

Annual Report 2011-12

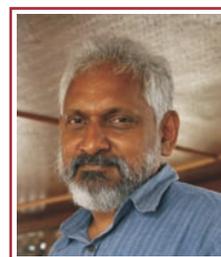


PRAXIS

15
YEARS
OF PARTICIPATION

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Foreword

The year 2011-12 has been a busy one. Besides some long-term engagements we have been involved in over the past few years, there have been some new ones that have given us the opportunity to explore in depth issues of governance, gender and sexuality and climate change. We have been working closely with the government of Bihar in providing inputs on rural development and Panchayati Raj for the forthcoming five-year plan.

Strangely, talking about governance is a stinging reminder that this year's annual report comes in the middle of an onslaught of the state on civil society organisations (CSOs). Though cornered and pushed, and caught rather unaware by the power of social media, the government struck back at CSOs as a whole. The vicissitudes of the anti-corruption movement that caught the imagination of the urban middle classes provided the excuse and opportunity for the government to unify the political class against them. It dusted out every rulebook, searched for rules and where non-existent, drafted new ones to unleash every enforcement authority it had in its command on the CSOs. The police, the income tax department, the home ministry, the Central Bureau of Investigation – all the bodies swung into action and struck at the core of the financial capabilities of the CSOs. FCRA licences of close to 4,000 CSOs were cancelled. Those with independent and sustainable incomes were slapped with huge tax notices. Criminal cases were initiated against those actively involved in supporting the struggles of people fearful of another Chernobyl, another Fukushima.

Almost all the CSOs are crouched under the smacking by the government and continue to go about their business as subordinated entities, happy in protecting their own interests. This action of the government, if nothing else, provides for a realistic assessment of the so-called sphere of influence of the CSOs. If a government that is treading on a wafer thin majority could smack the CSOs to silence so quickly, we definitely need to introspect about our role as the fifth estate; are we here to pay lip service to independent thought and action or do we have a greater responsibility to the causes that we champion.

The reality check comes at a time when independent voices are most required. It is a time when even left-wing debates on globalisation have been reduced to multi-brand versus single brand. Scammers are competing to outdo each other and some of the more famous scams of yesteryears now look like little children stealing from their grandfather's pocket!

Amidst all this, ours has been a continued engagement at 'empowered deliberative democracy' in an attempt to, as Thomas Isaac says: produce superior outcomes to a traditional 'representative-techno-bureaucratic democracy*' in promoting equity and improving the quality of citizenship. They acknowledge the need to shake off the slumber and be proactive in exercising the voice that CSOs must have in any democratic set-up, to keep the government accountable, the state equitable and society alive and kicking.

Tom Thomas,
CEO, Praxis

* Isaac, T.M Thomas and Richard W. Franke (2000): Local Democracy and Development

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Vision, Strategy, Approach – Guiding Principles

Praxis recently underwent a process of revisiting its strategy with an eye on its performance over the last five years: a study of current contexts of marginalisation, shifts within the development sector and a streamlining of emerging concerns with our vision and mission.

Through the process, there emerged a renewed commitment to equity and governance which are the two key areas that Praxis looks forward to concentrating its work on. Located within this frame of reference, Praxis feels the seams of social inequity in India are most exposed in the urban context and in post-disaster situations. The organisation will approach both key areas and contexts through a five-pronged approach:

- a) People-centred research which goes beyond tokenistic participation of communities;
- b) Critical engagement with the state born out of the need to fill the vacuum that has been created by the co-option of civil society within the state;
- c) Networking to share knowledge, create platforms for dialogue and push agendas;
- d) Capacity building which encompasses organisational development, building and managing relationships between different stakeholders, organisations, networks and sectors, institutional development and advocating for policy and legal changes; and
- e) Tracking trends in the development discourse in line with its projected image of a knowledge organisation.

Approaches	Equity	Governance
People-centred research	Exclusion of urban poor, migrant labour, landless, women and other stigmatised communities in the context of livelihood, post-disaster situations, access to services	Social equity audits studying how policies and laws alienate the poor
	Measuring community mobilisation	Studying marginalisation in terms of access to rights
Engagement with the state	Tracking state and central budgets to see allocation and expenditure on social sector	Report cards for cities in terms of providing services to migrant labourers, slum dwellers, urban poor
	Reviewing and commenting on draft policies such as food security	Report cards for government mechanisms dealing with disaster rehabilitation
	Presenting charters of demands	Facilitating formation of model blocks as we did in Sikkim
Peoples' manifestoes		
Networking	Partnering with grassroots organisations to raise issues of equity and social exclusion	Partnering with grassroots organisations to raise issues of lack of transparency or efficiency in governance
		Corruption watch
Capacity-building	Knowledge-support service and facilitating organisational development for government officials and organisations, NGOs, agencies, quasi-government organisations like the Social Justice Committees of PRIs, Community-based groups	Raising awareness through workshops about disaster guidelines, rights to livelihood and life among the marginalised
	Informing about rights of disadvantaged sections	
Tracking trends in development discourse	This will be an overarching approach that will feed into each of the above to make our work effective, informed and relevant	

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The Year That Passed – A Brief Glance

From a modest beginning as the Participatory Rural Appraisal unit of ActionAid, Praxis – Institute for Participatory Practices has grown and evolved over the last fifteen years, experimenting with its role and image, rethinking its strategy, setting new performance targets and venturing into new areas of work spanning many sectors. At the core of the organisation is its commitment to participatory development. Dabbling between its role as a consultant and its passion as an activist, Praxis has kept close to its heart the principles of participatory democracy, empowerment of the poor and the marginalised, decentralisation, inclusiveness and gender equity.

Based on an analysis of the current trends in marginalisation, changing trends in the development sector, and aligning of its organisational principles and concerns with both, Praxis has identified two key areas – equity and governance – as its focus areas that

cover multiple facets of fairness, social justice, participation, accountability, decentralisation, empowerment and inclusiveness.

Equity

Six decades and more later, the inequality persists- in the access to a life of dignity and choices for everyone and this is expressed and manifested in different ways against different communities.

In the quest for equity, Praxis recognises the absence of a level playing field and the need for affirmative action. This can be achieved by addressing structural causes that (a) promote exclusion and subjugation of social groups, (b) set up barriers to inclusion, (c) create impediments to affirmative action and (d) work against peoples' movements aiming for equity.

In keeping with this understanding of equity, the projects undertaken by

'On the social plane, we have an India based on the principles of graded inequality, which means elevation of some and degradation of others. On the economic plane, we have a society in which there are some who have immense wealth as against many who live in abject poverty.'

– Dr B.R. Ambedkar
in 1949

- Registered as a not-for-profit organisation with its first office in Patna.
- May 1997: Organised a workshop in Kolkata which led to the publication of a book Rural Appraisal.
- November 1997: Organised another workshop in Patna to look at how Praxis could take on participatory projects that gave a direction to the organisation's work.



Praxis resolve to make the voices of marginalised and socially excluded people heard and acted upon. Over the past year, Praxis reaffirmed its commitment to marginalised communities of sanitation workers, sex workers, transgender, men who have sex with men (MSM) and Dalits, among others, exploring different dimensions of their marginalisation, the processes which relegate them to the fringes of society, and ensuring that the lived experiences of marginalisation are documented and heard so that a level playing field is not just an imagined Utopia.

The Praxis team in Patna had the opportunity to interact closely with sanitation workers in the city, whose living and working conditions have seen little or no improvement. Systematically excluded from the ambit of government welfare schemes, the health and occupational hazards faced by sanitation workers is matched by

the social atrocities perpetrated against them by the dual standards of discrimination of caste and occupation. In partnership with Nidan, Praxis undertook a comprehensive study on the living and working conditions of sanitation workers in Patna. The study aimed at formulating a draft policy for sanitation workers for advocacy with the government of Bihar. The report was well received by the National Safai Karmachari Commission.

Just as this study focused on the travails of one particular community, the National Infrastructure Equity Audit undertaken by Social Equity Watch under the secretariat of Praxis was a first of its kind study looking at caste-based inequity in the location and access of rural infrastructure. Evidence collected from 124 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Odisha and Rajasthan, covering around 1000 caste/religious habitations showed how skewed the distribution of

- As a facilitator of participatory practices, conducted a participatory poverty indexing of drought-prone Bolangir district of western Orissa in India, to inform the design of the DFID-supported Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project. The study pointed to the fact that poverty in Bolangir was not solely the by-product of frequent natural disasters, but systematic fallout of large-scale institutional failures and suppressive political dynamics at various levels. This led to the publication of the book 'The Politics of Poverty: The tale of the living dead in Bolangir'.



infrastructure in the country was. This glaring inequity raised concern about exclusion of under-privileged groups from the trillion-dollar infrastructure dream of the country. The audit constitutes a landmark in the development discourse within the country and has underscored the importance of bringing social equity considerations within the ambit of the infrastructure development discourse. A presentation of the findings was made to Harsh Mandar member of the National Advisory Committee (NAC). He suggested that the group should approach members of the planning commission to feed into the 12th Five-Year Plan. Union minister Jairam Ramesh and Prof Narendra Jadhav, Member Planning Commission, were approached.

Marginalisation is deeply entrenched in the lives and experiences for some communities because of their personal

choices on issues of gender and sexuality or their occupation and way of living. Building upon the previous work of Praxis with female sex workers, MSM, transgenders and injecting drug users (IDU), and recognising the need to strengthen their community-based initiatives, Praxis was involved in participatory planning as well as monitoring exercises. With Tamil Nadu AIDS Initiative, Hindustan Latex Family Planning and Promotion Trust, Alliance and Karnataka Health Promotion Trust, Praxis facilitated participatory planning processes with community-based organisations (CBO) in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Under the Avahan Initiative of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Praxis visited 40 community-based organisations across six states to take up a participatory monitoring exercise of the process of CBO strengthening. Key areas of work within this exercise included assessment of the strengths of



community groups vis-à-vis management of projects, engagement with the government on issues of rights and entitlements, and engagements with the larger society on issues of stigma and isolation.

Through engagement with issues affecting women over the years, gender equity has evolved as a non-negotiable principle of the way Praxis works. This also influences the choice of projects wherein gender inequity is a stark reality and a reflection of patriarchal thoughts that not just subjugates the way women and girls behave in society but also the way they perceive themselves. Recognising that early marriage is one of the many discriminatory social practices that deny women a level playing field and has slowed down the nation's development, Praxis undertook a formative study of early marriages in three districts of Jharkhand and Bihar.

The objective of the study was to inform Breakthrough's programme strategy, identify key forms of media to be used, and stakeholders to target for capacity building and leadership training so as to effectively link up with existing service providers (government and non-government) to reduce instances of early marriage. Using participatory methods to understand the causes, effects and prevalence of early marriage within communities of the region, the study brought to light many different perspectives of the communities themselves on the subject- the many realities which sometimes get homogenized and lost in academic discourse. Similarly, Praxis also involved in developing a monitoring and evaluation framework for the DfID-IPAP supported programme 'Promoting Violence-Free Lives for Women in India', in which Oxfam India was the implementing agency. The programme aimed to



reduce the social acceptance of violence against women and bring a positive change in the policy and programme environment. The MIS framework was developed to arrive at a method of participatory estimation of the potential/actual outreach of support centres and the community outreach work; assess the existing MIS and reporting formats from an equity lens; create self-monitoring tools and templates to enable communities to use the existing data to analyse equity gaps.

Praxis has been supporting ActionAid International in carrying out a social action research on climate change and drought in the East and Horn of Africa - across Ethiopia, Somaliland, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Within the overall frame of climate change and drought and its impact on livelihoods of people, pastoralists as well as agriculturalists, Praxis has been documenting the life experiences of the communities, especially the poor and

the vulnerable, and their coping mechanisms in the face of chronic shortage of food and water. Through a social action research on the historical transect between the socio-political economy, relations of power and gender and the community's experiences of drought, Praxis has been contributing towards the Action Aid programme of building resilience in the region.

One of the most stigmatised communities, people living with HIV/AIDS, face discrimination because of the nature of their work, choice of sexual preferences and other high-risk behaviour. As part of the Network Grant of the Avahan India AIDS Initiative of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Praxis leads 365x6 Networks – Facilitating Communities Without Borders, a consortium with two other agencies. 365x6 aims to provide a space for communities of female sex workers (FSWs), men who

- Carried out 'The Gender Impact Assessment Study' to assess the net impact of the Uttar Pradesh Basic Education project of the World Bank on the lives of women, and on the education status of the girl-children in particular. It was conducted across 14 locations in the Uttar Pradesh.
- Facilitated community consultations with the poor in India and came up with a synthesis report to feed into the World Development Report of the World Bank. The report brought the focus to the first person perspective of the poor narrating their concerns, preferences and realities.



have sex with men (MSM), transgenders (TGs) and injecting drug users (IDUs) to mobilise skills, resources and support for sustaining community ownership of different projects across the states and to get their rights realised through advocacy.

