

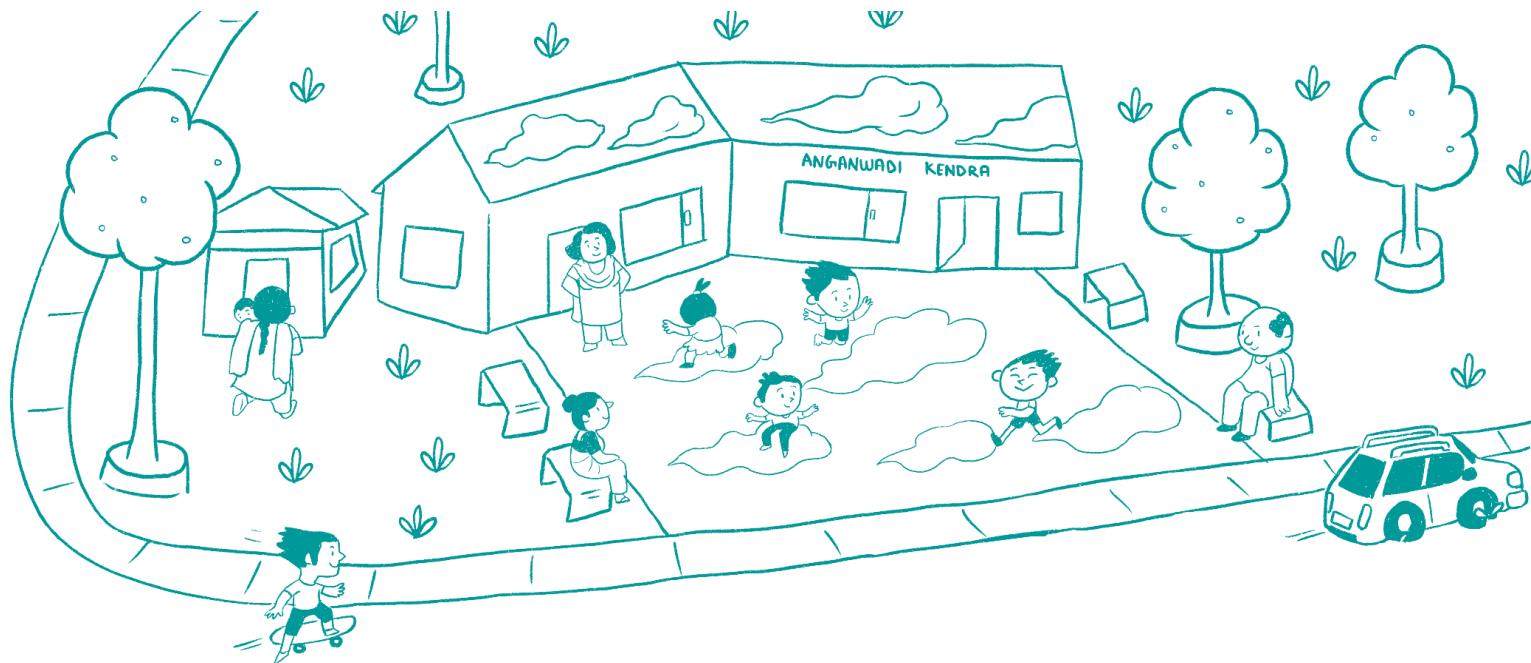


Anganwadi Center Design Guidelines & Checklist



The Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge is hosted by the Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, in collaboration with Bernard van Leer Foundation and with the technical support of WRI India.

This Challenge aims to incorporate a focus on neighbourhood-level improvements that promote healthy early childhood development (0-5-year-old children) in the planning and management of Indian cities.



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Section 1

Intent of the document



1. Intent of the document

Young children in Fort Kochi lack easily accessible play opportunities within walking distance. A significant portion of the population of the neighbourhood, including marginalized groups, rely on early learning facilities like *anganwadis* for early education. Under the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge, Cochin Smart Mission Limited, in collaboration with Kochi Municipal Corporation, has recognized *anganwadis* as potential places to develop safe and accessible play areas at the neighbourhood level.

Despite their critical role in the well-being of young children and their caregivers, *anganwadi* centers in Kochi fail to adequately accommodate both children and their caregivers. Issues such as open drains, unsafe access walkways, limited outdoor play & engaging areas, and inadequate caregiver amenities hinder access to these essential services. Consequently, young children and caregivers often face difficulties in utilizing these vital resources.

Therefore, the document's overarching objectives are as follows:

- To comprehend specific requirements of young children and their caregivers, and establish quality public spaces and facilities that significantly contribute to young children's overall development
- To offer practical guidance to relevant stakeholders on the implementation of these *anganwadi* centers placing young children and caregivers at the forefront of the process

This comprehensive document can aid decision-makers, city officials, engineers in the local planning authorities, policymakers, and urban practitioners in designing and implementing young children and caregiver-friendly *anganwadi* centers.



Section 2

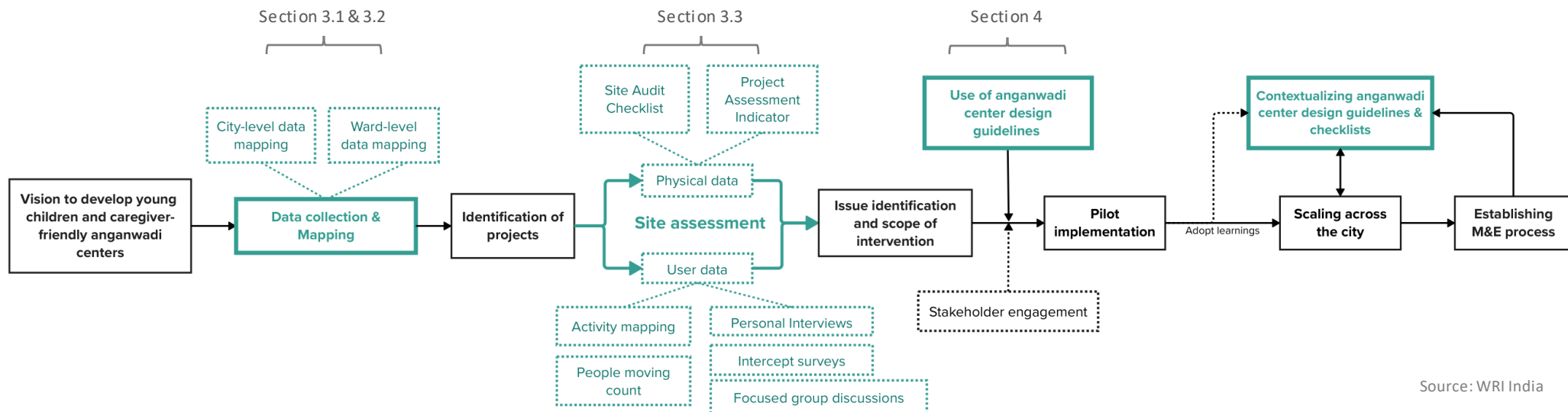
How to transform an *anganwadi* center into a young children and caregiver-friendly facility



2. How to transform an *anganwadi* center into a young children and caregiver-friendly facility

The diagram below outlines the steps for creating a young children and caregiver-friendly *anganwadi* center, suitable for any city. The process begins with city-wide data collection to identify potential interventions. Subsequently, a site assessment should be conducted to gather physical and user-centric data, thereby determining issues and project scope. *Anganwadi* center design guidelines can be utilized to design pilot solutions in accordance with the identified project scope.

The learnings from the pilot projects should be expanded to replicate similar interventions throughout the city and customize design guidelines specific to their context. Additionally, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mechanisms should be established to ensure project sustainability.



Source: WRI India



Section 3

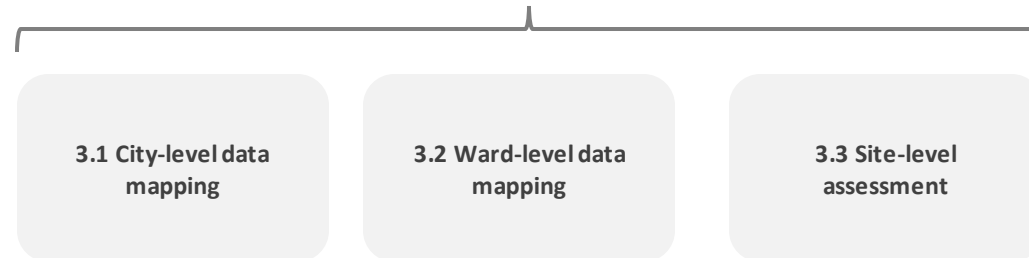
Data-centric approach for scaling young children and caregiver-friendly *anganwadi* centers



3. Data-centric approach for scaling young children and caregiver-friendly *anganwadi* centers

This section discusses the data-driven approach to scaling *anganwadi* centers for young children and caregivers at three levels- city, ward, and site. The first level involves a city-wide analysis of existing *anganwadi* centers, focusing on service gaps in providing *anganwadi* centers based on population needs. The second level consists of ward-level data mapping to analyze deficient wards in the city and identify areas of intervention. The process concludes with a macro-level site assessment, whether existing or proposed, and collection of physical and user-centric data to define the project's scope of intervention.

Data-centric approach for scaling young children and caregiver-friendly *anganwadi* centers



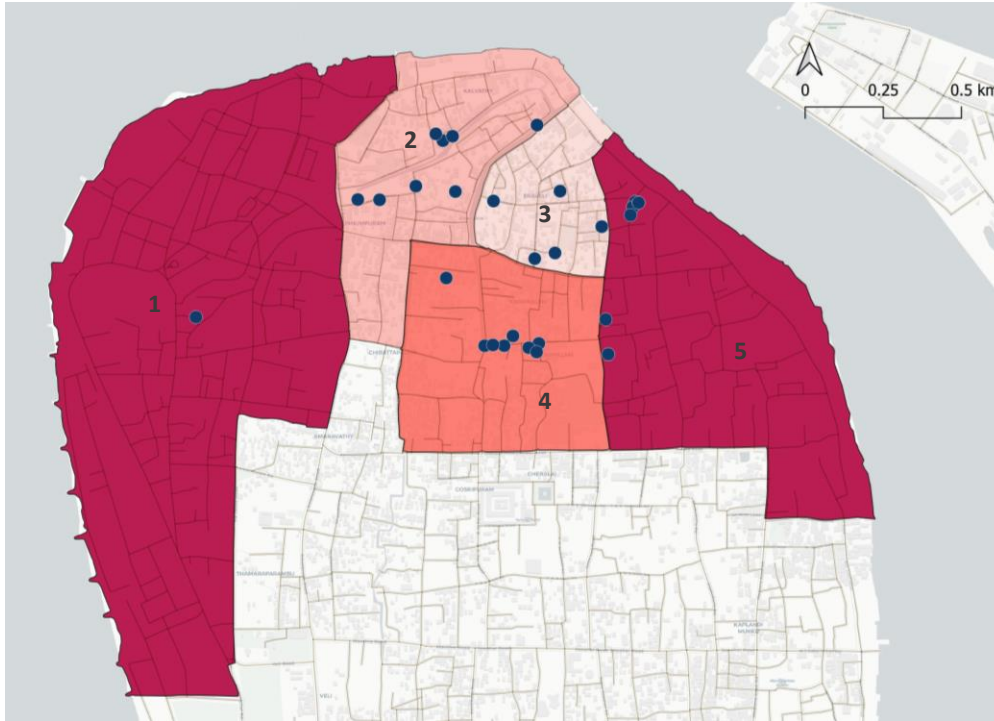
3.1 City-level data mapping

City-level data analysis of *anganwadi* centers

In Indian cities, there is an unequal allocation of *anganwadi* centers across various wards or neighbourhoods. When we measure this against well-established standards such as Urban and Regional Development Plans Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) guidelines, it becomes evident that numerous wards/neighbourhoods do not have the essential infrastructure and amenities to cater effectively to their residents, considering their population and population density.

Below is the current recommendations specified for *anganwadi* centers in India which will aid cities in analyzing the demand for these public facilities.

