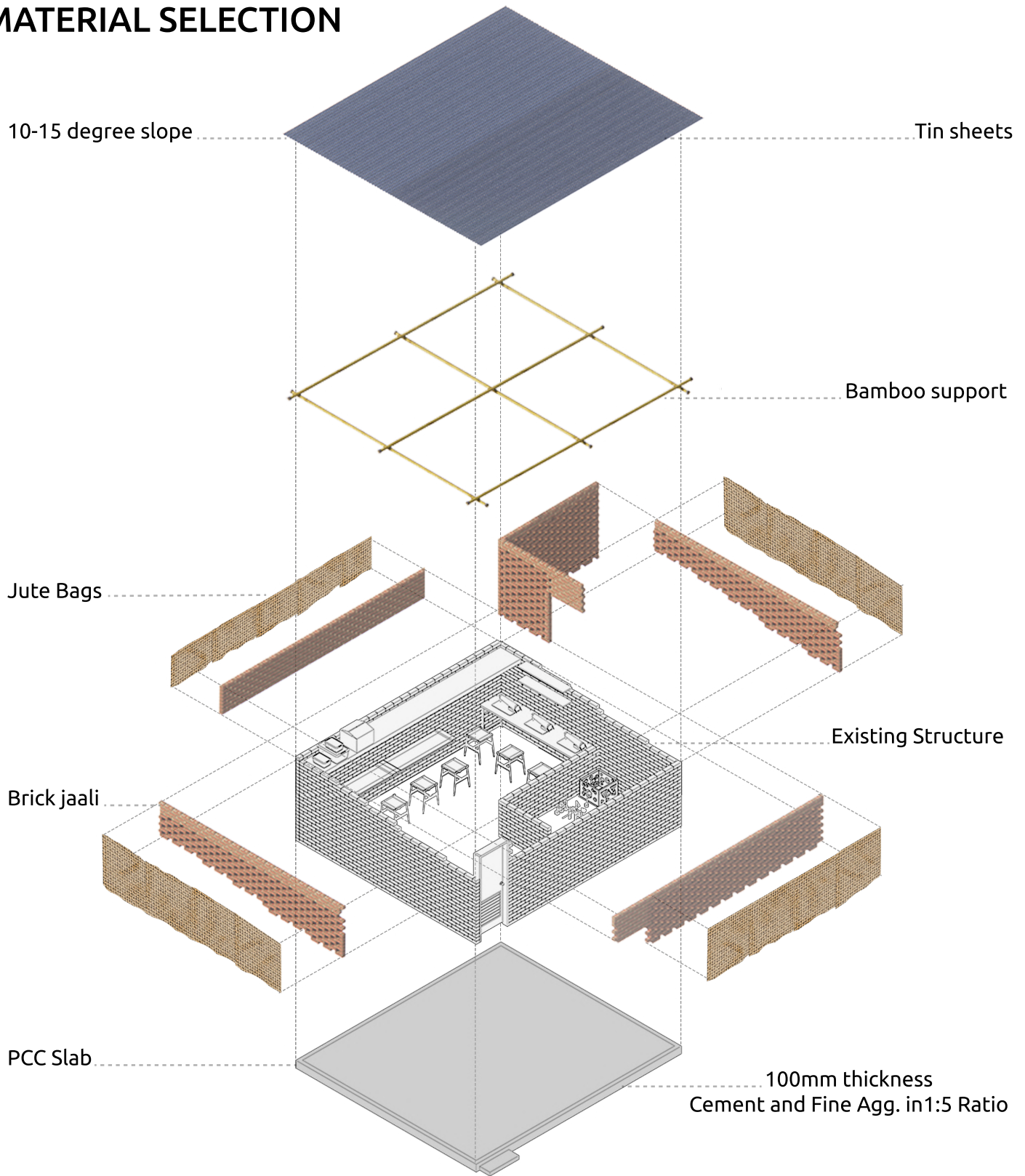


3. HANDICRAFTS

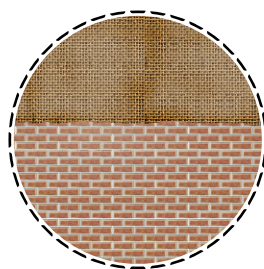


4. KHAT IN A BOTTLE/
IMPOSSIBLE BOTTLE

MATERIAL SELECTION



Brick jaali to enhance light and ventilation during day.



Damp jute bags to provide a cooling effect during summers and act as a protective shield during rains.