The networks focused on interacting with non-community members to sensitise them to the needs of the communities and make them aware about the discrimination and rights violation, which the community members face. An interaction programme was organised between AP State Legal Services Authority (APSLSA) and marginalised communities in Hyderabad to sensitise the APSLSA. Representatives from Ushassu and Navatejam networks from Andhra Pradesh were present in the meeting. As a result of the meeting, the legal authority pledged to help train paralegal volunteer teams from the communities; hold interactions at regional and district level between the community and the legal service providers; and arrange for a resource person to interact with the communities. To mark Human Rights

Day, the members of the TG, FSW and MSM communities of V-CAN participated in a rally along with district officials, people living with HIV and college students in Chennai and organised a signature campaign pledging to protect the rights of sexual minorities. The rally was followed by an event organized by V-CAN, which was attended by the district social welfare officer, Pudukottai, and students and representatives of NGOs. In Manipur, triggered by the brutal killing of a drug user in Churachandpur district in a case of discrimination and violation of human rights meted out to drug users, CoNE took up the issue with various authorities. CoNE led advocacy campaigns, a protest rally and submitted a memorandum to the ministry of health and social welfare, including the State AIDS Control Society, to address the torture and ill treatment in rehabilitation centres in Manipur. The government subsequently established a monitoring cell in which CoNE also is a member.

Through Immersion, an internal initiative of Praxis, two children from New Jersey broke barriers of language



and culture to get to know children from poor marginalised families at Pooncholai (a home run by Malarchi Trust with 70 children between 5 and 18 years of age in Tamil Nadu's Tirunelveli district). Initial interactions were taken up with the parents of the children to create a foundation for learning about issues of marginalisation, poverty and social exclusion. The Praxis team accompanied the children to villages where they saw blatant caste-based distinctions in habitation spaces, a match factory and urban slums. The trip included a stay at Pooncholai. The children learned from each other, created posters on issues that affected their lives, wrote about their experiences and took home a first hand experience of what it means to be living on the margins.

'Governance is essentially the process of decision-making and decision implementation that governs the well-being of all citizens'

Governance

Praxis believes that good governance is a process through which the state, civil society and people interact with each other and take decisions to make an equitable world. The cornerstones of good governance are:

- (a) Democratisation and bottom-up participation in decision-making and planning;
- (b) Improved accountability of institutions towards marginalised people;
- (c) Strategic ability to engage with conflicting interests and pursue a collective goal and;
- (d) The political will to encourage these.

In the past year, Praxis was engaged in various capacities in several projects that aimed to improve the pattern of governance and make it more inclusive. In Bihar, it participated in formulation of government Five-Year Plans, lent its

- Developed an effective participatory monitoring and evaluation system for the urban poverty alleviation department of the Cochin Corporation, selected neighbourhood group members and helped them build, own and operate the monitoring and evaluation system.



expertise in re-structuring of government departments, evaluated performance of committees, analysed government procedures, provided training in implementation issues, and anchored a process of issuing citizen report cards.

The recent resurgence of an interest in Bihar, both within the government as well as among citizens, to clean up and transform governance has provided Praxis several opportunities of engaging with various stakeholders working towards setting milestones of good governance.

Praxis was nominated as a member of the Bihar government-formed sectoral committee to guide the formulation of the 12th Five-Year Plan of the state on rural development and Panchayati Raj institutions. Through this association, Praxis made recommendations to the government on inclusive growth, poverty reduction and devolution of power to the local bodies. Praxis supported the emergence of model panchayats in Vaishali district of Bihar. The programme worked towards ensuring that all government schemes and entitlements would be delivered to

their full potential in the model panchayats. Praxis also formulated a training module that will be used by the Bihar government's department of education for members of School Management Committees to enable them to implement the Right to Education Act and supported the state government in formulating a mechanism for initiating entitlement-based planning for the entire state by identifying and analysing over 3000 entitlements. An attempt will be made for consultations with various departments to try and rationalise the entitlements.

Concern over the widespread use of overt and covert forms of intimidation and coercion in several parts of the country to prevent and discourage oppressed groups from exercising their franchise led Praxis to launch an internal initiative with support from Dalit Watch to capture the experiences of Dalit candidates contesting the 2011 Panchayat elections in Bihar. This included looking at the filling of nomination by Dalit candidates, scrutiny of their nominations, instances of discrimination at the time of nomination and experiences during

- Did a comprehensive participatory poverty assessment in Madhya Pradesh to feed into poverty reduction policies of the state government. The primary objective of the study was to understand poverty from the perspective of the poor and their priorities in terms of actions to improve their lives.
- Carried out a participatory assessment of government of Orissa's delivery of public services for the poverty task force.
- Undertook a participatory programme needs assessment for The Leprosy Mission in Mushahri and Mural blocks, Muzaffarpur, Bihar.
- Did an urban participatory poverty assessment in Qutbullapur town of Andhra Pradesh along with ActionAid, Hyderabad, as part of a larger project 'Andhra Pradesh urban Services for the Poor, for Department for International Development, India, and the state government.



campaigning in 25 Panchayats in Bihar. The process also focused on experiences of Dalit voters when they went to polling booths to cast their votes. Praxis was also engaged in reshaping the structure and mandate of SC/ST Welfare Department of the Government of Bihar to enable it to emerge as a nodal point that ensures implementation of the SC/ST sub-plans.

As part of a large-scale Citizen Report Card exercise, Praxis provided support to the Bihar Administrative Reforms Commission to initiate the preparation of report cards that aimed to capture the citizen's score on eight select services from all the 534 blocks. Praxis, in partnership with UNICEF and Bihar State Disaster Management Authority, conducted a perception study on disaster management with the intent of determining the understanding of people with regard to risks. The findings of the study were used to understand and address the gaps in disaster preparedness and risk-reduction measures.

A series of evaluations and trainings were conducted in the past year. Praxis undertook an evaluation for the Bihar Administrative Reforms Mission with the overall intent to explore the feasibility of scaling up the Nalanda model of Samadhan, the citizen helpline based on interactive voice response systems. An internal evaluation of Social Justice Committees in Chenari, Bihar was undertaken. These committees were activated by Praxis in partnership with Jan Adhikar Kendra.

Governance is not just about putting in place welfare schemes. Availability and accessibility of welfare schemes and programmes are important measures of government performance and impact assessments. Numerous studies have time and again shown that, for oppressed and marginalised groups in the country, accessibility to schemes and programmes remains a huge problem. Praxis, in collaboration with Welthungerhilfe/Indo Global Social Service Society, is engaged in an action

- Undertook a development audit of the District Poverty Initiative Project, Rajasthan, two years into the project to feed into the mid term review recommendations. Commissioned by the World Bank, the study involved engagement with various stakeholders at all stages, including functionaries of the state and district project management units, Panchayati Raj institutions, Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj scheme and other agencies.
- Facilitated a strategy-planning consultation for Oxfam Eritrea to explore internal perspectives on scaling up participatory approaches in Eritrea and to articulate the role of Oxfam there.



research on availability and accessibility of four government schemes and programmes run by the Jammu and Kashmir government. These include the Jammu Kashmir Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (JKREGS), Public Distribution System (PDS), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme in the districts of Baramulla and Bandipora.

Praxis is currently engaged in the documentation of the Tamil Nadu government's governance approach to small and medium towns in relation to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for a project undertaken by Water Aid. The process looks at preparing a comprehensive document on the urban governance structure in Tamil Nadu in relation to WASH, which will include the growth in the population of small towns in Tamil Nadu over the past 25 years and existing government mechanisms to support urban local bodies in small towns.

Community mobilisation, by ensuring participation of citizens in the decision making process, is one of the most

widely accepted methods of strengthening governance. Promoting good governance is an accepted goal of community mobilisation. Praxis has been involved in strengthening community mobilisation efforts within various groups. The past year saw Praxis evolving self-administrable tools for monitoring community mobilisation by communities of female sex workers, injecting drug users, men who have sex with men and transgenders. The tools were accepted for use as part of NACO's module on community mobilisation. Praxis facilitated a discussion among health officials of World Health Organization and its partners in Asia and Pacific on community participation in creating an enabling environment through collective actions at the regional workshop on priority health sector HIV interventions with sex workers that was held in Manila last year.

As part of the 365x6 Networks' interaction with NACO, several state-level consultations of the networks led to the NACP IV regional consultations for the South, West and North East zones. Based on these inputs,

- Began work in Afghanistan in 2003 to try and support rehabilitation and reconstruction through capacity building and community-based research to enhance capacity of national, regional, and local governments, and of local and international organisations to engage communities more meaningfully.
- Conducted a participatory poverty assessment on poverty dynamics in the Chanderi Weavers' Cluster and the Cluster Development Programme of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation.



community representatives made recommendations to NACO about concerns over the operation of the NACP IV. Some of the recommendations are listed below:

- Increasing community leadership
- Recognising special needs that each marginalised and vulnerable communities have and strategising accordingly – for example, sensitisation relevant for different communities / provision of doctors for TG, etc.
- Institutionalising the role of CBOs and networks of communities in managing NACP IV and related programmes
- Ensuring community representation in all the decision-making bodies and committees at the District, State and National levels.
- Crisis Response System at the district and state level to address issues of discrimination, harassment and violation of rights.

The NACP-III strategy aims at involving community-based organisations in the HIV prevention programmes for effective implementation of the targeted interventions. The State-Level

Steering Committee under 365x6 in Karnataka formed a 14-member sub-committee, Targeted Intervention Transition and Coordination Committee – Karnataka (TTCF – K), with networks of sex workers and sexual minority communities and supporting NGOs in Karnataka. The aim was:

- To understand the readiness of the CBOs to take-over the targeted interventions; and
- To understand the situation and needs of the CBOs that are already partnered with Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society (KSAPS) and implementing the TIs.

The TTCF-K visited each CBO (especially the board members) and the supporting NGOs in all the 30 districts of Karnataka. A study tool was designed, piloted and administered to all the CBOs/NGOs over a period of one and a half months. Based on the finding of the study, the recommendations have been formulated and shared with KSAPS.

Reiterating the focus on issues of gender and sexuality, Praxis partnered with Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women (GAATW) in the

- Conducted a training for Christian Aid Afghanistan where they planned, designed and organised three workshops on baseline surveys, need assessment and impact assessment.
- Facilitated participatory poverty assessments in Assam, Sikkim and Chhattisgarh to identify priorities for development action for Asia Development Bank.



development of a victim-centred, participatory, human rights-based framework for monitoring the anti-trafficking response in Odisha. The project put the marginalised back at the centre-stage and ensured that their voices are heard in anti-trafficking response. The framework was well received and the tool kits developed in such a way that it will be replicable in many other states.

Facilitating Organisational Development

Praxis believes in going beyond teaching the use of participatory tools to others. The process of capacity building involves unpacking attitudes and beliefs, rethinking and reworking power equations and bringing participation to the centre-stage of the development process. Through it, individuals are equipped with understanding, skills and knowledge to drive change.

A range of organisational development activities was undertaken by Praxis for various organisations working in different contexts of equity and governance. These comprised basic training on participatory tools,

methodologies and approaches; training on participatory monitoring and evaluation exercises for staff of organisations; building skills of organisations to directly engage with communities; helping organisations map vulnerability of groups they work with; and promoting among organisations a better and more comprehensive understanding of various issues through participatory methods.

Praxis conducted a seven-day Participatory Methods and Approaches (PMA) workshop for the staff of Bharat India Jodo (BIJ), the rural transformation programme of Reliance





Foundation, in Seoni, Madhya Pradesh. The workshop enabled the incorporation of PMA in the framing of the Village Development Plan, based on the needs and requirements of the community. Training on participatory methods and tools was conducted for the students of Social Work at Jamia Milia Islamia, Delhi. Two workshops on participatory approaches with a special emphasis on ABC (Attitude Behaviour Change) were organised for partners of Project Orchid's community mobilisation work in Manipur and Nagaland. The trainees included NGO staff, peer educators and outreach workers.

The 365x6 Network has been very active in the past year, working towards ensuring that human rights of all marginalised groups are respected and that laws and policies are created to facilitate HIV prevention efforts, care, treatment and support so that the

community members can live a life with dignity, free of stigma.

Three state-level networks were launched in this period. UMANG, the state-level network of FSWs and MANTHAN, the state-level network of Sexual Minorities (MSM, TG and Hijra groups) were launched on August 30 2011 at Mumbai while a state-level network of drug users in Manipur, the Community Network for Empowerment (CoNE), was launched in Imphal last June.

To strengthen the networks, periodic capacity building workshops were organised across the six states where the 365x6 Network is active – Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Manipur. A strategy planning session was organised for Ushassu, an Andhra Pradesh based network for community-based organisations working for FSWs,

- Undertook a micro-planning process across 32 Tsunami-affected villages in Nagapattinam to substantiate the argument that participation of communities in post-emergency situations is not only possible, but also non-negotiable.
- Facilitated a community-led change planning process in Sri Lanka where ActionAid sought to help Tsunami-affected communities in coastal Sri Lanka rebuild their lives and livelihoods.
- Facilitated a participatory process documentation of a movement by sex workers led by the Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee that aimed to improve their living standards and generate a sense of urgency to curb the spread of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.



to identify issues that needed the attention of the network, and formulate ways to address them and roll out activities. The V-CAN Network of Tamil Nadu for MSM, TG and FSW communities elected its executive council in the presence of an independent election committee comprising representatives from government agencies, NGOs and the community.