Type of ECD center	Standard referred	Guideline
<i>Anganwadi Center (AWC)</i>	URDPFI	1 <i>anganwadi</i> for every 5000 people



Source: WRI India

Legend

- Ward boundary
- Existing *anganwadis*
- 6000-7000*
- 7000-8000*
- 8000-9000*
- 9000-10000*

*ward population range

Case of West Kochi

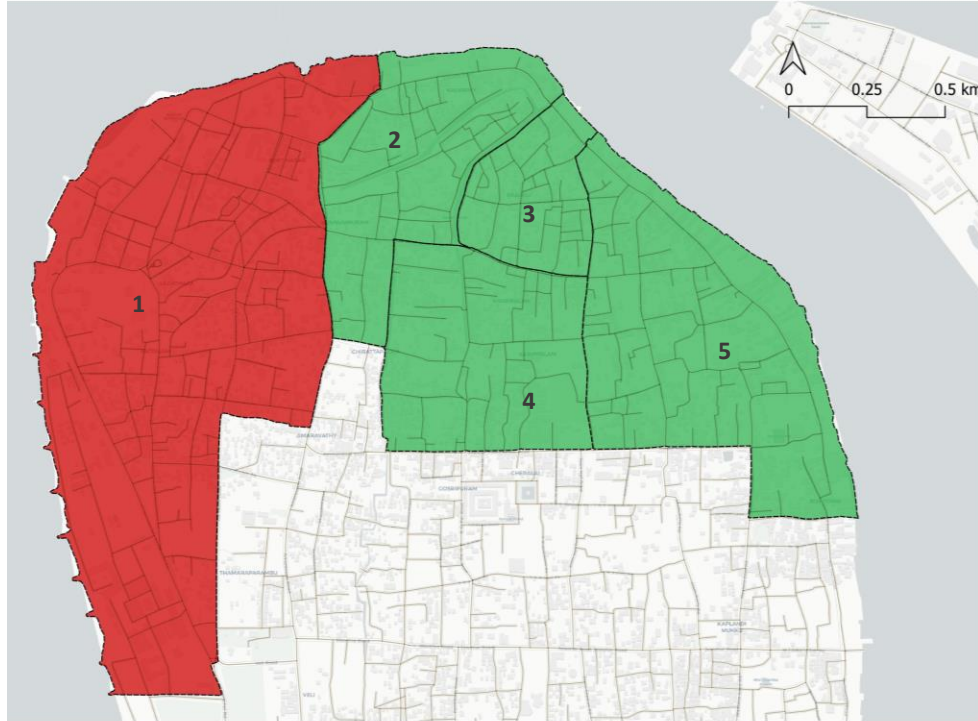
Area-based data mapping of existing *Anganwadi Centers (AWC)* of West Kochi

To illustrate area-based data analysis, a case study centered on West Kochi has been created. Data related to the existing *anganwadi* locations within the city's Corporation limits has been collected. Subsequently, this data has been compared with each ward's 2011 census population figures.

Data layers used for analysis	
Layer 1	Ward boundaries
Layer 2	Existing <i>anganwadis</i> locations
Layer 3	Ward-wise population


According to URDPFI guidelines, one *anganwadi* is required for every 5,000 people. Using this benchmark, the number of additional *anganwadis* required for each ward based on its population has been determined in the next analysis.

For more details of data analysis please visit: <https://linktr.ee/nurturingneighbourhoods>



Source: WRI India

Legend

-  Ward boundary
-  Wards with adequate number of *anganwadis* based on population density
-  Wards with inadequate number of *anganwadis* based on population density

Area-based data analysis of existing *Anganwadi* Centers (AWC) of West Kochi


The map illustrates a re-a-based analysis of *Anganwadi* Centers in West Kochi, comparing their numbers to ward populations. This analysis reveals a requirement for an additional *Anganwadi* Center, based on URDPFI guidelines.

To exemplify the next phase of data-centric analysis at the ward level, Ward No. 1 has been chosen as a representative case.

Data layers used for analysis	
Layer 1	Ward boundaries with population
Layer 2	Number of <i>anganwadis</i> required as per population

For more details of data analysis please visit: <https://linktr.ee/nurturingneighbourhoods>

Wards with inadequate no. of *anganwadis* based on population

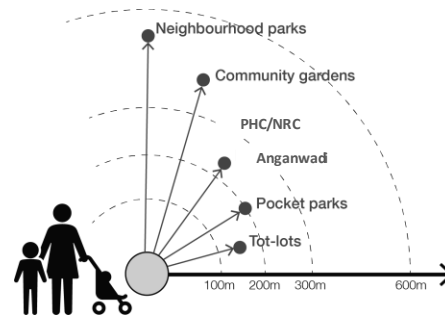
 1 Number of *anganwadi* needed

3.2 Ward-level data mapping

Ward-level data analysis of *anganwadi* centers

City-level analysis helps prioritize wards that require more *anganwadi* center additions or improvements. The ward-level analysis is crucial for evaluating wards lacking *anganwadis* in the city and identifying intervention areas based on ease of accessibility to an *anganwadi* facility.

Families with young children move slowly, making distances beyond 300 meters or more than 5-10 minutes of walking impractical. To facilitate easy access to these *anganwadi* centers for young children and caregivers, it's essential to place them within pedestrian walkshed of a 300-meter range, which in turn defines the intervention area within a ward.



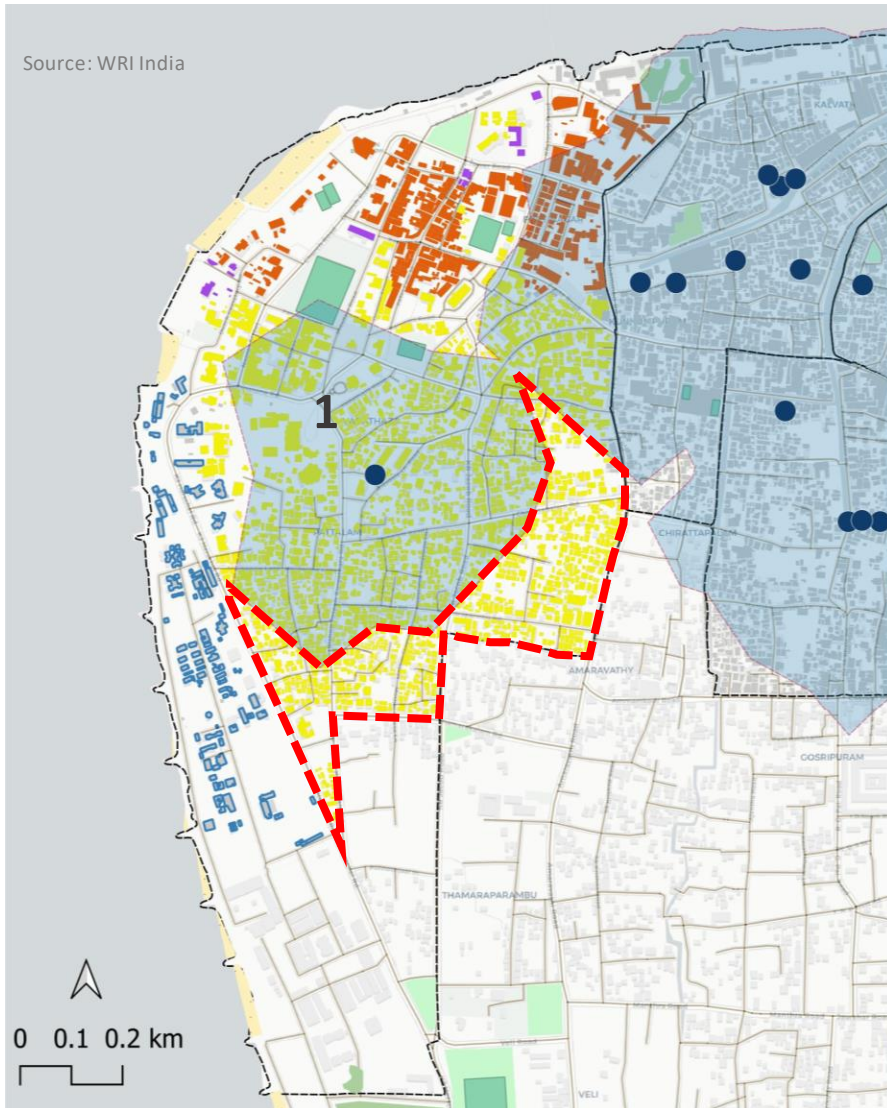
Source: [ITCN Policy Framework](#)

For young children and caregivers, a 10min walkshed within a 300m radius is comfortable in Indian weather

Source: ITCN Framework – Design Guidelines

Necessary Trips (essential, frequent)
Daycare/Creche
Anganwadi/other educational institutions
Primary Health Center
Milk booth/grocery store
Tot-lot/park

Source: WRI India



Data analysis of Ward 1 of West Kochi

In West Kochi’s area-based analysis, a deficit of 1 *anganwadi* center was identified in Ward 1. For further analysis of the ward, The ward boundary and existing *anganwadi* centers with their pedestrian walkshed (300m radius from the *anganwadi* center) have been superimposed. The red dotted lines delineate areas where accessing *anganwadi* facilities might be difficult for young children and caregivers.

Data layers used for analysis	
Layer 1	Ward boundaries
Layer 2	Existing <i>anganwadis</i> in ward 1
Layer 3	300m pedestrian walkshed from existing <i>anganwadi</i> centres

- **Ward population:** 10,279 (Cens us 2011)
- **No. of existing *anganwadis*:** 1
- **No. of *anganwadis* required based on URDPFI guideline:** 2 (1 *anganwadi* for every 5000 people)

Analysis: The current *anganwadi* distribution was found to be inadequate to support the existing ward population.

Recommendation: To address this issue, the highlighted area in red (residential area) within the ward should be prioritized for the addition of 1 more *anganwadi* center.

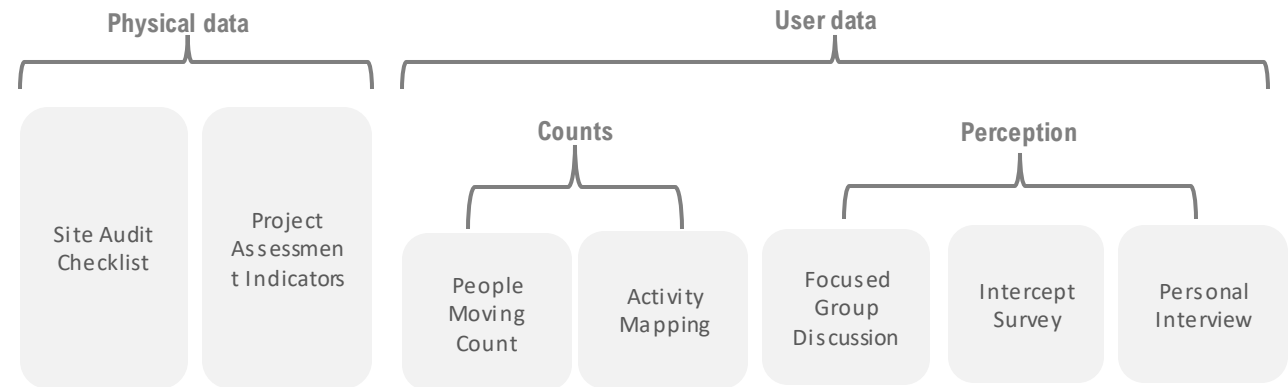
Legend

- Area of intervention
- Residential
- Hotel - Commercial
- Existing *anganwadi*
- Institutional
- Government
- Anganwadi* pedestrian walkshed for 300m
- Open space

3.3 Site-level assessment

A macro-level site assessment, whether for an existing or proposed project, by collecting physical and user-centric data helps to define the project's scope of intervention. Conducting these assessments of *anganwadi* centers focusing on young children and caregivers can reveal gaps and improvement opportunities in every project. Additionally, this approach will assist cities in developing site-specific designs through stakeholder consultations and apply insights from these engagements to make informed decisions when expanding similar initiatives across the city. Furthermore, post-implementation of projects, these assessment tools could be used to measure impact and compare the results with pre-intervention data to formulate an effective evaluation and monitoring plan.

To conduct a site-level assessment consider these on-ground data collection tools:





Source : Directorate of Urban Land Transport

Site-level assessment

Physical data collection: Site Audit Checklist

A child and caregiver-focused evaluation of these *anganwadi* centers will help uncover gaps and potential areas for improvement.

This checklist is divided into two main sections: core guidelines (mandatory) and supportive guidelines (optional). This approach will assist government agencies and urban professionals in identifying intervention needs, prioritizing them based on site context, and tailoring intervention plans to each project's unique conditions and requirements.