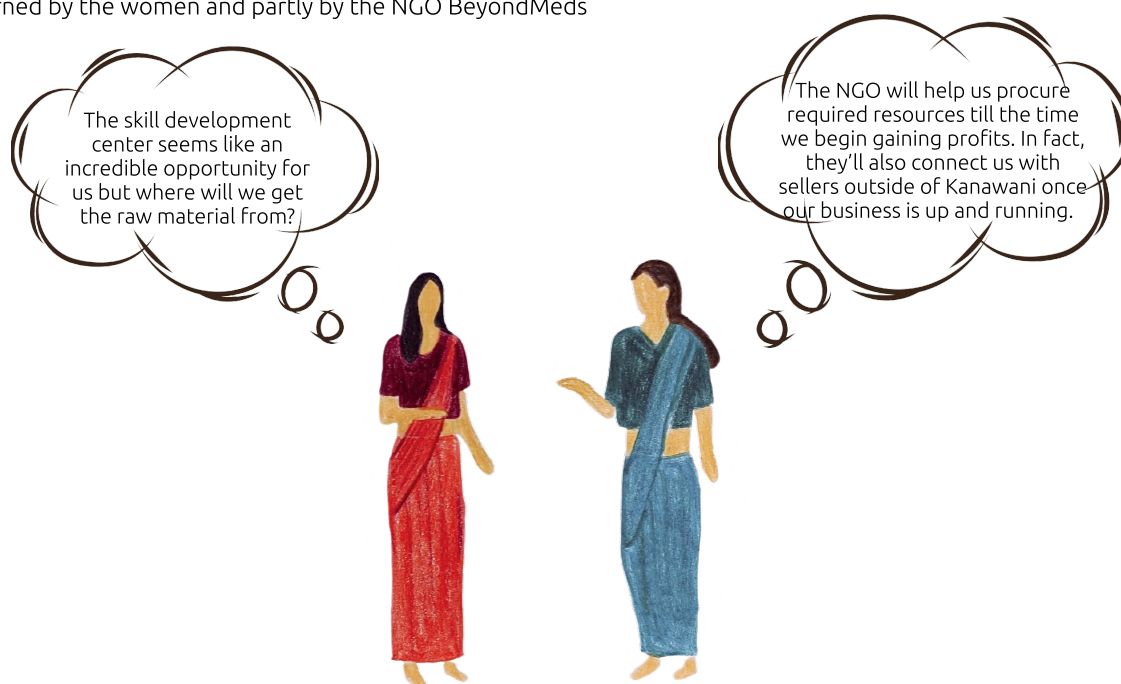


Jaali between the creche and skill development area for visual connectivity.

COST ESTIMATION

S. No.	Description	Price	Quantity	Total Cost
1.	Bricks	Rs. 5 per brick	850	4250
2.	Cement	Rs. 340 per 50kg	7	2380
3.	Badarpur	Rs. 55 per sq. foot	43	2365
4.	Rori	Rs. 55 per sq. foot	90	5000
5.	Tin Sheets	Rs. 600 per 3' x 10' sheet	12	7200
6.	Electrical Appliances	Rs. 1500 per fan Rs. 425 per Tubelight Rs. 500 per switch board	3 3 3	7275
7.	Furniture	Rs. 350 per stool Rs. 1500 per table	8 3	7300
8.	Misc. Charges	25% of materials and fittings		10,340
9.	Mistri	Rs. 650 per day	4	2600
10.	Labour	Rs. 500 per day	6	3000
			TOTAL	51,710
11.	Rent *	Rs 5000 per month		5000
			TOTAL	56,710

*Rent charges will be borne by us till the time the budget allows. Post exhaustion of the given funds, the rent will be paid partly using the profits earned by the women and partly by the NGO BeyondMeds





LEGEND:



Kanawani Markets (for selling)

- 1. Suraj Market
- 2. Jairam Market
- 3. Kasana Market
- 4. Sachin Kasana Market



Weekly Markets (for selling)

- 1. Mangal Bazaar
- 2. Budh Bazaar
- 3. Shani Bazaar
- 4. Mandi Bazaar



Markets (for buying raw materials)

- 1. Vasundhra Market
- 2. Shakti Khand Market
- 3. Ghanta Ghar

IMPACT

This initiative will create jobs and give an additional source of income for the residents of Kanawani. It will also assist the women in becoming financially self-sufficient, and they may even receive a little more respect as wage earners. As the people all come together for a holistic development of the community, everyone gets a chance to build something for themselves and grow. This opens up new opportunities for young girls to progress in life with these skills, become self-dependent and stand up on their own feet.



Ma, I would like to enroll in the skill development center being developed in our village.

Yes, you should. I never had the opportunity to work but I want you to learn new skills and be able to achieve financial independence.

CONCLUSION

Kalawani is a self-sustaining initiative as the people of Kanawani will create employment themselves by teaching and helping each other. It aims at empowering women by teaching them new skill and enhancing the ones they already have. The project taps into the women’s potential and makes them capable enough to support their families better. Furthermore, it gives them a chance to attain financial stability, equality and uplift their position in society by building self-esteem and pride in themselves.