Safetipin Newsletter

Highlights

Safetipin hosted a consultation in Bhopal with CSR and The Asia Foundation

4 city reports have been released- Bhopal, Gwalior, Jodhpur and Delhi

#SAFETINTERVIEW series with 9 interviews was shared

SAFE CITIES SUMMIT

Striking a balance

August 29th 2019
Singapore

Safetipin is a technology platform that seeks to use large scale data to make cities more inclusive, safe and free from violence against women and others. We use 2 apps to collect information and engage with individuals, and create solutions. We provide a safety score and useful information about safety in cities for women and men to use to make informed decisions. Further, we work with governments, NGOs, city planners, international agencies and corporates, to provide and use safety data for change. Check out our website to know more: www.safetipin.com.

PROJECTS

(DIS)CONNECTED INFRASTRUCTURES AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (VAW)

Continuous and widespread Violence Against Women (VAW) in urban India highlights the challenge of delivering SDGs 5 and 11 – Gender Equality and Sustainable Cities and Communities. Combined with this is an acute information and skills gap in technology use amongst urban poor women that impedes their knowledgeable and empowered engagement with urban infrastructures. Our (DI)VAW project took a rights-based approach to the challenge: how to address VAW by improving women's knowledge of, and safe access to, urban infrastructure in the city of Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi. The British Academy funded project

'Disconnected infrastructures and Violence Against Women (VAW)' culminated with a final conference which took place on 27-28 June 2019 in King's College London. The conference had fifteen speakers across the globe who thoughtfully contribute to the title - 'Cities, Infrastructures and the 'Digital Turn' in the Post-colony.' Kalpana Viswanath, Safetipin's co-founder and CEO presented 'Using Data to Build Gender Friendly Cities' which had Safetipin's findings on the project and the overall role of Safetipin in highlighting the impact of disconnected infrastructures on the lives of women in rapidly urbanising cities. It showed that VAW has gained great visibility and it is now being recognised that violence and fear affect women's and girl's right and access to the city. In such context, Safetipin as a technology platform has generates data in different ways to map cities and to understand women's exclusion in them. Another researcher Laila, from Imperial College London presented the findings of our data around metro stations – foregrounding that the immediate zone of 500 metres radius around metro stations is actually safer than other parts of the city as it encourages mixed use and enhances activity. The final report on the project is due by the end of this year when an exhibition also will be held in the Khoj Studios, Delhi.

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SAFETY AUDITS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Safetipin to partner with CCI South Africa to build safety in communities. Along with the Womanity grant to introduce the Safetipin technology and methodology in E Thekweni municipality (Durban) in South Africa, we are also collaborating with CCI to work intensively in selected neighbourhoods in Johannesburg. Youth in the neighbourhoods will be conducting safety audits to help identify key safety concerns. The aim of the larger project is to improve Local Governance to address Gender Based Violence Response. It will be implemented in six sites in Gauteng, Mpumalanga and KwaZuluNatal. Masiphephe is a local governance Gender Based Violence (GBV) response project whose goal is to reduce vulnerability to GBV through improved local governance and service delivery through strengthening the capacity of local structures to lead, coordinate and manage a community response to GBV response to GBV prevention and mitigation.

ENHANCING MOBILITY FOR YOUNG WOMEN

In partnership with the FIA Foundation, Safetipin is working on a project in Mewat, Haryana in India to address the issue of the lack of safety and the fear that girls face in public spaces, which adversely affects their opportunities of education, employment and overall growth in life. Safetipin team kickstarted the project work in Mewat by conducting two focus group discussions with young girls who have dropped out from school and mothers of the young children in Rozka village.

