# ANNUAL REPORT
# 2021 –2022

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# From the President's Desk

PRIA completed 40 years of its kaleidoscopic journey on February 6, 2022. Over these four decades, PRIA's commitment to supporting the knowledge, voice, and democratic participation of the excluded and marginalised has been accomplished in myriad ways. We started with the practice of participatory research as a methodology for social mobilisation of women, Adivasis and workers, and raised the question: Whose knowledge counts?

Our long-term interventions to build human and institutional capacity of civil society organisations and active citizenship are steeped in our core belief of creating an inclusive, just, and democratic society. When community-driven socio-economic development approaches were mandated through statutory institutions of local self-governance (panchayats and municipalities), PRIA's innovative efforts to make them effective, accountable, and responsive to the vulnerable and excluded households were scaled-up manifold.

In empowering women and girls to find their space and voice in a gender-just society, PRIA has demonstrated a new methodology of integrating gender institutionally, where working with boys and men, and safe private and public spaces has been the focus. Recognising the importance of education and training of next generation researchers, professionals, and scholars, PRIA supports postsecondary educational institutions to revise their curriculum and pedagogy and become socially relevant, with focus on including the philosophy and practice of community-based participatory research for generating and using knowledge for locally adapted global goals.

The widespread Covid-19 pandemic made starkly visible the underlying structural inequalities, nationally and globally. Questions around the very survival of humanity and the planet – why the current policies and models for socio-economic development are not working, how do we mitigate the unequal impacts of continuous environmental degradation and climate change, and the need to recognise and nurture diversity, especially of gender and knowledge systems – cannot be ignored.

Between August and December 2021, we convened 22 conversations in which stakeholders – partners, associates, supporters, experts, investors, colleagues – drawn from civil society, government, business, media, and academia – participated.

In collaboration with 50 national and international partners, these conversations were enriched through contributions from 203 speakers from around the world. We were encouraged when we received 2661 registrations for these webinars, and 1432 participants (nearly 55 percent) from more than 40 countries attended.

By telling our story, and listening to similar and different others, we tried to understand what are the pathways and partnerships for post-pandemic recovery which are reliant on local, community led solidarity actions, supported by redesigned institutions and active citizens.

The future goals for humanity have to shift to wellness, resilience, and sustainability. Towards achieving these goals, significant shifts in public policies and greater investments of resources will be needed, anchored in values of inclusion, justice, equity, and solidarity.

Individuals, households, and communities will need to learn many new behaviours and competencies, critical for taking responsibility for health, ecology, and well-being. New ways of safe and assertive participation in digital spaces will need to be learnt by girls and women.

Youth will need to practice active citizenship to make public institutions responsive and accountable while nurturing social solidarity and diversity. Likewise, institutions will need to be renewed and redesigned for sustainable urban development, accountable community resource management, and knowledge production and dissemination.

Strengthening community-led, sustainable, resilient social and economic development will require social innovations driven by synergising local knowledge and global technology. Granular, community-based data would be essential to ensure social protection measures are inclusive of vulnerable and marginalised households.

Widespread use of community-based participatory research methodology can support the same.

PRIA@40 recommits to contributing to the above, by refreshing its core competencies in its thrust areas of citizen participation, decentralised governance, gender mainstreaming, inclusive urbanisation, empowering civil society and building a knowledge democracy.

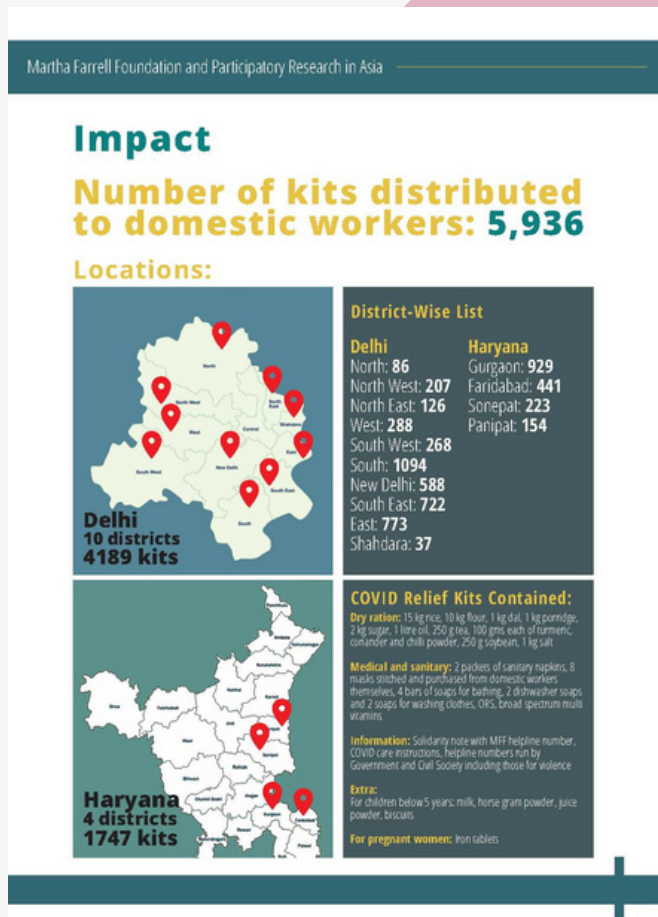We hope you will stay connected and join us on this journey.

**Dr. Rajesh Tandon**
**Founder- President**

# COVID- 19 RELIEF WORK

Covid-19's unprecedented nature exposed a number of existing inequities in societies while creating new challenges. Families left without support were pushed to the brink of starvation and their lack of access to social security exacerbated the challenges of the pandemic, pushing them into extreme crisis situations. Women domestic workers were a particularly vulnerable group.

To understand the precariousness of these women domestic workers living in the informal settlements of Delhi, Gurugram, Panipat and Faridabad, PRIA and Martha Farrell Foundation began collecting data as soon as the second wave began in early April 2022. We not only sought numbers of those affected but listened to how the lives of women domestic workers was being impacted.

Daily phone calls and several Zoom group meetings later, we learnt the following key insights gathered from 4667 women domestic workers.

Martha Farrell Foundation and Participatory Research in Asia

## Impact
### Number of kits distributed to domestic workers: 5,936
Locations:

**Delhi**
10 districts
4189 kits

**Haryana**
4 districts
1747 kits

**District-Wise List**

| Delhi | Haryana |
|---|---|
| North: 86 | Gurgaon: 929 |
| North West: 207 | Faridabad: 441 |
| North East: 126 | Sonepat: 223 |
| West: 288 | Panipat: 154 |
| South West: 268 | |
| South: 1094 | |
| New Delhi: 588 | |
| South East: 722 | |
| East: 773 | |
| Shahdara: 37 | |

**COVID Relief Kits Contained:**

**Dry ration:** 15 kg rice, 10 kg flour, 1 kg dal, 1 kg porridge, 2 kg sugar, 1 litre oil, 250 g tea, 100 gms each of turmeric, coriander and chilli powder, 250 g soybean, 1 kg salt

**Medical and sanitary:** 2 packets of sanitary napkins, 8 masks stitched and purchased from domestic workers themselves, 4 bars of soaps for bathing, 2 dishwasher soaps and 2 soaps for washing clothes, ORS, broad spectrum multi vitamins

**Information:** Solidarity note with MFF helpline number, COVID care instructions, helpline numbers run by Government and Civil Society including those for violence

**Extra:** For children below 5 years: milk, horse gram powder, juice powder, biscuits

**For pregnant women:** Iron tablets

**81%**
**3778** were unemployed at the time of relief distribution and none of their family members were working. The rest were working in a maximum of two households at limited or reduced pay.