In Kenya, Praxis co-facilitated with Okumba Miruka a renowned facilitator from Kenya, an eight-day workshop, aimed at training 25 staff members of different Amnesty International Offices in Africa, South East Asia and Australia on the use of participatory methods and approaches in human rights based programmes and campaigns. With Amnesty International laying greater emphasis on direct engagement with communities and an increased focus on social, economic and cultural rights, a training in London was carried out to target campaigners who operate out of the international secretariat but focus on Eastern Europe and the Americas.

Children of the urban poor often face the worst brunt of discrimination and exploitation, their vulnerabilities having been compounded by many factors- shrinking of their physical environment, disruption of family, peer and social networks of support, policies that uproot and displace them, among others. To help the partners of Child Relief and You (CRY) map the vulnerabilities faced by these children, Praxis facilitated a workshop for them in Delhi. The process was the stepping stone to a large-scale



- Conducted a participatory appraisal of priorities, well-being and participation of a community in Thirupperuntherai in Batticoala, Sri Lanka, for British Red Cross Society to bring out the community's own perspectives on development, which led to the publication of the report, *The Bridge Over Troubled Waters*.
- Revisited Bolangir in Odisha eight years after first conducting a participatory poverty indexing in the region to see if there has been any impact and if yes, to what extent. The exercise resulted in the publication of the book, *'Bolangir Revisited'*.
- Praxis anchored the publication of *'Alternative White Paper for Bihar'* on the status of development and governance in the state along with like-minded civil society organisations.
- As part of the Maldives Recovery Programme of British Red Cross Society, facilitated a participatory process to empower the local communities to identify beneficiaries (from multiple islands), resolve conflicts and take control and ownership of the BRCS's shelter reconstruction program in Th. Vilufishi Island.



participatory mapping of 27 different indicators of vulnerability across 48 locations in Delhi.

Praxis worked with Pardada Pardadi Education Society towards enhancement of skills of girls of disadvantaged sections of Anupsahar, Uttar Pradesh. Through a process of capacity building of young girls on participatory research, rights and entitlements, Praxis facilitated a participatory research by senior secondary school girls in six villages to understand dropout rates of education and accessibility of government services.

THEWORKSHOP2011

Praxis has been organising International Communes on Participatory Development since 1997. Last year, Praxis

organised the landmark 15th annual commune that saw 71 people from six countries sharing their experiences and learning new skills at

TheWorkshop2011, which was held in Siloam, Meghalaya. This was the first time the event was organised in the NorthEast and saw participants taking in the pristine beauty of Meghalaya while sharpening their skills on participatory methods and approaches and meeting and interacting with like-minded people.



- To take the Southern perspective to the North, and to expand its global reach, opened an office in the UK.
- Expressing solidarity with Dalit inclusion in the aftermath of a severe flood in Bihar, started supporting the secretariat of the Dalit Watch, a consortium of like-minded organisations working on issues of social equity, and assisting them in monitoring of disaster-response interventions from a capacity building programmes and strategy formulation that take into account the dalit perspective.
- Undertook Land Mapping along with Ekta Parishad in Bihar to identify specific issues relating to land distribution and prospects relating to allotment of land to the huge number of landless households in the state.
- Conducted the end term evaluation of the 'Essential Advocacy Project' of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Avahan initiative that sought to create an enabling environment for communities of sex workers, transgenders, drug users and men who have sex with men to fight stigma and lead a life with dignity.



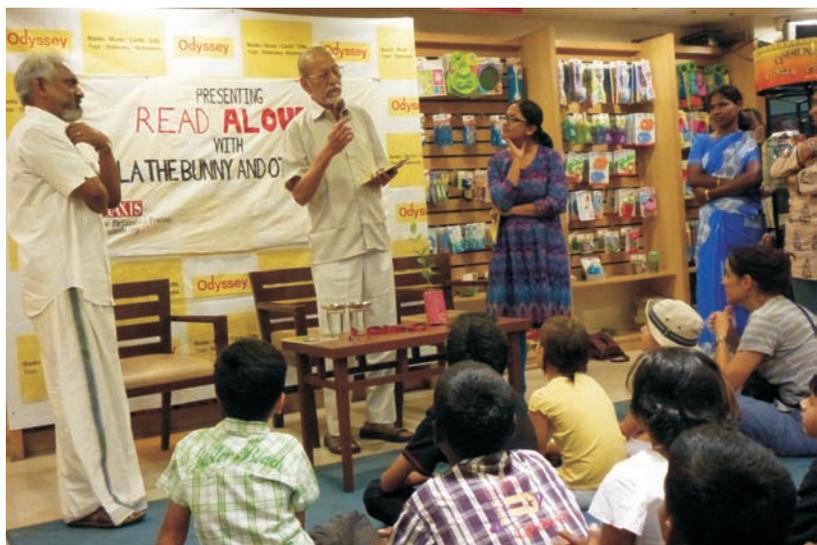
Breaking the Silence: Our Communication Initiatives

The current Praxis strategy identifies communication as one of the most critical areas because of the need to reach out to other organisations in taking forward the struggle for inclusive development. The organisation took care to showcase the best efforts in the spheres of equity and governance with people within and outside the development sector to enable a process of appreciation and criticism that can help the organisation grow and network with others.

PUBLICATIONS

This year, Praxis made a concerted effort to reach out to children to sensitise them to the issues affecting the marginalised sections of society. This was done in several ways. Praxis published the first in its series of Read Aloud for children, Bala the Bunny and Other Stories introducing children to

development issues through well-illustrated animal stories. Lawyer, actor and thinker Dr Charu Hasan released the book in Chennai. The book has five short stories with animal characters whose right to voice their concerns and opinions about their own lives and livelihoods is muzzled. The stories are all open-ended, giving children the freedom and investing them with the responsibility to think of ways in which



- In the aftermath of the Kosi floods, undertook a 'Kosi Yatra', along the Kosi river, to get a sense of the damage caused and to extend support and solidarity to the flood-affected communities. As Dalit Watch secretariat, Praxis assisted the member organisations to monitor relief camps set up in the aftermath of the floods to address issues of discrimination against Dalits in the distribution process.
- Heard the views of children and foregrounded their concerns and points of view in a study for Save the Children and an evaluation for Railway Children, UK.
- Conducted rapid appraisal of vulnerability of workers to bondage situation in key economic sectors in Tamil Nadu with support from the International Labour Organisation as part of its efforts to promote the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.
- Commissioned by Help Age India (HAI), undertook a participatory study on conditions faced by the elderly persons in the flood affected district of Supaul and provided HAI support by sharing knowledge and building linkages with local organisations to implement relief work.



they can be completed. The stories have been adapted from real-life case studies based on research projects undertaken by Praxis in the past 15 years.

Praxis had assisted Childline to map the status of governance infrastructure and mechanisms existing in 11 states across the country for realising children's right to protection. This study, which aims to make the state responsive as well as accountable by instituting a child protection consciousness among stakeholders to recognise provision of safe spaces for children by central and state governments, was published in the form of an insightful book, *The Everywhere Child Project: A child-friendly place in every space*.

Last year's immersion, with NRI children who were exposed to the lives and struggles of underprivileged Dalit children in a shelter home in Tamil Nadu, was documented and published in leading English daily in Tamil Nadu,

The New Indian Express. The article, which appeared in the School Magazine supplement of the daily, reached out to other children through the eyes of the two young girls – Divya and Isabel – sensitising them about the need to engage with issues like marginalisation and exclusion.

Praxis also published an article *Embedding the Social Transformative Approach within Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E): Case story of evolving an M&E framework for a community mobilisation programme that focuses on addressing issues of stigma and rights violations of female sex workers in the UN Women Journal*. The article demonstrates how the monitoring and evaluation of the community mobilisation process can be governed by principles of participation and empowerment.

The study by Praxis and Nidan on the lives of sanitation workers in Patna was

- With support from UNICEF, facilitated formulation of an Integrated District Plan in Vaishali district of Bihar under the stewardship of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Municipal bodies, in line with the guidelines of Planning Commission. The process entailed democratic identification of development needs at multiple levels – ranging from ward sabhas and gram sabhas to the District Planning Committee of the district.
- Anchored the Social Equity Watch, a platform for sharing equity concerns and to politically engage in the promotion of social equity in all interventions for development.
- Working on Child Protection and Child Participation, facilitated setting up a baseline of Child Protection Mechanisms, Infrastructure and Systems across 10 states for Integrated Child Protection Scheme; and facilitated 30 school girls in Uttar Pradesh to organise a study on school drop out in villages in one district.
- Facilitated and built strategies for mobilising communities of injecting drug users in Manipur and Nagaland.
- Contracted by the UNICEF-MAPEDIR project to directly involve rural women in the analysis of the maternal health situation of the village and understand causes of maternal death.
- Conducted a series of verifications with regard to various critical entitlements, basic amenities and services to validate claims of the government in the relocation sites for Tamil Nadu Urban Development Programme.



released in the capital of Bihar this year. A Legacy of Stench! the report, was released in Patna in the presence of Mr Jeetan Ram Manjhi, Honorable Minister of SC/ST Welfare; Mr. K. P. Ramaiah, Patna Divisional Commissioner; and Mr Colin Gonsalves, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court. The report covers twelve localities of Patna and identifies key issues faced by the community. The release saw encouraging feedback from the National Safai Karmachari Commission. Based on the contents of the study, Mr Gonsalves has filed a public interest litigation in the Patna High Court.

CONSULTATIONS

Over the past year, Praxis organised several consultations dealing with issues of equity and governance. Some served as a platform for dissemination of the findings of its studies, while others were conceived to initiate dialogues on issues.

The findings of the phase I National Infrastructure Equity Audit (NIEA), which was undertaken by Social Equity Watch under the secretariat of Praxis, was disseminated at a consultation that was well attended by representatives of the development sector and the media. The study, which looked at caste-based inequity in the location and access of rural infrastructure in 124 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Odisha and Rajasthan, was discussed. Sector experts and proactive individuals also put forward their suggestions about expanding the reach of the audit findings and initiating the second phase of the NIEA across a larger geographical location and including more factors of exclusion. The findings were reported in several newspapers and magazines.

Praxis and the 365X6 Network, with the support of Oxfam India, organised a consultation for dissemination of the

- Under the aegis of Social Equity Watch, undertook a study of the Commonwealth Games to map the process of social exclusion and the impact on the livelihood, food habits, nutrition and health of urban poor in Delhi.
- Through an evaluation of the project “Organising for Access and Influence: Increasing Economic and Social Security of Informal sector Women Worker” helped SEWA and One World Action on improving the facilitation of the self-dependence and economic sustainability of these women.
- Tied up with Dalit youth group, the Jan Adhikar Kendra, to facilitate the setting up of the social justice committees for gram panchayats, panchayatsamitis of the Chenari block and Zila Parishads of the Rohtas district.



findings of its scoping study undertaken to understand stigma, discrimination and violation of rights experienced by marginalised communities (which include MSM, FSW, Transgenders and IDUs) in accessing healthcare services. Members of the community shared their lived experiences of discrimination and rights violation at this consultation held in New Delhi. A dialogue on the issue of convergence was initiated, with the community members presenting their view and sector experts debating the pros and cons of convergence.

In collaboration with NDMJ, Praxis organised a consultation on interventions to pre-empt exclusion, discrimination and atrocities faced by Dalits in Bihar with the objective of bringing together the functionaries of State SC Commission, Mahadalit Commission and SCPCR to respond to issues raised by Dalits in Bihar.

As part of 'Whose Reality Counts', a platform for dialogue facilitated by Praxis to explore challenges faced by various organisations in weaving human rights and social justice into the core of evaluations, the first session on gender and sexuality was organised. IDRC, Social Equity Watch and 365x6 Network supported the event. The first consultation in the series, 'Gender, Sexuality and Development: Whose Reality Counts? Focuses on different programmes which measure interventions on gender empowerment with an emphasis on sexuality. One of the major reasons for the neglect of the lens of gender and sexuality for development interventions is that the domain is considered intimate and personal. It is to address some of these concerns and initiate a dialogue on these challenges that Praxis welcomes you to share your experiences in this space for dialogue.

Affiliations

Praxis has come together with like-minded organisations and networks to further the struggle towards equity and governance. Formed over the years, these affiliations have been forged through a common vision for an inclusive and equitable society. Praxis anchors the secretariat of the Social Equity Watch, formed to enable fair access to livelihood, education, and other resources; full participation in the political and cultural life of the community; and self-determination in meeting fundamental needs. It comprises organisations that laid the foundation of the social equity audit in India.

