

PRAXIS



YEARS

ANNUAL REPORT
2021-2022

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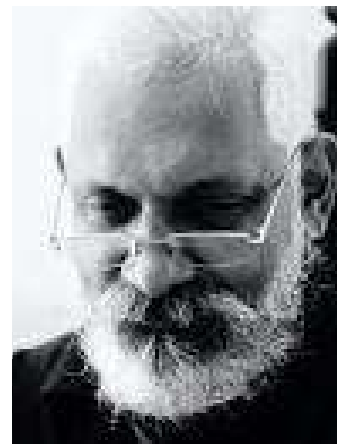
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PRAXIS OF PARTICIPATION - A RETROSPECTION

Participatory approaches democratised research in development in an irreversible way. This journey was influenced deeply by veterans of participatory development, whose challenge to conventional wisdom about knowledge sowed the seeds for development research's biggest yet disruption. Half of the nearly 50 years of the PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) journey is intrinsically linked with Praxis's own.



Almost 25 years ago, on August 14, 1997, Praxis was registered as an independent resource centre for participation. Since then, we have evolved to become a knowledge organisation with a repertoire of skills and knowledge gained from and with marginalised communities across India and the world.

Rural research of the 1970s was showing up the ineffectiveness of top-down and exclusionary methodologies of anthropologists and economists. Emerging out of this discontent, the late 70s saw the value of indigenous knowledge in challenging the knowledge superiority of development theorists. Over the next two decades, the exploration with rapid rural appraisals, predominantly in agricultural communities, showed a quick and cost-effective alternative to the long survey methods and the quick rural tourism methods. This approach prioritised learning directly from local inhabitants. The 1990s was also the decade that saw the birth of Praxis as the PRA division of ActionAid, and its subsequent registration as an independent entity in 1997. Globally, this period coincided with the transition from RRA to PRA, with scale-up and institutionalisation of PRA through newer networks, trainings and innovations.

For Praxis, this period also marked the launch of our flagship event The Workshop – an annual international commune on participatory development, which today boasts of an alumni strength of more than 1800 participants from close to 50 countries.

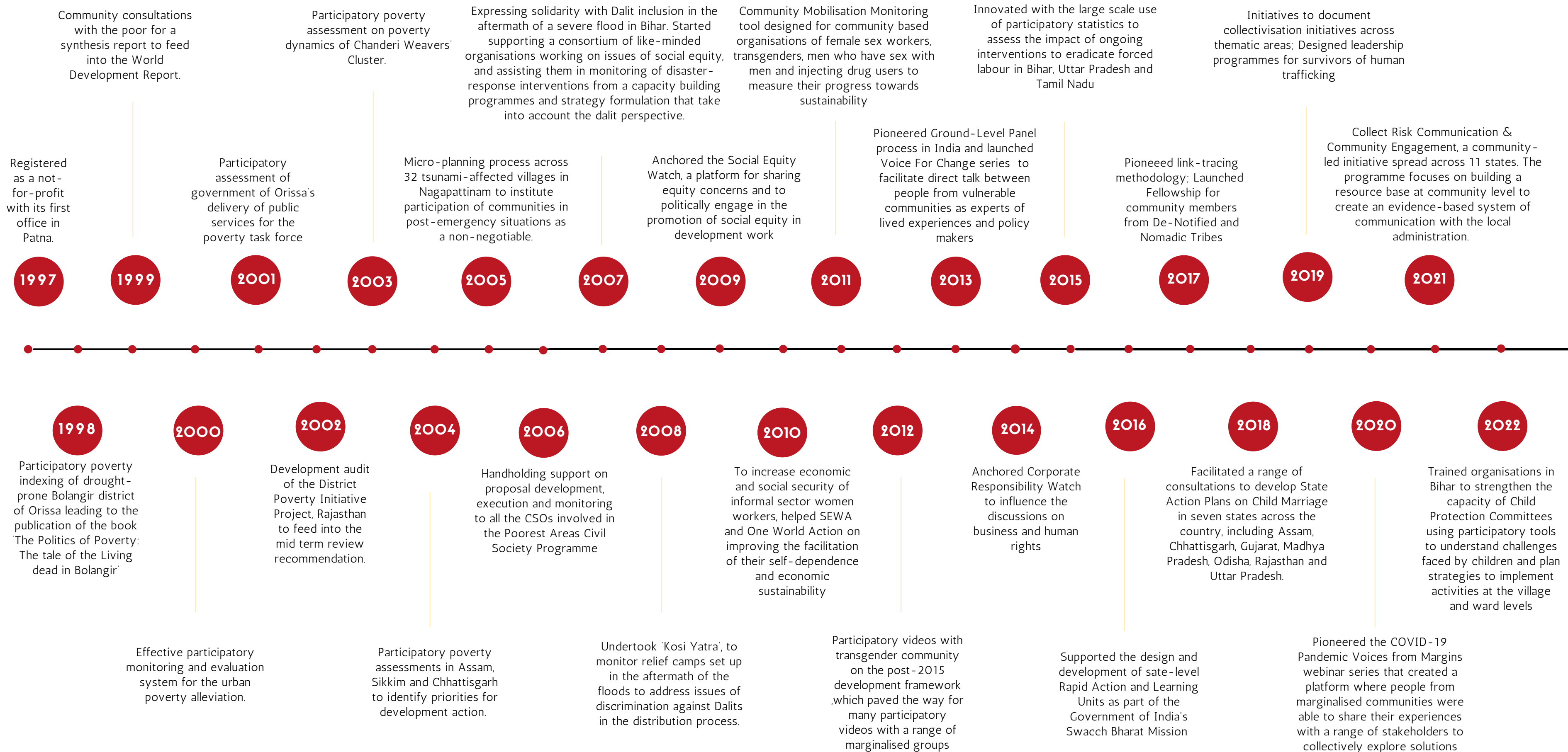
In the 25 years of our existence, as part of the global journey, we engaged with concepts of power, downward accountability, participatory monitoring and evaluations, participatory statistics, community-led processes of influencing development decisions within movements, within the sector and within larger political realities, creating networks committed to social equity and human rights in many spheres including business responsibility. The last few years have been a great opportunity to reflect and engage with the shift from the 'paradigm of controllable' to the 'paradigm of complexity and re-sharpen our tools of engagement in the pandemic and post-pandemic world.

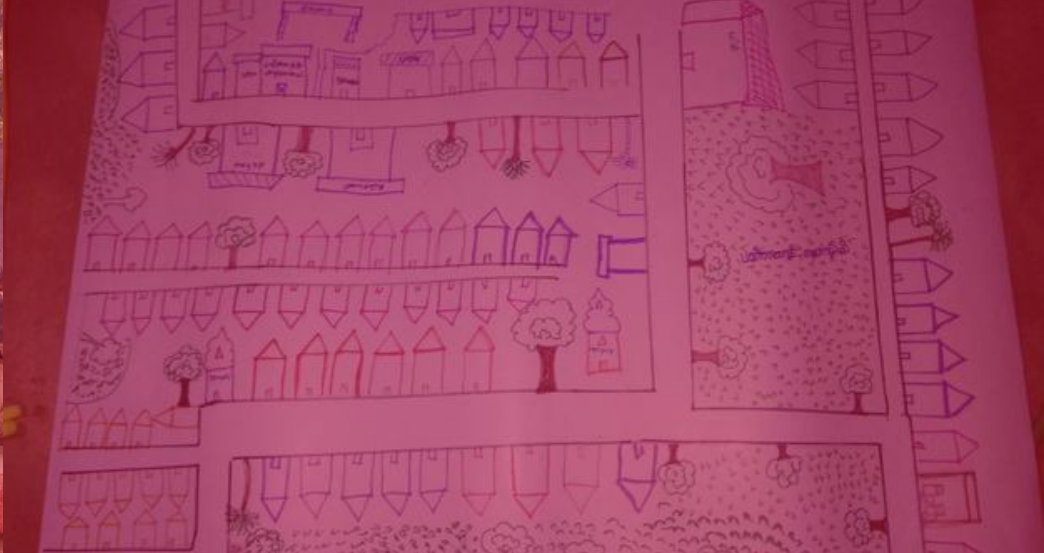
This year's annual report looks back not just at the year that passed us, but also at the 25 years of the Praxis journey that has brought us to this momentous period in development discourse where we confront a world of post-truth, of unbridgeable distances that the internet claims to be burning and of an ever-increasing unpredictability. We look at the contributions Praxis has made in this journey.