**61%**
**2868** were living in rented accommodation, at a minimum rate of ₹4000 per month, a princely sum for their one room and kitchen set

**29%**
**1360** were living in *jhuggi bastis*, in deplorable conditions, with shortage of electricity, access to toilets and/or lack of cooking cylinders.

**15.6%**
Only **729** had a Jan Dhan account and most of those who didn't were unaware of the procedure to open one.

**17.2%**
Only **803** had been vaccinated with at least one dose, as of July 2021.

**100%**
All **4667 of them** expressed an immediate and urgent need for ration.

At the forefront of the relief efforts we organised were the women domestic workers themselves. Community engagement with domestic workers over the past three to four years has helped develop a small, committed cadre of domestic worker champions. These champions chose what went into the relief kits based on their knowledge of their community. They were mindful of regional diets (kits with daliya and protein-rich sattu for those from UP and Bihar; those from Haryana got their staple of aloo-pyaz, for example). They asked for sanitary hygiene products for menstruating workers, and iron tablets for pregnant women. In addition, they organised stitching by women in their communities of over 4,000 cloth masks that were included in the kits.

They collected the phone numbers, identified the most vulnerable families in the settlements where they live, helped us prepare and pack the kits, arranged daily lists of those who needed the ration supplies the most, even lending a hand to load the kits onto the trucks.

We are grateful we could provide relief to those who needed it urgently, and were mindful that it was not 'patronising' charity. It is useful to remember that these households to whom immediate relief was provided have been systematically and structurally deprived over generations, and that public programs of social security, health care and education have not reached them or their children. PRIA continues its efforts to strengthen the dignity and agency of these households, and other marginalised communities, to build their lives and secure their entitlements.

# Sapne Mere Bhavishya Mera: Swabhiman Kendras as Support Centres for Women Domestic Workers

Beginning during the second wave of the Covid pandemic, PRIA initiated two projects to build resilience and hope for women domestic workers beyond the pandemic. Supported by the Dutch Embassy in India, and in collaboration with Martha Farrell Foundation, "Community Support Centres for and by Women Domestic Workers" and "Women's Consortium For and By Women: Reclaiming Space, Voice and Agency" created two Community Support Centres. These accessible physical spaces provide a safe space for women informal workers and young girls living in Harijan Basti, Gurugram and Bichpadi Village in Panipat to meet, engage and connect with each other. By collectivising their voice and enabling the empowerment of these women economically, they are learning to participate and take the important decisions that affect their lives, and influence societal dynamics to create a safer settlement for all women in their community.

In first, women domestic workers from these settlements own and lead the physical space – from choosing the name "Swabhiman Kendra" (or a "centre where I build my self-respect") to the timings of when the Kendra will be open, how many times a week the women will meet in groups, and who will be responsible for taking minutes of the meeting and circulating the minutes. Swabhiman Kendras have become vibrant learning spaces with lessons on financial literacy and entrepreneurship to help women develop a savings and financial plan, and sessions on gender and gender-based violence to help them recognise signs of violence and be informed on ways of addressing it in their homes and communities.



**Hope and reliance during the pandemic**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5aZWmodqKY&t=217s

Above all, it has facilitated connections and conversations among the women, and their daughters, allowing them to dream and aspire, and learn to make the changes necessary in their individual lives and families to achieve their dreams.

# EMPOWERING CIVIL SOCIETY

## Capacities for Social Transformation and Empowerment (CAPSTONE)

Capacities for Social Transformation and Empowerment, CAPSTONE, is an institutional development programme for young and promising Indian non-profits. Building on 40 years of experience of delivering impactful capacity development support to non-profits, PRIA conceptualised CAPSTONE as a highly flexible, contextualised, futuristic, cohort-based learning programme.

The programme provides continuous coaching and mentoring support to civil society organisations (CSOs) participating in each cohort. The first cohort began in December 2021. Twenty-two CSOs learned through an online course on Strategic Thinking and Planning, following which the PRIA team provided hands-on support to each partner in undertaking an in-depth SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threat) analysis based on an organisational environmental analysis (PESTLE Analysis – Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental) and Participatory Organisational Analysis (POCA). In addition, the organisations were supported to undertake Stakeholder Analysis. Based on these analyses, each partner identified the most significant strategic issues faced by their organisation which would help to determine future strategies for the organisation. This coaching and mentoring support has been provided both online and onsite.

In partnership with Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK), Unnati and Samarthan, PRIA organised a 2-day training workshop on "Strengthening NEXTGEN Leadership" for 11 individual civil society leaders from Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 28 December 2021. The ideas discussed and identified by the participants will be implemented by them while PRIA, Unnati and SSK will support these organisations to achieve their goals.

# PRIA International Academy Courses

Since 2003, PRIA International Academy (PIA) has been providing educational opportunities to university students and development professionals to enhance their understanding and skills related to inclusive and participatory development. A commitment to lifelong learning is at the core of PIA's philosophy. Through a variety of courses, it aims to enrich perspectives, knowledge, and skills of professionals and students.

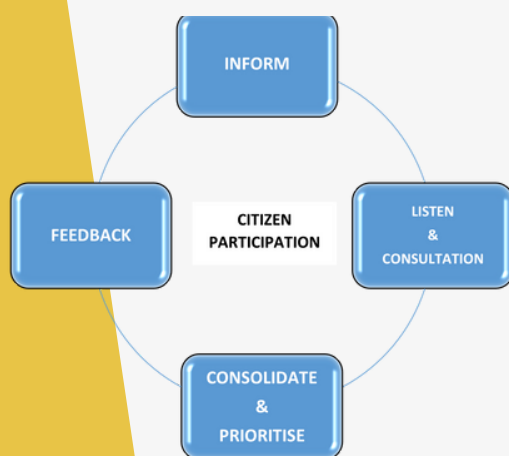**Details of courses offered by PIA during 2021-22 are as follows:-**

| S.No. | Names of the courses | Date |
|-------|----------------------|------|
| 1. | Social Accountability & Civic Engagement | 01 April 2021 – 31 Dec. 2021 |
| 2. | Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 | 01 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 |
| 3. | Youth-n-Democracy Fellowship (Chandigarh Cohort) | 01 June 2021 – 30 April 2022 |
| 4. | Sport for Development: Plan, Act, Grow-Scholarship Cohort | July 2021, November 2021 |
| 5. | Measuring Development: Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation & Impact Assessment | July 2021 |
| 6. | Community based Participatory Research in Environmental Health | August 2021 |
| 7. | Gender and Development Planning: Strategising Inclusivity | August 2021 |
| 8. | International Perspectives on Participatory Research | October 2021 |
| 9. | Youth for Governance Fellowship (Mysuru) | January 2022 |
| 10. | Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 -(YND Chandigarh) | January 2022 |

# Institutionalising Citizen Consultation for Public Policymaking in India

Citizen participation in policymaking is the cornerstone of a mature and consolidated democracy. With growing citizen aspirations, public policymaking that affects millions of citizens cannot rely only on the representative and procedural democratic mechanisms but must embrace participatory and substantive democratic mechanisms and practices.