Praxis is a founder member of the Resource Centers for Participatory Learning and Action (RCPLA), an alliance of 17 different organisations from around the world that strives to promote the empowerment of the disadvantaged through participation in their own development. RCPLA encourages the improved implementation of participatory approaches globally.

As part of the 365x6 Network, a consortium with two other organisations,

aims at developing and sustaining community-based strategies among the high-risk groups to help prevent HIV/AIDS, reduce social exclusion and enhance social justice.

In the aftermath of the 2007 floods in Bihar, Dalit Watch emerged as a forum for people who were marginalised in the subsequent relief operations. The mandate of this forum, which Praxis has been part of, is to fight against the deliberate exclusion of Dalits from relief and rehabilitation processes, which is part of a larger fight to facilitate the participation of Dalits in the process of development.

Praxis has, of late, become part of the Task Force on Financial Integrity and Economic Development, a unique global coalition of civil society organisations and more than 50 governments working together to address inequalities in the financial system that adversely affect billions of people. It was launched by Global Financial Integrity in 2009. It advocates greater transparency and accountability in the global financial system.

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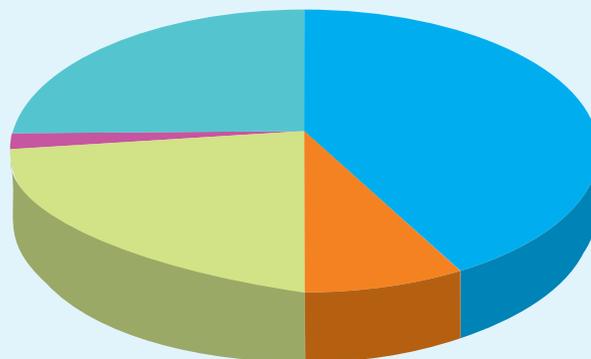
The Year That Passed – In Numbers

Sources of Funding from Activities

Activity	2011-2012	%	2010-2011	%
Consultancy	12020	42.13	9834	13.02
Training & Workshop Fees	2187	7.67	3131	4.14
Income from Investment	6660	23.34	3394	4.49
Other Income	575	2.02	277	0.37
Grants	7088	24.84	58919	77.98
GRAND TOTAL	28530	100	75555	100

(Figures In Rupees 000s)

Sources of Funding 2011-2012



■ Consultancy
 ■ Training & Workshop Fees
 ■ Income from Investment
■ Other Income
 ■ Grants

Albertina Almeida

Member

Tina is primarily an activist and has been at the forefront of rights issues in Goa as well as nationally/ globally. She is also a lawyer with twenty years of legal practice. As a researcher, her areas of research have been mainly on gender, children's rights, land rights and law issues. She also has a book to her credit, titled "Tug and Tear: Dealing with Child Sexual Abuse". Active on the communal harmony front, Tina is the co-convenor of Citizens' Initiatives for Communal Harmony.

Mr Arjun Rajagopal

Member

Arjun is a passionate agriculturist and has been experimenting with natu-eco farming for the last decade. Currently he is working on 'Acres Seven' a developing farm, a forest garden & a seed collective in village: Pishvi, 65kms from Pune, India.

Arjun has previously been engaged in supporting adivasis in their struggle for rights and justice, as a full time organiser for more than a decade soon after his university.

GENERAL BODY

Members of the Managing Committee are also on the Praxis General Body.

Additionally, the General Body has the following distinguished members

Dr. Robert Chambers

Mr. N. Satish Chandra

Dr. Arif Hasan

Mr. Shankar Venkateswaran

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List of Projects

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S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
EQUITY				
1.	Study on life of sanitation workers	Sanitation workers in Patna	Praxis, in partnership with Nidan, undertook a comprehensive study on the life and working conditions faced by the sanitation workers in Patna. The study aimed at formulating a draft policy for sanitation workers, for advocacy of the same with the government of Bihar. The National Safai Karmachari Commission was also involved in the study	Nidan and National Safai Karmachari Commission
2.	Study in Horn of Africa to understand climate change	People living in Ethiopia, Somaliland, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda	Praxis is supporting ActionAid International in carrying out a social action research on climate change and drought in the East and Horn of Africa - across Ethiopia, Somaliland, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda on livelihoods	ActionAid
3.	Study to understand community perception on dog health in Bali	Community members of Antiga and Kalusa villages in Bali	Praxis was involved with the Department of veterinary medicine, Cambridge University, in a sub study to understand community perception on dog health. This sub study was the part of the larger study taken up by the department in two villages in Bali - Antiga and Kalusa.	Cambridge University
4.	Facilitating an Envisioning Exercise for 'Paridhi' - a CRY partner in Bihar	Staff of Paridhi and multiple stakeholders involved in their work	Praxis conducted a two-day participatory process involving multiple stakeholders - staff of Paridhi, their communities of work, theatre artists and intellectuals in Bhagalpur city, media persons and select sections of audiences of Paridhi's work towards drawing up a trajectory for Paridhi's evolution over the next five years, as per their self-assessed strengths, leanings, limitations and emerging needs.	Paridhi and CRY (Child Rights and You)
5.	Participatory evaluation of accomplishments of KJKS, a CRY supported NGO in West Bengal		Praxis undertook a participatory evaluation in consultation with various internal and external stakeholders related to the projects of Kajla Jan Kalyan Samiti.	CRY, Kajla Jan Kalyan Samiti
6.	Evaluation of Kalapandhari Magaswargiya & Adivasi Grameen VikasSanstha - a CRY-supported project in Marathwada		This evaluation forms part of a series of project evaluations Praxis has been facilitating for CRY and its partners, like Grameen Vikas Sanstha	CRY, Kalapandhari Magaswargiya & Adivasi

S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
EQUITY				
7.	Participatory planning process to strengthen CBOs in AP, TN and Karnataka	Female Sex Workers, men who have sex with men, transgenders	Praxis facilitated participatory planning exercise, wherein Community-based Organisations evolved a participatory plan with communities for one year.	TAI, HLPPT, Alliance, KHPT
8.	Participatory monitoring of CBO strengthening	Female sex workers, transgender, men who have sex with men, injecting drug users	Praxis visited 40 community-based organisations across six states and facilitated community members in assessing the strength of their community groups in their capacity to manage projects, engage with the Government on realising rights and entitlements, and to engage with larger society in addressing issues related to stigma and isolation.	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Avahan Initiative
9.	National Infrastructure Equity Audit	Communities marginalised on the basis of caste and religion	Social Equity Watch under the secretariat of Praxis conducted a national infrastructure equity audit in 124 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Odisha and Rajasthan, covering around 1000 caste/religious habitations. The equity audit is a first of its kind capturing information on access of different social groups to village level public infrastructure, including (a) Anganwadi centre (ICDS); (b) Health centre; (c) Drinking Water (d) Community Centre, (e) Electricity, (f) Police station, (g) Agriculture centre, (h) Panchayat Bhavan, (i) Road (j) Public Distribution System (PDS), (k) Post Office, (l) school, (m) Telephone/ Information Kiosk.	Praxis and Social Equity Watch
10.	Immersion	Children	Praxis took two children from New Jersey through the process of immersion with children at Poonchulai (a home run by Malarchi Trust with 70 children between 5 and 18 years of age). Initial interactions were taken up with the parents of the children to create a foundation for learning about issues of marginalisation, poverty and social exclusion. The Praxis team accompanied the children to (a) villages which are based on the caste system (b) a match factory (c) urban slums and villages where match work was in progress and (d) a stay at Poonchulai. The children learnt and taught skills to each other. The experience was captured by the New Indian Express through an article that can be read here: http://expressbuzz.com/school/breaking-barriers-and-building-bridges/311432.html	Praxis internal initiative
GOVERNANCE				
11.	Developing a monitoring framework for monitoring anti-trafficking response	Women affected by trafficking in Odisha	Praxis developed a monitoring framework for monitoring anti-trafficking response by the government and civil society in Odisha. With that objective, the team conducted a few telephonic discussions with NGO activists and based on their inputs evolved a draft frame. The framework was well received and the participants also volunteered their time and resources to the data collecting process. The tool kits are being developed in such a way that they will be replicable in many other states.	Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women

S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
12.	PRI election watch	Dalits in Bihar	Praxis facilitated a process in 25 Panchayats in Bihar with support from Dalit Watch to capture the experiences of Dalit candidates contesting the 2011 Panchayat elections. This included looking at the filling of nomination by Dalit candidates, scrutiny of their nominations, instances of discrimination at the time of nomination and experiences during campaigning. The process also focused on experiences of Dalit voters when they went to polling booths to cast their votes.	Internal initiative of Praxis with support from Dalit Watch
13.	Inclusion in team formulating 12th Five-Year Plan for government of Bihar	Rural population of Bihar and those affected by disasters	As member of the Bihar government's committee responsible for formulation of the 12th Five Year Plan of Bihar, Praxis provided inputs on rural development and panchayati raj institutions.	Govt of Bihar
14.	Reorganisation of SC/ST Welfare Department in Bihar	Dalits, tribals in Bihar	Praxis was engaged in reshaping the structure and mandate of SC/ST Welfare Department of the Govt. of Bihar to enable it to emerge as a nodal point that ensures implementation of the SC/ST Sub-plans.	Bihar Administrative Reform Mission
15.	Study of reporting/ inspection procedures in various government departments of Bihar	People in Bihar	The study aimed at identifying opportunities to enhance performance accountability in various government departments in Bihar	Government of Bihar
16.	Evaluation of 'Samadhan', a citizen helpline in Nalanda	People in Bihar	Praxis undertook an evaluation for the Bihar Administrative Reforms Mission with the overall intent to explore the feasibility of scaling up the Nalanda model of Samadhan, the citizen helpline based on interactive voice response systems	Bihar Administrative Reforms Mission
17.	Extending support to emergence of 'model panchayats' in Vaishali Bihar	People in Bihar	Praxis supported the emergence of 32 Gram Panchayats of Vaishali district of Bihar as the model Panchayats. The programme aimed to ensure that all government schemes and entitlements would be delivered to their full potential.	Govt of Bihar
18.	Preliminary assessment of RTPS Act	People in Bihar	Three months after the Bihar government implemented the 'Right To Public Services Act' in 2011, Praxis undertook a preliminary assessment of the Act in some randomly picked blocks in various districts of the state. The objective was to get initial feedback from the people seeking services as well as the officials providing services under RTPS to suggest necessary actions related to major gaps, if any to ensure success of the Act.	Govt. of Bihar
19.	Setting up a surveillance system for ASHAs	ASHAs	The visit and the interactions aimed at feeding into the surveillance system of ASHA Mentoring Group, State Health Society, Govt. of Bihar	Govt of Bihar
20.	Internal evaluation of Social Justice Committees in Chenari	Dalits in Bihar	Praxis evaluated the current status of the social justice committees activated by Praxis in partnership with Jan Adhikar Kendra, Chenari	Internal initiative
21.	Citizen Report Card, Bihar	People in Bihar	Praxis has been providing support to the rollout of a large-scale Citizen Report Card exercise that was attempted for the first time in Bihar by the Bihar Administrative Reforms Commission. The team tracked rollout of RTPS (Right to Public Service Act) in Bihar. These report cards aim to capture citizen's score on eight select services from all the 534 blocks.	Bihar Administrative Reforms Commission, Govt. Of Bihar

S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
22.	Formulation of training module for SMCs to implement RTE 2009	—	Praxis formulated a training module for members of School Management Committees to enable them to implement the Right to Education Act. The module will be used by the Department of Education, Govt. of Bihar.	Government of Bihar
23.	Entitlement-based Planning	People in Bihar	Praxis supported the Government of Bihar in formulating a mechanism for initiating entitlement-based planning for the entire state. Over 3000 entitlements were identified and analysed. The Dept. of Planning and Development maintained a roster. An attempt will be made for consultations with various departments to try and rationalise the entitlements.	Government of Bihar
24.	An exploration of perception, understanding and preparedness related to disaster management in Bihar	People in Bihar	Praxis, in partnership with UNICEF and Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) conducted a Perception Study on Disaster Management with the intent of determining the understanding of people with regard to risks. The findings of the study were used to understand and address the gaps in disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures.	UNICEF and Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA)
25.	An action research on availability and accessibility of government schemes and programmes - a special focus on JKREGA/PDS/ ICDS/MDM	People of Jammu and Kashmir	Praxis, in collaboration with Welthungerhilfe/Indo Global Social Service Society, is engaged in an Action Research on availability and accessibility of four Government Schemes and Programmes run by the Jammu and Kashmir government. These include the Jammu Kashmir Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (JKREGS), Public Distribution System (PDS), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid Day meal (in the districts of Baramulla and Bandipora).	Welthungerhilfe/ Indo Global Social Service Society
26.	Developing self-administrable tools to monitor community mobilisation	Communities of female sex workers, injected drug users, men who have sex with men and transgenders	Praxis evolved self-administrable tools for monitoring community mobilisation by communities of female sex workers, injected drug users, men who have sex with men and transgenders. The tools were accepted for use as part of NACO's module on Community Mobilisation	Government of India, NACO
27.	Second-generation interventions with sex workers in Asia and the Pacific: an operational guide for the health sector	Female sex workers in Asia and Pacific	Praxis facilitated a discussion among health officials of WHO and its partners in Asia and Pacific on community participation in creating enabling environment through collective actions.	World Health Organization, Manila
28.	Network Grant	Female sex workers, transgenders, men who have sex with men, injecting drug users	Through 365x6 - Facilitating Communities Without Borders the aim is to provide a space for communities to mobilise skills, resources and support for sustaining the community ownership of different projects across the states and to get their rights realised through advocacy. The network aims to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all marginalised groups such as sex workers, MSM, TG and IDU are respected and that laws and policies are created to facilitate HIV prevention efforts, care, treatment and support.	Praxis, along with CFAR and REACH, which are members of the Consortium, 365x6