The audit has been structured as follows:

1. [Improving access around 500m radius of *anganwadi* center](#)
2. [Site planning of *anganwadi* center](#)
3. [Outdoor play in *anganwadi* center](#)
4. [Young children and caregiver-oriented amenities in *anganwadi* center](#)
5. [Building as a Learning Aid \(BaLA\)](#)

The [Anganwadi center site audit checklist](#) is provided in the annexure for reference.



Source: WRI India

Site-level assessment

Physical data collection: Project Assessment Indicators

The indicators and sub-indicators are designed to bring focus on various aspects contributing to early childhood development with specific emphasis on the planning and design of spaces for young children and caregivers.

The list of indicators is derived from the [ITCN Framework](#) and covers all 5 objectives of the framework: safe, green, accessible, play, and inclusive, for making a neighbourhood a thriving place for young children to grow.

The objective of this data collection exercise is three-fold:

- To create benchmarks and gather pertinent data sets regarding the child-friendly aspects of a specific area or facility
- To comprehend how these benchmarks could aid city authorities in evaluating the current responsiveness of each facility and employing this insight to formulate strategies for the benefit of young children
- To monitor and measure the impact resulting from interventions implemented, shaping the routines of young children and their caregivers

Link to Project Assessment Indicator form: [Project Assessment Indicators_NNC.xlsx](#)



Source : WRI India

Site-level assessment

User data collection: People Moving Count

What?

- Helps to account for the number of people moving through a site at a given time, day, week, and year
- Helps to gather information about individuals' attributes both before and after an intervention

When?

During different times of a weekday and weekend to understand usage pattern of space

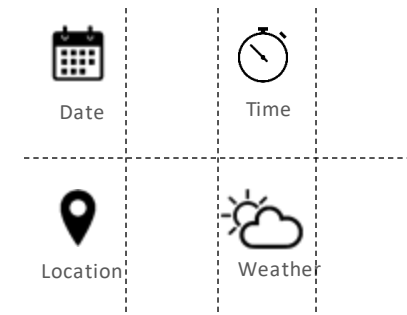
How?

Conduct the count for a duration of **10 minutes during the designated peak hour**, or repeat the survey at various times throughout the day to determine the busiest time in the area. The surveyors should position themselves in an unobstructed location with a clear line of sight to observe the passing pedestrians.

	10 min	Total
Baby		
Toddler		
Child upto 5		
Caregiver		
Others		

People moving count data entry format

The [People Moving Count form](#) is provided in the annexure for reference.





Source: WRI India

Site-level assessment

User data collection: Activity Mapping

What?

- Helps in the examination of how public space is utilized by individuals, capturing the diverse range of activities occurring within it
- Helps in identifying successful aspects and areas that may need further improvement in the public space

When?

- Activity mapping should be conducted concurrently with the People Moving Count
- It is recommended to carry out this investigation at various times throughout the day and on different days of the week to document a wide range of activities taking place in the area
- This analysis should be performed both prior to and following any on-site interventions to study the change in activity patterns

The [Activity Mapping form](#) is provided in the annexure for reference.

** Note- It's essential to analyze this data in conjunction with the results of People Moving Count to gain a deeper understanding of the observations made.*



Site-level assessment

User data collection: Focused Group Discussion

What?

A Focus Group Discussion is a method for gathering insights about specific issues from residents of a neighbourhood. It provides qualitative data on their views and recommendations for enhancing young children and caregiver-friendly facilities in the area.

This approach should be employed at various project stages, starting from conception to execution. It also fosters a sense of community ownership for the project.



Source: WRI India

Site-level assessment

User data collection: Intercept Survey

What?

- Aids in comprehending the experiences of space from the perspective of users such as caregivers, and young children
- Provides supporting evidence for observations made through alternative survey methods like Activity Mapping and People Moving Count
- Assists in evaluating the quality of public space by documenting user experiences and perceptions

How?

The survey should involve a minimum of 20 to 30 caregivers in each public open space to collect qualitative insights.

Link to Intercept survey form for *Anganwadis*: [Intercept survey_Anganwadi.docx](#)

** Note- It's essential to analyze this data in conjunction with the results of other surveys such as Activity Mapping and People Moving Count to gain a deeper understanding of the observations made.*



Source: WRI India

Site-level assessment

User data collection: Personal Interview

What?

Individual interviews are valuable for collecting people's personal experiences and enabling in-depth discussions about specific subjects. This method should be applied throughout various project phases, ranging from its initiation to execution. Furthermore, it aids in fostering a sense of project ownership.



Section 4

Guidelines to design a young children and caregiver-friendly *anganwadi* center



4. Guidelines to design a young children and caregiver-friendly *anganwadi* center

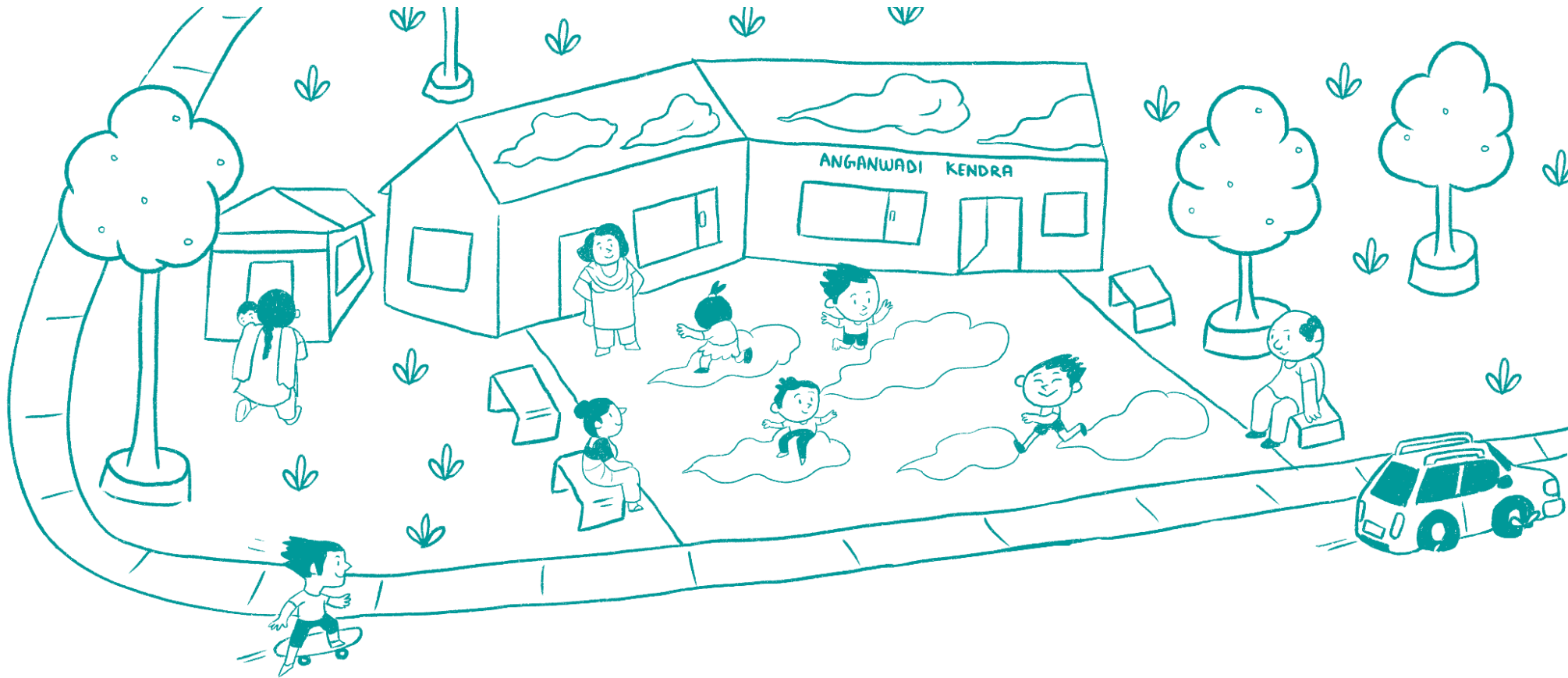
Design guidelines for *anganwadi* centers in Kochi, with a special emphasis on young children and their caregivers, have been formulated based on insights from *anganwadi* center design projects in Kochi city, discussions with *anganwadi* workers and officials in Kochi, [Infant, Toddler, and Caregiver-friendly Neighbourhood: Design Guidelines](#), [Playground Ideas for 0-3 years](#), existing *anganwadi* center design guidelines in India, and Building as Learning Aid (BaLA) documents.

The guidelines focus on improving access to *anganwadi* centers, site planning, the creation of outdoor play spaces, provision of young children, and caregiver-oriented amenities, and using the *anganwadi* building as an aid to facilitate innovative means of learning.

This section has been organized as follows:

4. *Anganwadi* Center Design Guidelines
 - 4.1 Improving access around 500m radius of *anganwadi*
 - 4.2 Site planning
 - 4.3 Outdoor play
 - 4.4 Young children and caregiver-oriented amenities
 - 4.5 Building as a Learning Aid (BaLA)

**Note: These guidelines are specifically directed at the development of outdoor and intermediate spaces for young children and do not encompass design recommendations for the interior of the building.*



Anganwadi Center

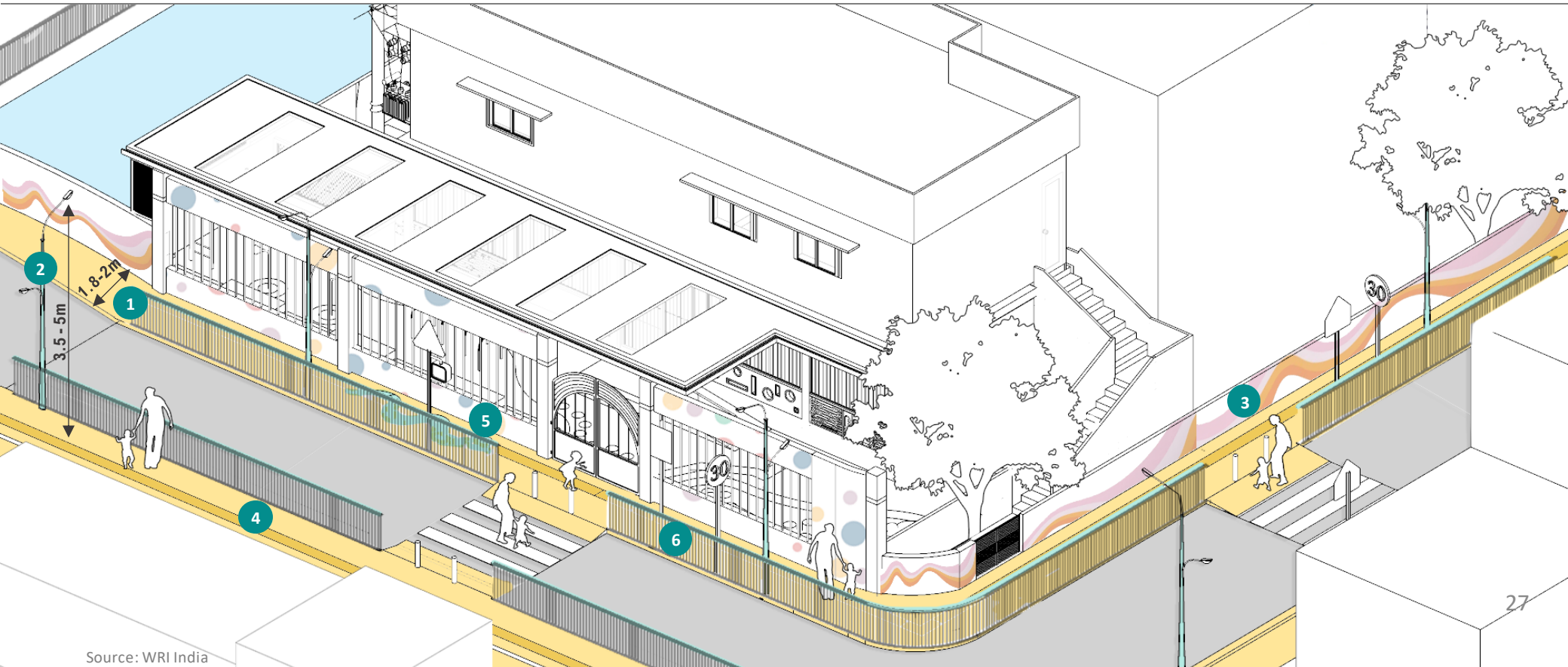
Anganwadi Center

4.1 Improving access around 500m radius of *anganwadi* center

- A. Young children and family-friendly footpaths
- B. Pedestrian crossing and traffic calming measures
- C. Wayfinding
- D. Anganwadi entry

