Second Training Workshop

Youth for Governance Fellowship 2022, Mysuru

Date: 22nd – 23rd August 2022

Venue: Satya Hall, SVYM, CA2, KIADB Industrial Housing Area
Ring Road, Hebbal, Mysuru-570 016

GRAAM   PRIA@40   Hanns Seidel Stiftung

Table of Contents

1. Background
2. Second Training Workshop

   Day 1:
   Session 1: Interaction with the Hanns Seidel Foundation
   Session 2: What is Participation?
   Session 3: Governance of the People, By the People, For the People: 74th Constitutional Amendment Act
   Session 4: Understanding Climate Change and Action

   Day 2:
   Session 1: Discussion on Research Projects
   Session 2: Roles and responsibilities of Municipal Corporation
   Session 3: Stakeholder Analysis
   Session 4: Introduction to Community Based Participatory Research

3. Annexures
   - List of Resource Persons
   - Training Design

Background

After the first face-to-face training workshop organized from 18th – 20th May 2022 in Mysuru, which focused on building a common understanding of the fellowship and activating the participants as a group, the fellowship started with virtual sessions. So far, the following virtual sessions have been conducted:

Name of the Session	Name of Facilitator	Date
Understanding Mental Self	Ms. Anindita Anand (External Resource Person)	27th May 2022
Understanding Physical Self	Ms. Raveena Singh (External Resource Person)	4th June 2022
The Masks We Wear	Ms. Yashvi Sharma, PRIA Ms. Neha S Chaudhry, PRIA	10th June 2022
Power, Inequality & Society	Dr. Rajesh Tandon, PRIA Ms. Nikita Rakhyani, PRIA	19th June 2022
Sex, Gender & Identity	Ms. Nandita Pradhan Bhatt, PRIA & MFF	3rd July 2022
International Youth Day Celebrations	Organised by the Youth for Governance Fellows in partnership with PRIA, HSF, GRAAM, University of Mysuru	20th August 2022

Second Training Workshop – Orientation to Youth for Governance Fellowship

A two-day face-to-face workshop was held at Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement's Office, Mysuru, to give fellows an overview of urban local bodies, along with a hands-on experience of the community based participatory research methodology. Additionally, the workshop also aimed at learning about the issues and concerns, which will be taken up by the fellows for their research work.

The workshop was held from 22nd - 23rd May 2022. Ms. Nikita Rakhyani (Youth Engagement – Lead, Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), Mr. Lakshmikantha M. (Projects Manager - CIVIC), and Ms. Rashmi Gopal (Consultant, GRAAM) were the resource persons/facilitators for the training workshop. Along with the face-to-face sessions, fellows were also taken to a Mysuru Municipal Corporation Office (Zone-4) for an exposure visit.

Day 1

Session 1: Interaction with the Hanns Seidel Foundation

The workshop started with a debrief of International Youth Day celebrations, conducted two days ago on August 20, 2022. Fellows were asked about their experience and learnings of organizing the event for their fellow peers, batchmates, and other young people in Mysuru. They shared that the event helped them in learning about the perspectives of other young people, which they were not aware of. The opportunity to own an event and coordinate all the micro/ macro roles and responsibilities helped them learn to work as a team, build communication and leadership skills, and learn more about the governance systems and structures in Mysuru.

This conversation was followed up by an interaction with Mr. Rahul Khera, (Hanns Seidel Foundation). He gave a brief overview of the Hanns Seidel Foundation and its current programs. He encouraged the fellows to reflect on the progress of the fellowship and the learnings that it has been able to impart among the fellow. Additionally, he also encouraged the fellows to provide their feedback and suggestions whenever they want.

Session 2: What is Participation?

The interaction with HSF, was followed by a session on understanding the meaning of Participation. The methodology of Fishbowl[1] was used to facilitate the session. Fellows were divided into two small groups, and were asked to have a group discussion on the following two topics:

What is Participation?
What did you learn about youth participation and governance from the discussions at International Youth Day celebrations?

The fellows were given 15 minutes to discuss in their groups. The facilitator made note of how fellows were participating or encouraging

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[1] Fishbowl is a strategy for organizing medium- to large-group discussions. Participants are separated into an inner and outer circle. In the inner circle or fishbowl, participants have a discussion; participants in the outer circle listen to the discussion and take notes.

each other to participate. This was followed by a debrief session in which the facilitator took them through the history of participation[2]. The facilitator also discussed how participation should be and what should be ensured when fellows engage with communities as part of their research work. The following points were discussed:

1. First, participation is about inclusion - especially of marginalised voices.
2. Secondly, participation is about transforming power. For participation to be transformative in people's lives, it must also involve participation in decisions that shift power and control over resources.
3. Third, participation occurs in many spaces – through people's popular struggles as well as in invited spaces of consultation and deliberation. It is about organized and collective efforts.,
4. Finally, participation is about learning and awareness building.