In the past few years, with the rise of technology innovations, many governmental initiatives have tried to leverage technology for soliciting citizen consultations in public policymaking. However, in the absence of a robust mechanism and coherent laws requiring mandatory citizen consultations, often such initiatives are short-lived and have dissipated. The absent legal framework for organising online consultations with citizens and 'affected persons' in making public laws and policies belies the government's efforts of putting citizens at the centre of policymaking.

Supported by the International Center for Not-for- Profit Law (ICNL), PRIA undertook a study on "Institutionalising Citizen Consultation for Public Policymaking in India". The study lays out how citizen participation has historically been practiced in multiple spheres and dives deeper into the question of potential of and barriers to conducting online citizen consultation, especially for policymaking. In order to examine initiatives promoting online citizen participation, be it national or international as well as governmental or non-governmental, a simple and a meaningful framework was used.



- Information should be simplified, accessible, and contextual for a wider audience, be it in multiple languages or in local dialects.
- Listening and consulting with the citizens is important so that diverse perspectives can be heard during decision-making in public policy-planning
- Consolidation of data by finding trends and patterns and prioritising the key ideas emerging out of the consultation is important.
- Government-citizen communication shows a long-term vision with the quality of inputs received, which can make the government more responsive.

A virtual roundtable was organised in partnership with several Indian and international organisations (Participedia and Praxis India) on "Trajectories of Participation: From Development to Governance" on 12 October 2021.  Full report of this event can be accessed from the following link: https://www.pria.org/event_details.php?id=26&evtid=605

A Virtual Roundtable discussion on 'Institutionalising Online Citizen Participation in Public Policymaking' was also organized on November 26, 2021. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of Apar Gupta, Internet Freedom Foundation, India; Matt Leighninger, National Conference on Citizenship; Antaraa Vasudev, Civis; Róbert Bjarnason, Citizens Foundation; Charu Chadha, Omidyar Network India; 'Gbenga Sesan, Paradigm Initiative; Venkatesh Nayak, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative; and David Moore, International Center for Not-for Profit Law. In addition, several other scholars and practitioners contributed to the discussion. Full report of this event can be accessed from the following link:
https://www.pria.org/knowledge_resource/1638392722_WBR%2016_Online%20Participation%20in%20Public%20Policy%20in%20India%20Final.pdf

# Model City Programme

Since 2006, the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation has pioneered a new place-based approach to sports-based social change. Through the creation of a structure that allows new partnerships to develop and communities to thrive, the "Model City" programme aims at strengthening existing community assets and building trust among stakeholders. Supported by the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation, PRIA and Pro Sport Development (PSD) have jointly been facilitating a developmental evaluation of the Model City programme for Delhi.

The evaluation aimed to understand the scope of sport for development (S4D) in Delhi and the key issues faced by women and girls in the marginalized and underprivileged communities in Seemapuri in North East part of Delhi. At the end of the evaluation, a coalition of stakeholders who can use sport as a tool to tackle key issues faced by women and girls will be created.

# ADN – Recession to Resilience

On request from the Asia Democracy Network (ADN), PRIA co-authored a publication "Recession to Resilience: Road to Democracy Renewal in Asia". The document was prepared based on a series of structured conversations among civil society, human rights defenders, and other stakeholders held in 2020 and 2021. It gives a call for actions from the democracy stakeholders to arrest democratic recession and offers pathways for building resilient democracy in the Asian region.

The publication is available at ADN website and can be downloaded from the following link:
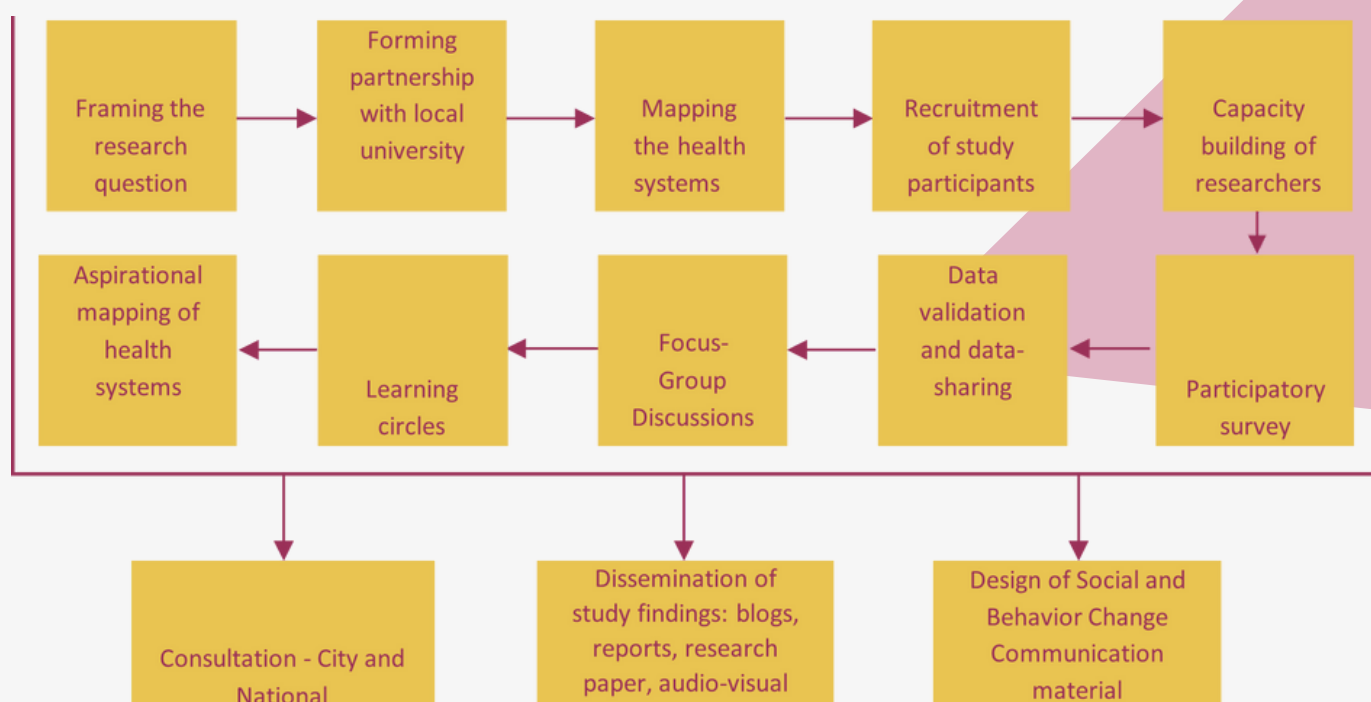https://adnasia.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Final_ADN-Road-to-Democracy-Renewal-in-Asia.pdf

