

## 2. Social Mobilization and Institution Development

The National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) shall rest on the foundation that the mobilization of urban poor households to form their own institutions is an important investment for an effective and sustainable poverty reduction programme. These institutions of the poor would partner with local self-governments, public service providers, banks, private sector and other mainstream institutions to facilitate delivery of social and economic services to the poor.

### **Components:**

NULM envisages mobilization of urban poor households into a three tiered structure with *Self-Help Groups (SHGs)* at the grass-root level, *Area Level Federations (ALFs)* at the slum / ward level and *City-level Federations (CLFs)* at the city-level:

### **Self Help Group (SHG):**

SHGs are groups of 10 to 20 women or men who come together to improve their living conditions by group savings and loans. These groups conduct regular meetings where the savings of the group is collected into a corpus fund, which is used to provide short-term loans to the members. After some time when the credit requirements of the members increase, the Self Help Group may approach to a bank for loan.

**Membership of SHGs:** Under NULM, Self-Help Groups of urban poor will be formed. Non poor may be included as members in SHGs where strong affinity or special reasons exist. However, at least 70% of the SHG members should be urban poor to qualify for funding support under NULM. SHGs may consist of 10 to 20 members. These groups need not be registered. Normally, women SHGs will be formed; however male SHGs of handicapped persons will be allowed to be formed. The objective is to organise all the urban poor families into SHGs; however, those areas may be taken up first where urban poor are concentrated.

**Membership of Area Level Federation (ALF):** An Area Level Federation may be formed with 10 to 20 SHGs covering an area of a ward or slum or such other geographical unit with a minimum of 2 members (nominated representatives) per SHG. However the Urban Local Body (ULB) may decide the number of SHGs in a federation as per the local conditions.

**City-level Federation (CLF).** It is expected that each city will have at least one CLF. The CLFs should be registered as societies/association under the relevant law of the State. All ALFs in a city should be represented at the CLF. Bigger cities may have more than 1 CLF based on the size and population. The CLF is expected to work with ALFs, member SHGs, city administration and financial institutions to ensure social and economic empowerment of the urban poor.