

## Concept Note

Waste Warriors Society is an eleven-year old non-profit organization catalysing systemic change to solve the waste management crisis of the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). Our work lies at the intersection of Climate Change, Biodiversity Habitat Conservation, Community Activation and Dignified Livelihoods. With a team of 190+ Warriors spread across various locations nestled in the beautiful landscapes of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, we strive to create effective waste management solutions across urban and rural landscapes, with a special focus on eco-sensitive and tourist areas. Our focus lies in enabling better governance, addressing infrastructure and policy gaps, and activating communities to co-create solutions. Also, we promote local entrepreneurship with the aim to ignite agency in women and youth to earn their identity through dignified livelihoods. Please refer to the [Waste Warriors](https://www.wastewarriors.org/) website for more information.

Waste Warriors Society seeks funding partnerships for the following projects:



Project Eco-Daan  
(Dharamshala)



Project Karyashala  
(Dharamshala)



Model Ward  
Program  
(Dehradun)



Waste Under Arrest  
(Himachal Pradesh)

## Why Waste Warriors?

- ✓ One of the top 10 solutions globally mitigating climate change (Keeling Curve Prize 2023 Laureate)
- ✓ 11+ years of experience in the sector & region
- ✓ Passionate and committed Warriors dedicated to the cause
- ✓ Solving intersectional problems affecting climate, gender, livelihood, wildlife, waste and biodiversity
- ✓ Innovative projects on behaviour change and long term systemic solutions
- ✓ Close collaboration with local governments & trust of local stakeholders
- ✓ Supported by reputed corporates and foundations
- ✓ Compliance-ready (12A, 80G, CSR, FCRA)

## Project Eco-Daan

Nestled at the foothills of Dhauladhar Himalayas, Dharamshala is a place of high religious and tourist importance. Due to the heavy tourist influx and crippling waste management systems, Dharamshala faces severe problems arising from dumping and burning of waste into rivers, forests and mountain ecosystems. This causes waste-wildlife conflict, soil and air pollution, and community health hazards. Waste Warriors proposes an innovative model to nudge incoming tourists to adopt better solid waste management practices and dedicate an hour for Eco-Daan i.e. voluntary contributions through clean-ups, MRF visits etc. for a cleaner Dharamshala.

- o **Project Intervention Type:** Community Engagement, Behaviour Change Communication, Solid Waste Management, Tech-enabled Climate Change Mitigation
- o **Location:** Tourist areas of Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh
- o **Beneficiary:** Tourists, local community, commercial establishments
- o **Impact:** 100,000+ Climate Actions
- o **Intersectional Impacts:** Climate, Responsible Tourism, Wildlife, Biodiversity, Waste
- o **Project Duration:** Single-year or multi-year



## Project Karyashala

According to the Himachal Pradesh Municipal Solid Waste Management Action Plan, the annual municipal solid waste (MSW) generated in Dharamsala is approximately 44,000 metric tonnes. This includes both biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste. This waste, based on community behaviour, is mostly dumped or burnt causing soil and air pollution, with only a fraction directly going for processing. To avoid waste to landfill movement arising due to poor solid waste management practices, Waste Warriors, in collaboration with Municipal Corporation Dharamshala, proposes to improve segregation at source in five wards and enable recovery of waste through a Material Recovery Facility, operated by a local entrepreneur. The segregated, baled and shredded waste is sent to end recyclers for reinjection into the waste value chain.

- o **Project Intervention Type:** Systemic Change, Local Entrepreneurship, Waste Processing (Operations and Infrastructure), Community Engagement
- o **Location:** 5 wards of Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh
- o **Impact:** 300+ MT/A processing of low value waste + 10 jobs created.
- o **Beneficiary:** Local community, commercial establishments
- o **Intersectional Impacts:** Climate, Livelihood, Entrepreneurship
- o **Project Duration:** Multi-year



## Doon Model Ward Program

Dehradun generates ~300 MT waste per day, of which only 20% is treated. As the city is the gateway to mountains and places of religious importance, the heavy tourist influx aggravates the waste problem. Waste Warriors solely has been able to activate the Dehradun community and mobilize citizens to drive the social transformation required for waste management in the city. Waste Warriors set-up a [Model Ward Program](#) in Ward 97 (Harrawala) to create replicable systems for local government to increase source segregation rates, run a Material Recovery Facility (Uttarakhand's first and largest facility) and inculcate better waste management practices in local communities. The program caters to 1300+ households and with the MRF processing 500+ MTs of waste annually.

- o **Project Intervention Type:** Systemic Change, Waste Processing (Operations and Infrastructure), Behaviour Change
- o **Location:** Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- o **Beneficiary Type:** Households, Commercial Establishments
- o **Impact:** 90%+ source segregation by 6500 people, process over 500 MT/A
- o **Intersectional Impacts:** Urban Resilience, Waste, Plastics, Climate, Biodiversity
- o **Project Duration:** Single-year or multi-year



## Waste Under Arrest

Climate change is leading to poverty and inequality, which are major drivers of crime. Our project, [Waste Under Arrest](#), trains jail inmates in solid waste management and upcycling, empowering them financially and making them "agents of change" in society. We have successfully implemented the pilot project in Dharamshala and the prisons department has suggested implementing it across all 14 jails in Himachal Pradesh. Our project, Waste Under Arrest, empowers female inmates with skills, market access, financial support, and livelihoods, providing them with a fresh start upon release.

- o **Project Intervention Type:** Solid Waste Management, Livelihood Generation, Upcycling, Marginalised communities.
- o **Location:** All District Jails in Himachal Pradesh
- o **Beneficiary Type:** HP Prisons Department, Jail inmates
- o **Impact:** 500+ inmates trained, waste management systems in all jails.
- o **Intersectional Impacts:** Livelihoods, Gender, Waste, Climate, Community Resilience
- o **Project Duration:** Single-year or Multi-year



## **Special Projects/One-time Support**

Corporates seeking judicious utilization of their surplus CSR budgets (no bar) by 31st March may fill the attached form under 'Special Projects' category. Any one time requests or one-off projects can also be considered based on mutual discussion.

**Apply by clicking [here](#) or contact us at +91-75057 63049**