# INCLUSIVE URBANISATION

## Our Health, Our Voice

'Our Health, Our Voice' is a Participatory Research study that explored the relationship between urbanisation, migration and health in low-income communities in India. The study with the adolescents living in urban informal settlements of Sikanderpur, Nathupur, Chakkarpur, Ghata and Harijan Basti in Gurugram, Haryana provided rich insights into the lived realities of adolescents, primarily drawn from their own perspectives.

Drawing on a mix of participatory research methods, the study involved adolescents as 'co-researchers' in every step of the process, thereby developing a model that emphasises active participation in knowledge generation. A unique feature of the study has been the building of capacities of adolescents to review, analyse and subsequently influence the public health policies.
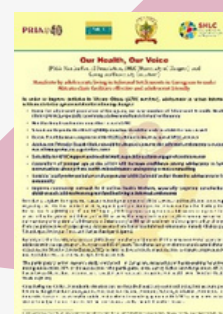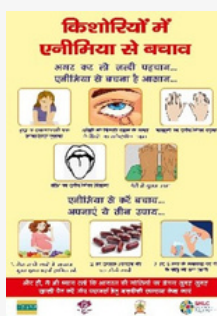


*Steps followed in the study*

Data collection techniques (surveys and FGD), data dissemination sessions, and the design of SBCC materials were tailored to the needs of adolescents living in urban informal settlements. Through skits, poetry, painting and games, adolescents participated in a participatory 'visioning exercise' to discuss about their health.

To introduce adolescents to the national and state health policy, a consultation with city-level officials was organised on 18 August 2021, which served as a platform for developing district-level health officials' capacity to conceptualise frameworks for institutionalizing adolescent participation in implementation of the national Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK) program.

A National Consultation on 'Our Health, Our Voice: Institutionalising Adolescent Participation for Health and Well-Being' was organized on September 03, 2021, to brought these adolescents from the urban informal settlements in conversation with adolescent health practitioners from civil society and adolescent health policy makers. Detailed report of this events is available at https://www.pria.org/update-our-health-our-voice-participatory-research-with-adolescents-in-gurugram-india-30-231





All the resources produced out of this research study are available at our website (https://www.pria.org/resources-our-health-our-voice-participatory-research-with-adolescents-in-gurugram-india-30-588)

Undertaking this study has demonstrated how leveraging the skills and capacities of adolescents can lead to improving health outcomes among adolescents as well as inform the design of adolescent friendly health services. Overall, the study has proved how adolescent boys and girls can be powerful agents of change for addressing their own health concerns. Expanding and sustaining this initiative through regular training would offer the opportunity to monitor and assess changes in health-seeking behaviour and health outcomes among the adolescent population.

# Aspirations of Low-Income Urban Communities in Maharashtra

Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) has begun a participatory research study on the "Aspirations of Low-Income Urban Communities" in the cities of Sinnar, Satara, Khopoli and Wai in the state of Maharashtra, India. The study was commissioned by WASH Institute in collaboration with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), and the Centre for Water and Sanitation (C-WAS) at CEPT Research & Development Foundation (CRDF), CEPT University, Ahmedabad.

The research is being conducted in each city over a period of 5 months (March to July 2022). The primary purpose of the research is to understand:

- What do communities, especially women, transgender, men, girls, and boys, living in urban low-income settlements/ neighbourhoods view as their most significant needs and priorities?
- What do community members identify as local resources and which institutions can support them to meet their articulated aspirations, needs and priorities?
- What do community members see as their roles in meeting their articulated needs and priorities?

Several inter-related methods are being used. The methods include Participatory Urban Appraisal (PUA), combining transect walks, social and resource mapping and historical timelines; Participatory Safety Assessment (PSA); River of My Life; Service Satisfaction Tool; and a mobile based survey.

# BREUCOM Webinars & Consultations

Building Resilient Urban Communities (BREUCOM) was conceptualised to bridge the gap between planning and architecture training with working environments, helping students of planning and architecture to understand and react sensitively to community needs and partnerships. A series of four online consultations and one roundtable discussion were organised by PRIA International Academy in partnership with six Indian partners (Xavier University, Bhubaneswar; Sushant University, Gurugram; Manipal University, Jaipur; Shristi Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bengaluru; and, School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi) and two European partners [Building Resilient Urban Communities (BREUCOM) and European Union] to respond to these capacity gaps. Details of these consultations are as follows:-

| Date | Title of the conversation | Co-organizers |
|---|---|---|
| August 14, 2021 | Intersectionality of Technology, People and Planning for Resilience | PRIA, BREUCOM & Xavier School of Human Settlements (Xavier University Bhubaneswar) |
| August 21, 2021 | Putting Informality at the Centre of City Resilience | PRIA, BREUCOM & Manipal University (Jaipur) |
| September 10, 2021 | Building Institutional Resilience | PRIA, BREUCOM & Sushant University (Gurugram) |
| October 11, 2021 | Valuing Traditional Culture and Wisdom for Resilience Planning: Remodelling Planning and Architecture Education | PRIA, BREUCOM & Shristi Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology (Bengaluru) |
| October 25, 2021 (Roundtable) | Enriching Urban Planning, Design and Architecture Education in India to Meet Urban Resilience Challenges | PRIA, BREUCOM & School of Planning & Architecture (New Delhi) |

Some of the key messages during these consultations –
- HEIs need to focus on teaching empathy, communication with urban informal and collaboration with them is critical for developing responsible, sensitised professionals.
- The regulations of universities need to be flexible and should not only focus on job-oriented learning.
- Mainstream resilience into everyday language, policies, infrastructure investment programmes and city planning processes.
- There is a need for a more open-ended inquiry when the intent is to build some knowledge about a place for getting people and practice together.

# SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE HIGHER EDUCATION

## Youth Engagement

### Youth for Governance

In 2012, Karnataka launched its first State Youth Policy to reflect the aspirations and needs of the state's youth.   A study by the Karnataka Knowledge Commission reveals that youth in Karnataka were dissatisfied with the government's inability to meet their expectations, and that the system was increasingly frustrating for youth from newly empowered social groups and disadvantaged sections.