The discussions helped us to understand the challenges that these young girls and women are facing in their everyday lives. Safetipin team has a series of activities lined up for this project in the upcoming months including interacting with girls and women in Bawana and Jamia Nagar. There will be FGDs conducted in both areas along with Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) to get a better understanding of all

WOMEN'S SAFETY AND MOBILITY MAPPING IN BIHAR WITH CENTRE FOR CATALYZING CHANGE

This year in early January, Safetipin was invited to present at a roundtable series on 'Women's Safety and Mobility: Impact on Economic Participation' in Patna organised by Centre for Catalyzing Change (C3). Experts from the field as well as senior representatives from Police, Transport and Women Development Corporation (WDC) of Bihar participated at the roundtable. WDC understood Safetipin's potential in mapping the physical reality of cities. Further in consultation with C3, a mapping project was proposed to address the issues of public safety in three cities of Bihar, Patna, Bihar Sharif, and Gaya, through participatory data collection using both the innovative Safetipin applications. Recent meetings with the WDC officials in Patna and the C3 team in Delhi has set the ball rolling. Safetipin is now gearing up for data collection through 'Safetipin Nite' and 'My Safetipin' in Patna first, followed by the other two cities in Bihar. Since the information on the applications specifically focuses on the experience of women and girls, involving and providing them with an interactive tool around feelings of safety can be empowering. The use of 'My Safetipin' App, and local capacity building, will provide large scale data at the street level and promote citizen engagement. The ongoing project will map all the main roads as well as some key public spaces in the city. Once data collection is complete, coding and analysis of the collected data will be conducted to work further with the Bihar Government in making public spaces safer and inclusive for women and girls. The data collected will be shared as GIS layers and representational maps with the Government for prioritising work on improving infrastructure which directly affects safety and security in the three cities. In addition this, the project will work towards strategic partnerships with city stakeholders to make these cities safe and inclusive.

FLONE INITIATIVE

Flone Initiative is a woman led organisation in Kenya to end violence against women and girls in public spaces. Their mission is to influence behavioural change and to promote tolerance and acceptance by strengthening capacities at grassroots level in communities. As a part of a project that we are doing with them, Safetipin was in Mombasa, Kenya from 21st-24th July to provide training to the volunteers for My Safetipin data collection in Mombasa Island. A safety audit walk was also organised where or team, Flone Initiative members and the volunteers walked around the city and performed safety audits via the app together.

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MAPPING DELHI WITH SAFETIPIN

DWCD (Department of Women and Child Development), GNCTD engaged Safetipin to conduct safety audits within the jurisdiction of the three Municipal Corporations of Delhi in 2018-2019. Earlier in 2016, Safetipin submitted a safety analysis report of the audited main roads and 15 metro stations to various stakeholders of the Delhi government. Based on the lighting data of the report, improvement works such as fixing the existing streetlights and installing additional streetlights in the areas of poor lighting were carried out by PWD. Safetipin completed its second round of audits for the Delhi project in May 2019. This study in 2018-2019 focuses on all parameters of a safety audit to access the on-ground conditions and suggest recommendations for enhancing safety in public spaces in Delhi.

As part of this project, a total of 25,294 audits have been conducted in the city from Dec, 2018- May, 2019. Of the total audits, 11,624 audits have been conducted in North DMC followed by 11,156 audits in South DMC and 2,514 in East DMC . Data has been collected using Safetipin Nite in night time along all the roads of Delhi's three Municipal Corporations except the colony roads. The conditions are examined based on the parameters of the safety audit with greater detail on the existing status of the infrastructure. Manual audits at specific location points were conducted using My Safetipin app. These points include metro stations, bus stops, public toilets, public parks, schools, universities, parking lots, cinema halls, tourist places and liquor stores within Delhi.

Safetipin has also collaborated with residential neighborhoods like Chittranjan Park, Jamia Nagar and university students in Delhi to collect safety related information. With the support from Delhi Commission of Women (DCW), representatives of mahila panchayats from various local communities were also trained to conduct safety audits using My Safetipin. Safetipin has also shared the project report with The Department of Women and Child Development for their feedback.