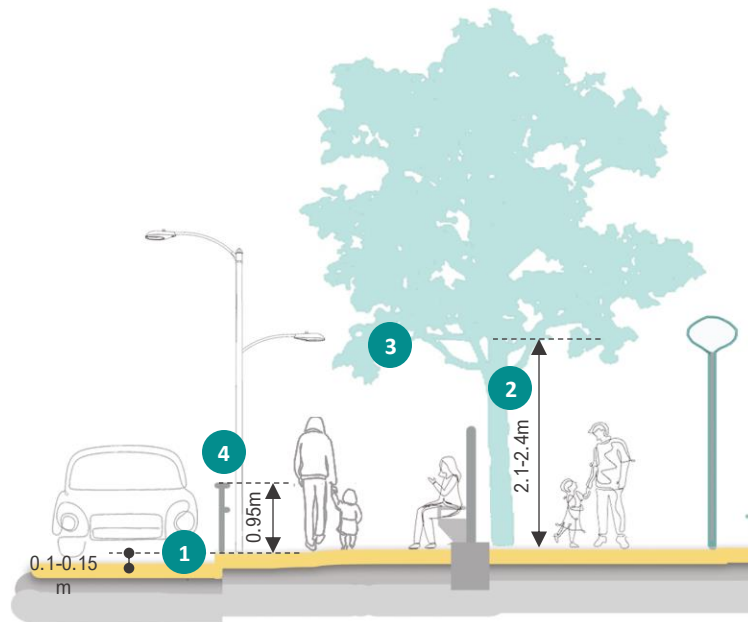
A. Young children and family-friendly footpaths

1. Continuous network of min 1.8- 2m wide well-shaded, at-grade footpath
2. Pedestrian lighting of height 3.5-5m and of 6-8 lux level at intervals of 12-15m for well-lit walking space
3. Colorful patterns on the boundary walls adjacent to footpaths to activate the footpath edge
4. Tactile paving strip of suitable anti-skid material
5. Floor-based games such as hopscotch, snake n ladders, etc. on the footpath or in multi-utility zone (MUZ)
6. Interactive railings of max height 0.95m along footpath



A. Young children and family-friendly footpaths

1. Height of the footpath to range from 0.1-0.15m from the carriageway
2. Adequate shading along footpaths through large canopy trees or parasols
3. Pruned trees along footpath to avoid accidents
4. Interactive railings of max height 0.95m along footpath



Source: WRI India

Locally available, permeable, anti-skid (stone tiles, grass pavers, cobblestone, brick, unpolished tiles) materials for paving



Reflective Concrete



Porous brick



Fly ash blocks



Unpolished granite



Sandstone paver



Shahabad stone



Grass pavers



Open-joint bricks

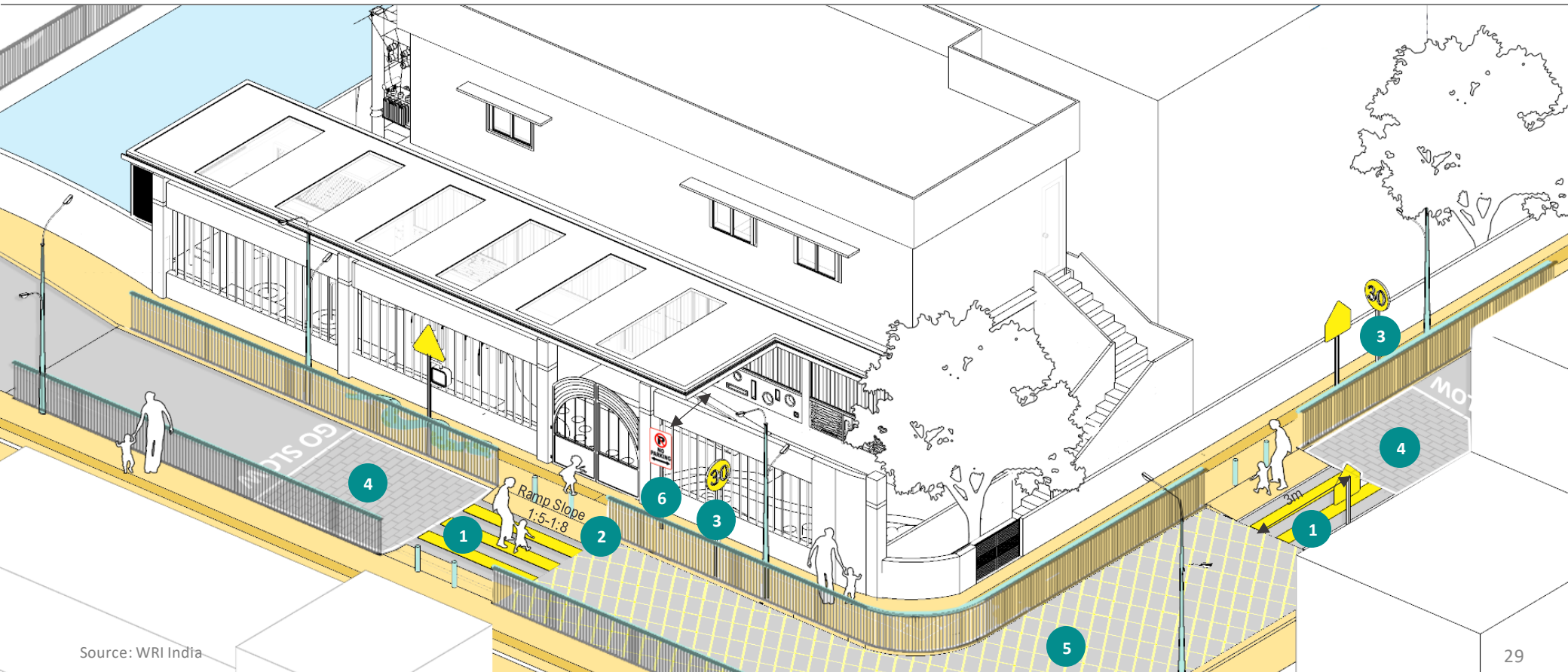


Coble stone

*This list is not exhaustive, and it is recommended to use suitable alternative local material.

B. Pedestrian crossing and traffic calming measures

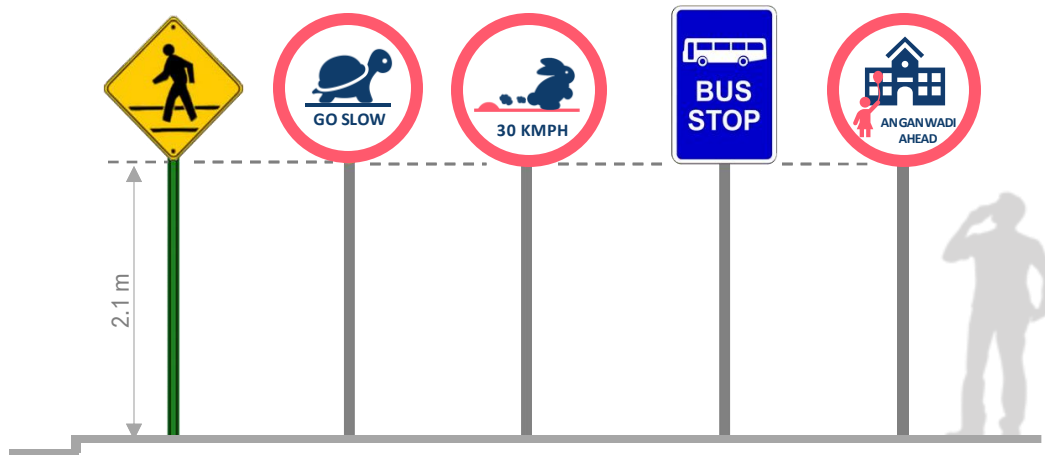
1. Min. 3m wide dedicated pedestrian crossings near *anganwadi*
2. Connect footpath to the crossing using ramps with slopes ranging from 1:5-1:8
3. Permissible vehicular speed limit of max.30kmph around *anganwadi*
4. Traffic calming measures such as rumble strips/ speed bumps/ cobblestones/ safety studs or any other suitable material, 13m before pedestrian crossings on all surrounding streets
5. Slow traffic zones in front of entry and exit points of *anganwadi* by painting or providing different treatments with textures on carriageway
6. No on-street parking zones within 50m radius of *anganwadi* for safety and clear visibility



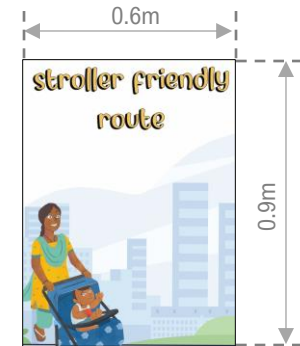
Source: WRI India

C. Wayfinding

Signage indicating speed limits, pedestrian crossings, bus stops, designated parking areas, important landmarks (school ahead), and destinations (children at play) 20m before pedestrian crossings in multi-utility zone (MUZ) or green buffer.



Source: WRI India

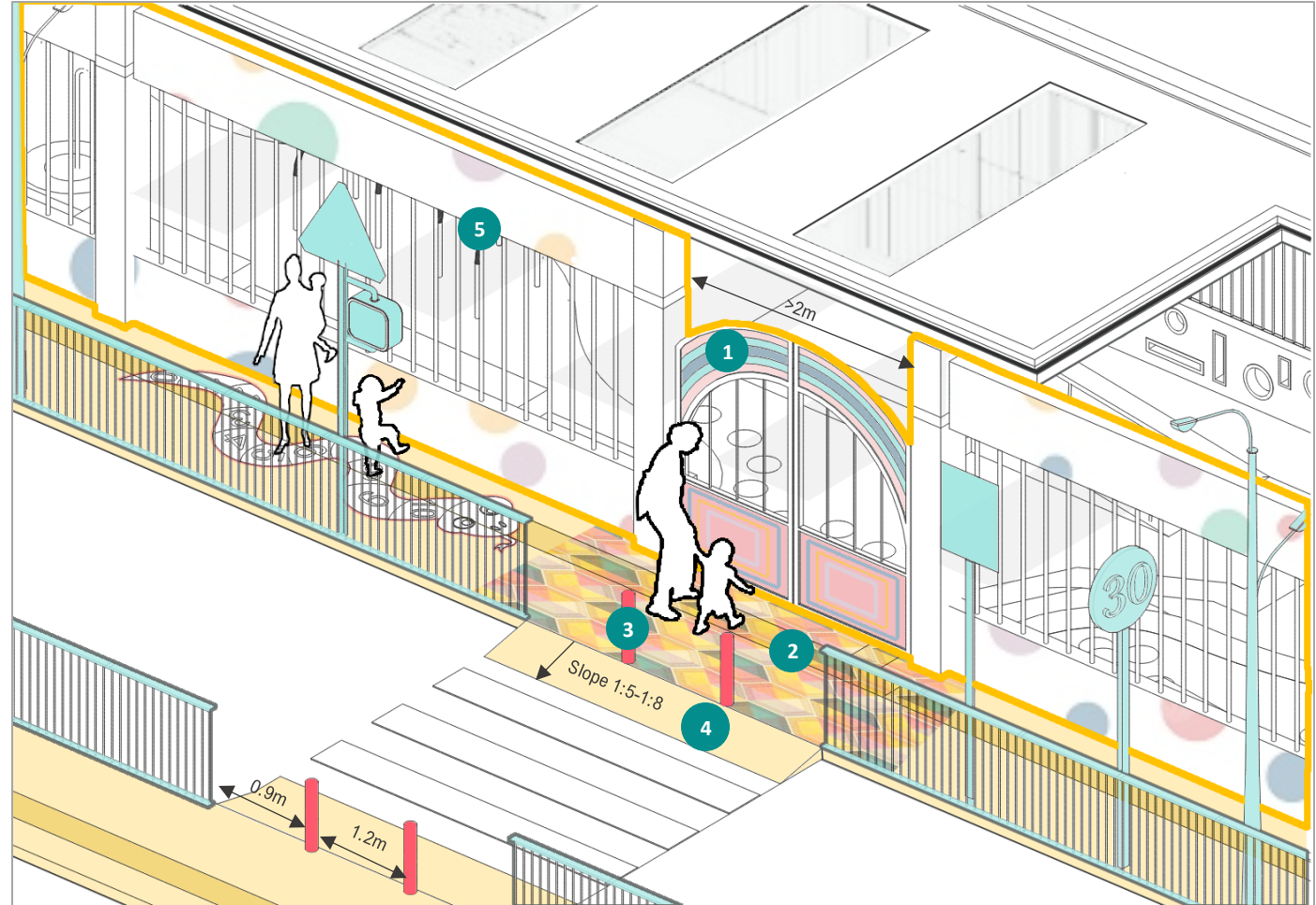


Source: WRI India

Clear height of 2.1m between signage bottom and finished footpath level. Refer to **IRC 67** for detailed design specifications.