PRIA has conceptualised the Youth for Governance (Y4G) fellowship programme to build capacities of college level youth to contribute towards promoting accountable and inclusive governance. The first cohort of the fellowship was launched in January in partnership with Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) and support from Hanns Seidel Stiftung. The 9-month long programme develops capacities of the youth on policymaking, federalism, social accountability tools, principles of inclusion and gender equality in governance, and community based participatory research, enabling them to get involved in the future with participatory governance in Karnataka's cities.
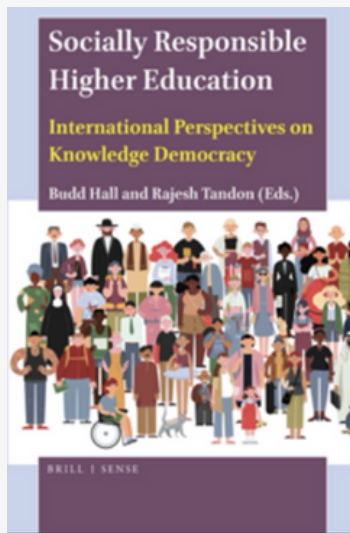
### Youth-n-Democracy Fellowship

As part of the Youth-n-Democracy Fellowship program, students and young professionals learn the principles and values of Democracy in Everyday Life (DiEL). The fellowship is structured into Self, Identity, Society, and Action modules, with an emphasis on learning diversity, inclusion, and active citizenship.

The conversations during the Youth-n-Democracy Campaign provided concrete indications of issues that affect young people in India the most. Thus, it was the target population themselves who informed us about the issues related to ethnic, cultural, regional, geographical, ability, gender, and sexuality differences, along with the lack of spaces to have meaningful conversations, to dissent, and to raise voice. These inputs led to the designing of the currently executed YnD Fellowship, which is divided into four modules of Self, Identity, Society, and Social Change, with diversity and inclusion as overarching themes. To pilot the fellowship, the first cohort was launched in the year 2019 in Delhi. The fellowship was open to young people studying in the colleges of Delhi. After receiving a positive response and feedback the fellowship was relaunched in the year 2020. The conversations were also successful in garnering attention from students and young professionals across India, and thus, two cohorts in Chandigarh in the years 2021 and 2022 were launched. Till now, we have directly been able to engage around 60 young leaders and have promoted the understanding of the principles and values of Democracy In Everyday Life and confidence in Self to promote the common good and contribute to the practice of DiEL.

On International Youth Day (12 August 2021), PRIA Youth organised a symposium in collaboration with UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office and UNESCO Global Youth Community (GYC) to learn strategies for improving youth participation in active citizenship.

# Launch of book entitled 'Socially Responsible Higher Education: International Perspectives on Knowledge Democracy'

PRIA & UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research & Social Responsibility in Higher Education hosted a virtual launch of book entitled 'Socially Responsible Higher Education: International Perspectives on Knowledge Democracy' on June 14, 2021. The book is co-edited by UNESCO Co-Chairs Drs. Rajesh Tandon and Budd Hall. It focuses on higher education and social responsibility through the experiences of a diverse set of writers, broadening perspectives on its democratisation. The launch event was presided over by several eminent scholars including Professor D.P. Singh (Chairman, University Grants Commission), Dr. Pankaj Mittal (Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities), Professor N.V. Varghese (Vice Chancellor, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), Mr. Eric Falt (Director & Representative for UNESCO New Delhi Office, which covers Bhutan, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka), Dr. Sarita Anand (Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan) and Ms. Pratikalpa Sharma (Assistant Professor of Research, Gujarat National Law University). This is an open-access book and can be downloaded from the following link - https://brill.com/view/title/59847?rskey=l24j2w&result=1

# ENGAGING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTES

## UGC Programme for Master Trainers

*"The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, has presented a transformative framework for higher education in the country. Community engagement and social responsibility in higher education are emerging as new fields of professional competence internationally".*

**Prof. Rajnish Jain**, Secretary, UGC, speaking at the launch of UGC Master Trainers Programme

Dr Rajesh Tandon, Founder-President, was a member of the University Grants Commission Subject Expert Group (UGC-SEG) under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) 2.0. The Expert Group prepared the National Curriculum Framework and Guidelines for "Fostering Social Responsibility & Community Engagement in Higher Education Institutions in India". Under this framework, Master Trainers will be trained, who will then begin to teach a two-credit course on community engagement and community based participatory research in their respective colleges and universities. The hope is that the Master Trainers Programme will give new meaning to the objectives of the NEP 2020 for changing lives and building societal connect of students.

The first round of preparing the Master Trainers was led by Dr Rajesh Tandon, pioneer in participatory training and use of participatory research as a tool for social empowerment.

Seven regional centres are expected to implement the programme going forward. The centres will be responsible for recruiting Master Trainers, organise the training, and support the Master Trainers with periodically updated locally relevant learning materials.
The regional centres are:

- Dayalbagh Educational Institute (Agra, Uttar Pradesh)
- Gandhigram Rural Institute (Dindigul, Tamil Nadu)
- Central University of Odisha (Koraput, Odisha)
- Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University (Nagpur, Maharashtra)
- Tezpur University (Tezpur, Assam)
- National Law Institute University (Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh) and
- Kurukshetra University (Kurukshetra, Haryana)

The Master Trainers program was launched on **14 January 2022**, the auspicious day of Makar Sankranti.

The first module of the training began on **27 January 2022** in virtual mode, led by Dr Tandon. Coordinators of the seven Regional Centres gave presentations focused on their current community engagement programs and preparedness for organising the Master Trainers program. The second module of training of Masters Trainers on Community-Based Participatory Research, was held on **February 15, 2022** (on virtual mode).

# Open Science

The UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science was approved by 193 nation states in November 2021 in a meeting of the UNESCO General Body held in Paris.

In the past year, Dr. Rajesh Tandon (Founder-President, PRIA) and Dr. Budd Hall (Professor Emeritus, University of Victoria), who are also Co-Chairs, UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, continued to emphasise the importance of these Recommendations at a number of engagements.

- At a consultation on UNESCO Open Science Draft Recommendations on 17 April 2021, Dr. Tandon provided his expert opinion on Open Science Recommendations from an Indian perspective    https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/consultation-on-unesco-open-science-draft-recommendations/

- At the III World Congress of Transdisciplinarity on 8 September 2021, Dr. Budd Hall spoke on the theme "Open Science And The Decolonization Of Knowledge." https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/day-1-of-iii-world-congress-of-transdisciplinarity/

- At the EUA-CDE Annual Meeting on 14 September 2021, Dr. Tandon spoke on the theme "Knowledge for Public Good, International Collaboration Post-Pandemic," highlighting the principles of scientific research, researcher responsibility and accountability of science https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/eua-cde-annual-meeting/

- During the "Young Scientists Learning Open Science" webinar hosted by PRIA on 25 November 2021 https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/young-scientists-learning-open-science-pria40-conversation/

- At the Open Science Launch Event at the University of Leuven on 3 February 2022 where Dr. Rajesh Tandon shared his insights and experiences on implementation of Open Science practices in Higher Education Institutions https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/open-science-launch-event-university-of-leuven/

- On 4 March 2022, Dr Budd Hall spoke on Open Science and the Decolonisation of Knowledge at The Riot Science Club. https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/talk-on-open-science-and-the-decolonisation-of-knowledge-by-dr-b-l-hall/

# PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH

## Royal Roads University Global Leadership Virtual Field School

Since 2005, PRIA and Royal Roads University (RRU), Canada, have collaborated on curricular projects and internships through an ongoing relationship.