3rd May, 2019
As part of our Delhi Project, Safetipin conducted a training session for the representatives of mahila panchayats at Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) office. The training session focused on training the representatives to conduct safety audits using the My Safetipin app. This session was attended by representatives from areas like Laxmi Nagar, Badarpur, Jagatpuri, Kanjhawala, etc.

25th April, 2019

As a part of community outreach for the Delhi project that Safetipin was working on, the team worked with Cequin to get data in Jamia Nagar. Safetipin team went to the Cequin office in Jamia Nagar and conducted a safety audit training with a group of 20 individuals who lived in and around the area. The data collected was extensive and useful for the report analysis.
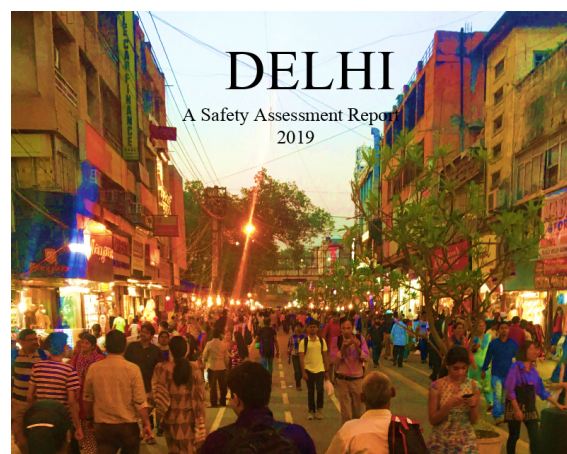

16th April, 2019

As a part of the Delhi project, Safetipin team conducted a training session for the students of Masters of Arts in Urban Studies at Ambedkar University, Karampura Campus, Delhi. We introduced Safetipin and shared insights of our projects with the students. The session included a detailed explanation on conducting safety audits using the My Safetipin app.

A stakeholder consultation meeting chaired by Sh. Anil Baijal, Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, was held at Raj Niwas. Safetipin presented the findings of the Delhi project in the meeting. The consultation was attended by the representatives from the Home Department, Department of Women and Child Development, Municipal Corporations of Delhi, New Delhi Municipal Council, Public Works Department, Delhi Commission for Women, Delhi Police, Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, Department of Training and Technical Education, Delhi School of Social Work and Ambedkar University. The final project report shall be shared with the Lieutenant Governor, Delhi.

2nd June, 2019

As part of our Delhi project, we collaborated with communities in the city to collect neighbourhood level data using My Safetipin app. CR Park resident community has been actively involved in initiating a collective awareness to improve the quality of life in their neighbourhood. A community meeting was organized by the CR Park Green Community on June2,2019. The findings from the safety audits done using My Safetipin, surveys and discussions were presented in the meeting. These findings and ideas were presented in the form of plans and were discussed for inputs from the community.

DELHI
A Safety Assessment Report
2019

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SOCIAL VULNERABILITY AUDITS IN KOLKATA

The Kolkata Environmental Improvement Investment Program (KEIIP) has engaged Safetipin, a Social Vulnerability Audits expert to evaluate its public spaces in order to make them more inclusive and improve the city's overall liveability standard. The said project is funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to provide KEIIP with the required technical assistance to make Kolkata an inclusive city by conducting public space inclusiveness audits and piloting for improvement. Safetipin will conduct the data collection using 'Safetipin Nite' application only for visual mapping of Kolkata through geo-located photographs in partnership with KEIIP as the key government stakeholder and ADB as the project partner. Based on the analyzed data and generated maps and best practices in other cities, recommendations will be drawn up on how to improve inclusivity and liveability in the city. Safetipin will also be involved in strategizing a pilot design intervention in two selected wards with consultation with the key stakeholders. The main objectives of the project is to map the city in order to improve mobility, accessibility and safety for vulnerable groups. It will also map in order to improve city's resiliency, social inclusion, usage of, access to and safety in public spaces. To achieve the above, Safetipin will use available GIS maps of Kolkata (developed through KEIIP) and add geo located information or data sets on roads and public spaces to it. Last couple of months, June and July, after meeting the officials at Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) and the ADB team from Manila in Kolkata, Safetipin has officially began the project. With the completion of the driver's training program, data collection through 'Safetipin Nite' will began and cover the entire city through motorable roads. Post data collection, coding and analysis will be done to primarily assess the issues around accessibility in the city especially for the vulnerable groups.
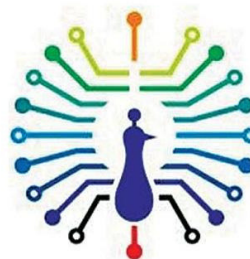

