3-Day
Urban School for Civil Society Organisations

APPRECIATING URBAN INDIA –
DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES

10-12 February 2020
Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)
New Delhi

Call for Application

What is this call for application?

This is a Call for Applications from Indian Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) for the First “Urban School” on “Appreciating Urban India: Development Policies and Practices”. The “Urban School” is being organised by PRIA International Academy (PIA) in collaboration with INCLUDe. The overall objective of the course is to prepare a cadre of practitioners from the Indian CSOs to work with the people on inclusive and sustainable urban development.

The “Urban School” will equip the participants with critical understanding on the dynamics of urbanisation in India and its impact on the people, particularly the poor and marginalised. It will discuss strategies that enable the poor and marginalised to access basic urban services like land tenure, housing, water and sanitation as well as to exercise active citizenship. The course is designed to enhance the knowledge base on urban governance in India with a special focus on public policies, programmes, and institutions related to urban development in India.

The course is fully funded by the Cities Alliance (through INCLUDe) and European Union (through Engaged Citizens Responsive City – ECRC initiative of Society for Participatory Research in Asia).

The course will be conducted at Society for Participatory Research in Asia – PRIA [42 Tughlakabad Institutional Area (near Batra Hospital on Mehrauli-Badarpur Road), New Delhi – 110062] from 10-12 February 2020.

Who should apply?

The “Urban School” will bring mid-level practitioners from the CSOs to interact with experienced urban practitioners for reflection, sharing, and acquiring new knowledge and skills to strengthen participatory governance and participatory development in Indian cities. The CSO practitioners with a minimum of three years of experience can apply. Experience of working in urban areas is preferable but not a necessity for eligibility.

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1 INCLUDe - Indian NGOs for Community Led Urban Development is a network of prominent NGOs and research institutions in community-led urban habitat development across the country. Members include SPARC, Mahila Housing Trust, CURE, Shelter Associates, South Asia HomeNet, Habitat for Humanity, India and YUVA. SPARC is the chair of INCLUDe steering committee and the Secretariat is hosted by CURE. INCLUDe is an open network which is expected to expand and grow with new NGOs and institutions which come on board.
The working language will be mainly English and Hindi. The applicants should be comfortable in both the languages to follow the discussion and instructions.

**How to apply?**

The applicants must submit the duly filled in application form attached with this mail. We encourage the applicant to furnish all information sought in the application form. The application form must be sent to the following address by 3 February 2020. The application form should be sent only by email.

**Mr. Amit Bhatt**  
Course Coordinator  
Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)  
pia@pria.org

The application form must be approved and endorsed by the Chief Functionary of the CSO. A statement of commitment from both the Chief Functionary and the applicant towards working on the urban development issues is highly recommended.

There is no course fee. All participants will receive a set of learning materials and working lunch on the workshop days.

A total of 15 bursaries are available only for the outstation participants to cover 3-Tier AC Train Fare (round trip)/ AC Bus, 4 days of accommodation and food (breakfast, lunch and dinner). We encourage the outstation participants to clearly mention in the application form to avail the bursaries. However, all the participants are expected to cover local travel (bus, auto, taxi, metro, etc.) expenses.

**What is the course content and which learning methods will be used?**

The “Urban School” will cover the following topics:

- Changing dynamics of urbanisation in India
- Multidimensional urban poverty and inequalities in India
- Urban governance and development – policies, programmes, and institutions
- Eviction of informal settlements and homelessness – policy, politics and community actions
- Community led housing – Lessons from civil society initiatives in India
- Access to water and sanitation services to urban poor – Challenges and public policy response in India
- Community managed water and sanitation initiatives – Lessons from civil society initiatives
- Citizen participation – Concepts and practices
- Process of exclusion in society
- Strategies and methods for community mobilisation/organising – Lessons from civil society practices
- Organising community for economic development and livelihood – Methods and strategies
The course will be delivered using a variety of participatory learning methods, tools and techniques. These would include interactive lecture, group work, role play, simulation, and case study analysis methods. A number of resource persons will also join through video conference.

**Core resource persons**

- **Dr Rajesh Tandon** is the founder president of Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA). Dr Tandon is the pioneer in participatory research and participatory training methodology.
- **Dr Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay** is the director of Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA). Dr Bandyopadhyay is a researcher and trainer and has done extensive work on citizen participation in urban development and governance.
- **Dr Renu Khosla** is the founder executive director of Centre for Urban and Regional Excellence (CURE). Dr Khosla has pioneered citizen-led urban development with a particular focus on the urban poor.
- **Dr Anshuman Karol** is the senior programme manager of Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA). Dr Karol is a known researcher and practitioner in local governance in India.

In addition, a number of resource persons will also facilitate various sessions.

PLEASE NOTE: The Urban School will be a full three-day course. The sessions are expected to start at 9.00 am and finish by 6.00 pm. All participants are expected to attend all the sessions on all three days. Since the course will use group learning methods extensively, absence in one or the other session may affect learning of the entire group.