S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
CURRENTLY ONGOING ENGAGEMENTS				
29.	Documentation of Community Institutions built under Aga Khan Foundation's SCALE Project	Rural community in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat	Praxis is documenting the best practices on building vibrant community institutions and creating community infrastructures with an aim to enhance the capacity of rural communities to take control of their livelihoods and manage their local natural resources in an efficient and equitable manner. Aga Khan Foundation, India, initiated the project which implements the Sustainable Community-based Approaches to Livelihoods Enhancement (SCALE) project with financial support from the European Union (EU).	Aga Khan Foundation
30.	Formative Research, Mapping of institutions and Tracking of Breakthrough's Early Marriage Initiative in two Districts of Jharkhand and one District of Bihar	Communities in Gaya, Hazaribagh and Ranchi where early marriage is prevalent	Praxis undertook a formative research, mapping of institutions and tracking of Breakthrough's early marriage initiative in two districts of Jharkhand and one district of Bihar. The overall objective of the study was to derive a comprehensive understanding of the issue of early marriage to design a more informed project strategy. It also aimed to identify key forms of media to use, and stakeholders to target for capacity building and leadership training so as to effectively link up with existing service providers (government and non-government) with the overall aim of influencing the issue of early marriage in the said locations. The project focused on Ranchi and Hazaribagh districts of Jharkhand and Gaya in Bihar.	Breakthrough
31.	Developing an M&E framework for Oxfam for DFID IPAP's project- 'Promoting violence free lives of women in India'	Oxfam partners and women at large	Praxis was involved in developing a monitoring & evaluation framework for the DfID-IPAP supported programme 'Promoting Violence-Free Lives for Women in India', in which Oxfam India was the implementing agency. The programme aimed to reduce the social acceptance of violence against women and bring a positive change in the policy and programme environment. The MIS framework was developed to arrive at a method of participatory estimation of the potential/ actual outreach of support centres and the community outreach work; assess the existing MIS and reporting formats from an equity lens; create self-monitoring tools and templates to enable communities to use the existing data to analyse equity gaps.	Oxfam India
32.	Documentation of Tamil Nadu government's governance approach to small and medium towns in relation to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)		Praxis is currently engaged in the documentation of the Tamil Nadu government's governance approach to small and medium towns in relation to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for a project undertaken by Water Aid. The process looks at preparing a comprehensive document on the urban governance structure in Tamil Nadu in relation to WASH, which will include the growth in the population of small towns in Tamil Nadu over the past 25 years and existing government mechanisms to support urban local bodies in small towns	WaterAid
33.	Documentation of solid waste management intervention of AWED		Praxis documented the Association of Women's Education and Development's Solid Waste Management Intervention with a cost-benefit analysis. The project revolved around solid waste management at Kurumpanai and Chinnavilai villages of Tamil Nadu.	WaterAid

S.NO.	Project Title	Project Description	Partner Organisation
FACILITATING ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT			
1.	Reliance Foundation PMA workshop	Praxis conducted a seven-day participatory methods and approaches (PMA) workshop for the staff of BIJ, Reliance Foundation in Seoni, Madhya Pradesh. The workshop was planned in a way that incorporated the steps and processes involved in a Village Development Plan through PMA, according to the needs and requirements of the group	Reliance Foundation
2.	Training for Amnesty International secretariat staff	Praxis has been working closely with Amnesty International, with the focus of helping them develop their active participation programme. With the emerging pattern of the organisation now "moving closer to the ground" it calls for a change in their way of operating. With this emerging pattern more emphasis will be laid on direct engagement with communities and an increased focus on social, economic and cultural rights. This training in London was aimed at the campaigners who operate out of the international secretariat but focus on Eastern Europe and the Americas.	Amnesty International, London
3.	Capacity building of young girls of Pardada Pardadi Education Society on participatory research and rights & entitlements	Aiming to enhance skills of girls of the disadvantaged section of the community of Anupsahar, Uttar Pradesh, Praxis worked with Pardada Pardadi Education Society towards self-empowerment of the girls. Praxis built capacity of senior secondary school girls on participatory research and right-based approach. The girls carried out a participatory research in six villages to understand drop out rates of education and accessibility of government services.	Pardada Pardadi Education Society
4.	Training on Participatory methods and tools to the students of Social Work at Jamia Milia Islamia, Delhi	Jamia Milia Islamia University, Delhi has recently started a skill lab centre, Praxis conducted a daylong session on the Participatory Method and Tools for the previous year students of Masters in Social Work.	Jamia Milia Islamia University, New Delhi
5.	Workshop on Strengthening of CBOs of Marginalised Communities, organised by Unicef in Delhi	Praxis made a presentation of its experience of activating Social Justice Committees in Rohtas district of Bihar in partnership with a cadre of dalit youngsters.	Unicef, New Delhi
6.	National PME Workshop for CRY	Praxis facilitated a workshop that aimed at optimal standardisation of PME systems for the Development Support function of CRY. The participants of the workshop were all the staff of the North and West regions of CRY.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
7.	Workshop on Child Vulnerability Mapping, Delhi	Praxis facilitated a workshop that aimed at capacitating CRY's partners in Delhi to map different forms of vulnerability facing children. The process would lead to a large-scale participatory mapping of 27 different indicators of vulnerability across 48 locations of Delhi.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
8.	Workshop on Right to Participation, Delhi	Praxis facilitated a workshop that aimed at helping CRY's partners in Uttar Pradesh to acquire a better understanding of children's right to participate and formulate interventions to secure the same at different levels.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
9.	Workshops on participatory approaches for NGO staff of Project Orchid	Praxis with regard to the ongoing association and support to Project Orchid's Community Mobilisation work in Manipur and Nagaland facilitated two workshops conducted for some of their project partners in Nagaland. A three-day workshop was first organised for key NGO staff, followed by a four-day workshop with peer educators and outreach workers of partner NGOs. The trainings aimed at facilitation of participatory approaches with a special emphasis on the ABC (Attitude Behaviour Change) module.	Project Orchid

S.NO.	Project Title	Project Description	Partner Organisation
10.	Training of Vikas Mitras in Bihar	Praxis facilitated the training for the state level master trainers identified for imparting training to a cadre of 10,000 Vikas Mitras (SC extension workers mandated to work for bridging gaps in reach of govt. schemes and services in favour of SC communities). Vikas Mitras have been recruited by the Bihar Mahadalit Development Mission (BMVM), henceforth with the objective of addressing the exclusion of Scheduled Castes from access to development opportunities and for effective implementation of the schemes of the Mission. Drawn from the SC community themselves, Vikas Mitras are visualised as local resource persons who will be in direct contact with Mahadalit families and will ensure the implementation of schemes of BMVM and the Department of SC/ST Welfare. Placed at the Gram Panchayat level in rural areas and ward level in urban areas, they are expected to serve as a link between dalit communities and the government.	Bihar Mahadalit Development Mission (BMVM), government of Bihar
11.	Workshop on use of participatory methods and approaches	Praxis co-facilitated with Okumba Miruka a renowned facilitator from Kenya an eight-day workshop in Kenya. The workshop aimed at training the 25 staff members of different Amnesty International Offices in Africa, South East Asia and Australia on the use of participatory methods and approaches in human rights based programming and campaigns.	Amnesty International
12.	Urban Poverty Workshop for CRY	Praxis facilitated a follow up workshop on mapping vulnerabilities faced by children across various marginalised groups of Delhi.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
13.	Participatory Evaluation of accomplishments of Mahan Seva Sansthan, a CRY-supported NGO in southern Rajasthan	Praxis undertook the evaluation of the accomplishments of the Mahan Seva Sansthan a CRY supported NGO in southern Rajasthan. The participatory evaluation was taken up in consultation with various internal and external stakeholders related to the project.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
14.	Training on project cycle management	Praxis facilitated a six-day training on the Project Cycle Management and Participatory Methods and approaches for the programme team of Donkey Sanctuary of India.	Donkey Sanctuary India
15.	Training on participatory Monitoring and Evaluation	Praxis conducted a six-day training on participatory monitoring and evaluation for twenty staff members of The Leprosy Mission Trust India. Praxis conducted a six-day training on participatory monitoring and evaluation for twenty staff members.	The Leprosy Mission Trust India
16.	E seminar for UN women team	Praxis organised an e-seminar for the UN Women team with participants from South Asia, on embedding the Social Transformative Approach within Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E): Case Story of evolving an M&E framework for a community mobilisation programme that focuses on addressing issues of stigma and rights violations of female sex workers.	UN women team
17.	TheWorkshop2011- the 15th Praxis International Commune on Participatory Development	Last year's annual international commune on participatory development saw 71 people from six countries sharing their experiences and learning new skills at TheWorkshop which was held in Siloam, Meghalaya. This was the first time the event was organised in the North-East.	Praxis internal initiative

S.NO.	Project Title	Project Description	Partner Organisation
BREAKING THE SILENCE - OUR COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES			
1.	Consultation on dissemination of information from the National Infrastructure Equity Audit	Social Equity Watch under the secretariat of Praxis conducted a national infrastructure equity audit in 125 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa and Rajasthan, covering around 1000 caste/religious habitations. The study findings were shared in a consultation wherein suggestions for the second phase also emerged from the participants. The briefing paper can be viewed here: http://www.socialequitywatch.org/download-publications.html	Social Equity Watch and Praxis
2.	Publication of book introducing children to issues of marginalisation and exclusion through animal stories	Praxis published the first in its series of Read Aloud for children introducing children to development issues through well-illustrated animal stories. The book was released by lawyer, actor and thinker Dr CharuHasan in Odyssey, Chennai. You can read more about the book and it's launch at http://www.praxisindia.org/?q=readaloud	Praxis initiative
3.	Consultation on interventions to pre-empt exclusion, discrimination and atrocities faced by dalits in Bihar.	Praxis in collaboration with NDMJ organised a consultation, the larger objective of the consultation was to bring together the functionaries of State SC Commission, Mahadalit Commission and SCPCR to respond to issues raised by dalit organisations regarding unabated cases of exclusion, discrimination and atrocities faced by dalits in Bihar.	Praxis and NDMJ
4.	Publication of article on evolving a monitoring and evaluator framework in the UN Women Journal	Embedding the Social Transformative Approach within Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E): Case Story of evolving an M&E framework for a community mobilisation programme that focuses on addressing issues of stigma and rights violations of female sex workers was published in the UN Women Journal. It can be viewed here: http://www.unwomen-eseasia.org/docs/publication/UN_Women_Evaluation_Publication_low.pdf	Praxis
5.	Consultation on gender and sexuality	Praxis in collaboration with 365X6, Social Equity Watch and IDRC organised a gender consultation Gender, Sexuality and Development 'Whose Reality Counts'. The consultation aimed at to explore challenges faced by various organisations in weaving human rights and social justice into the core of evaluations and ways in which they have overcome these. The presentations can be viewed at: http://www.praxisindia.org/?q=node/239	Praxis, 365X6, Social Equity Watch and IDRC
6.	Stigma, Discrimination and Violation of Rights-Sharing by the community,	Praxis and 365X6 with the support of Oxfam India organised a consultation that aimed at dissemination of the findings of the scoping study. The consultation also focused to initiate a dialogue on the issue of convergence and the key barriers related to it. This scoping study was to understand discrimination experienced by marginalized communities (which include MSM, FSW, Transgenders and IDUs) while accessing. Treatment services in health care settings both in public and private.	Praxis, 365X6 and Oxfam
7.	Release of Legacy of Stench, a report on the conditions of sanitation workers in Patna	A Legacy of Stench!, a report on the lives and struggles of sanitation workers in Patna, jointly undertaken by Praxis and Nidan, was released in Patna in the presence of Mr Jeetan Ram Manjhi, Honorable Minister of SC ST Welfare; Mr. K. P. Ramaiah, Patna Divisional Commissioner; and Mr Colin Gonsalves, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court. The report can be viewed here: http://www.socialequitywatch.org/images/Files/the%20legacy%20of%20stench.pdf	Praxis and Nidaan
8.	Contribution to publication on children's right to protection	Praxis had assisted Childline in a study to map the status of governance infrastructure and mechanism existing in 11 states across the country for realising children's right to protection. The study makes the state responsive as well as accountable by instituting a child protection consciousness among stakeholders to recognise provision of safe spaces for children by central and state governments. This led to the compilation of a book, 'The Everywhere Child Project: A child-friendly place in every space'	Childline

About Praxis

Praxis - Institute for Participatory Practices is a knowledge-based, not-for-profit development support organisation, registered in 1997 under the Indian Societies Registration Act of 1860. Since its humble beginnings, Praxis has emerged as an independent one-stop centre for undertaking action research, training and documentation dealing with multiple facets of participatory development. Our work vindicates the growing mandate across geographical boundaries that for development to be sustainable and equitable, there is an urgent need to ensure good governance practices and processes. Our strategic networking capability with like-minded people and organisations helps maximise our reach and increases manifold the impact of our interventions.