As we move towards the next 25 years, we express our gratitude towards all those who have been part of this journey – Praxians, our training alumni, project partners, and funding partners, as well as like-minded friends and professionals, who have been committed to making development and democracy truly participatory. We dedicate this milestone of ours to those marginalised communities across India as well as other parts of the world and all our co-travelers who made this journey possible.

Tom Thomas

25 - YEAR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE





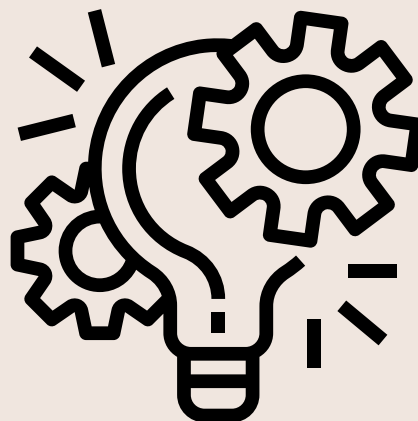
Projects



2021-22 Our Footprint

11

States

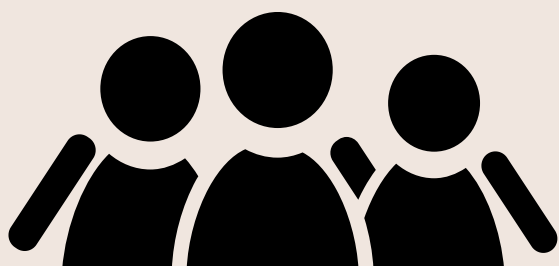


16

Projects

21

Organisations
partnered with



1,11,420

Community Partners

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

Keeping with one of the core principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Praxis over the past 25 years, has been committed to the rights of children by enabling them to participate in decision-making processes and ensure that their voices are heard. We have consistently innovated in ways of engaging with children – from creating spaces for their involvement in policy-making through ground-level panels on education and child labour, facilitating child-led manifestoes to inform political agenda-setting, using digital videos and participatory videos to speak to a range of stakeholders about their aspirations and needs. We have contributed to knowledge-building around child-centred town planning in different states. The snapshot below reflects the spirit of our work since 1997.



Children have a right to stand up and be counted

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN



Child-Led Manifestoes being developed to share with all political parties ▼



▲ Adolescent girls mapping safe spaces as part of a programme evaluation



▲ Immersive Capacity-Building for urban planners and architects on designing and building child-friendly cities

◀ Children making participatory videos to make themselves heard

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

The pandemic exposed vulnerabilities faced by children, putting them at higher risk of abuse, violence, poverty, and lack of access to quality education and healthcare. This past year, Praxis engaged with children to strengthen their voices to address issues that impact their lives deeply.

300
adolescents

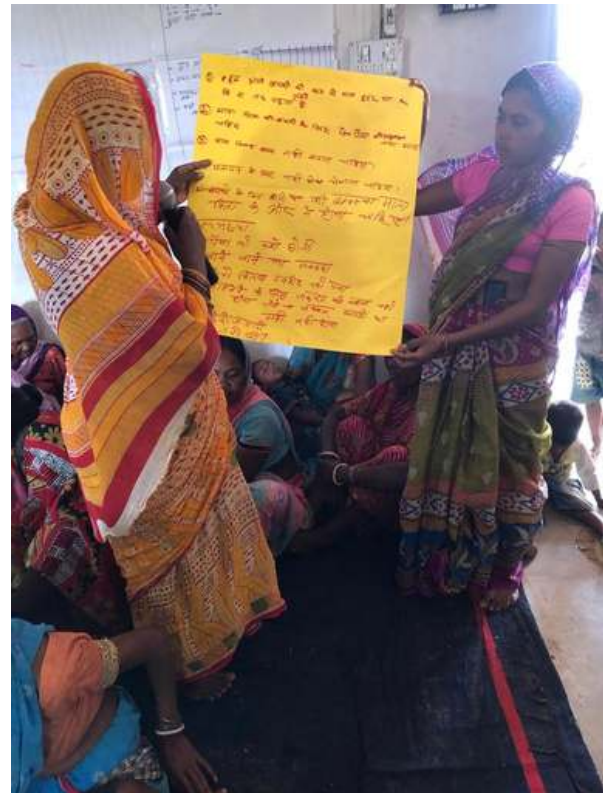
4 states



One of the projects aimed to **mobilise communities** and **build digital narratives** across three themes - air quality, girl capital, and adolescent sexual reproductive health services. As part of this project, adolescents were trained on identifying issues related to the above themes, making impactful videos to voice their concerns, and amplifying their voices using various media platforms and campaigns. Praxis trained 300 adolescents across four states: Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh, to map issues, find solutions and create messages over a three-year period. This project saw the launch of three campaigns - HerAkshar focused on sending girls to school to safeguard their future; Hawa Ke Rakshak focused on Air Quality, for more green spaces in their area to protect the community from industrial and vehicular emissions and positive actions to address pollution; Ankahee Baatein focused on groups sharing misconceptions and challenges surrounding sexual reproductive health.

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

Praxis trained organisations in Bihar to strengthen the capacity of Child Protection Committees (CPCs) using participatory tools to understand in-depth the challenges faced by children and plan strategies to implement activities at the village and ward levels. The project aimed to collate periodic data on dashboards from 40 villages of one to three wards in Muzaffarpur and Vaishali districts, and to undertake periodic interactions with Child Protection Committees. The next step was to use the emerging trends from the data to plan engagements with panchayat, block, district, and state-level government functionaries.



With the aim to build a strong civic arm at the community level for improving access, creating demands, and ensuring effective monitoring of child protection needs and services, the new phase of strengthening community-based mechanism for Child Protection in Jharkhand, was commenced in April 2021. This new phase was marked with the addition of 20 villages across two districts of Jharkhand, Khunti, and Dhanbad, where Praxis facilitated

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

a series of workshops for existing as well as newly elected community leaders on the issue of child protection, and also formulated a village-level micro plan for strengthening civic arms in respective villages. An attempt was also made to build a state-wide network of civil societies working in the domain of child protection to scale up the model of community leadership building.



Praxis, with support from partners of an international organisation, conducted a study on children living in the slums of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The study aimed at assessing the impacts of Covid-19 on child protection and documenting the types and magnitude of violence faced by them to generate leads for programmatic and policy advocacy for ending all forms of violence against children.

As part of a healthcare and education development programme in Jaipur, Praxis provided technical training to community-based fellows and volunteers. This included the creation of a module on child rights and a session on understanding inequality in gender relations. The fellows and volunteers were also trained on participatory methods, community engagement, and the action research process and were provided with periodic handholding support through regular interactions and follow-ups.

OUR WORK WITH WOMEN & SEXUAL MINORITIES

The fifth Sustainable Development Goal calls for gender equality and women's empowerment, principles intrinsic to sustained human and economic development. However, the poor status of women, girls, and other gender minorities is reflected in the rates of crime against women as well as in the widespread gender inequity in access to rights and opportunities. Praxis has, over the years, found ways of integrating a gender lens in all its work in addition to engagements that have looked at the empowerment of women and sexual minorities. This included developing participatory tools which could be used by women in villages to analyse the causes of maternal death, research to inform and evaluate programmes on early marriage, female foeticide, trafficking for sexual exploitation, gender-based violence, and more. We also developed tools to evaluate the strength of collectivisation through community mobilisation monitoring self-assessment tools for use by community-based organisations of persons vulnerable to HIV/AIDS such as transgenders.



