



DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

◀ Using Safety Technology
to Improve Training
Opportunities and Labor Force
Participation for Women

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Using Safety Technology to Improve Training Opportunities and Labor Force Participation for Women



Challenge

Violence Against Women (VAW) in Public Spaces is a global concern that is increasing with rapid urbanization. Low female labor force participation rate (27%) in India are partially caused by lack of safety for women. **A lack of a Strong Public Response System warrants the need to consider and test private response system.**



Solution & Technology Used

A device-agnostic **mobile safety application** developed by an India based start-up, Leaf innovation. The application can be attached to a basic low-cost smartwatch or any mobile phone, enabling users to call for help through an alarm system.



Implementation

The project will run a 10-month pilot under the Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) operation in India. The safety devices will roll out at randomly selected clusters of Industry Training Institutions(ITI) and to a sample of apprentices.



Impact

Quantitative assessment of the project's contribution to improving women's mobility in public spaces, skills acquisition, and labor force participation rates. **Improved women's safety in India and beyond** in countries like Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Tanzania and many others where women face similar concerns.



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Pilot Results



Key Accomplishments

The team produced **a draft survey summary report** on the effects of gender-based violence (GBV) on women's safety perceptions, commuting behaviors, empowerment, and career aspirations.

- **Completed a baseline survey for the research:** Collected data on GBV statistics, commuting patterns, and future aspirations from 3,871 women trainees at 51 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the Delhi National Capital Region (NCR).
- **Finished a draft survey summary report:** The final report will be complete by the end of September 2020.
- **Built a technical implementation plan:** Outlined an engagement strategy with the prospective safety technology provider.



Partners

- Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) operation).



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Pilot Results

Next Steps & Beyond DT4D

- **Due to Covid-19, the project's initial plan to pilot safety technology is on hold.**
 - The lockdown and social distancing measures changed mobility patterns of female workers, which can contaminate the study results.
- **Nevertheless, the team plans to use the research insights to mold the project into what the client deems fit.**
 - The project team is continuing their engagement with the stakeholders in finding ways to apply the learnings from the baseline survey.
 - This may include evaluation of other interventions such as virtually-delivered employability skills/ life skills modules for trainees.