Our Vision: A world without poverty in which every person has the right to participate in decision-making processes, and to a life with dignity and choices.

Our Mission: To strive for the democratisation of development processes and institutions to ensure that the voices of poor women, men, transgenders, girls and boys are heard and acted upon.

PRAXIS

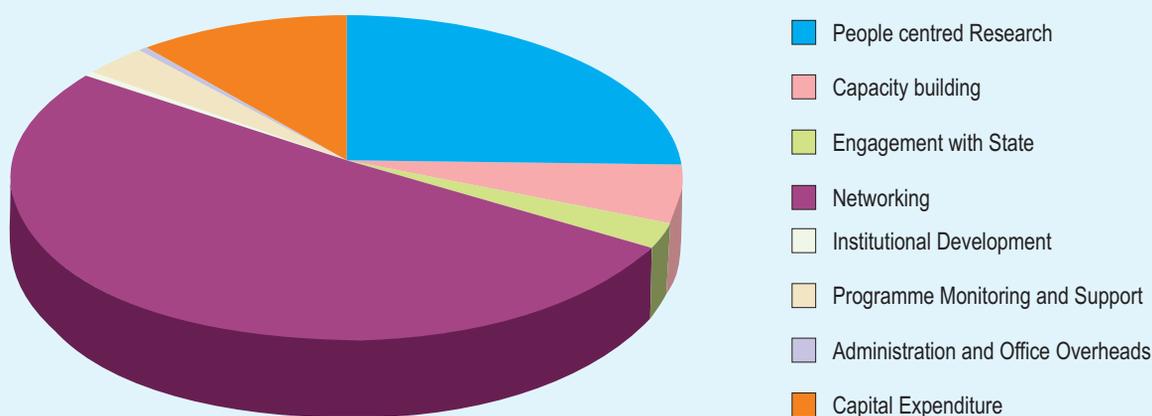
Praxis Institute for Participatory Practices
C-75 South Extension Part II, New Delhi – 110049, India
Phone: +91-11-4164238. Website: www.praxisindia.org

Distribution of Expenditure

Activity	2011-2012	%	2010-2011	%
People centred Research	19122	25.66	14040	25.59
Capacity building	4123	5.53	3365	6.13
Engagement with State	1758	2.36	1218	2.22
Networking	38021	51.02	24727	45.08
Institutional Development	129	0.17	156	0.28
Programme Monitoring and Support	2579	3.46	3927	7.16
Administration and Office overheads	281	0.38	1665	3.04
Capital expenditure	8513	11.42	5758	10.50
GRAND TOTAL	74526	100.00	54856	100.00

(Figures In Rupees 000s)

Distribution of Expenditure 2011-2012



5

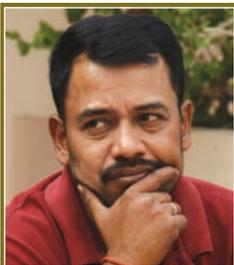
The Team

Chennai



Ajai Kuruvila Jacob
Sr. Programme Officer

Ajai has worked on issues relating to Child Rights, Education, Displacement and Urban Poverty thematic areas of ActionAid International India. He led a process of participatory post disaster recovery with the Community Facilitation Unit of the NGO Coordination and Resource Centre (A UNDP supported process in Nagapattinam). He is currently working with Praxis on different research and consulting assignments as well as developing monitoring standards around community mobilisation. Ajai's areas of work include facilitating engagements with the urban poor, bonded labourers, refugees, coastal, agrarian and Dalit communities.



Bala Sundar B
Programme Assistant

Sundar has over 14 years of experience in the development sector and is an expert in the application of participatory methods and tools for data collection, analysis and community organisation. He has wide experience in conducting poverty assessments and participatory need assessments of Dalit and urban poor communities in Tamil Nadu and was actively involved in field research and documentation processes related to Tsunami rehabilitation interventions across Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.



Mary George
Fellow

With close to two decades of experience in the development sector, Mary brings a keen focus on gender issues and equity into research. She has worked closely with grassroots communities across various states in India. Her major areas of work include projects on empowerment of women, community-based disaster preparedness programmes and livelihoods.

A demographer and statistician by training, Moulasha's current research interest revolves around issues of religious minority, madrasa education, urban poor, maternal and child health and community mobilisation. At present, he is working on measurement of community mobilisation efforts of FSW, MSM/TG and IDU community groups. He was involved in the capacity of a consultant with teaching institutions and national and international development agencies working in India. He is experienced in facilitating interdisciplinary mixed method research, involving qualitative, quantitative and participatory methods.



K. Moulasha
(Sr. Programme Officer)

With training in Automobile Engineering, Sabu has more than 15 years of driving experience. Other than driving the office vehicle, he also assists in the day-to-day activities like photocopying, filing, stores and office maintenance.



Sabu Varghese
(Administrative Assistant)

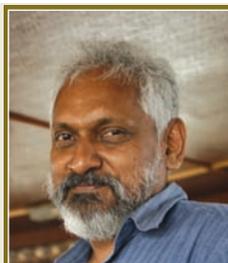
Satya has worked on issues relating to disability, urban poor, education, child rights and gender.

She is currently working on measurement of community mobilisation efforts of FSW, MSM/TG and IDU community groups in six high prevalence states in India.



Sayta Priya
(Development Trainee)

Tom has over 20 years of experience in international social development with expertise across various thematic areas. He has conducted participatory assessments and evaluations and is a proficient facilitator of participatory action research and participatory learning activities in areas including poverty, health, food security, education, democratic decentralisation and local governance with a special focus on social equity. He has also led the Praxis team on several assignments that have provided critical inputs into development policy and thinking on social development, in India and in several countries across South Asia.



Tom Thomas
(CEO)

Delhi



Anusha Chandrasekharan
(Programme Officer
Communications)

Anusha has worked as a journalist for more than five years with newspapers across the country before taking the plunge for a different genre of communication in development. She has written travel features and guidebooks and now handles content for different kinds of publications in Praxis.



Aruna Mohan Raj
(Programme Officer
Research)

Aruna works in the development sector with a rights based perspective on development issues. Deeply engaged with child rights, gender and conservation in the field of research, she has worked with quite a few children's issues focused organisations and is currently engaged in work related to child protection.



Iram Parveen
(Programme Assistant
Research)

Iram has a background in social work and mass communication and has handled several national and international level initiatives focusing on the juvenile justice system, rehabilitation of rape victims and professional volunteerism. Her strength lies in resource mobilisation, liaison and networking with various stakeholders, programme management and communication.



Jhumki Dutta
(Programme Officer
Research)

Jhumki is a highly motivated team player who has experience of working at both the grass roots level as well as advocacy. She has a good understanding of the theoretical framework of development and related issues and experience in conducting extensive research. In her previous work she has focused on issues of children and education.



M. Kumaran
(Manager
Research & Consultancy)

Kumaran has experience in facilitating interdisciplinary mixed method research, involving qualitative, quantitative, participatory and ethnographic methods. He has been part of research with people in begging, mentally ill women, displaced people, urban poor and victims of communal violence, state-led atrocity, hunger, issues of community mobilisation and sexuality. His explorations also include participatory methods and critical pedagogy.



Latika Nayar
(Development Trainee)

Latika has specialised in issues related to human development and child psychology, and has a rich experience working on issues of child rights, community organisation and rehabilitation and relocation due to development projects. She has worked on several projects with Naaz Foundation, TERI and Centre for Human Progress.



Mir Niamat Ali
(Programme Officer
Research)

Niamat brings a background in project planning in the field of micro credit, emergency relief and rehabilitation, HIV/AIDS and community development. He has been involved in project planning and formulation, preparation of financial budgets and statements and financial monitoring of projects. He has also done extensive work in Jammu and Kashmir and worked with indigenous communities in West Bengal.



Nilima Monica Puri
(Programme Assistant
Communication)

Nilima has a background in development communication. She has been affiliated with various social sector agencies. She has been involved in designing publications, professional theatre performances, production of documentary films, radio programmes and voiceover narrations.



Pradeep Narayanan
(Head – Research
and Consultancies)

Pradeep is a human rights activist-researcher associated with many rights-based NGOs and campaigns in India. He has more than 15 years of experience of working in Government, corporate and the non-governmental sector. For the last six years, he has focused on children's issues, primarily child labour and its relation to education, child protection, child participation and health. Over the years, he has also handled projects on issues of community participation, water rights, free trade agreements and fair trade.



Ranjit Kumar Jha
(Manager – Finance
and Administration)

Ranjit has 15 years of experience in finance and administration with various agencies in the non-profit and corporate sector. Ranjit joined Praxis in April 2005 as a Finance & Admin Assistant. He holds a Diploma in Finance Management and has vast experience with all financial matters relating to Grants, Consultancy, including reporting, budgeting, payroll, compliance PF, Gratuity, Insurance, handling the Income tax hearing and financial management.



Rohan Preece
(Consultant)

Rohan has worked with organisations in different parts of India and the UK and has experience in social research, documentation, teaching, monitoring and evaluation and proposal writing. His specialisations include education, gender, children's issues, religion and development theory.



Sharmistha Sarkar
(Fellow)

Sharmistha has 12 years of experience in planning and management of nutrition, child survival, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS programmes, along with participatory planning and monitoring, advocacy, strengthening local governance, institutional strengthening, with diverse target groups. She has been involved in various participatory and policy research projects in the area of community mobilisation, social exclusion, corporate social responsibility, decentralisation, nutrition and food security.



Shishupal Prajapati
(Administrative Assistant)

Shishupal has 6 years experience in programme support, general administration and procurement & IT support. He has published poems in several Hindi magazines.



Sujeet Sharma
(Finance Assistant)

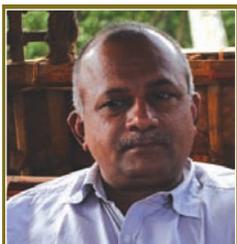
Sujeet has worked across sectors as an accountant and administration officer over the past eight years.



Sowmyaa Bharadwaj
(Programme Manager
Research and Consultancies)

Sowmyaa has experience working been involved in research work on issues of civil society participation, capacity building and training with a focus on inclusion of vulnerable populations and excluded communities/groups across South Asia and Africa. She has been trainer and facilitator of participatory rural appraisal and participatory learning and action. Additional areas of interest and expertise include gender, poverty reduction, urban development and rights.

Hyderabad



M.J. Joseph
(Head -
South India Operations)

Joseph has more than 20 years of experience in social work research and practice, with a major part of the experience (12 years) on development research. He has extensive experience in conducting participatory assessments and evaluations and is a proficient facilitator of Participatory Action Research and Participatory Learning Activities focused on various areas of social development, with a special emphasis on livelihoods, health and strategic planning processes. He has led participatory action researches addressing agrarian crises among small and marginal farmers, on micro-credit and its role in poverty reduction and on developing eco-restorative approaches in addressing drinking water issues, watershed development, democratic decentralisation, local governance and network formation.

Patna



Abhay Kumar
(Programme Officer)

Abhay has extensive experience working on issues of exclusions, with a specific focus on Dalit groups. He also has worked on analyses of Government policies, schemes and programmes for the benefit of SC and ST communities as well as analysis of Government Annual financial statements. He has also conducted trainings on demystifying budgets and their analyses.



Anamika Priyadarshini
(Programme Manager)

Anamika has been working on issues pertaining to development of marginalised communities, especially poor women and children in Bihar, for the past 14 years. She has taught undergraduate and graduate students in the department of Global Gender Studies, State University of New York at Buffalo, and Development Studies department at Central University of Bihar, Patna. Her areas of interest include informal women workers, historical constructs of women and gender and feminist theories.



Anindo Banerjee
(Head - Internal
Programme Initiatives)

Anindo has over a decade of experience in international social development with expertise across various thematic areas. He has extensive experience in conducting participatory assessments and evaluations and is a proficient facilitator of participatory action research and participatory learning activities and participatory monitoring and evaluation in areas including democratic decentralisation and local governance. He is also an expert in Multi variate Statistical Analysis. He has experience working with a range of multilateral and bilateral donors, international NGOs and government agencies at the national, state and local levels.



Jay Kumar Verma
(Fellow)

Jay has facilitated partnerships and dialogues among various development agencies. He has been involved in the appraisal and capacity building of NGOs, besides managing research on issues relating to youth reproductive health in Bihar and Jharkhand. Additionally, he has worked extensively in Western Rajasthan in areas of health advocacy, livestock development and community-based rehabilitation programmes.