Royal Roads offers a Global Leadership Virtual Field School which provides international students with an opportunity to interact with community leaders in other parts of the world, especially in situations where travel is difficult. In both content and process, this educational format promotes and reinforces justice, equity, inclusion, empowerment, and democracy.

Last year, PRIA International Academy partnered with the Global Leadership Virtual Field School to offer a five-week program (held between August 30, 2021 and October 17, 2021) for students to learn Leadership Development from Below. Six students, five Indian instructors, two Canadian instructors, support staff in both India and Canada, and several community translators and liaisons participated.

During the field school, students engaged with community groups in India through virtual field visits to learn about:
- Strengthening women's leadership in local governance
- Building leadership of women domestic workers
- Building leadership in urban Informal communities
- Using sport for development (S4D) to support gender equality and encourage youth leadership to promote the safety of girls and women in public spaces.

These site visits were scaffolded by a range of resources, synchronous and asynchronous activities, all of which were enhanced by Transformative Learning Theory.

# Community-Engaged Research Initiative Workshop

Community-Engaged Research Initiative (CERi) at the Simon Fraser University (SFU), Canada, partnered with PRIA to present two workshops to students participating in CERi's Graduate Fellowship Program and members of CERi's Advisory Board.

The first workshop, held on 27 October 2021, introduced the learners to PRIA's learning approach and theory of change. The participants were familiarised with the history of PRIA's work/initiatives over the past four decades.

The second workshop, held on 16 February 2022, carried forward the understanding of PRIA's approach, using specific examples from the organisation's work in the areas of maternal health, youth empowerment to address violence against women and girls, occupational health and safety of women domestic workers and women sanitation workers, and leadership of women elected representatives at the local level.

Both workshop sessions were well appreciated by all the participants.

# Knowledge -for-Change Mentor Training Program

The UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research offers the Knowledge for Change (K4C)-Mentor Training Programme (MTP) as a 21-week course consisting of 3 components: online learning activities, a two-week face-to-face learning residency, and a field work component to be carried out locally under the guidance of a local supervisor.

It is designed for experienced practitioners and community-based participatory researchers within and outside academia. The certified mentors play a key role in the development of the local K4C hub, including the creation of teaching curriculum and pedagogy, and the development of research capacities.

The 6th cohort of the MTP was held between 3 March 2021 and 27 July 2021 with participants, including academics and community practitioners, from 5 countries. Due to Covid-19, the entire course was conducted online. The 19 mentors came from Malaysia (Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia and Malaysia Council Youth), Italy (University of Brescia and Ambiente Parce), South Africa (Rhodes University), Ireland (University of Limerick) and the USA (University of West Virginia, WVU Centre for Resilient Communities and Our Future West Virginia).

In the 7th Cohort of the MTP held between 22 September 2021 and 16 February 2022, there were a total of 10 mentors trained.

Since 2018, the UNESCO Chair has developed and trained 108 mentors and supported the establishment of 22 K4C Hubs in 14 countries.

# Breaking the Vicious Cycle: Planning Water Security in Low-Income Urban Neighborhoods through Co-Creation

In informal settlements in Indian cities, water scarcity is a recognized stressor caused by climate change. Increasing uncertainty about water availability induced by climate change has negative consequences for sustainable livelihoods and well-being for citizens living in informal settlements. These insights were gained through the use of participatory community-based research methods in Gautampuri resettlement colony in Delhi, and Ghata, an urban village, in Gurugram. The action-research was supported by the Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA).

The research focused on understanding water issues that urban poor communities face every day, such as water scarcity, poor quality, and flooding hazards. As part of the process, we used arts-based methods with adolescents, inter-generational dialogues with community members to help them understand what climate change is, written and audio-visual documentation of the participatory processes, and shared the results back with the community. Through the analysis of the data collected and editing of audio-visual material, we gained the community's perspective on how water resources are used (or misused) and their basic understanding of climate change.

The action-research demonstrated the possibilities for systematizing lived knowledge and creating localized datasets through the use of community-based participatory methodologies, and how through the co-creation process, an urban poor community's experience can be documented as expressed in their own language.

The community has identified one or two specific issues related to water availability that we would like to focus on going forward. PRIA strives to create meaningful, equitable connections between community and governance institutions in order to achieve long-term climate adaptation.

# Visit of Vice-Chancellor, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka

Dr Sonajharia Minz, Vice-Chancellor, Sido Kanhu Murmu University (SKMU) Dumka, visited PRIA on 8 December 2021. A professor in Computer Science at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), she is the first Indigenous person to become Vice-Chancellor of SKMU.

Dr Minz's association with PRIA began from her participation with Dr Budd Hall, UNESCO Co-Chair and Lorna Williams in Indigenous knowledge circle deliberations on the UNESCO Open Science Recommendations. During her visit to the PRIA office, she shared experiences from her life as a student, a professor and now as a vice-chancellor. Her focus as a higher education professional has been to improve the learning environment for marginalised students in the university space. She was also presented with the UNESCO Chair's publication on the Knowledge for Change (K4C) consortium.





SKMU is keen to build its capacity to implement UGC policies and mandates and promote local socio-economic development of the Santali community through actionable knowledge generated through community based participatory research. PRIA in collaboration with UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research aims to support SKMU in developing socially relevant, community-based research capacity and pedagogy.

# SHAPING OUR TOMORROWS, TODAY: PRIA@40 CONVERSATIONS

We began celebrating our 40th anniversary with a series of conversations with partners, associates, supporters, experts, investors, colleagues – drawn from civil society, government, business, media, and academia. We wanted to share our journey, our learnings of working in this sector for four decades. Equally importantly, we wanted to hear from friends, colleagues and peers about their experiences and learnings – and together find the pathway for post-pandemic inclusive, just and equitable socio-economic development.