30th July- 2nd August
Safetipin team was in Kolkata providing training to the drivers for data collection via the Safetipin Nite app. We train the drivers and go along with them to ensure that the data collection is accurate. After it is done, the analysis from our program team will start.

ADDRESSING SAFETY IN PUNE

A Safety audit report for Pune ABD area i.e. Aundh-Baner-Balewadi was shared with Pune smart city cell as well as IISc, Bengaluru. The joint project with IISc, Bengaluru intends to bring various data sets together to improve and catalyse decision making process at city level. Safetipin will also be sharing the Safety audit report for Pune municipal area.

PUNE SMART CITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

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#SAFETYFORSHE

As a part of Safe Cities project with The Asia Foundation, Safetipin is working to prepare a safe cities index. Safetipin team conducted an in-depth research to identify and prepare a list of indicators which can evaluate safety. An expert consultation was organized on 15th April,2019. A diverse group of urban planners, socialist, economist as well as policy makers were invited in the consultation. Experts discussed each indicator in detail to understand their correlation with safety. The consultation resulted in crisp and clear list of indicators along with their sub-indicators. Safetipin team is working on to list down data sources for each indicator.

In partnership with The Asia Foundation, India, Centre for Social Research (CSR) and support from KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency) Safetipin launched its safety analysis reports for Bhopal and Gwalior at the Bhopal state consultation held on July24, 2019 in Bhopal. The issue of women safety in public transport was the major focus of this consultation and was discussed at length in the panel discussions at the event. Safetipin team presented the findings from Bhopal and Gwalior collected by safety audits, focus group discussions and surveys with women respondents.

A photography competition "Women in Public Spaces" was organized for this project in the month of June. Selected entries from the competition were also displayed at the consultation. Safetipin is excited for its upcoming consultation in August first week in Jodhpur.

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MAPPING MOBILITY WITH BOGOTA CITY GOVERNEMNT

As part of the initiative "I move Safe" by Bogotá Women'S District Secretariat supported by CAF (Latin American Development Bank), Safetipin has collected over 0.5 million photographs of Bogota's streets and bike paths. These images have been analysed and coded according to Safetipin parameters to identify areas for intervention. This project will result in a set of recommendations for integrating the gender perspective in the planning public spaces and public transport in the city.

WOMANITY AWARD: USING SAFETIPIN IN SOUTH AFRICA

Safetipin was awarded the Womanity Award last year along with Soul City Institute to conduct a safety audit study in South Africa. The project is being implemented in Durban in partnership with the E Thekweni municipality. The project will involve mapping the entire city as well strengthening the Safe Taxi Campaign by collecting data about safety on public transport and at taxi ranks in the city. Further Soul City Institute will also involve young women who are part of the Rise Clubs to map their experiences of safety and public spaces. This project will run through three years.

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WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES & EVENTS!

Vedica Scholars Women's Leadership Programme

Kalpana Viswanath 12th April, 2019

The Vedica Scholars Programme for Women is an 18-month, re-imagined professional certificate in management practice and leadership based in New Delhi. Safetipin presented and spoke about building gender inclusive cities. The issue of safety was also discussed with everyone giving in their inputs of struggling with safety in their respective cities.