D. Anganwadi entry

1. At least 2m wide entrance
2. Highlight *anganwadi* entrance with engaging patterns on the footpath
3. Safety bollards with clear spacing of 0.9m for walking and 1.2m for wheelchair movement along footpath in front of main entry
4. Ramp with slopes ranging from 1:5-1:8 at plot entry for safe access
5. Permeable compound wall with safety grills for visibility and security, deterring vandalism and anti-social activities



Source: CSML

Anganwadi Center

4.2 Site planning

- A. Young children and family-friendly walkways
- B. Waiting area & Building entry
- C. Young children and family-friendly landscape
- D. Safety measures

A. Young children and family-friendly walkways

Locally available, permeable, anti-skid (stone tiles, grass pavers, cobblestone, brick, unpolished tiles) materials for paving



Artline pavers



Porous brick



Unpolished granite



Sandstone paver



Grass pavers



Open-joint bricks

Sensory trails with sand, pebbles, different textured grass, wooden chips, mulch, loose soil, and gravel



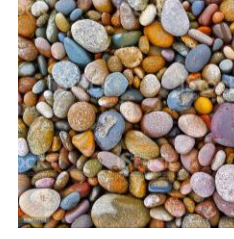
Soft Grass



Gravel



Sand



Pebbles



Wooden Chips

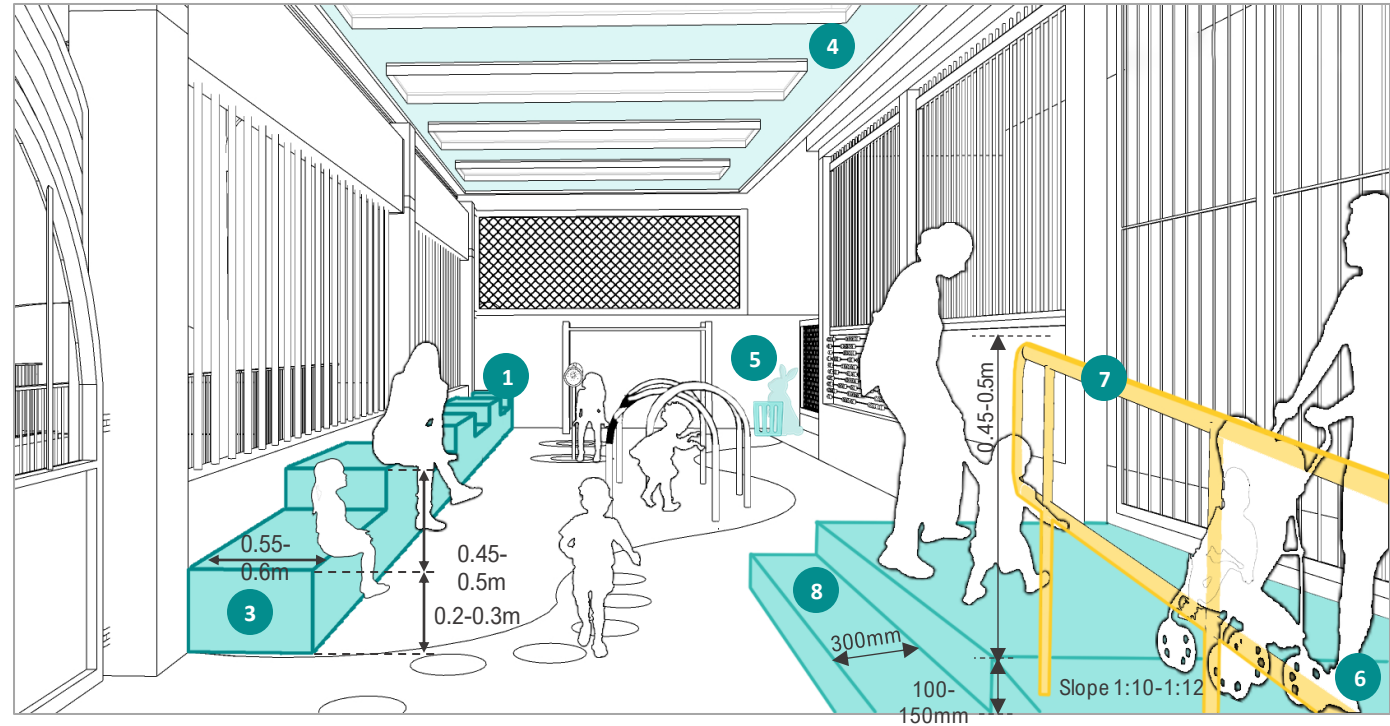


Mosaic Chips

*This list is not exhaustive, and it is recommended to use suitable alternative local material.

B. Waiting area & Building entry

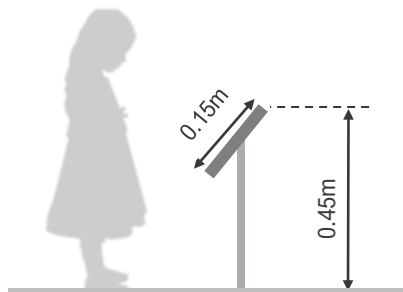
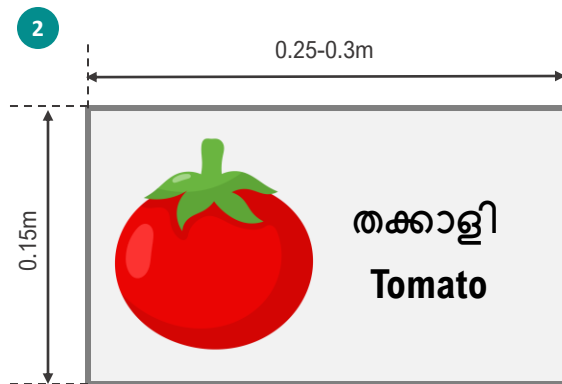
1. Waiting area closer to all young children and caregiver-oriented amenities (play area, classrooms, etc.)
2. Multi-heighted seating with proper backrest and rounded edges at frequent intervals
3. Child height seating is of ht. 0.2-0.3m, width 0.55-0.6m, and adult height seating is of ht. 0.45-0.5m, width 0.55-0.6m
4. Shading in outdoor waiting areas using large canopy trees or use materials such as tensile fabric, recycled cloth, or colorful polycarbonate sheets with GI steel pipe frames
5. Waste disposal bin placed near waiting area
6. Ramped entry of slope- 1:10-12; width 1.2 m to the building for easy movement of young children and pregnant mothers
7. Grab bar of ht. 0.45-0.5m and dia 0.05m for young children on the ramp for universal accessibility
8. Gradual steps of riser-100-150mm and tread – 300mm for easy access by young children



Source: WRI India

C. Young children and family-friendly landscape

1. Plant local herbs, vegetable, and fruit to provide gardening opportunities for young children and caregivers
2. Low-height signage at a height of 0.45m in herb/kitchen garden with its local name of the plant



Information signage



C. Young children and family-friendly landscape

Herb garden with locally available medicinal plants of low height



Phyllanthus amarus



Ocimum Sanctum



Centella asiatica



Inula racemosa



Sassurea costus



Stevia rebaudiana

Kitchen garden with vegetables and fruits that could be grown based on site conditions



Tomato



Curry leaves



Mint



Okra



Coriander



Green chilli

Butterfly garden with fragrant and nectarine hypoallergenic plants that attract both butterflies and young children



Lantana



Ixora



Hibiscus



Golden trumpet



Wedelia

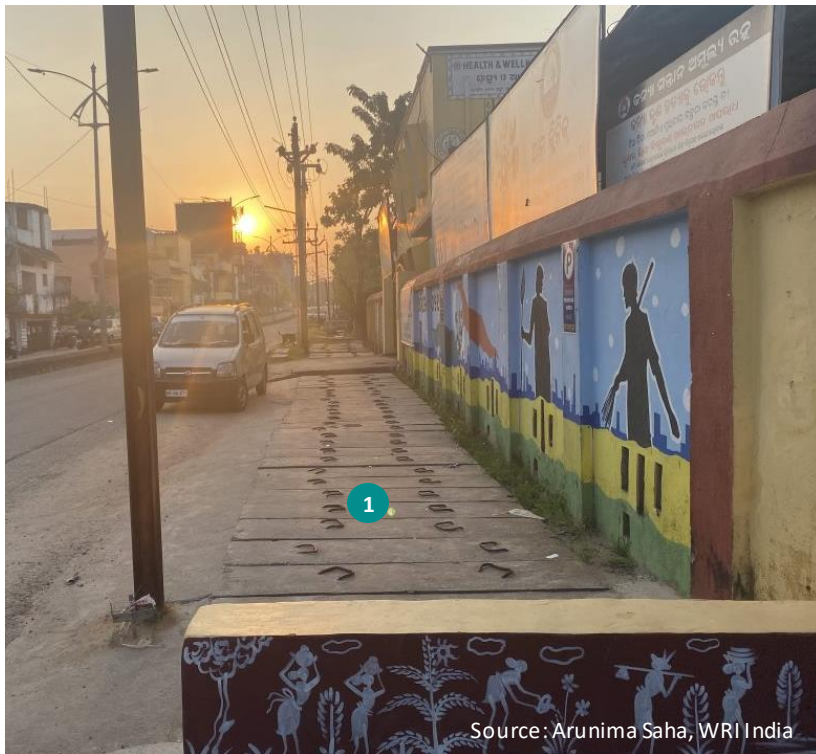


Crepe jasmine

*This list is not exhaustive, and it is recommended to use suitable alternative local species.

D. Safety measures

1. Cover open drains in and around the site to avoid accidents
2. Utilities such as transformers/ telephone lines if any present within the premises are to be taken underground or warded off via utility screens. Minimum screening height shall be 2.5 to 3m from the ground