A total of 22 webinars were held, including open meetings and round table discussions. Conversations were held around six themes, which are as follows:-


Sustainable urban future


Citizen participation


Making the gender leap


Decentralised community governance


Empowering civil society


Building a knowledge democracy

| DATE | THEME | TITLE |
|---|---|---|
| August 12, 2021 | Citizen Participation | Youth Participation and Active Citizenship |
| August 20, 2021 | Sustainable Urban Future | Planning with Urban Formalities |
| August 31, 2021 | Empowering Civil Society | Accelerating Capacities in Civil Society and Non-Profits |
| September 02, 2021 | Empowering Civil Society | Nurturing Civil Society Partnerships in Uncertain Times |
| September 15, 2021 | Empowering Civil Society | Redesigning Civil Society Ecosystems: From Local to Global |
| September 28, 2021 | Making the Gender Leap | Unlearning Patriarchy: Expending Impacts of Gender Training |
| September 30, 2021 | Empowering Civil Society | Investing in Civil Society Innovations |
| October 01, 2021 | Decentralized Local Governance | Community-Led Adaption: Water is Life |
| October 06, 2021 | Sustainable Urban Future | Inspiring Leadership of Mayors and Councillors for Inclusive Urbanisation |
| October 12, 2021 | Citizen Participation | Trajectories of Participation: From Development to Governance |
| October 20, 2021 | Sustainable Urban Future | Scaling-up Citizen Engagement for Inclusive Urban Governance |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| November 01, 2021 | Making the Gender Leap | Gender-Transformational Organizational Renewal:Towards Gender Equality |
| November 17, 2021 | Decentralized Local Governance | Participation, Representation & Accountability: Strengthening the Movement |
| November 23, 2021 | Empowering Civil Society | Making A Difference: Adapting Impact Measurement |
| November 25, 2021 | Building a Knowledge Democracy | Young Scientists Learning Open Science |
| November 26, 2021 | Citizen Participation | Institutionalizing Online Citizen Participation in Public Policy Making in India |
| November 29, 2021 | Empowering Civil Society | Changing Contours of Development Cooperation: What Roles for Civil Society? |
| November 30, 2021 | Building a Knowledge Democracy | Local Knowledge, Social Movements and Participatory Research: Indian Perspectives |
| December 08, 2021 | Sustainable Urban Future | No Time to Waste! Building Resilient Urban Communities and Cities through Locally Led Climate Adaption |
| December 09, 2021 | Making the Gender Leap | Gender in Governance: Pathways for Women's Political Leadership |
| December 16, 2021 | Building a Knowledge Democracy | The Story of Participatory Research: History and Future |
| December 18, 2021 | Sustainable Urban Future | Migrants Are Integral to the Economy: Designing Post-Pandemic Policies and Programmes |

# PRIA@40 Celebrations

# Launch of
# PRIA@40 Coffee Table Book



SHAPING OUR TOMORROWS, TODAY - A coffee table book encapsulating the impact of PRIA's journey over the past four decades. The book was released on 03rd March, 2022 by Dr. Sonajharia Minz (Vice Chancellor, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka, Jharkhand) and Dr. Sharmila Soren (Head, Department of Santali & Secretary, Santal Academy, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Jharkhand).
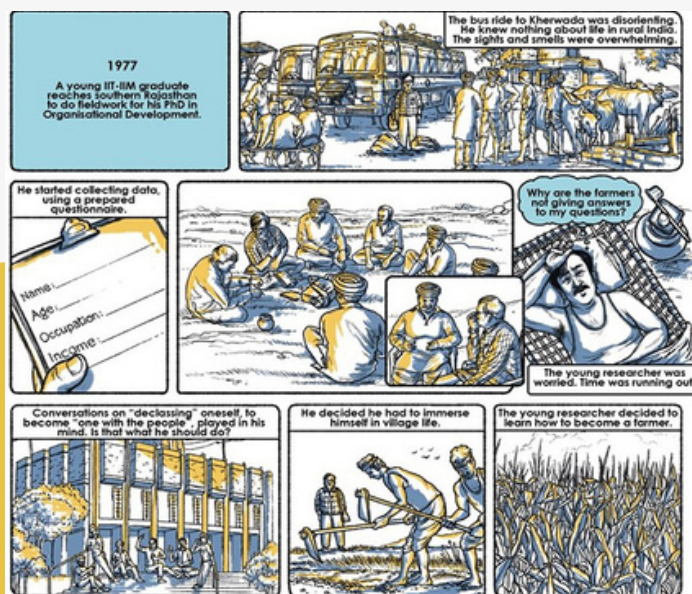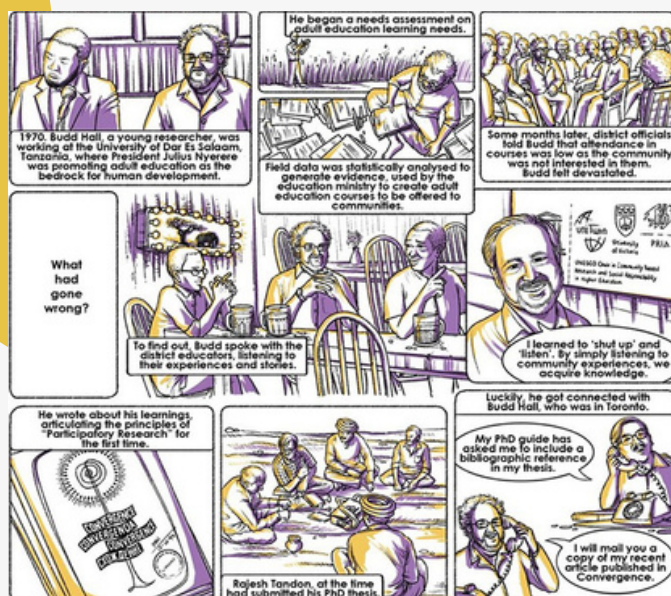
**SCAN HERE TO READ OUR BOOK -**

# PRIA@40
# GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATIONS

As part of PRIA's 40th-anniversary celebration, we decided to visually illustrate our past. Using these graphic illustrations, we have learned and understood the history of the events leading to this milestone. The first and second episodes have been published and the rest of the illustrations are available on the website - https://www.pria.org/prias-story-2-0

## Episode 1 - Kya kar rahe ho, babua?



## Episode 2 - People's knowledge for change

# INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE

## Governance

The membership of the Governing Board for 2021-22 is:

**Chairperson:** Ms. Rita Sarin, Country Director, The Hunger Project, New Delhi.

**Treasurer:** Shri. Ravi Seth, Chartered Accountant from ICAI.

**President:** Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Founder of PRIA, New Delhi.

**Members:**

Ms. Lalita Ramdas, Renowned Educator, based in Alibaug, Maharashtra.

Shri. Satinder Singh Sahni, retired IAS Officer, based in Gurgaon.

Ms. Sheela Patel, Founder Director, The Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC), Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh, Founder Director, Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK), Lucknow.

Three meetings of Governing Board members were held in the past year – the 114th meeting of the Governing Board on 25 June 2021; the 115th meeting of the Governing Board and Annual General Body meeting on 9 September 2021; and the 116th meeting of the Governing Board on 5 January 2022.

A Senior Management Team at PRIA provides collective leadership, developing next line of leadership, programme strategy, resource mobilisation, annual and bi-annual reviews, project planning, staff allocation, performance review and capacity building programmes for staff.

Over the past year, eight staff from the organisation were nominated for capacity building programmes to enhance their skills and knowledge on Training of Trainers, digital and social media marketing, and executive mentoring.

# Financial Summary

The audited accounts of the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), together with the report of the Statutory Auditors, have been circulated. A summary of the Income and Expenditure Account is provided below.