Session 3: Governance of the People, By the People, For the People: 74th Constitutional Amendment Act

Moving ahead, the next session was facilitated as part of the Governance module. This session was important as the fellowship has been designed around it. Additionally, as fellows will also be researching in the urban communities of Mysuru, understanding the urban governance systems and structures will be useful.

To facilitate this session, Mr. Lakshmikantha (Projects Manager) from CIVIC[3] Bangalore was invited. The idea was to give an overview of the 74th Amendment Act which provides a basic framework for decentralisation of powers and authorities to the Municipal bodies at different levels. As CIVIC has been working on urban governance in Karnataka, they were not just able to present a theoretical framework but also share experiences with its practical implementation in Karnataka.

Mr. Lakshmikantha started the presentation by explaining the concept of citizen participation in good governance using examples from Karnataka. He used some examples of mismanaged governance systems, including corruption, lack of citizen participation, and social accountability. With these examples, the purpose of the 74th Amendment Act was explained along with the concept of

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[2] To read more: https://pria.org/knowledge_resource/1634662749_PRIA@40%20John%20Gaventa%20keynote%20address%2012%20Oct%202021.pdf

[3] CIVIC Bangalore is a non-profit that works on urban governance, decentralization, and citizen participation. To know more: https://civicspace.in/

decentralization and ward committees. The facilitator also shared how the idea of ward sabhas came into place and how as active citizens, we should not just be aware of these committees but also participate in them as they are the base level of democracy.

This stimulating discussion was followed by a Q/A session.

Session 4: Understanding Climate Change and Action

Ms. Rashmi facilitated a session on climate change - a burning issue among the fellows. In her presentation, she spoke about global changes, climate science findings, its impact on India, and underlying causes of climate change, and provided examples from Mysuru. During her presentation, she spoke about the several ongoing changes across the globe, which includes the retreating of glaciers, collapsing of the ice shelves, rising sea levels, and changes in the hydrological cycle, among many others. We are not only creating new greenhouse gases but also adding to natural ones, which results in the 'earth going warm', she said. This impact can be seen in the declining food production and subsequent risk of hunger in the future, unexpected floods, droughts, water stress, and heat waves. This will result in increased migration and diseases, poverty, wars, and shrinking food productivity and so on. Changing lifestyles, overpopulation, and increasing industrialization to meet our growing demands were some of the underlying causes that the facilitator shared. She concluded the presentation by discussing some of the impacts of climate change on Mysuru city and the role of young people in leading actions of change.

Day 2

Session 1: Discussion on Research Projects

Next day, all the fellows met each other near a park at the Zone 4 office of the Mysuru City Corporations. They discussed the various issues and challenges that they wanted to work on in their research projects. Following was some of the ideas and research topics that they shared:

After the first round of sharing, the facilitators briefed about the research and the envisioned learning outcomes. Based on their interests, fellows also planned on working with each other using a multi-disciplinary approach and expertise. The facilitators guided them on their ideas. The floor was also open to fellows to provide suggestions and feedback to each other regarding the suggested projects. This helped give them ownership of the research and impart of sense of responsibility towards their city.

Issues:
- Needs and aspirations of slum settlements
- Understanding the water availability and quality and its impact on health
- Understanding the issue of mental health in a community
- Availability of water treatment facilities
- Waste management, including garbage disposal and solid waste management in urban slum settlements
- Education system in private and public schools and its impact on students' life

Session 2: Roles and responsibilities of Municipal Corporation

After the discussion, we met Assistant Commissioner (AC), Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Zone-4, Yadavagiri, Mysuru, Ms. Chandramma. Ms. Chandramma took a brief session with the fellows and briefed them about the roles and responsibilities of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC). MCC is responsible for the civic administration of the city and is divided into 9 zones, 66 blocks, and 66 wards for the convenience of its citizens. It has various departments including technical, revenue, election, water supply, and registration, among others. Each department is responsible for several functions. Ms. Chandramma briefly explained the functions of all the departments. During this 45-minute discussion, with AC fellows asked questions related to the education, sanitation, and health facilities provided in the city. Additionally, questions related to the 74th Amendment Act and its implementation were also asked by the fellows. The session ended with learning MCC's complaint and redressal mechanism and process, which can also be shared with the community during the research implementation.

Session 3: Stakeholder Analysis

The next session was on learning Stakeholder Analysis. This session was important for the fellows because, as part of their research they will be engaging with a range of individuals and institutions, which will directly or indirectly impact their research work. The session focused on explaining the concept of stakeholders.