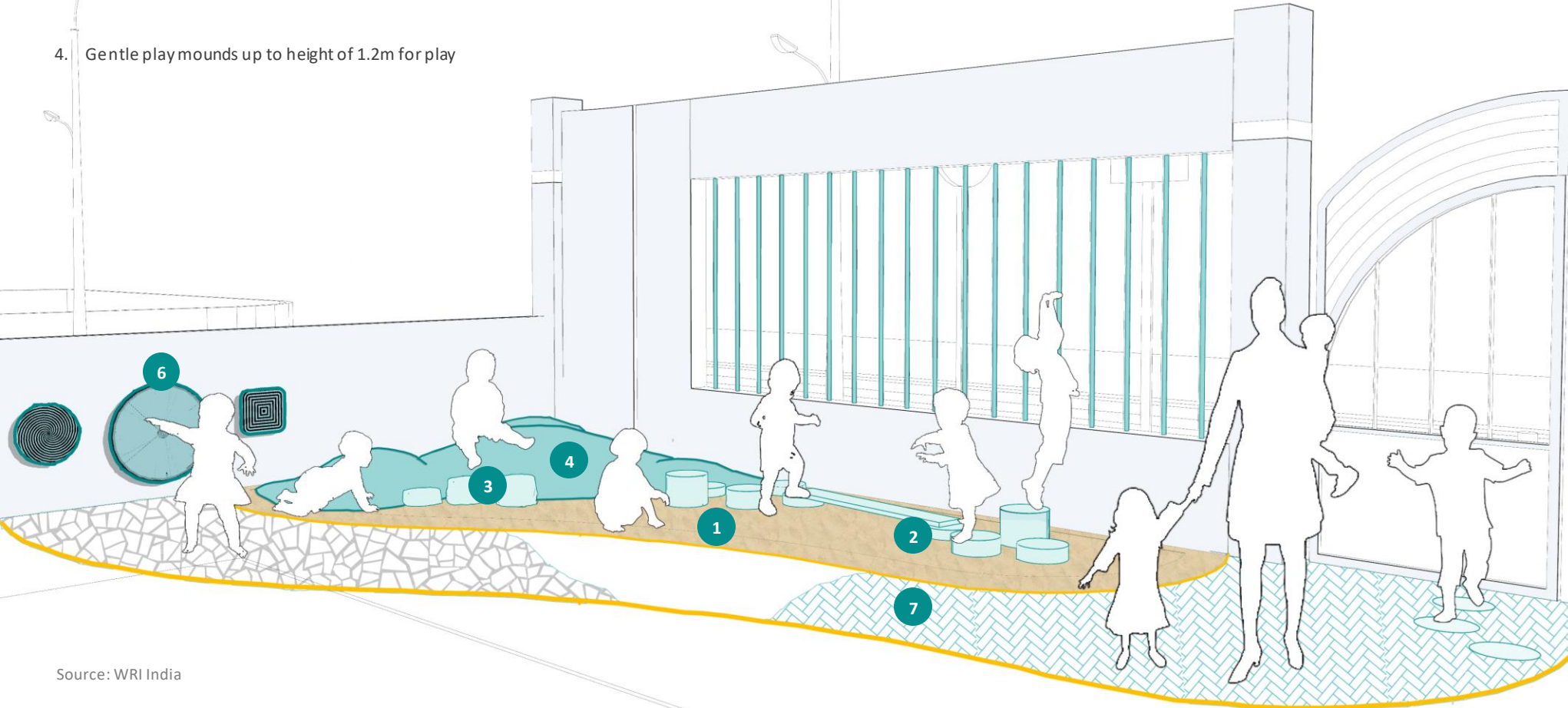
Anganwadi Center

4.3 Outdoor play

Play opportunities for young children

Play opportunities for young children

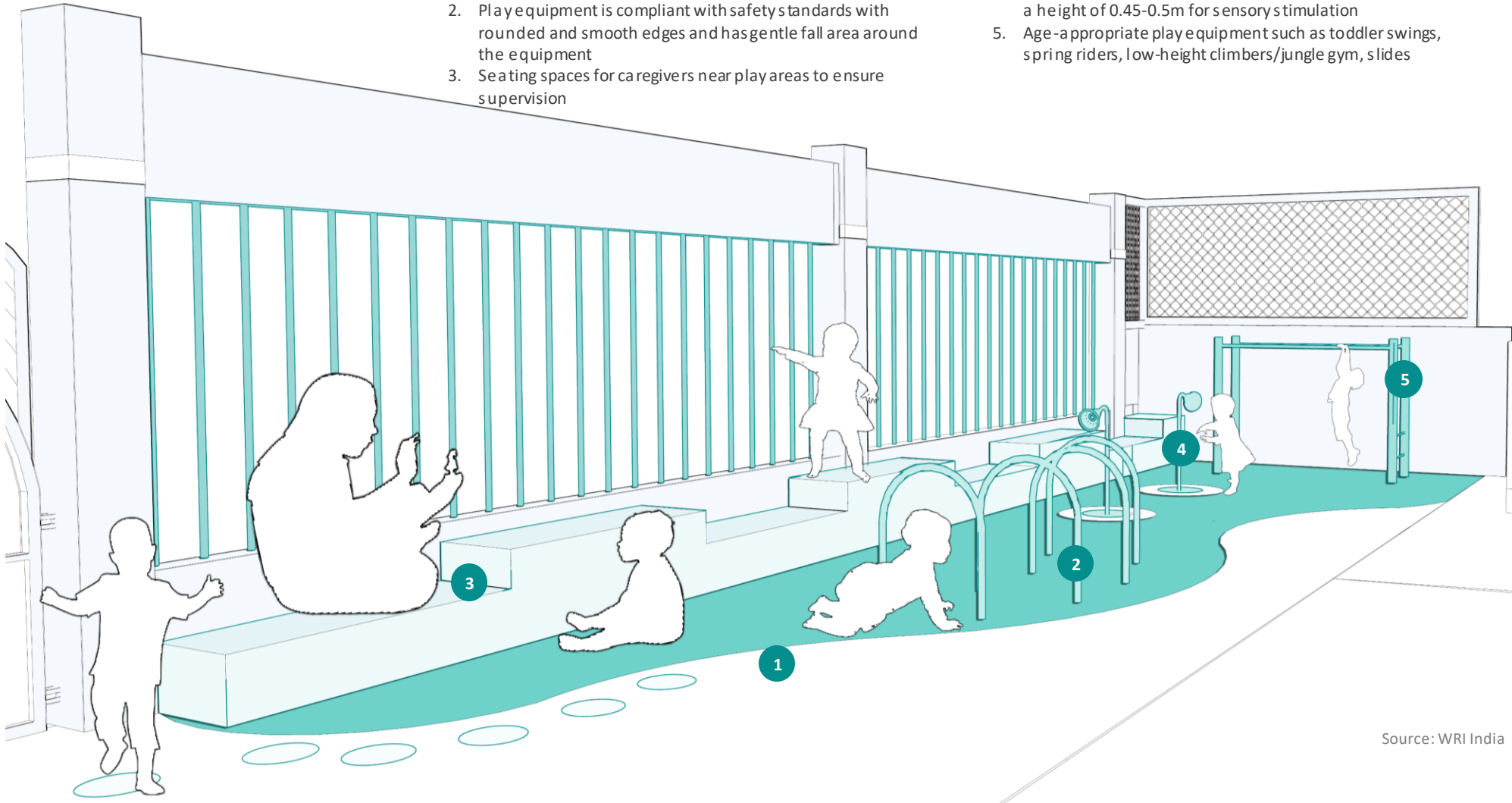
1. Sandpit with loose parts such as pebbles, balls, buckets, spades, etc. for imaginative play
2. Obstacle course of wooden stumps/balancing beam up to height 0.2m with soft fall area to encourage risk play
3. Informal seating using boulders, wooden logs, or stumps
4. Gentle play mounds up to height of 1.2m for play
5. Open green play spaces using locally available and child-friendly variety of grass (Mexican/ Bermuda/ Korean/ Soft Buffalo) for nature play
6. Wall-mounted play opportunities such as illusion wheel for cognitive development
7. Sensory trails with bricks, pebbles, different textured grass, wooden chips, and gravel



Source: WRI India

Play opportunities for young children

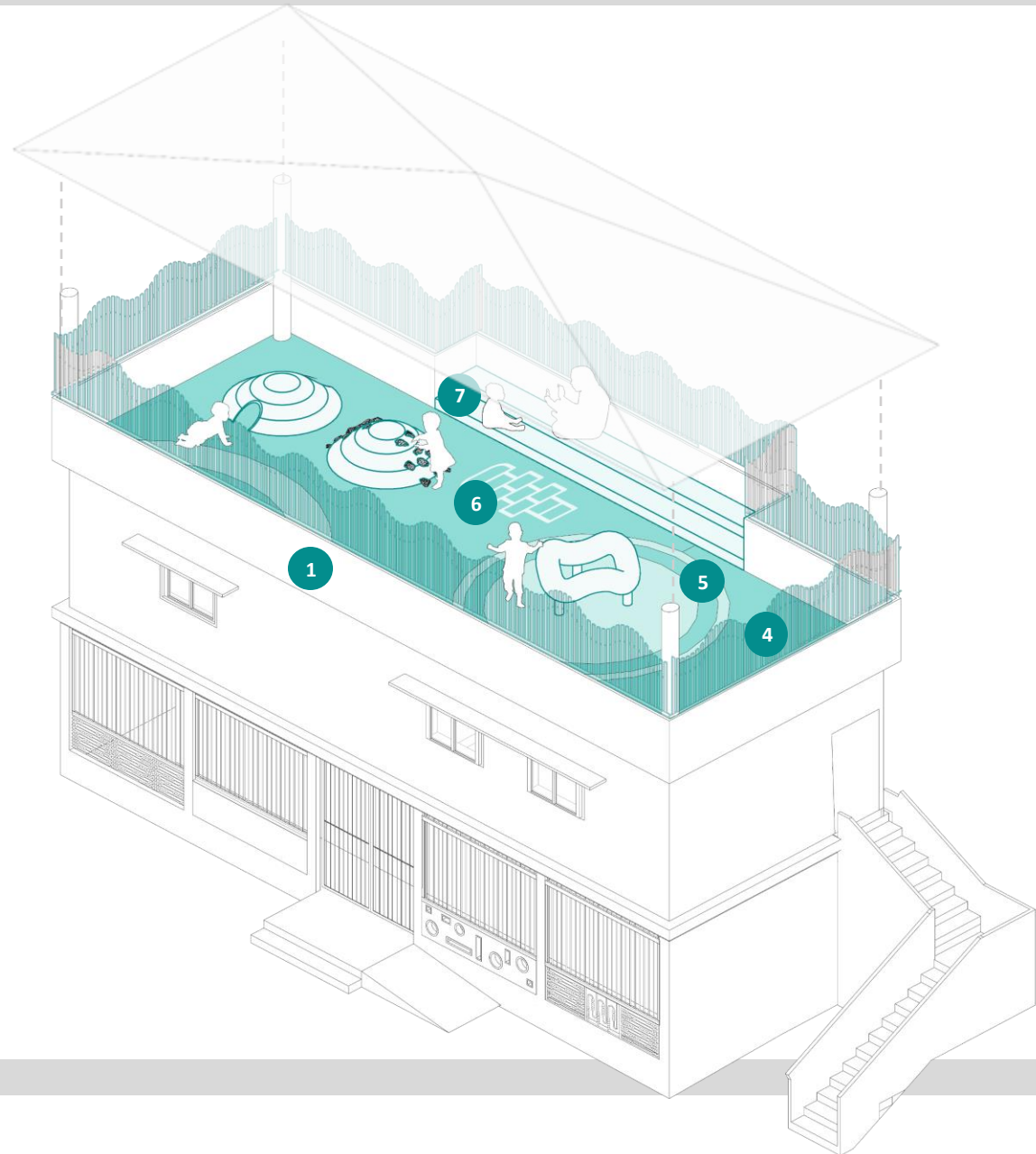
1. Playspaces at grade with the walkways
2. Play equipment is compliant with safety standards with rounded and smooth edges and has gentle fall area around the equipment
3. Seating spaces for caregivers near play areas to ensure supervision
4. Sound-based play elements such as xyl ophones or drums/ at a height of 0.45-0.5m for sensory stimulation
5. Age-appropriate play equipment such as toddler swings, spring riders, low-height climbers/jungle gym, slides



Source: WRI India

Play opportunities for young children

1. In case of space constraint, terraces or common community areas transformed into play spaces for young children
2. Safe access staircase to the terrace play area
3. Gradual steps of riser-100-150mm and tread – 300mm for easy access by young children
4. Safety barriers/grills installed at an appropriate height along the terrace parapet wall to ensure safety and deter birds from soiling the play area
5. Gentle fall area such as EPDM flooring around play equipment
6. Floor-based games such as hopscotch, snake and ladders, etc.
7. Multi-height seating with proper backrest and rounded edges



Anganwadi Center

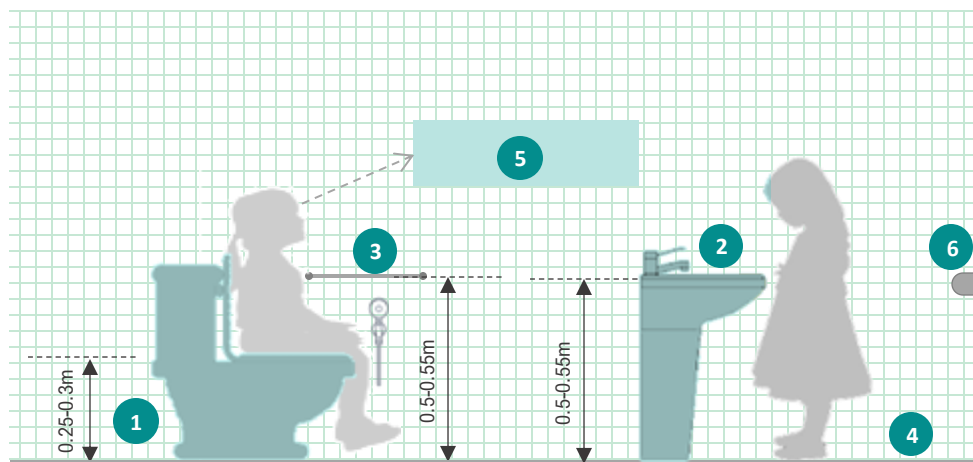
4.4 Young children and caregiver-oriented amenities

- A. Child-friendly toilets
- B. Consultation/Sick room

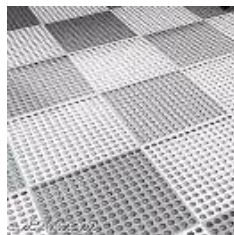
A. Child-friendly toilets

1. Clean toilets equipped with toilet fixtures at child height; for young children, max. toilet seat heights should be 0.25-0.3m
2. Max. height of hand basin should be 0.5-0.55m
3. Wall-mounted grab bar at a height of 0.5-0.55m near WC for support and toilet hand showers at low-height for easy access from toilet seat

4. Anti-skid tiles for flooring
5. Picture guide for children to operate the toilet fixtures and personal hygiene
6. Doorknobs at height of 0.5-0.55m for easy access to children



Anti-skid ceramic tiles



Interlocking anti-slip rubber mat



Mat finish vitrified tiles



Slate tiles

*This list is not exhaustive, and it is recommended to use suitable alternative material.