The Society continues to follow the guidelines suggested by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India for Not-for-Profit Organizations in the preparation of financial statements wherever feasible.

The liability for the grants remaining unutilized at the year-end has been accounted for as Grants in Advance.

A proportion of funds received in the previous year amounting to ₹ 13.71 lakhs have been utilized in the current financial year.

The Management Audit Report for the year has been discussed with the Governing Board.

Yours sincerely
Ravi Seth
Treasurer, PRIA

Statutory Auditors: Manohar Chowdhry & Associates, Gurugram

# Income & Expenditure Account

## (Year ended March 31, 2022)

*(In INR '000)*

| Year ended 31.03.2021 | Particulars | Year ended 31.03.2022 |
|---|---|---|
| | **Income** | |
| 15,244 | Education, Research and Training Income | 23,539 |
| 17,329 | Other Income | 16,952 |
| **32,573** | **Total** | **40,491** |
| | **Expenditure** | |
| 14,353 | Direct Project Expenses | 26,091 |
| 5,536 | Indirect Expenses | 8,095 |
| 1,010 | Depreciation | 1,029 |
| **20,899** | **Total** | **35,215** |
| **11,674** | **Excess of Income Over Expenditure** | **5,276** |

Note: Extracted from Audited Statement of Accounts 2021-22

# FCRA Accounts: Income & Expenditure

## (Year ended March 31, 2022)

| Particulars | Amount (₹) |
|---|---|
| **Income** | |
| Education, Research and Training Income | 2,35,38,764 |
| Other Income | 4,59,516 |
| **Total** | **2,39,98,280** |
| **Expenditure** | |
| Project Expenses | 1,91,59,123 |
| Administrative Expenses | 9,96,816 |
| Depreciation | 7,34,288 |
| **Total** | 2,08,90,227 |
| **Excess of Income Over Expenditure** | 31,08,053 |
| **Total** | **2,39,98,280** |

# List of Projects

| PROJECT | FUNDER |
|---------|--------|
| Aspirations of Low-Income Urban Communities in Maharashtra | Water Sanitation and Hygiene Institute |
| Building Capacities for Social Transformation and Empowerment | Ford Foundation |
| Bridging the gap between academic training in planning and architecture with community needs | University of Continuing Education Krems |
| Bridging Knowledge Cultures: The Knowledge for Change Global Consortium on Training of Community-Based Participatory Research | University of Victoria, Canada |
| Breaking the Vicious Cycle: Planning Water Security in Low-Income Urban Neighbourhoods through Co-Creation | Adaptation Research Alliance |
| Community-Engaged Research Initiative (CERi) | Simon Fraser University (SFU) |
| Institutionalising Online Consultations in Public Policy Making in India | International Center for Not-for- Profit Law (ICNL) |
| Joint Course on Democracy and Human Rights | Asia Democracy Network |
| Model City Programme | Laureus sport for good foundation |
| Open Science | UNESCO Chair |
| Our Health, Our Voice: Participatory Research With Adolescents In Gurugram, | Centre for Sustainable, Healthy and Learning Cities and Neighbourhoods (SHLC) |
| Preparing and executing CTET course | Royal Roads University |
| Sapne Mere Bhavishya Mera women's consortium for and by women: reclaiming space, voice, agency | The Dutch Embassy |
| Support Centre for and by Domestic Workers: Coping with Impacts of Covid | The Dutch Embassy |
| UNESCO Chair | UNESCO Chair/PRIA |
| UGC Programme for Master Trainers on Community Based Participatory Research | UGC |
| Youth for Governance (Y4G): Learning Active Citizenship | Hans Seidel Stiftung |

# Team@PRIA

**Accounts and Finance**
Senior Accounts Officer – Soja Saramma Mathew
Manager-Finance & Accounts – Praveen PV

**Administration, Facilities and HR**
Assistant General Manager – Bindu Baby
Administrative Officer – Dhan Singh
Hostel In-charge – Shanta
Executive Assistant & HR Executive – Surjeet Singh
Administrative Assistant - Sushant Makhija

**President's Office**
Executive Assistant to the President – Surjeet Singh, Chandra Shekhar Joshi

**Programs**
Lead (Civil Society & Inclusive Urbanisation) *and* Director – Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay
Lead (Gender) – Nandita Bhatt
Lead (Local Governance) – Anshuman Karol
Senior Program Officer – S. Ram Aravind
Training Specialist - Yashvi Sharma
Youth Trainer – Nikita Rakhyani
Senior Manager (Education Programs) - Amit Bhatt

**Research**
Research Associate & India Coordinator, UNESCO Chair in Community-Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education – Niharika Kaul
Senior Program Officer – Shruti Arora
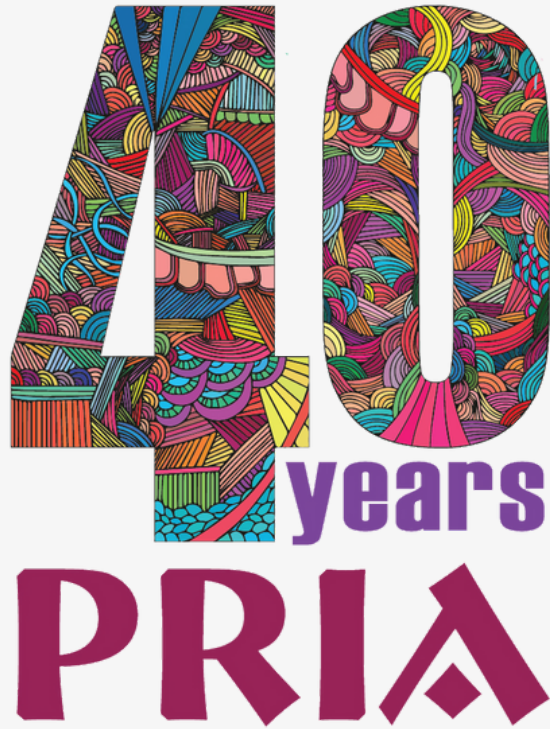
**IT, Knowledge Management and Communications**
IT Officer – Sonu Kumar
Web Developer / Officer-Knowledge Management & Learning – Sujit Kumar Sourav
Manager – Knowledge Management & Visibility – Chandra Shekhar Joshi
Assistant Librarian – Jatin Kumar

**Consultants**
Head - Knowledge Management & Engagement - Sumitra Srinivasan
Research Consultant - Neha S Chaudhry
Documentation Consultant - Linu Rachel Chacko

**Interns**
Muskan Chawla, University of Warwick, U.K.
Aaroshi Bidhuri, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara
Manisha Rawat, University of Delhi, Delhi
Ritika, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Delhi

# 40 years

## years

# PRIA

https://www.facebook.com/pria.india

https://twitter.com/PRIA_India

https://www.youtube.com/user/PRIAIndia

https://www.linkedin.com/company/pria-india

https://www.instagram.com/pria.india/

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