Participatory documentation of sex workers' movement; Kolkata 2003

OUR WORK WITH WOMEN & SEXUAL MINORITIES

Through the years



Tool developed to map maternal and perinatal deaths in 2009-10

Mapping community mobilisation of sex workers, men who have sex with men and transgenders, 2008-13



Musahar women in Kishanganj, Bihar discuss behaviour change related to sexual and reproductive and maternal health, 2014-15



Women in Jharkhand map generational trends related to marriages, 2011

Transgender participants make a video on their demands from the SDGs, 2012

OUR WORK WITH WOMEN & SEXUAL MINORITIES

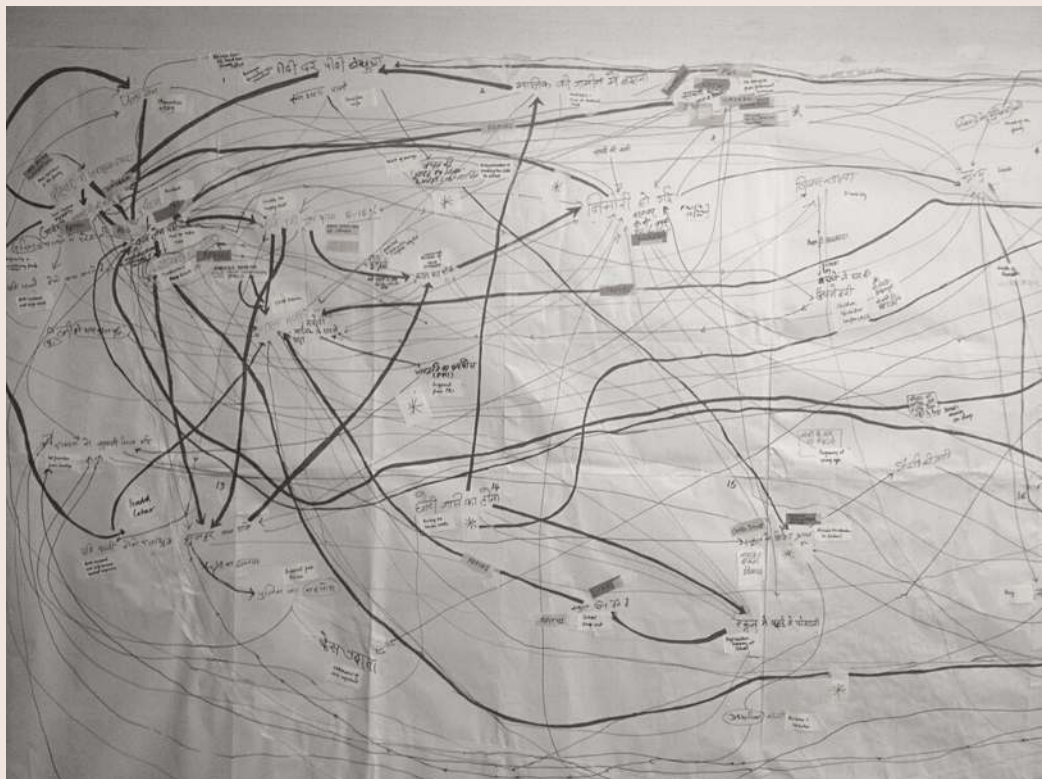
In the last year, our work aimed at addressing social inequities using a gender lens, strengthening the participation of women and other gender minorities in policy development.

Praxis conducted an exploratory study to get a comprehensive understanding of parental beliefs on the influence of employment before marriage on daughters' future marital prospects as well as the scope of employment after marriage that determine Female Labour Force Participation rates and patterns. The study aimed at unpacking notions of "good" marriage match and related factors; the perceived impact of education and employment; extent of perceptions on investment in education; and preferred employment for the soon-to-be-married. As part of the engagement, 60 in-depth interviews and 8 focus group discussions were conducted with a wide range of parents and parents-in-law across caste, class, religion, and socio-cultural backgrounds.

Praxis carried out a participatory assessment of rural development projects in Bihar and Jharkhand centred around women's institutions' livelihoods and building sustainable community institutions with an objective to map key achievements and identify challenges and practices that need to be scaled up.

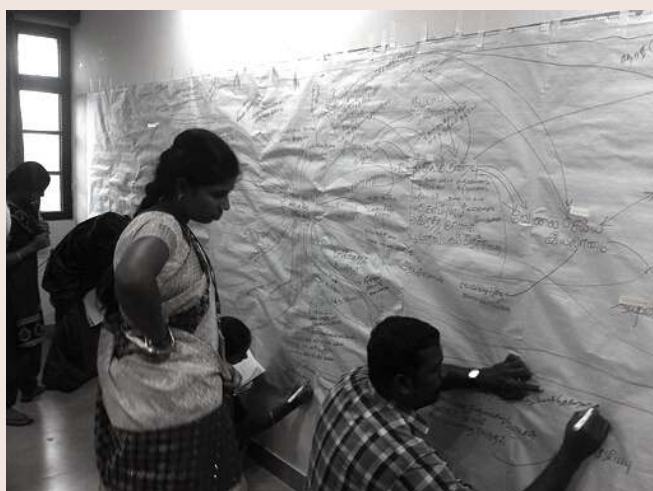
OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES VULNERABLE TO FORCED LABOUR

The victims of forced labour are often communities that are vulnerable such as children, women, gender minorities, the disabled, those in debt and other minorities. According to an ILO estimate, around 24.9 million people around the world are subjected to forced labour. This includes those who are exploited financially, physically, and sexually as well as by the private sector and individuals in positions of power. In the last decade, Praxis undertook several studies to understand the context of forced labour and trafficking within the country. This included evaluations of frontline organisations working with communities vulnerable to trafficking, extensive surveys to understand the prevalence of child labour, forced labour and trafficking, engagement with consortiums that focus on responsible business practices to prevent labour violations in the supply chain and strengthening the capacity of organisations working to prevent child labour.



A causal map showing linkages on bonded labour, 2015-2017

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES VULNERABLE TO FORCED LABOUR



▲
◀ Evaluation of a
programme with
communities vulnerable to
bonded labour, child
labour, trafficking, 2015-
18

Study on
adolescent
survivors of
trafficking, 2015-
16 ▶



OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES VULNERABLE TO FORCED LABOUR

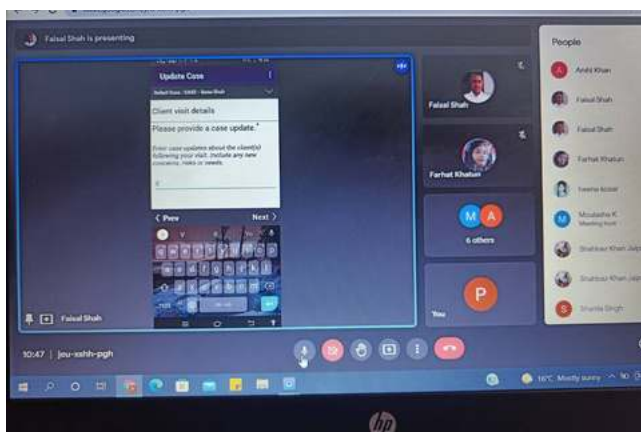
In continuation with work carried out in the past few years, in the last year too, Praxis kept up the momentum in supporting initiatives that work with communities vulnerable to forced labour and survivors of labour rights.

Praxis was a facilitating partner in a study that aimed to capture the confidence of bonded labour survivors in the public justice system. It identified how survivors approached the existing justice systems and sustained their freedom. It aimed to provide insights into the experiences of care and protection from the justice systems and assess how confident the survivors were in receiving the rehabilitation measures and entitlements stipulated by the state. The study also captured how the survivors approached duty bearers, shedding light on whether survivors were able to engage with different stakeholders and build confidence among their communities to seek support. As a facilitating partner, Praxis supported the development of qualitative and quantitative research tools, reviewed the tools and trained the research team for collecting data from 319 survivors of bonded labour.



OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES VULNERABLE TO FORCED LABOUR

Praxis developed the Pathways digital case and data management service for frontline organisations working with communities vulnerable to bonded labour and trafficking to ensure that the communities at risk receive integrated care. It is an innovative case management software that makes it easier for organizations to maintain case records, streamline support provided to vulnerable persons, analyse their own data, and use it to engage with stakeholders to improve support from the state on various entitlements. Close to 30 organisations located across Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and Rajasthan currently use the service. Throughout the year, Praxis supported the organisations' staff to upload case data and use the service efficiently. The system currently has 191 active users, including mobile application users, and is managing over 3407 cases.



191

Active Users

3407

Cases



To enable communities to assess their capacity in addressing issues of forced labour, Praxis developed a toolkit, "the Community Maturity Tool". The framework of the tool comprised of five stages; conscious building, research, collation, self-assessment, and reflection which helped the communities score their awareness and identify vulnerabilities within the community and seek ways to address them. An instructional guide on how to implement each stage of the tool was also developed. The tools were presented to 14 NGO partners across the districts of Dindigul and Erode in Tamil Nadu. Praxis as technical support facilitated and trained the organizations, along with extending support in developing an Action Plan based on the tool findings.



OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES VULNERABLE TO FORCED LABOUR

Praxis was entrusted with upgrading the 'Empowerplus' web as well as a mobile application for facilitating reintegration and support to survivors of trafficking. The trilingual application, in Bangla, English, and Hindi languages was developed in 2020 to provide details of various resource organisations working in the domain of human trafficking in West Bengal and Jharkhand. The new addition to the application included online workshops and trainings, manuals of undertaking issues related to trafficking, and various others.

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY SOCIAL IDENTITY

Despite the provision of equal fundamental rights to all citizens of the country, there are some who are discriminated against because of their social identity. They are subjected to mistreatment resulting in the loss of basic rights and dignity. As part of Praxis's commitment to social justice and equity, we have looked at the structural barriers that perpetuate historical injustices to continue unabated. By acknowledging that participation is political Praxis aims to create spaces for the participation and inclusion of Dalits, Adivasis, Nomadic and Denotified Tribes, and Religious Minorities in all its work. The range of engagements included national infrastructure equity audits that examined the experience of Dalits, Muslims, and tribals in accessing infrastructure, to strengthen community-led organisations and collectives. Praxis has been part of several consortiums such as the Social Equity Watch, Dalit Watch, and the National Alliance Group for Nomadic and Denotified Tribes which have advocated for their rights. Praxis has also placed these communities at the centre of any project or initiative to ensure an equitable lens to research.



Members of Ground Level Panel on Sustainable Development Goals,
September, 2015

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY SOCIAL IDENTITY

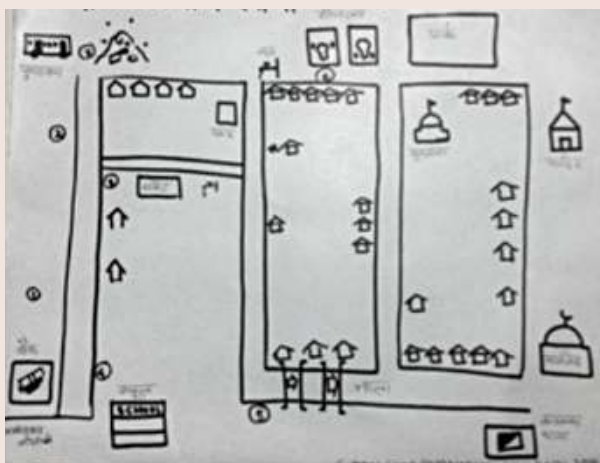
Through the years



Members of the Sabar community in Purulia, West Bengal, make and sell handicrafts from forest produce such as bamboo.



Ground-Level Panel with Nomadic and Denotified Tribes, 2019



People employed in Municipal Corporation of Delhi as Safai Karmacharis were approached in order to collate the concerns of urban infrastructure with occupational safety and health issues of sanitation workers.

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY SOCIAL IDENTITY

Marginalised Identities

The Collect Risk Communication & Community Engagement (CRCCE) is a community-led initiative covering 560 hamlets in 70 districts across 11 states and focused on Dalit, Adivasi, De-notified and Nomadic Tribes, and minority communities. The programme particularly focused on building a community-level resource base for easy access to information and instituting a system of data flow, which can be used to create an evidence-based system of communication with local administration. In these targeted hamlets of marginalised groups, access to digital tools is minimal and even when available, not everyone is able to access these tools owing to varied reasons ranging from ownership to access control.



OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY SOCIAL IDENTITY

In November 2021, RCCE (Risk Communities and Community Engagement) Collect initiative began a six-month programme focused on building community-level awareness on Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) and ensuring higher vaccination through mobilisation among vulnerable groups. The programme selected hamlet-level and district-level fellows in each location from these groups. The key objectives of the six-month programme were as follows:

- 1) Fellows understand and practice CAB, are facilitated to make informed decisions about vaccinations and are provided access
- 2) Enhance capacity/understanding of CAB of volunteers to help them take the message to communities
- 3) Link the community with the local health services and administration for early COVID testing, treatment and vaccination with the view to the improvement of vaccination systems overall for the left-out dropped-out community.

Praxis engaged in strengthening individuals and budding organisations associated with socially relevant causes towards empowering them as "new age leaders" who can later take charge of the local development agendas, in four districts of Bihar. In the second phase of the engagement, four new fellows with a passion to work towards bringing changes in the lives of most vulnerable communities such as scheduled caste, sex workers, adolescent girls and sanitation workers; in the domain of access to livelihoods, rights for dignity, education and health, were identified.

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY SOCIAL IDENTITY

Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) operates community living facilities for the urban homeless population in the city. DUSIB appointed Praxis to monitor the condition of 16 such shelters in Delhi. The engagement includes periodic visits, and interaction with people living in the shelters to understand any challenges



they may be facing, and monitoring the condition of assets to recommend any purchases or repairs to the board. Based on interaction, women and children have expressed improvements in their living conditions in several shelters.



Praxis served as the anchor of the India hub of the Heritage for Engagement Network, which is a global network that aims at using humanitarian heritage to build sustainable peace. As part of this, Praxis anchored a research study bringing together four case studies from across India and neighbouring countries on how heritage can be used to build peace, especially among communities on the margins. The ENGAGE network India hub partners, which included government-recognised institutes working on architecture and planning, developed four case studies. These highlighted different dimensions such as distorted histories through the lens of the Chhara tribe; craft as process-centric heritage, commercialisation of cultural heritage through Kalbeliyas; and role of cultural institutions in urban resilience.

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY DISASTERS

Natural disasters accentuate social inequity by exposing deep-rooted divisions in society. When the tsunami struck, Praxis was at the forefront of organisations coming together to critically explore the inequity in providing relief. Similarly, in Bihar, the repeated onslaught of the Kosi floods left some people more vulnerable than others. The vagaries of climate change and its effect on ecologically fragile Sundarbans push vulnerable groups to migrate in search of livelihood. Such communities join a large floating population of human capital, vulnerable because of their identity as well as the blow of natural disasters. From developing an application to track disaster-preparedness to carrying out equity audits in relief exercises, from carrying out a needs assessment of displaced persons to anchoring relief efforts, Praxis has engaged with vulnerable groups.



Voices of the People displaced by Kosi Floods - Kosi Yatra

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY DISASTERS

Boy Scouts engaging
with persons affected
by floods in Bihar



The team has carried out disaster-mapping exercises to understand equitable response in disaster situations. The photo shows a dam near Baur village in Darbhanga district of Bihar breached by the floods of the Kamala-Balan river (2014)



Conducted a participatory poverty indexing of drought-prone Bolangir district. This led to the publication of the book 'The Politics of Poverty: The tale of the Living dead in Bolangir'.

OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES EXCLUDED BY DISASTERS

Praxis supported the provision of relief in the ecologically fragile Sundarbans region of West Bengal to communities affected by the Yaas cyclone. As part of this initiative, communities were provided immediate support in the form of food, drinking water, health and hygiene kits, educational material for children, livelihood support, and awareness about the risks of trafficking under vulnerable conditions.

Praxis with support from 7 partner organisations working in Sundarbans of West Bengal, initiated relief work for the communities affected by the Amphan cyclone in 2020. In this initiative, the organisations engaged with their respective communities to help access their immediate needs through participatory processes. Praxis facilitated a community-based evaluation of the relief support provided by partners through a workshop.



(Pic sourced from partners)

Villages ravaged by Amphan and Yaas in Sundarbans area of West Bengal

BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

Praxis has contributed to strengthening organisations by holding capacity-building workshops. These include the flagship event TheWorkshop- an international residential workshop that brings together practitioners from around the world; Sandhan -a month-long format of capacity-building for grassroots organisations; and customised workshops for organisations on specific themes. These include participatory action research, the use of PRA with persons with disabilities, digital innovation tools in the use of participatory tools, ethics and research, and more. Praxis also facilitated organisation development and strategy review processes for several organisations over the years. In addition, Praxis conceptualised 'Insight' - a spontaneous learning process that facilitates policy makers, implementers, and advocates to live with communities, dialogue with them, and enrich their knowledge and understanding of the people they make policies for.




Digital Story Telling (DST) Workshop


BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY



A training and capacity building with 36 urban youth aimed at creating and sustaining a new line of urban poverty professionals that were required to address the fast-changing urban reality, 2016

Self-administrable tools were developed for organisations of People Using Drugs in Manipur. 



Participants of an immersion exercise in Tamil Nadu join the host community in their daily work. 

Through the years

PRAXIS INTERNATIONAL COMMUNE ON PARTICIPATORY DEVELOPMENT



1800 +

Participants

23

Editions

24

Years

38

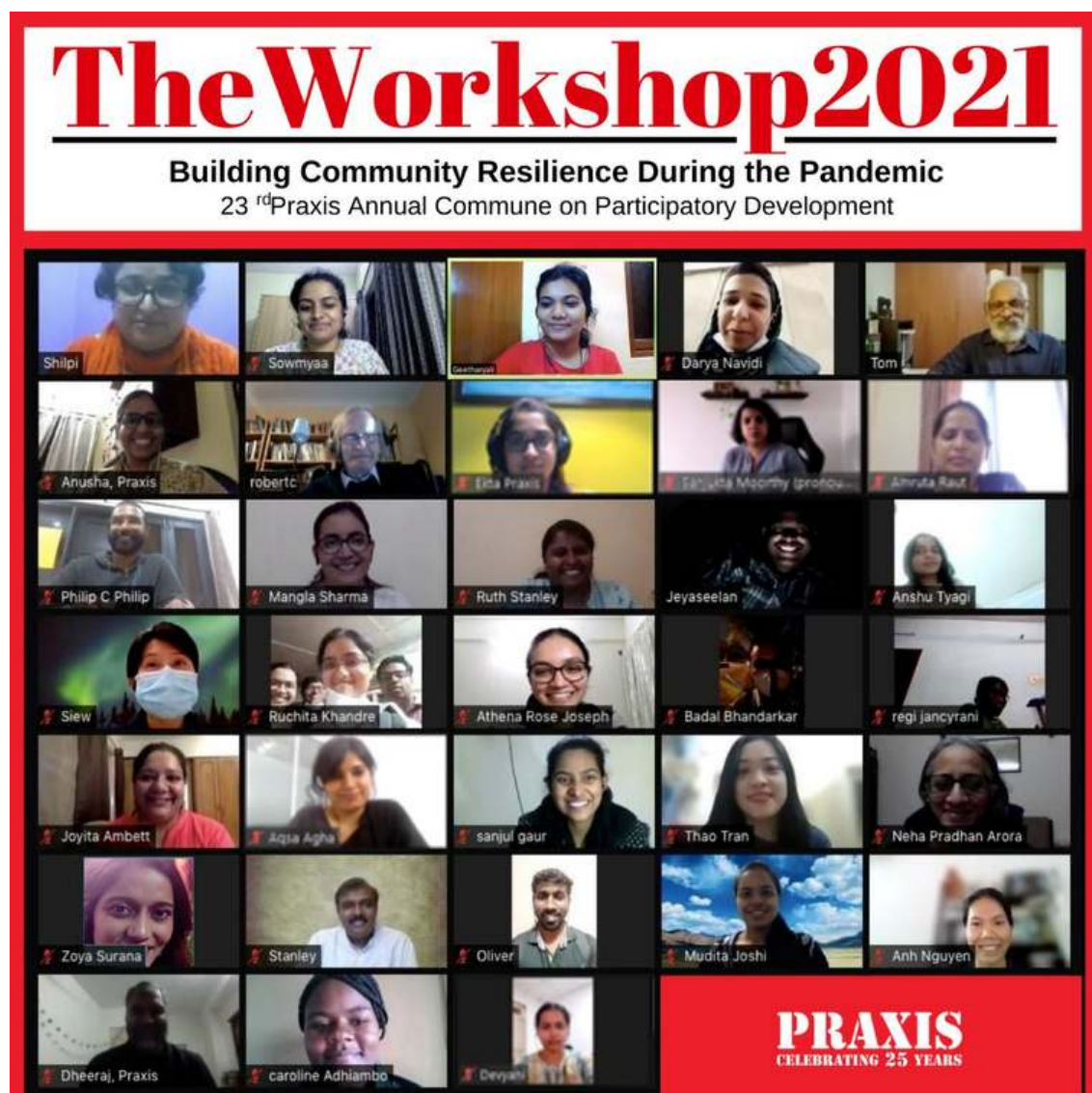
Facilitators

50

Countries

BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

In 2021, taking into account the existing travel restrictions because of Covid-19, Praxis facilitated The Workshop online on the theme of ***"Building Community Resilience during the Pandemic."*** The workshop saw the virtual participation of 33 participants along with 6 international participants.



The Modules Run during this workshop were: a. Participatory Methods and Approaches; and b. Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

LIST OF PROJECTS

RELIEF OF THE POOR

S.No	Project Title	Project Details
1	Community-led local entitlements and claims tracker (COLLECT)	Collect Risk Communication & Community Engagement is a community-led initiative spread across 11 states. The programme focuses on building a resource base at community level to create an evidence-based system of communication with the local administration.
2	Pathways	Pathways is a digital case and data management service initiated and delivered by Praxis for organisations working at the grassroots to ensure that the communities at risk receive integrated care
3	Food Security and Livelihood Relief Support for Smallholder Farmers in Kerala	As part of the COVID-19 Fair Trade Emergency Initiative Fund for Producer Partners of Forum Fairer Handel, Praxis bridge the gap that has arisen in household income focused on the empowerment of women community members and attempting encouraging entrepreneurship among the youth from 380 smallholder farmers' families in Kerala.
4	Community Maturity Tool	Praxis developed Community Maturity Tool to enable communities to assess their capacity in addressing forced labour. The toolkit was developed in partnership with 15 NGOs in Dindigul and Erode districts of Tamil Nadu and comprised five stages - Conscious building, Research, Collation, Self-Assessment, and Reflection.