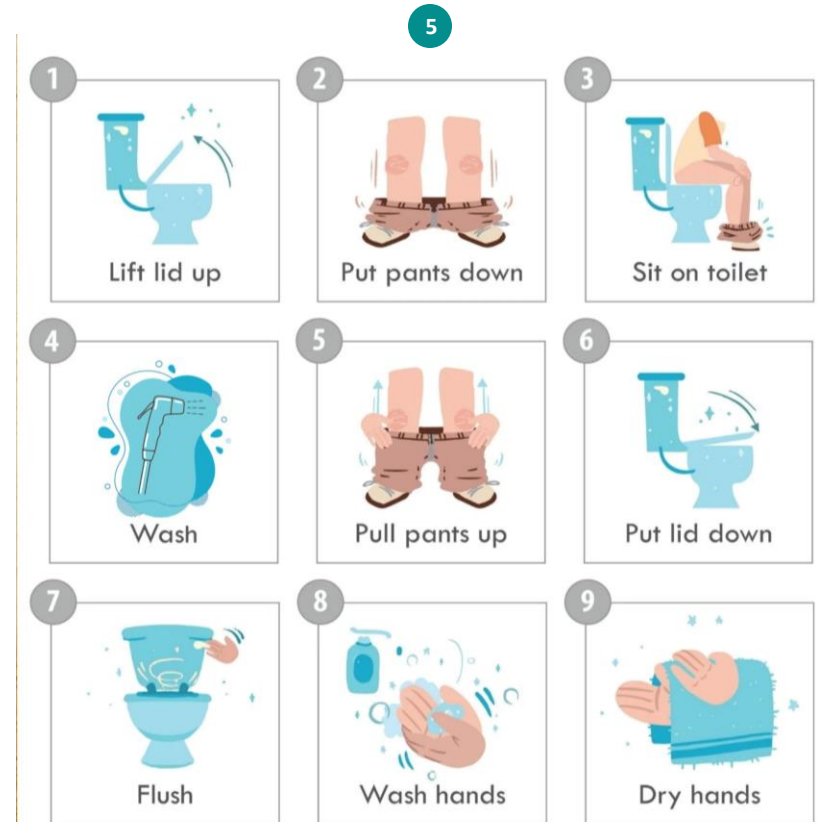
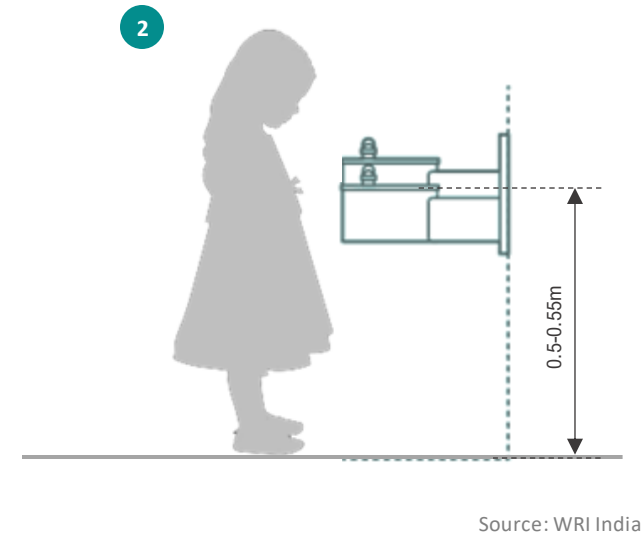
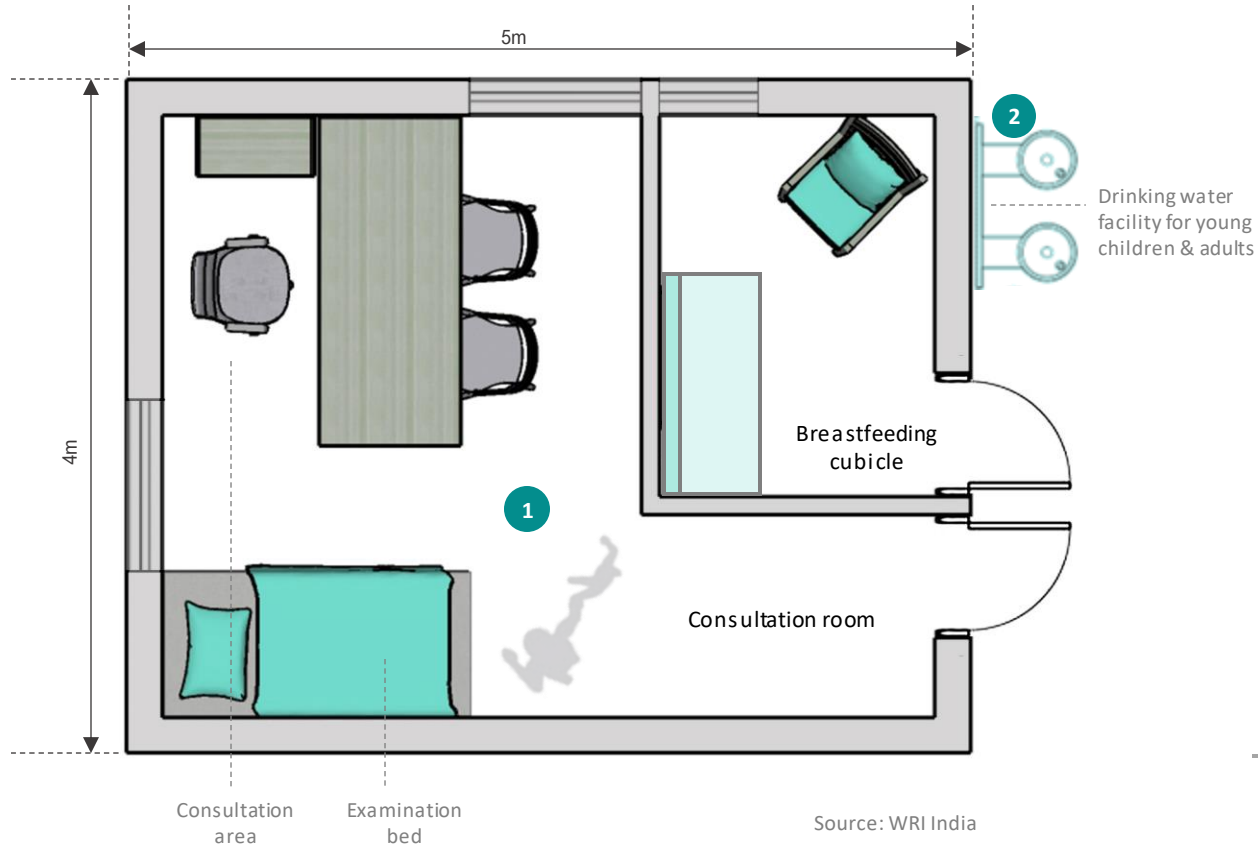


Image source: <https://www.etsy.com/in-en/listing/1186607137/potty-training-bundle-i-fun-potty-charts>

B. Consultation/Sick room

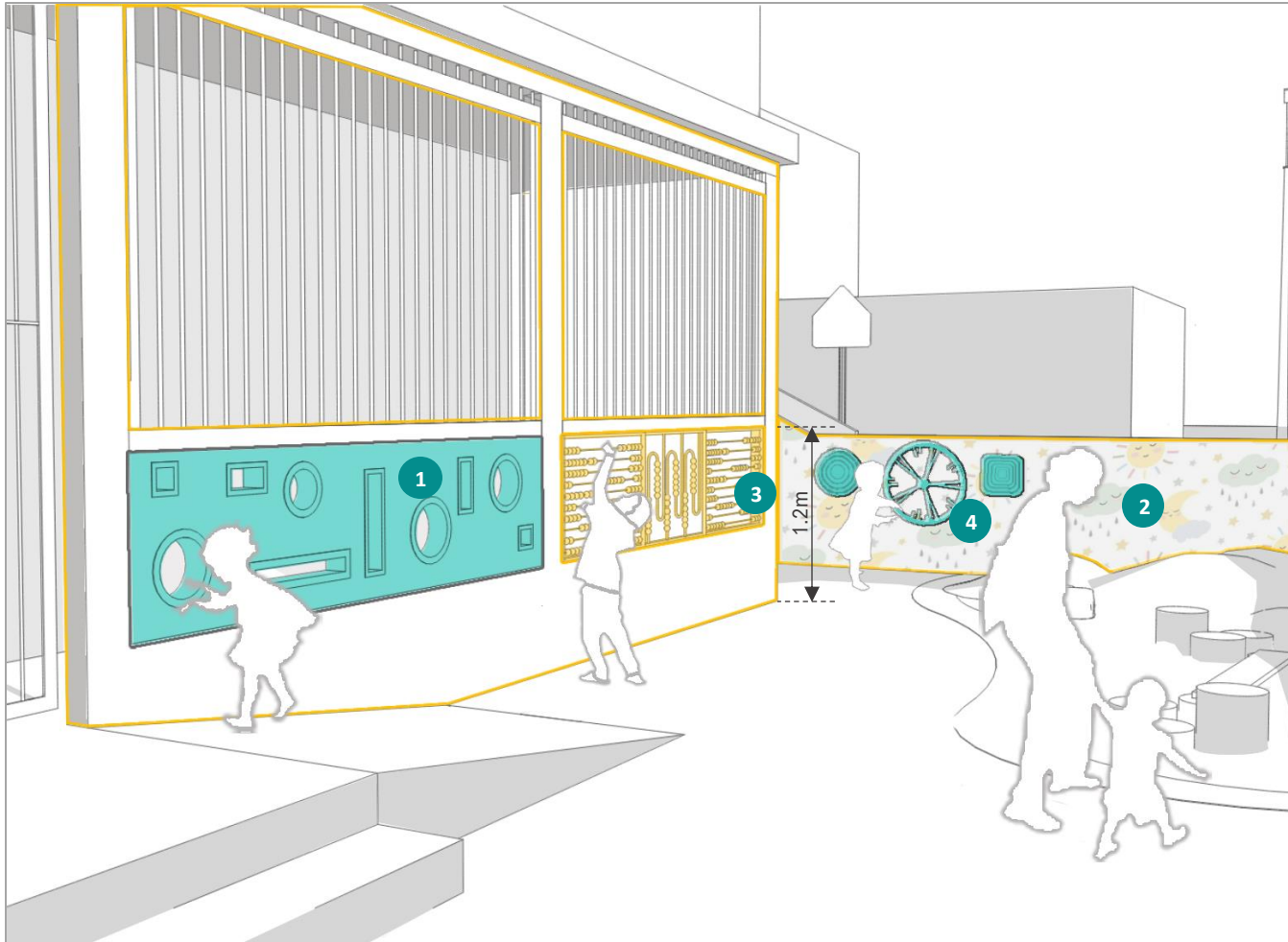
1. Consultation/sick room (5X4.5m) to include bed, table, chair, storage space, and information chart on neonatal care
2. Child-friendly drinking water fountain at a height of 0.5-0.55m