Patna



Pradeep Kumar
Communication Assistant

Pradeep is the in-house cinematographer, film editor and photographer of Praxis. Trained in television production and photography, he has seven years' experience as a freelance photographer.



Shilpi Mishra
(Development Trainee)

Shilpi has trained in development studies and media and has assisted in research projects involving sanitation workers in Patna, Bihar, and disaster understanding and preparedness. She is interested in media advocacy.



Rajendra Ram
(Driver-cum-
Office Assistant)

Rajendra has more than 14 years of driving experience. Other than driving the office vehicle, he also assists in day-to-day activities like photocopying, filing, stores and office maintenance.



Vijay Prakash
(Development Trainee)

Vijay has started work in development with studies on poverty, micro-finance and problems of differently-abled people and female reproductive health.



Sanjay Paswan
(Consultant)

Sanjay has worked as a research assistant at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, and as state consultant to the Tribal Development Department, Government of Gujarat. His key competencies are in the areas of research and documentation, project management, monitoring and evaluation, impact assessment, financial management and networking.



Vijeta Laxmi
(Programme Officer)

Vijeta has a background in social work and human resource management. In her previous workspace she wore multiple caps of a manager, coordinator, evaluator, counsellor and researcher and trainer. She has taken up networking and managing the operations of the organisation.

6

Managing Committee

Mr. Tomy Mathew
President

Tomy heads Elements, a business endeavour committed to organic and fair trade. He is also the Chairperson of the International Nut Co-operative, an international fair trade alliance. Tomy was previously the Vice President, Corporate Communications, Alacrity Group of Companies, Chennai.

Mr. Tom Thomas
Secretary

Tom has been in the development sector for around two decades. His association with Praxis began in 2000, when he took over as CEO. Prior to joining Praxis, he held senior positions with ActionAid in India, Bangladesh and the UK. He has led Praxis on several important assignments, both nationally and internationally.

Mr. V.S. Thyagrajan
Treasurer

Thyagrajan is a Chartered Accountant by profession and has over three decades of corporate and development experience. His specialization is in Governance and Accountability in the NGO sector and has a vast experience in developing financial systems and procedures for NGOs. He has worked as the Director of Finance and Administration for the ActionAid (UK) for its India Programme (for 8 years) and also in the same capacity for AMREF, an international Health NGO with its headquarters based in Nairobi, Kenya (for 6 years). Currently, in addition to his responsibilities as a board member of PRAXIS, he is also in the board of Richmond Fellowship Society an NGO working in the area of psycho-social rehabilitation who have their headquarters in Bangalore.

Albertina Almeida

Member

Tina is primarily an activist and has been at the forefront of rights issues in Goa as well as nationally/ globally. She is also a lawyer with twenty years of legal practice. As a researcher, her areas of research have been mainly on gender, children's rights, land rights and law issues. She also has a book to her credit, titled "Tug and Tear: Dealing with Child Sexual Abuse". Active on the communal harmony front, Tina is the co-convenor of Citizens' Initiatives for Communal Harmony.

Mr Arjun Rajagopal

Member

Arjun is a passionate agriculturist and has been experimenting with natu-eco farming for the last decade. Currently he is working on 'Acres Seven' a developing farm, a forest garden & a seed collective in village: Pishvi, 65kms from Pune, India.

Arjun has previously been engaged in supporting adivasis in their struggle for rights and justice, as a full time organiser for more than a decade soon after his university.

GENERAL BODY

Members of the Managing Committee are also on the Praxis General Body.

Additionally, the General Body has the following distinguished members

Dr. Robert Chambers

Mr. N. Satish Chandra

Dr. Arif Hasan

Mr. Shankar Venkateswaran

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Secunderabad 500026

Email: info@praxisindia.org

Website: www.praxisindia.org

List of Projects

8

S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
EQUITY				
1.	Study on life of sanitation workers	Sanitation workers in Patna	Praxis, in partnership with Nidan, undertook a comprehensive study on the life and working conditions faced by the sanitation workers in Patna. The study aimed at formulating a draft policy for sanitation workers, for advocacy of the same with the government of Bihar. The National Safai Karmachari Commission was also involved in the study	Nidan and National Safai Karmachari Commission
2.	Study in Horn of Africa to understand climate change	People living in Ethiopia, Somaliland, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda	Praxis is supporting ActionAid International in carrying out a social action research on climate change and drought in the East and Horn of Africa - across Ethiopia, Somaliland, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda on livelihoods	ActionAid
3.	Study to understand community perception on dog health in Bali	Community members of Antiga and Kalusa villages in Bali	Praxis was involved with the Department of veterinary medicine, Cambridge University, in a sub study to understand community perception on dog health. This sub study was the part of the larger study taken up by the department in two villages in Bali - Antiga and Kalusa.	Cambridge University
4.	Facilitating an Envisioning Exercise for 'Paridhi' - a CRY partner in Bihar	Staff of Paridhi and multiple stakeholders involved in their work	Praxis conducted a two-day participatory process involving multiple stakeholders - staff of Paridhi, their communities of work, theatre artists and intellectuals in Bhagalpur city, media persons and select sections of audiences of Paridhi's work towards drawing up a trajectory for Paridhi's evolution over the next five years, as per their self-assessed strengths, leanings, limitations and emerging needs.	Paridhi and CRY (Child Rights and You)
5.	Participatory evaluation of accomplishments of KJKS, a CRY supported NGO in West Bengal		Praxis undertook a participatory evaluation in consultation with various internal and external stakeholders related to the projects of Kajla Jan Kalyan Samiti.	CRY, Kajla Jan Kalyan Samiti
6.	Evaluation of Kalapandhari Magaswargiya & Adivasi Grameen VikasSanstha - a CRY-supported project in Marathwada		This evaluation forms part of a series of project evaluations Praxis has been facilitating for CRY and its partners, like Grameen Vikas Sanstha	CRY, Kalapandhari Magaswargiya & Adivasi

S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
EQUITY				
7.	Participatory planning process to strengthen CBOs in AP, TN and Karnataka	Female Sex Workers, men who have sex with men, transgenders	Praxis facilitated participatory planning exercise, wherein Community-based Organisations evolved a participatory plan with communities for one year.	TAI, HLPPT, Alliance, KHPT
8.	Participatory monitoring of CBO strengthening	Female sex workers, transgender, men who have sex with men, injecting drug users	Praxis visited 40 community-based organisations across six states and facilitated community members in assessing the strength of their community groups in their capacity to manage projects, engage with the Government on realising rights and entitlements, and to engage with larger society in addressing issues related to stigma and isolation.	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Avahan Initiative
9.	National Infrastructure Equity Audit	Communities marginalised on the basis of caste and religion	Social Equity Watch under the secretariat of Praxis conducted a national infrastructure equity audit in 124 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Odisha and Rajasthan, covering around 1000 caste/religious habitations. The equity audit is a first of its kind capturing information on access of different social groups to village level public infrastructure, including (a) Anganwadi centre (ICDS); (b) Health centre; (c) Drinking Water (d) Community Centre, (e) Electricity, (f) Police station, (g) Agriculture centre, (h) Panchayat Bhavan, (i) Road (j) Public Distribution System (PDS), (k) Post Office, (l) school, (m) Telephone/ Information Kiosk.	Praxis and Social Equity Watch
10.	Immersion	Children	Praxis took two children from New Jersey through the process of immersion with children at Poonchulai (a home run by Malarchi Trust with 70 children between 5 and 18 years of age). Initial interactions were taken up with the parents of the children to create a foundation for learning about issues of marginalisation, poverty and social exclusion. The Praxis team accompanied the children to (a) villages which are based on the caste system (b) a match factory (c) urban slums and villages where match work was in progress and (d) a stay at Poonchulai. The children learnt and taught skills to each other. The experience was captured by the New Indian Express through an article that can be read here: http://expressbuzz.com/school/breaking-barriers-and-building-bridges/311432.html	Praxis internal initiative
GOVERNANCE				
11.	Developing a monitoring framework for monitoring anti-trafficking response	Women affected by trafficking in Odisha	Praxis developed a monitoring framework for monitoring anti-trafficking response by the government and civil society in Odisha. With that objective, the team conducted a few telephonic discussions with NGO activists and based on their inputs evolved a draft frame. The framework was well received and the participants also volunteered their time and resources to the data collecting process. The tool kits are being developed in such a way that they will be replicable in many other states.	Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women

S. No.	Project Title	Partner community	Project details	Partner Organisation
12.	PRI election watch	Dalits in Bihar	Praxis facilitated a process in 25 Panchayats in Bihar with support from Dalit Watch to capture the experiences of Dalit candidates contesting the 2011 Panchayat elections. This included looking at the filling of nomination by Dalit candidates, scrutiny of their nominations, instances of discrimination at the time of nomination and experiences during campaigning. The process also focused on experiences of Dalit voters when they went to polling booths to cast their votes.	Internal initiative of Praxis with support from Dalit Watch
13.	Inclusion in team formulating 12th Five-Year Plan for government of Bihar	Rural population of Bihar and those affected by disasters	As member of the Bihar government's committee responsible for formulation of the 12th Five Year Plan of Bihar, Praxis provided inputs on rural development and panchayati raj institutions.	Govt of Bihar
14.	Reorganisation of SC/ST Welfare Department in Bihar	Dalits, tribals in Bihar	Praxis was engaged in reshaping the structure and mandate of SC/ST Welfare Department of the Govt. of Bihar to enable it to emerge as a nodal point that ensures implementation of the SC/ST Sub-plans.	Bihar Administrative Reform Mission
15.	Study of reporting/ inspection procedures in various government departments of Bihar	People in Bihar	The study aimed at identifying opportunities to enhance performance accountability in various government departments in Bihar	Government of Bihar
16.	Evaluation of 'Samadhan', a citizen helpline in Nalanda	People in Bihar	Praxis undertook an evaluation for the Bihar Administrative Reforms Mission with the overall intent to explore the feasibility of scaling up the Nalanda model of Samadhan, the citizen helpline based on interactive voice response systems	Bihar Administrative Reforms Mission
17.	Extending support to emergence of 'model panchayats' in Vaishali Bihar	People in Bihar	Praxis supported the emergence of 32 Gram Panchayats of Vaishali district of Bihar as the model Panchayats. The programme aimed to ensure that all government schemes and entitlements would be delivered to their full potential.	Govt of Bihar
18.	Preliminary assessment of RTPS Act	People in Bihar	Three months after the Bihar government implemented the 'Right To Public Services Act' in 2011, Praxis undertook a preliminary assessment of the Act in some randomly picked blocks in various districts of the state. The objective was to get initial feedback from the people seeking services as well as the officials providing services under RTPS to suggest necessary actions related to major gaps, if any to ensure success of the Act.	Govt. of Bihar
19.	Setting up a surveillance system for ASHAs	ASHAs	The visit and the interactions aimed at feeding into the surveillance system of ASHA Mentoring Group, State Health Society, Govt. of Bihar	Govt of Bihar
20.	Internal evaluation of Social Justice Committees in Chenari	Dalits in Bihar	Praxis evaluated the current status of the social justice committees activated by Praxis in partnership with Jan Adhikar Kendra, Chenari	Internal initiative
21.	Citizen Report Card, Bihar	People in Bihar	Praxis has been providing support to the rollout of a large-scale Citizen Report Card exercise that was attempted for the first time in Bihar by the Bihar Administrative Reforms Commission. The team tracked rollout of RTPS (Right to Public Service Act) in Bihar. These report cards aim to capture citizen's score on eight select services from all the 534 blocks.	Bihar Administrative Reforms Commission, Govt. Of Bihar