RELIEF OF THE POOR

S.No	Project Title	Project Details
5	Confidence in Public Justice Systems	Praxis was a facilitating partner in a study to find out whether survivors, including Released Bonded Labourers Association, approach the public justice systems and are empowered to participate and sustain their freedom.
6	Strengthening Community - Based Child Protection Mechanisms	The Inter-Agency Research on Strengthening Community-based Child Protection mechanism aimed at building a strong civic arm for improving access, creating demands and proper monitoring of community-level child protection needs and services

EDUCATION

S.No	Project Title	Project Details
1	Community Development - Assessment	Praxis carried out the assessment of the rural development projects in Saran (Bihar), Hazaribagh and Khunti (Jharkhand) districts with an objective to map key achievements and identify challenges and practices that need to be scaled up. The intervention was centered around 3-tier women's institutions, livelihoods and building sustainable community institutions.
2	Preventing Child Trafficking In Bihar	Praxis strengthened the capacity of frontline organisations on facilitating participatory tools with child protection committees to evolve an indepth understanding of the challenges faced by children and plan strategies to implement activities. The project aimed to collate periodic data on a dashboard from 40 villages in Muzaffarpur and Vaishali districts of Bihar on the status of existing schemes for children
3	Evidencing the Impacts of Covid-19 on Violence Against Children	The study aimed at assessing the impacts of Covid-19 on the protection of children and documented types and magnitude of violence faced by them and generated leads for programmatic and policy advocacy for ending all forms of violence against children.

EDUCATION

S.No	Project Title	Project Details
4	Building Organisations for Excellence	Praxis was entrusted with the responsibility of strengthening individuals and budding organisations associated with a socially relevant cause towards empowering them as "new age leaders" who could take charge of local development agendas. In the second phase of engagement, four new fellows were identified and their capacity was built.
5	People powered digital narratives	Praxis coordinated the People Power Digital Narrative Project of Children's Investment Fund Foundation with Quilt.ai, PLUC.tv, towards mobilising communities and building digital narratives to enable "ordinary" voices or self-representation to highlight issues of children in mainstream media and reach relevant influencers/ stakeholders.
6	The Workshop 2021	Praxis facilitated its 23rd Workshop online on the theme of "Building Community Resilience during the Pandemic." The workshop saw the virtual participation of 33 participants along with 6 international participants. The Modules Run during this workshop were: a. Participatory Methods and Approaches b. Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

ENVIRONMENT

S.No	Project Title	Project Details
1	Cyclone relief to communities	Praxis supported relief work for communities affected by Amphan and Yaas Cyclones in Sundarbans area of West Bengal in 2020 and 2021 along with agencies on the ground. Urgent needs identified included ration, essential services, building communities spaces etc.
2	Amplifying Community Voices in Sundarbans	Praxis led a consortium of seven organisations using the participatory grant-making approach to development in Patharpratima block of South 24 Parganas of Bengal. The project aimed to enable identified groups of vulnerable people in the Sundarbans to come together, diagnose their vulnerabilities, articulate aspirations and avenues of change, and produce a plan for acting upon a specific vulnerability.

HEALTH

S.No	Project Title	Project Details
1	Community Development- School Enrolment & Vaccination	Praxis provided technical training to community-based fellows and volunteers as part of the healthcare development programme in Jaipur. This included the creation of a module on child rights.
2	C-RCCE (Collect)	In November 2021, the Collect initiative began a six-month programme focused on building community level awareness on Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) and ensuring higher vaccination through mobilisation among vulnerable groups. The programme selected hamlet level and district level fellows in each location that were from the community itself.



FINANCIALS

MATRIX SCORING

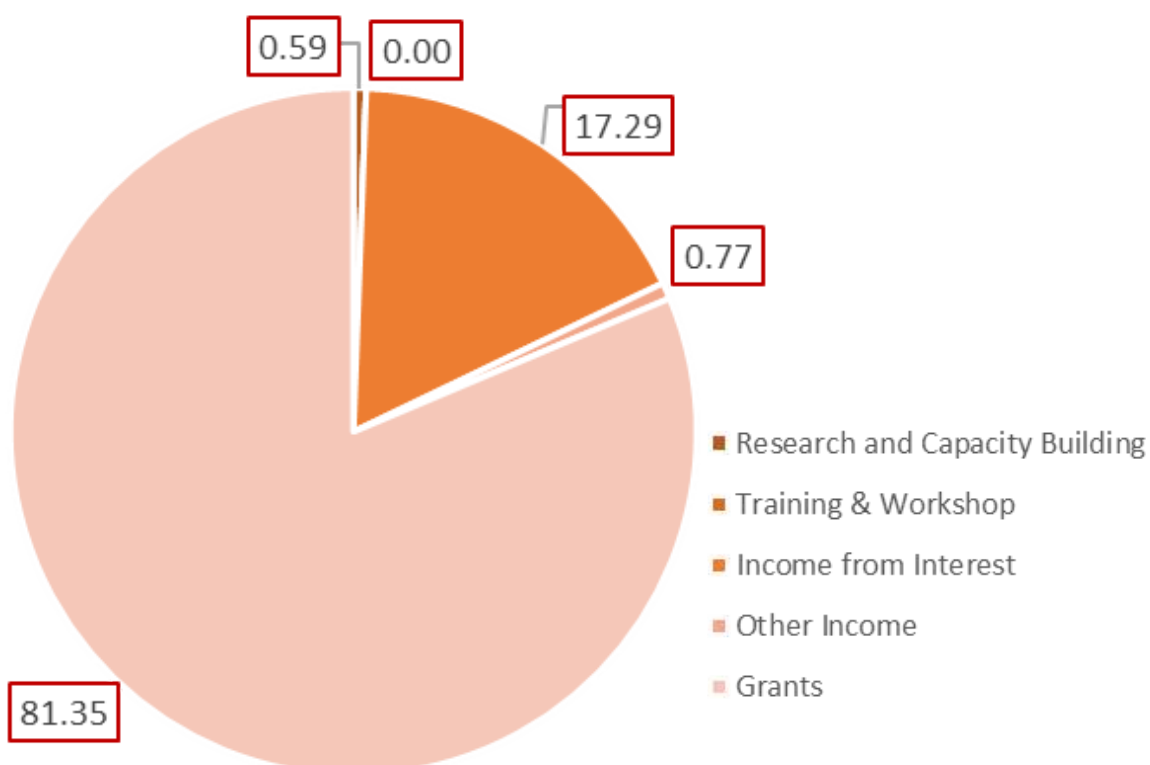
Criteria	Level of Education	Cost of Education	INCOME	LOCATION	TOTAL
FARMER	•••	•••••	•••••	•••••	19
COMPUTER ENGINEER	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••	21
DRIVER	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••	16
MASON	••	•••••	•••••	•••	13
TEACHER	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••	24



SOURCES OF FUNDING

(Figures in Rs. 000's)

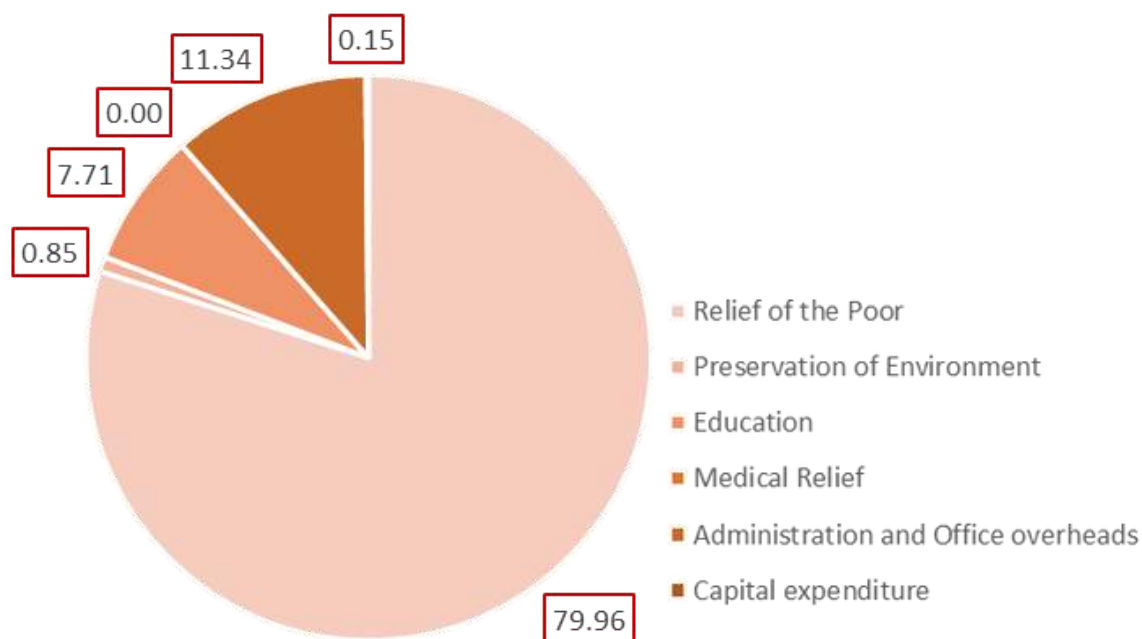
ACTIVITY	2021-22	%	2020-21	%
Research and Capacity Building	319	0.59	3401	7.46
Training and Workshop	0	0.00	367	0.80
Income from Interest	9326	17.29	11328	24.84
Other Income	416	0.77	161	0.35
Grants	43873	81.35	30345	66.54
GRAND TOTAL	53934	100	45602	100



DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE

(Figures in Rs. 000's)

ACTIVITY	2021-22	%	2020-21	%
Relief of the Poor	45730	79.96	36283	66.09
Preservation of Environment	486	0.85	374	0.68
Education	4409	7.71	10616	19.34
Medical Relief	0	0.00	655	1.19
Administration and Office Overheads	6483	11.34	3866	7.04
Capital Expenditure	84	0.15	3104	5.65
GRAND TOTAL	57192	100	54898	100



COMPLIANCE

COMPLIANCE WITH SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN AT THE WORKPLACE (PREVENTION, PROHIBITION AND REDRESSAL) ACT 2013

As part of compliance with the Act, an orientation-cum-refresher training was facilitated online for the team, where they were also informed about the internal and external members of the ASH committee and the mechanisms in place to record a complaint. In addition, discussions on gender and sexuality, especially in the time of the pandemic were discussed with the team during team meetings.

No incidents of sexual harassment were reported in the financial year 2021-22.



People of Praxis



PRAXIANS OVER THE YEARS

Twenty-five years of enabling participatory democracy has been made possible due to the continued support and dedication of all Praxians. We also thank and remember our dear colleagues whom we lost along the way - Madhura Pandit, Dr. Satish Chandra, Arjun Rajagopal, Anindo Banerjee and V.S. Thyagarajan.

Abhay Kumar
 Ajai Kuruvila Jacob
 Albertina Almeida
 Amitabh Pandey
 Amitha Vasanth
 Amrendar Pandey
 Anamika Dutt
 Anamika Priyadarshini
 Anberin Pasha
 Anurag Sinha
 Anusha Chandrasekharan
 Aparna Chandrasekharan
 Aruna Mohan Raj
 Asiya Nasreen
 Auromala Das
 Babu Mathew
 Baskar R.
 Benji John
 Betsy Rajan
 Bhavana Rajendaran
 Bhawna Verma
 Catherine Kannam
 Deepti Menon
 Devender Kumar
 Dheeraj
 Disha Zaidi
 George Joseph

Girish Chandra Mishra
 Gouthami
 Harshvardhan Patnaik
 Huma Kidwai
 Indu Prakash Singh
 Insha Riaz
 Iram Parveen
 Jay Kumar Varma
 Jhumki Dutta
 Jiten Asem
 Joseph M J
 Joshua Levene
 Jyoti Saxena
 Karuna Chibber
 Kavitha Devadas
 Kirti Mishra
 Kriti Vashisht
 Latika Nayyar
 Lorina Anal
 M. Kumaran
 Manjusha E T
 Mary George
 Md. Nishar Alam
 Moulasha Kader
 Mukta Ojha
 Murthy D S R C
 Nancy Priya

PRAXIANS OVER THE YEARS

Niamat Ali	Sarulatha
Niharika Awasti	Satya Priya
Nilima Monica Purti	Seema Siddiqui
Nirmita Roychowdhury	Shahana Chaudhury
Pankaj Sharma	Shahina K K
Paromita Ghosh	Shailesh Kumar Singh
Parvati Tampi	Sharmistha Sarkar
Pavitra Nirmal	Shilpi Mishra
Pradeep Kumar	Shireen Kurien
Pradeep Narayanan	Shirshendu Ghosh
Priscille Escoffier	Shishupal Prajapati
Priya	Sidharth Mukherjee
Raffaella Catalini	Somesh Kumar
Rajendra Ram	Somidha Ray
Rajeshwar Devarakonda	Sowmyaa Bharadwaj
Ranjit Kumar Jha	Sri Harsha
Ravikant Kissana	Srijan Nandan
Reena Cherian Pathickal	Sujeet Sharma
Renuka Joglekar	Sunder B
Rieko Sasaki	Tarini Shipurkar
Ritu Kanotra	Tom Thomas
Rohan Mukerjee	Uday Kumar Jha
Rohan Preece	Upendranadh C.
Roma Dey	Urvashi Mitra
Roopam Singh	Victoria Whitaker
Ruhul Kuddus	Vijay Prakash
Sabu Varghese	Vijeta Laxmi
Sahana Sarkar	Vikas Satho
Sanjay Paswan	Vinita Yadav (Dr)

MANAGING COMMITTEE

Tomy Mathew (President)

Tomy Mathew heads Elements, a business endeavour committed to organic and fair trade. He is the founder promoter of Fair Trade Alliance Kerala, a small farmer collective of 5,000 farmers in the Western Ghats of India, engaged in environmentally sensitive stewardship of the soil and trade justice. Tomy was previously the Vice President, Corporate Communications, Alacrity Group of Companies, Chennai.

Tom Thomas (Secretary)

Tom has close to three decades of experience in the development sector. His association with Praxis began in 2000 when he took over as CEO. Prior to joining Praxis, he held senior positions with Action Aid in India, Bangladesh and the UK. He has led Praxis on several important assignments, both nationally and internationally. As the convener of Corporate Responsibility Watch, a coalition of organisations and individuals tracking responsible business in India, and as a member of several national and international civil society coalitions furthering the idea and Praxis of community participation, he has been an ardent advocate of business and human rights.

V S Thyagarajan (Treasurer till 24 January 2022)

Thyagarajan is a Chartered Accountant by profession and has over four decades of corporate and development experience. His specialisation is in Governance and Accountability and he has vast experience in managing finance, HR and administration in the NGO sector. He has worked as the Director of Finance and Administration for the Action Aid (UK) for its India Programme (for 8 years) and also in the same capacity for AMREF (African Medical Research Foundation) for 6 years.

He has served for six years from 2007 to 2013 on the board of Richmond Fellowship Society, an NGO working in the area of psycho-social rehabilitation. He is currently an advisor to the Board of Belaku Trust, an NGO that works with health and livelihood of rural women and children.

Dr. T S Syamala (Member)

Syamala is an Associate Professor and Head at the Population Research Centre, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore. Trained in Anthropology and Population Sciences, she has over two decades of experience in research and teaching. Her broad research interests are population ageing, reproductive and child health and public health issues. She has worked on issues related to menopause in the Indian context, issues on infertility and also on the different dimensions on ageing in the Indian context. She has been involved with several large-scale studies such as National Family Health Survey, Building Knowledge Base on Ageing in India and Ageing and Well-being in the globalized world.

Maria Shobana (Treasurer)

Shobana worked in the Railway Audit Wing of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department for more than two decades. Her work included inspection of Railway offices and compilation of findings and submission of reports to Railway Officers. The final report for the entire Railways is laid on the table of Parliament. Her scope of work also included reviewing projects in the Integral Coach Factory and Workshops/Stores of Southern Railway and the complete working of all departments of the Southern Railway Headquarters and Divisions. Her experience includes evaluating risk management, and governance systems and providing recommendations for improving the organisation's operations in terms of both effectiveness and efficiency.

Shobana has worked as a consultant on some of Praxis' projects and has been an internal auditor for Praxis.