Anganwadi Center

4.5 Building as Learning Aid

4.5 Building as Learning Aid



1. Punctures to create play niches/jali with different patterns on veranda walls forming light and shadow patterns on the floor
2. Paint numbers, alphabets, murals of animals, birds, plants, day and night that can aid in storytelling; Sensory walls with mosaic tiles or any recycled material can be used for cognitive development
3. Interactive railing to engage children
4. Wall-mounted play opportunities such as illusion wheel for cognitive development

Source: CSML



Section 5

Annexures


5. Annexures

Site audit checklist

Improving access around 500m radius of *Anganwadi* center

Young children and family-friendly Footpaths:		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Continuous network of min 1.8-2m wide well-shaded, at-grade footpath, clear of all encroachments or obstructions such as open drains, public utilities, light poles, and parking, within 500m radius of ECD center		
2	Height of the footpath to range from 0.1-0.15m from the carriageway		
3	Use of locally available, permeable, anti-skid (stone tiles, grass pavers, cobblestone, brick, unpolished tiles) materials for paving footpath		
4	Tactile paving strip of suitable anti-skid material along footpath for universal accessibility		
5	Floor-based games such as hopscotch, snake n ladders etc. on multi-utility zone (MUZ) of the footpath to engage children		
6	Colorful patterns on the boundary walls adjacent to footpaths to divert attention of the child from the traffic		
7	Adequate shading along footpaths through large canopy trees or parasols		
8	Pruned trees along footpath to avoid accidents		
9	Interactive railings of max height 0.95m along footpath for safety and ensuring clear visibility		
10	Adequate pedestrian lighting of height 3.5-5m and of 6-8 lux level at intervals of 12-15m for well-lit walking space		

 Core guideline (Score:2)

 Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Improving access around 500m radius of *Anganwadi* center

Pedestrian crossing and traffic calming measures		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Min. 3m wide dedicated pedestrian crossings near <i>anganwadi</i> center		
2	Footpath connected to the crossing using ramps with slopes ranging from 1:5-1:8 for safe access		
3	Permissible vehicular speed limit around <i>anganwadi</i> center is limited to 30kmph		
4	Traffic calming measures such as rumble strips/ speed bumps/ cobblestones/ safety studs or any other suitable material, 13m before pedestrian crossings on all surrounding streets (at 30 kmph)		
5	Slow traffic zones in front of entry and exit points of <i>anganwadi</i> center by painting or providing different treatments with textures on the footpath		
6	No on-street parking zones within 50m radius of <i>anganwadi</i> center for clear visibility and safe walking		
Wayfinding			
1	Signage indicating speed limits, pedestrian crossings, bus stops, designated parking areas, important landmarks (school ahead), and destinations (children at play) 20m before pedestrian crossings in multi-utility zone (MUZ) or green buffer		


- Core guideline (Score:2)
- Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Improving access around 500m radius of *Anganwadi* center

<i>Anganwadi</i> entry		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Min. 3m wide entrance of <i>anganwadi</i> center		
2	Highlighted <i>nganwadi</i> entrance with engaging patterns on the footpath		
3	Safety bollards with clear spacing of 0.9m for walking and 1.2m for wheelchair movement a long footpath in front of main entry		
4	Ramp with slopes ranging from 1:5-1:8 at plot entry for safe access		
5	Permeable compound wall with safety grills for visibility and security, deterring vandalism and anti-social activities		

 Core guideline (Score:2)


 Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Site planning

Young children and family-friendly walkways		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Min. 1.8-2m wide unobstructed walkway within premises for comfortable movement of caregivers with pram or on wheelchair		
2	Gentle slope min 1:15-1:20 at all level changes along pedestrian walkway		
3	Use of locally available, permeable, anti-skid (stone tiles, grass pavers, cobblestone, brick, unpolished tiles) materials for paving walkways		
4	Colorful and engaging elements and features such as hopscotch, murals, etc. on walkways for children		
5	Sensory trails with bricks, pebbles, different textured grass, wooden chips, mosaic chips and gravel		

 Core guideline (Score:2)


 Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Site planning

Waiting area & Building entry		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Waiting area close to all young children and caregiver-oriented amenities (breastfeeding booth, OPD, play area, classrooms etc.)		
2	Multi-heighted seating with proper backrest and rounded edges at frequent intervals		
3	Child height seating is of ht. 0.2-0.3m and width 0.55-0.6m and adult height seating is of ht. 0.45-0.5m, width 0.55-0.6m		
4	Shading in outdoor waiting areas using large canopy trees or use materials such as tensile fabric, recycled cloth, or colorful polycarbonate sheets with GI steel pipe frames		
5	Waste disposal bin		
6	Ramped entry of slope- 1:10-12; width 1.2 m to the building for easy movement of young children and pregnant mothers		
7	Grab bar of ht. 0.45-0.5m and dia 00.05m for young children on the ramp for universal accessibility		
8	Gradual steps of riser-100-150mm and tread – 300mm for easy access by young children		

 Core guideline (Score:2)


 Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Site planning

Safety measures		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Open drains covered in and around <i>anganwadi</i> center premises to avoid accidents		
2	Utilities such as transformers/ telephone lines if any present within the premises taken underground or warded off via utility screens. Minimum screening height is 2.5 to 3m from the ground		
Young children and family-friendly landscape			
1	Local herbs, medicinal plants, vegetable, and fruit gardening opportunities for young children and caregivers		
2	Low-height signage at a height of 0.45m in herb/kitchen garden with local name of the plant		
3	Groundcover/ flowerbeds/indigenous variety of ornamental shrubs or medicinal plants of hypo-allergenic species at a height of 0.45m to engage children with nature		



 Core guideline (Score:2)

 Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Outdoor Play: Play opportunities for young children

		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Playspaces at grade with the walkways		
2	Playe equipment is compliant with safety standards with rounded and smooth edges and has gentle fall area around the equipment		
3	Seating spaces for caregivers near play areas to ensure supervision		
4	Open green playspaces using locally available and child-friendly variety of grass (Mexican/ Bermuda/ Korean/ Soft Buffalo) for crawling		
5	Sandpit with loose parts such as pebbles, balls, buckets, spades, etc. for imaginative play		
6	Gentle play mounds up to height of 1.2m for play		
7	Sound-based play elements such as xylophones or drums/ at a height of 0.45-0.5m for sensory stimulation		
8	An obstacle course of wooden stumps/ balancing beam upto height 0.2m with soft fall area to encourage risk play		
9	Age-appropriate playe equipment such as toddler swings, spring riders, low-height climbers/jungle gym, slides		
10	Sensory trails with sand, pebbles, different textured grass, wooden chips, mulch, loose soil, and gravel		
11	Wall-mounted play opportunities such as illusion wheel for cognitive development		
12	Informal seating using boulders, wooden logs, or stumps		

 Core guideline (Score:2)
 Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Outdoor Play: Play opportunities for young children

		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	In case of space constraint, terraces or common community areas transformed into play spaces for young children		
2	Safe access staircase to the terrace play area		
3	Gradual steps of riser-100-150mm and tread – 300mm for easy access by young children		
4	Safety barriers/grills installed at an appropriate height along the terrace parapet wall to ensure safety and deter birds from soiling the play area		
5	Gentle fall area such as EPDM flooring around play equipment		
6	Floor-based games such as hopscotch, snake n ladders, etc.		
7	Multi-height seating with proper backrest and rounded edges		


- Core guideline (Score:2)
- Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Young children and caregiver-oriented amenities

Child-friendly toilets		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Clean toilets equipped with toilet fixtures at child height; for young children, max. toilet seat height is 0.25-0.3m		
2	Wall-mounted grab bar at a height of 0.5-0.55m near WC for support and toilet hand showers at low-height for easy access from toilet seat		
3	Max. height of hand basin is 0.5-0.55m		
4	Anti-skid tiles for flooring		
5	Picture guide for children to operate the toilet fixtures and personal hygiene		
6	Doorknobs at height of 0.5-0.55m for easy access to children		
Consultation/Sick room			
1	Consultation/Sick room (5X4m) includes bed, table, chair, storage space, and information chart on neonatal care		
2	Well-lit, ventilated breastfeeding cubicle/room (2.1 x 2.1m) including nursing chairs/sofas		

 Core guideline (Score:2)


 Supportive guideline (Score:1)

Site audit checklist

Building as Learning Aid

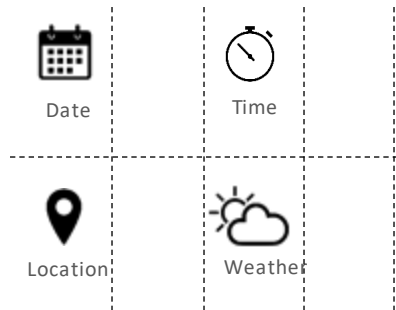
		Anganwadi	Score (0/1/2)
1	Punctures creating play niches/ jali with different patterns on verandah walls forming light and shadow patterns on the floor		
2	Numbers, alphabets, murals of animals, birds, plants, day and night painted on walls to aid in storytelling; Sensory walls with mosaic tiles or any recycled material for cognitive development		
3	Interactive railing to engage children		
4	Wall-mounted play opportunities such as illusion wheel for cognitive development		

 Core guideline (Score:2)

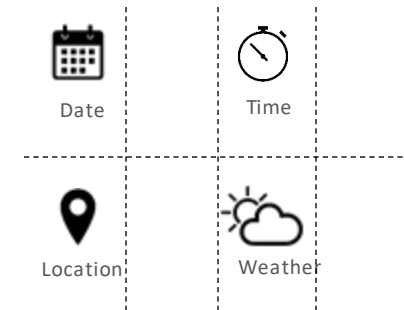
 Supportive guideline
(Score:1)

People Moving Count

	10 min	Total
Baby (0-1)		
Toddler (1-3)		
Child up to 5		
Elder children		
Caregiver - Female		
Caregiver - male		
Elderly		
Others		



	10 min	Total
Baby (0-1)		
Toddler (1-3)		
Child up to 5		
Elder children		
Caregiver - Female		
Caregiver - male		
Elderly		
Others		



Ref: [Toolkit - For measuring urban experiences of young children - Bernard van Leer Foundation](#)









Activity Mapping

What?

This is an exercise to identify the most frequently sighted pairs of infants, toddlers, and caregivers in a public space and address their specific needs.

How?

Identify and record all young children and caregiver pairs visiting the public space during different times of the day and on different days of the week

ITC1 ●	ITC2 ●	ITC3 ●	ITC4 ●
			
Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.
ITC4 ●	ITC5 ●	ITC6 ●	ITC7 ●
			
Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.
ITC8	ITC9	ITC 10	ITC 11
Nos.	Nos.	Nos.	Nos.

Attach/draw the plan of the selected site in the space below

Activity Mapping

Ensure that this survey aligns with the activity mapping from the previous slide. Collect a minimum of **21 samples** during both weekday and weekend peak hours for each public space and record observations for qualitative analysis.

Record **gender, age, posture, groupings, and activities** using the provided table, which **can be contextualized** to fit the specific characteristics of the public open space.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
GENDER	Other/Unsure																					
	Male																					
	Female																					
AGE	Infant (0-1)																					
	Toddler (1-3)																					
	Toddler (3-6)																					
	Child (6-15)																					
	Young Adult (16-24)																					
	Adult (25-60)																					
POSTURE	Adult (60+)																					
	Standing																					
	Sitting																					
	Lying down																					
	Moving around																					
GROUPING	Alone																					
	Pair (Child-child, Child= caregiver, Adult- adult)																					

Ref: [Toolkit - For measuring urban experiences of young children - Bernard van Leer Foundation](#)

Activity Mapping

How?
 Walk through the designated study area in the public space. Observe stationary activities at various times of the day to gain insights into the area's dynamics.

Ensure a mix selection of samples to cover all age groups of children and caregiver profiles identified in the profiling exercise.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Waiting																						
Eating/ Drinking																						
Exercising																						
Playing formal- with equipment																						
Playing formal- with natural elements																						
Playing informal- without props																						
Playing with home brought elements																						
Observing																						
Being affectionate																						
Reading and Writing																						
Resting																						
Creating (Painting/Planting/Playing music)																						
Using electronics																						
Profile code																						

Ref: [Toolkit - For measuring urban experiences of young children- Bernard van Leer Foundation](#)



Anganwadi Center Design Guidelines & Checklist

Prepared by

WRI India with support from Cochin Smart Mission Limited (CSML), Kochi Municipal Corporation (KMC), and Department of Women & Child Development, Kochi