Stakeholders were defined as external people, groups, or institutions who are likely to be affected by the outcomes of a program (either positively or negatively) or those who can affect the program outcomes (either positively or negatively). After, developing a basic understanding, the steps for conducting stakeholder analysis were discussed in detail.

Stakeholder Analysis usually involves four steps that are:

1. Identifying key stakeholders.
2. Assessing stakeholder interests in the achievement of programme outcomes and the potential impact of programme outcomes in these interests.
3. Assessing stakeholder's influence and importance to achieving programme outcomes.
4. Outlining stakeholder's participation strategy.

However, Stakeholder Analysis should be conducted by someone with a thorough understanding of the issue, community, and their role in the intervention, shared the facilitator. To give a hands-on-experience, fellows were given an exercise which involved conducting stakeholder analysis through a case study on '*Enabling Adolescents to Access Public Health Services*'. Fellows brainstormed upon every step of stakeholder analysis and presented it. The also identified some stakeholders for their own research project.

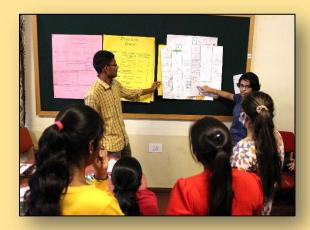**Session 4: Introduction to Community Based Participatory Research**

The last session of the training workshop was a session on Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR). The session aimed to inform the fellows about the principles of participatory research but also build their capacities to utilize participatory research methodology in their research. CBPR provides an alternative research approach. It involves undertaking research "with" rather than "on" or "for" people who are impacted by the issue under study. The actionable knowledge that is co-produced through this participatory process is used for bringing about social change. The session also dwelled upon the difference between conventional research and participatory research. The fellows learnt about the principles of participatory research and the competencies of the participatory researcher - the researcher must be reflective and sensitive to their role as a facilitator in the research process; the researcher must be a good listener and must listen carefully to what the community stakeholders have to say; the researcher must invest in building partnerships through mutual engagement; and the researcher must invest in relationships of trust at the individual and institutional levels when engaging with the community.

Various examples from community and few methods of conducting participatory research were shared through a video presentation. Taking the learning of participatory research to a more hands-on approach, the fellows were divided into three groups. The first group undertook a **Transect Walk** of the area around GRAAM's office to study the 'Status of Cleanliness'. Whereas the second and third groups conducted a **Resource Mapping** of GRAAM's office. All the groups prepared a detailed map and presented it later, this was followed by a debrief session on how the fellows can utilise the participatory research methodology in the future in their research.

ANNEXURES

List of Resource Persons

1. **Ms. Nikita Rakhyani**
   Youth Engagement – Lead, PRIA
2. **Mr. Lakshmikantha M.**
   Project Manager, CIVIC
3. **Ms. Rashmi Gopal**
   Consultant, GRAAM
4. **Ms. Linu Rachael Chacko** (For documentation and communication support)
   Officer – Knowledge Management and Visibility, PRIA

Training Design

Time	Session Details
Day 1: 22nd August, 2022	
9:45 am – 10:15 am	**Interaction with Mr. Rahul Khera, Hanns Seidel Foundation**
10:00 am – 11:15 am	**What is Participation?** Facilitator: Ms. Nikita Rakhyani, PRIA
11.15 am – 11.30 am	Tea/Coffee Break
11.30 am – 1.30 pm	**Governance of the People, By the People, For the People: 74th Constitutional Amendment Act** Facilitator: Mr. Lakshmikantha M., CIVIC
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Lunch
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	**Understanding Climate Change and Action**

	Facilitator: Ms. Rashmi Gopal, GRAAM
3.30 pm – 4.00 pm	Tea/Coffee Break

Day 2: 23rd August, 2022

10.00 am – 11.00 am	**Discussion on Research Projects** Facilitator: Ms. Nikita Rakhyani, PRIA & Ms. Rashmi Gopal, GRAAM
11.00 am – 12.00 pm	**Roles and responsibilities of Municipal Corporation** Visit to Zone-4 Office (Mysuru City Corporation)
12.30 am – 1.30 am	**Stakeholder Analysis** Facilitator: Ms. Nikita Rakhyani, PRIA
1.30 pm – 2.30 pm	**Lunch**
2.30 pm to 3.30 pm	**Conti.** **Stakeholder Analysis** Facilitator: Ms. Nikita Rakhyani, PRIA
3.30 pm to 6.00 pm	**Introduction to Community Based Participatory Research** Facilitator: Ms. Nikita Rakhyani, PRIA