Christy Abraham (Member)

Christy Abraham has more than 30 years of experience, working on a range of development and human rights issues, such as disability, HIV/AIDS, and women's rights. She has significant grounded experience in mobilising communities, formation of networks, community-based organisations and building a perspective on rights, voice, civil society space, and access to justice. She has worked with a wide range of organisations ranging from ActionAid India, ActionAid International, The Association of People with Disability, and SPID Consulting Ltd. She is also on the Board of Leprosy Mission Trust, New Delhi, Treasurer, Ashraya, Bengaluru and Founder Trustee Ysmen International Trust, Bengaluru.

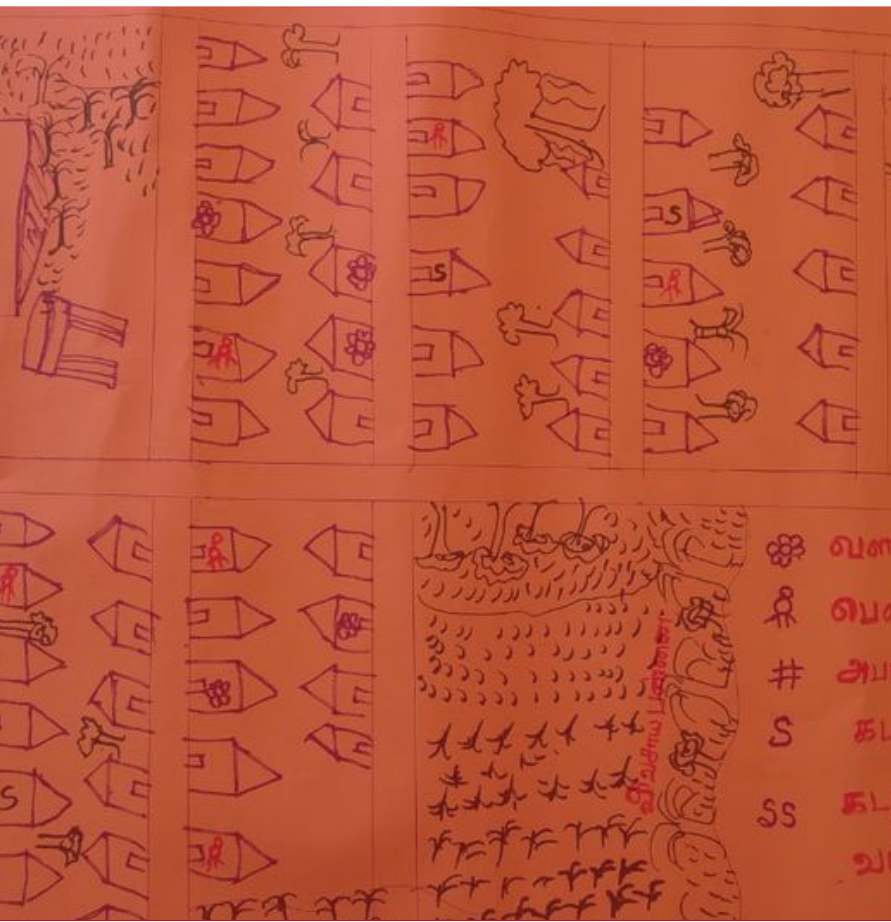
GENERAL BODY MEMBERS

Members of the Managing Committee are also on the General Body. In addition, the General Body has the following members:

- **Albertina Almeida**
- **Prof. Dr Arif Hassan**
- **Dr Robert Chambers**
- **Mr Shankar Venkateswaran**



Partner Organisations



PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Aarambh, Bhopal	Nottingham Trent University
Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives	Oak Foundation
Balam Trust	Partners in Change
Child Resilience Alliance	Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Christian Aid	People Power Digital Narratives
Dasra Foundation	Samagra Sikchhan Evam Vikas Sansthan
Dialectics India	Stitching Climate Action Network, Bangladesh
Ernst & Young Foundation	Terre des hommes Foundation
Geutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit	The World Bank
Institute of Development Studies (IDS)	UNICEF
Malabar, Kerala	

REMEMBERING ANINDO

On May 12, 2021, we lost our colleague Anindo Banerjee to COVID-19. He touched lives of people across the world through his deep commitment to participation, equity and justice. Praxis launched a few initiatives through the year to honour his legacy and commemorate his life's journey.



INITIATIVES TO COMMEMORATE ANINDO'S LIFE

Anindo-Banerjee Fellowship Program

Launched on 14 August 2021, the Anindo Banerjee Fellowship will be awarded annually to one candidate with a lived experience of marginalisation to conduct grassroots participatory research, which focuses on equity, inclusion and community knowledge building. After screening of multiple proposals, we selected our first



fellow, Taukeer Alam, hailing from the Van Gujjar community. Through his project our fellow aims to revive traditional knowledge of Van Gujjars, their folk songs and folktales by preserving, documenting and showcasing them to the wider public.

Anindo Banerjee Memorial Media Fellowship

Praxis in partnership with Jholawala Films launched a media fellowship to help youth tell stories using short films about social justice and equity. The first media fellow is Deepak Mishra, a young documentary filmmaker with disability, based in Delhi, India.



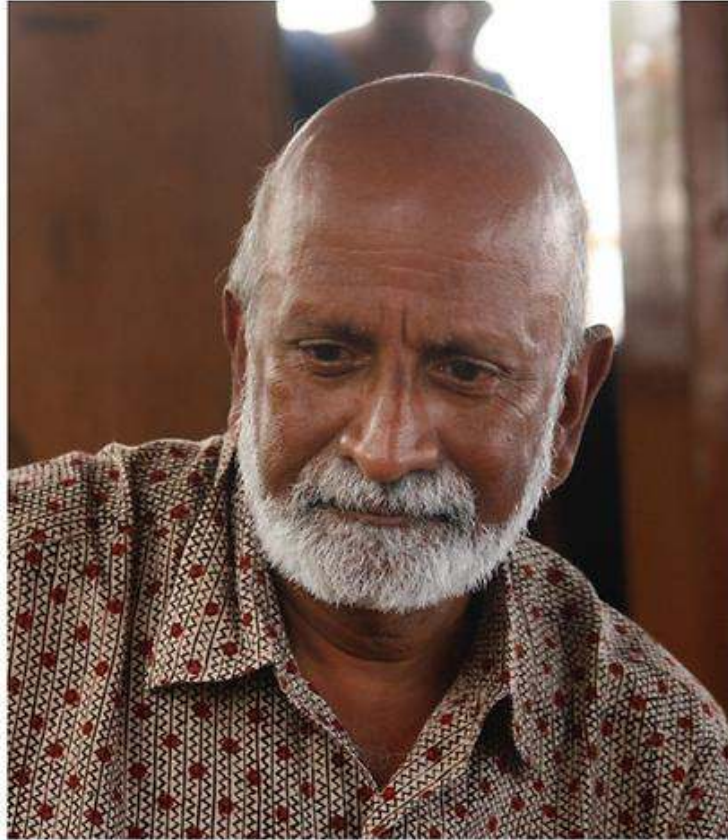
Anindo Banerjee Memorial Lecture Series

Praxis instituted the Anindo Banerjee Memorial Lecture Series on 11 May 2022. Mr Paul Divakar, General Secretary, Global Advocacy and Networks, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights delivered the first memorial lecture on ***"Inclusive Development through Participatory Governance"***.



The lecture was followed by the release of the, ***"Status of Inclusive Development Bihar Report"*** by Mr Jitan Ram Manjhi, ex-Chief Minister, Bihar.

OBITUARY



On January 24, 2022 we lost our colleague and board member V.S. Thyagarajan, or Thyagu as we fondly knew him. Thyagu had a lifetime of experience in the development sector and was a founding member of Praxis. He served as Treasurer on our board. His commitment to and guidance in making Praxis a strong, independent organisation accountable to the principles we stand for will be deeply missed.



LIST OF OFFICES

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Praxis Chennai

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Praxis Training Centre

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