Tunis Forum on Gender Equality

Sonali Vyas 24th April, 2019

The Tunis Forum on Gender Equality was organised to hold an open debate to inform and inspire the preparations for Beijing +25 and the commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325. Safetipin was on the panel on Information and Technology. The panellists discussed how information technology and digital applications are helping women to access social services to which they are entitled and make a difference in the promotion and protection of women's rights.

Madam Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of UN Women, had a meeting with the participants on how to ensure meaningful involvement of young feminists in all stages and aspects of the 25-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action and its accelerated implementation. Safetipin spoke on how reliable data is the base for effective policies and on how the government should collect data on women's experiences in the city and transport as part of the gender statistics.

4th Asia Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience, New Delhi

Kalpana Viswanath 15-17th April, 2019

Safetipin spoke at a panel discussion at the 4th Asia Pacific Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation organised by ICLEI in New Delhi. The panel was titled Promotion of Inclusive, Sustainable Growth & Diversity to strengthen Local Governments. We shared our experience of how Safetipin data has been used by city and municipal governments to address urban concerns around safety, inclusion and accessibility.

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Safe Cities UNSW, Australia

Kalpana Viswanath, 30th April, 2019

The department of Built Environment in University of New South Wales, Sydney organised a public event on Safe Cities for Women and Children with Smart Technology. There were many speakers who spoke about the issues of women's safety in different countries like India, Korea and Australia. Safetipin attended and presented at the event.

Garage Society

Shreya V Basu 15th May, 2019

Safetipin presented at the Garage Society co-working space in Cyber City, Gurgaon on the topic "Making our Cities Safer for Women". The audience was ranging in fields of work which led to interactive discussions about safety in the work place, in transport and in public spaces.

Using Data to Build Gender Friendly Public Spaces, Ahmedabad University

Kalpana Viswanath 21st May, 2019

Safetipin presented at Ahmedabad University on Using Data to Build Gender Friendly Public Spaces to the staff and students of the university and to police officials. We spoke about Safetipin, including out technology and methodology. We also discussed what a gender inclusive city is and the power of data in how to make cities more gender-friendly and inclusive.

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Smart Cities India Expo

Kalpana Viswanath 23rd May, 2019

The Smart Cities India Expo in New Delhi had many interesting innovations being showcased in a sustainable and inclusive manner. Safetipin was a part of the panel discussion on "Making Cities Safer" along with M.S. Bhatia (IPS), Namrita Kalsi (Chief Architect, NDMC), Robin Roy (Director, Delta), Rahul Tyagi (Co-founder, Lucideus Technologies) and Raju Bhargava. Safetipin spoke about the importance of technology while mentioning its use as an enabler in making a change.

Karol Bagh

Kalpana Viswanth, Ankita Kapoor and Shreya V. Basu 22nd May, 2019

In the month of May, Karol Bagh, one of the busiest streets in New Delhi saw a big change. The 1km stretch of road that was previously full of cars was now a pedestrianised area. Safetipin team, along with the Jagori team and members of the North Delhi Municipal Corporation went to check out the stretch and spoke to some of the shopkeepers and customers to understand how they felt about this change. Based on their inputs and further discussions with other stakeholders, we are planning events in that area.

UN Habitat Assembly

Kalpana Viswanath 27th May, 2019

The first UN Habitat Assembly was in Nairobi, Kenya this year. The theme of the event was "Innovation for Better Quality of Life in Cities and Communities" and the sub theme was: "Accelerated implementation of the New Urban Agenda towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals". Safetipin co-founder, Kalpana Viswanath was the moderator at the Gender Forum which consisted of speakers from many different countries. The discussions were focused around gendering the Strategic Plan of the UN Habitat.
We also participated in a video for this event- check it out here.

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Women Deliver Conference

Kathryn Travers 4th June, 2019

WD2019 was focused on the intersection between GBV and innovation. Most of the people in attendance work on GBV issues. The concept, in putting it together (it was convened by IDIA) was to explore innovation in different ways - as linked to technology, financing and process. Safetipin presented about our work, methodology, the data we generate and our case studies including Delhi, Bogota and Madanpur Khadar.

Garage Society

Shreya V Basu and Raajpratap Thakur 18th July, 2019

Safetipin presented at the Digital Greens office of the co-working space Garage Society in Gurgaon. We spoke about how to make cities more inclusive be it by including different types of people or by different modes of transportation for all. With an interactive and responsive audience, we talked about different examples of safety and presented Safetipin as well.

Roshan Dilli

NDTV in partnership with UBER, with Safetipin as data partners launched a sustained campaign 'Roshan Dilli' to try and raise safety standards in India's capital, New Delhi. Safetipin team identified the places in New Delhi where there were light poles installed but were not functional so that this campaign could work on improving lighting within the city.
Click here to know more about the campaign.

Upcoming: Safe Cities Summit

As the world's cities continue to expand in size and number, striking a balance between connectivity, safety and privacy is vital for governments, the private sector and citizens. The Safe Cities Summit will convene policymakers, executives, experts and entrepreneurs from across the globe to discuss creating and maintaining safe and resilient cities, including cybersecurity, transport and infrastructure, crime prevention and the health and well-being of urbanites.

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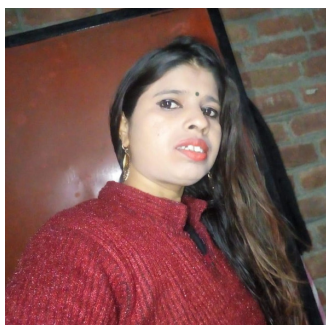*Supporting Safer Cities*

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stop Street Harassment

April 7th-13th was Stop Street Harassment Week in order to bring awareness to street harassment and to discuss ways in which it can be reduced or removed. As a part of the official #SSH campaign, the Safetipin safety audit tool was listed as one of the methods to empower oneself and have a better understanding of the city. We also spoke to many women and got their stories of street harassment and shared them on our social media accounts to spread the message that just because it is very common does not mean it is acceptable.

#SAFETINTERVIEW

We released our second series of interviews #SAFETINTERVIEW with 9 amazing people. Click on the pictures to read the interviews!

SAFETIPIN FEATURED!

April, 2019

INTERVIEW – KALPANA VISWANATH
Ensuring women safety, city roads & buses may soon get panic buttons
How can Asia finance its smart city ambitions?
Bogotá's Fight for Gender Equality and Safe Public Transport
The long wait for safety: tracking the Safe Cities programme
Afraid to be at U-belt? Study has surprising data on Manila's university area
Sustainable energy for everyone

May, 2019

Disconnected Infrastructures and Violence Against Women (VAW)
App helps make India's cities safe for women
CSR: Improve women's access to digital tech for gender equality
Best Women Safety Apps In Android and Iphone
The 5 Best Self Defense Apps for Personal Safety When Walking Alone
India – Why every woman has an 'indecent exposure' story
¿Te preocupa tu seguridad personal? 4 aplicaciones con las que te sentirás más seguro

June, 2019

Freebies not the big-ticket reform public transport needs: Experts
Sop or safety? Delhi residents want both
Five approaches to encourage gender inclusion
25 dark and dangerous spots in Delhi
Free ride for women welcome, but fix city's transport system
Security, just a tap away!
Lt Governonr of Delhi chairs 9th meeting of Task Force on women safety
Bringing women's voices into the "Smart City Just City" dialogue
Disconnected Infrastructures and Violence Against Women (VAW)
Delhi: Sex predators target Metro, cops in a tangle
Night Raahgiri at Delhi's Karol Bagh for women safety
NDMC promotes women safety at night
Vehicle theft tops list of crimes since January 2018, public drinking second

July, 2019

How women are sidelined in India's e-commerce growth
Consultation on women safety held
Molestation complaints on Delhi Metro go up by 43% since 2016

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OUR PARTNERS