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22.	Formulation of training module for SMCs to implement RTE 2009	—	Praxis formulated a training module for members of School Management Committees to enable them to implement the Right to Education Act. The module will be used by the Department of Education, Govt. of Bihar.	Government of Bihar
23.	Entitlement-based Planning	People in Bihar	Praxis supported the Government of Bihar in formulating a mechanism for initiating entitlement-based planning for the entire state. Over 3000 entitlements were identified and analysed. The Dept. of Planning and Development maintained a roster. An attempt will be made for consultations with various departments to try and rationalise the entitlements.	Government of Bihar
24.	An exploration of perception, understanding and preparedness related to disaster management in Bihar	People in Bihar	Praxis, in partnership with UNICEF and Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) conducted a Perception Study on Disaster Management with the intent of determining the understanding of people with regard to risks. The findings of the study were used to understand and address the gaps in disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures.	UNICEF and Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA)
25.	An action research on availability and accessibility of government schemes and programmes - a special focus on JKREGA/PDS/ ICDS/MDM	People of Jammu and Kashmir	Praxis, in collaboration with Welthungerhilfe/Indo Global Social Service Society, is engaged in an Action Research on availability and accessibility of four Government Schemes and Programmes run by the Jammu and Kashmir government. These include the Jammu Kashmir Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (JKREGS), Public Distribution System (PDS), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid Day meal (in the districts of Baramulla and Bandipora).	Welthungerhilfe/ Indo Global Social Service Society
26.	Developing self-administrable tools to monitor community mobilisation	Communities of female sex workers, injected drug users, men who have sex with men and transgenders	Praxis evolved self-administrable tools for monitoring community mobilisation by communities of female sex workers, injected drug users, men who have sex with men and transgenders. The tools were accepted for use as part of NACO's module on Community Mobilisation	Government of India, NACO
27.	Second-generation interventions with sex workers in Asia and the Pacific: an operational guide for the health sector	Female sex workers in Asia and Pacific	Praxis facilitated a discussion among health officials of WHO and its partners in Asia and Pacific on community participation in creating enabling environment through collective actions.	World Health Organization, Manila
28.	Network Grant	Female sex workers, transgenders, men who have sex with men, injecting drug users	Through 365x6 - Facilitating Communities Without Borders the aim is to provide a space for communities to mobilise skills, resources and support for sustaining the community ownership of different projects across the states and to get their rights realised through advocacy. The network aims to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all marginalised groups such as sex workers, MSM, TG and IDU are respected and that laws and policies are created to facilitate HIV prevention efforts, care, treatment and support.	Praxis, along with CFAR and REACH, which are members of the Consortium, 365x6

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CURRENTLY ONGOING ENGAGEMENTS				
29.	Documentation of Community Institutions built under Aga Khan Foundation's SCALE Project	Rural community in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat	Praxis is documenting the best practices on building vibrant community institutions and creating community infrastructures with an aim to enhance the capacity of rural communities to take control of their livelihoods and manage their local natural resources in an efficient and equitable manner. Aga Khan Foundation, India, initiated the project which implements the Sustainable Community-based Approaches to Livelihoods Enhancement (SCALE) project with financial support from the European Union (EU).	Aga Khan Foundation
30.	Formative Research, Mapping of institutions and Tracking of Breakthrough's Early Marriage Initiative in two Districts of Jharkhand and one District of Bihar	Communities in Gaya, Hazaribagh and Ranchi where early marriage is prevalent	Praxis undertook a formative research, mapping of institutions and tracking of Breakthrough's early marriage initiative in two districts of Jharkhand and one district of Bihar. The overall objective of the study was to derive a comprehensive understanding of the issue of early marriage to design a more informed project strategy. It also aimed to identify key forms of media to use, and stakeholders to target for capacity building and leadership training so as to effectively link up with existing service providers (government and non-government) with the overall aim of influencing the issue of early marriage in the said locations. The project focused on Ranchi and Hazaribagh districts of Jharkhand and Gaya in Bihar.	Breakthrough
31.	Developing an M&E framework for Oxfam for DFID IPAP's project- 'Promoting violence free lives of women in India'	Oxfam partners and women at large	Praxis was involved in developing a monitoring & evaluation framework for the DfID-IPAP supported programme 'Promoting Violence-Free Lives for Women in India', in which Oxfam India was the implementing agency. The programme aimed to reduce the social acceptance of violence against women and bring a positive change in the policy and programme environment. The MIS framework was developed to arrive at a method of participatory estimation of the potential/ actual outreach of support centres and the community outreach work; assess the existing MIS and reporting formats from an equity lens; create self-monitoring tools and templates to enable communities to use the existing data to analyse equity gaps.	Oxfam India
32.	Documentation of Tamil Nadu government's governance approach to small and medium towns in relation to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)		Praxis is currently engaged in the documentation of the Tamil Nadu government's governance approach to small and medium towns in relation to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for a project undertaken by Water Aid. The process looks at preparing a comprehensive document on the urban governance structure in Tamil Nadu in relation to WASH, which will include the growth in the population of small towns in Tamil Nadu over the past 25 years and existing government mechanisms to support urban local bodies in small towns	WaterAid
33.	Documentation of solid waste management intervention of AWED		Praxis documented the Association of Women's Education and Development's Solid Waste Management Intervention with a cost-benefit analysis. The project revolved around solid waste management at Kurumpanai and Chinnavilai villages of Tamil Nadu.	WaterAid

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FACILITATING ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT			
1.	Reliance Foundation PMA workshop	Praxis conducted a seven-day participatory methods and approaches (PMA) workshop for the staff of BIJ, Reliance Foundation in Seoni, Madhya Pradesh. The workshop was planned in a way that incorporated the steps and processes involved in a Village Development Plan through PMA, according to the needs and requirements of the group	Reliance Foundation
2.	Training for Amnesty International secretariat staff	Praxis has been working closely with Amnesty International, with the focus of helping them develop their active participation programme. With the emerging pattern of the organisation now "moving closer to the ground" it calls for a change in their way of operating. With this emerging pattern more emphasis will be laid on direct engagement with communities and an increased focus on social, economic and cultural rights. This training in London was aimed at the campaigners who operate out of the international secretariat but focus on Eastern Europe and the Americas.	Amnesty International, London
3.	Capacity building of young girls of Pardada Pardadi Education Society on participatory research and rights & entitlements	Aiming to enhance skills of girls of the disadvantaged section of the community of Anupsahar, Uttar Pradesh, Praxis worked with Pardada Pardadi Education Society towards self-empowerment of the girls. Praxis built capacity of senior secondary school girls on participatory research and right-based approach. The girls carried out a participatory research in six villages to understand drop out rates of education and accessibility of government services.	Pardada Pardadi Education Society
4.	Training on Participatory methods and tools to the students of Social Work at Jamia Milia Islamia, Delhi	Jamia Milia Islamia University, Delhi has recently started a skill lab centre, Praxis conducted a daylong session on the Participatory Method and Tools for the previous year students of Masters in Social Work.	Jamia Milia Islamia University, New Delhi
5.	Workshop on Strengthening of CBOs of Marginalised Communities, organised by Unicef in Delhi	Praxis made a presentation of its experience of activating Social Justice Committees in Rohtas district of Bihar in partnership with a cadre of dalit youngsters.	Unicef, New Delhi
6.	National PME Workshop for CRY	Praxis facilitated a workshop that aimed at optimal standardisation of PME systems for the Development Support function of CRY. The participants of the workshop were all the staff of the North and West regions of CRY.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
7.	Workshop on Child Vulnerability Mapping, Delhi	Praxis facilitated a workshop that aimed at capacitating CRY's partners in Delhi to map different forms of vulnerability facing children. The process would lead to a large-scale participatory mapping of 27 different indicators of vulnerability across 48 locations of Delhi.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
8.	Workshop on Right to Participation, Delhi	Praxis facilitated a workshop that aimed at helping CRY's partners in Uttar Pradesh to acquire a better understanding of children's right to participate and formulate interventions to secure the same at different levels.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
9.	Workshops on participatory approaches for NGO staff of Project Orchid	Praxis with regard to the ongoing association and support to Project Orchid's Community Mobilisation work in Manipur and Nagaland facilitated two workshops conducted for some of their project partners in Nagaland. A three-day workshop was first organised for key NGO staff, followed by a four-day workshop with peer educators and outreach workers of partner NGOs. The trainings aimed at facilitation of participatory approaches with a special emphasis on the ABC (Attitude Behaviour Change) module.	Project Orchid

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10.	Training of Vikas Mitras in Bihar	Praxis facilitated the training for the state level master trainers identified for imparting training to a cadre of 10,000 Vikas Mitras (SC extension workers mandated to work for bridging gaps in reach of govt. schemes and services in favour of SC communities). Vikas Mitras have been recruited by the Bihar Mahadalit Development Mission (BMVM), henceforth with the objective of addressing the exclusion of Scheduled Castes from access to development opportunities and for effective implementation of the schemes of the Mission. Drawn from the SC community themselves, Vikas Mitras are visualised as local resource persons who will be in direct contact with Mahadalit families and will ensure the implementation of schemes of BMVM and the Department of SC/ST Welfare. Placed at the Gram Panchayat level in rural areas and ward level in urban areas, they are expected to serve as a link between dalit communities and the government.	Bihar Mahadalit Development Mission (BMVM), government of Bihar
11.	Workshop on use of participatory methods and approaches	Praxis co-facilitated with Okumba Miruka a renowned facilitator from Kenya an eight-day workshop in Kenya. The workshop aimed at training the 25 staff members of different Amnesty International Offices in Africa, South East Asia and Australia on the use of participatory methods and approaches in human rights based programming and campaigns.	Amnesty International
12.	Urban Poverty Workshop for CRY	Praxis facilitated a follow up workshop on mapping vulnerabilities faced by children across various marginalised groups of Delhi.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
13.	Participatory Evaluation of accomplishments of Mahan Seva Sansthan, a CRY-supported NGO in southern Rajasthan	Praxis undertook the evaluation of the accomplishments of the Mahan Seva Sansthan a CRY supported NGO in southern Rajasthan. The participatory evaluation was taken up in consultation with various internal and external stakeholders related to the project.	Child Rights and You (CRY)
14.	Training on project cycle management	Praxis facilitated a six-day training on the Project Cycle Management and Participatory Methods and approaches for the programme team of Donkey Sanctuary of India.	Donkey Sanctuary India
15.	Training on participatory Monitoring and Evaluation	Praxis conducted a six-day training on participatory monitoring and evaluation for twenty staff members of The Leprosy Mission Trust India. Praxis conducted a six-day training on participatory monitoring and evaluation for twenty staff members.	The Leprosy Mission Trust India
16.	E seminar for UN women team	Praxis organised an e-seminar for the UN Women team with participants from South Asia, on embedding the Social Transformative Approach within Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E): Case Story of evolving an M&E framework for a community mobilisation programme that focuses on addressing issues of stigma and rights violations of female sex workers.	UN women team
17.	TheWorkshop2011- the 15th Praxis International Commune on Participatory Development	Last year's annual international commune on participatory development saw 71 people from six countries sharing their experiences and learning new skills at TheWorkshop which was held in Siloam, Meghalaya. This was the first time the event was organised in the North-East.	Praxis internal initiative

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BREAKING THE SILENCE - OUR COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES			
1.	Consultation on dissemination of information from the National Infrastructure Equity Audit	Social Equity Watch under the secretariat of Praxis conducted a national infrastructure equity audit in 125 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Orissa and Rajasthan, covering around 1000 caste/religious habitations. The study findings were shared in a consultation wherein suggestions for the second phase also emerged from the participants. The briefing paper can be viewed here: http://www.socialequitywatch.org/download-publications.html	Social Equity Watch and Praxis
2.	Publication of book introducing children to issues of marginalisation and exclusion through animal stories	Praxis published the first in its series of Read Aloud for children introducing children to development issues through well-illustrated animal stories. The book was released by lawyer, actor and thinker Dr CharuHasan in Odyssey, Chennai. You can read more about the book and it's launch at http://www.praxisindia.org/?q=readaloud	Praxis initiative
3.	Consultation on interventions to pre-empt exclusion, discrimination and atrocities faced by dalits in Bihar.	Praxis in collaboration with NDMJ organised a consultation, the larger objective of the consultation was to bring together the functionaries of State SC Commission, Mahadalit Commission and SCPCR to respond to issues raised by dalit organisations regarding unabated cases of exclusion, discrimination and atrocities faced by dalits in Bihar.	Praxis and NDMJ
4.	Publication of article on evolving a monitoring and evaluator framework in the UN Women Journal	Embedding the Social Transformative Approach within Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E): Case Story of evolving an M&E framework for a community mobilisation programme that focuses on addressing issues of stigma and rights violations of female sex workers was published in the UN Women Journal. It can be viewed here: http://www.unwomen-eseasia.org/docs/publication/UN_Women_Evaluation_Publication_low.pdf	Praxis
5.	Consultation on gender and sexuality	Praxis in collaboration with 365X6, Social Equity Watch and IDRC organised a gender consultation Gender, Sexuality and Development 'Whose Reality Counts'. The consultation aimed at to explore challenges faced by various organisations in weaving human rights and social justice into the core of evaluations and ways in which they have overcome these. The presentations can be viewed at: http://www.praxisindia.org/?q=node/239	Praxis, 365X6, Social Equity Watch and IDRC
6.	Stigma, Discrimination and Violation of Rights-Sharing by the community,	Praxis and 365X6 with the support of Oxfam India organised a consultation that aimed at dissemination of the findings of the scoping study. The consultation also focused to initiate a dialogue on the issue of convergence and the key barriers related to it. This scoping study was to understand discrimination experienced by marginalized communities (which include MSM, FSW, Transgenders and IDUs) while accessing. Treatment services in health care settings both in public and private.	Praxis, 365X6 and Oxfam
7.	Release of Legacy of Stench, a report on the conditions of sanitation workers in Patna	A Legacy of Stench!, a report on the lives and struggles of sanitation workers in Patna, jointly undertaken by Praxis and Nidan, was released in Patna in the presence of Mr Jeetan Ram Manjhi, Honorable Minister of SC ST Welfare; Mr. K. P. Ramaiah, Patna Divisional Commissioner; and Mr Colin Gonsalves, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court. The report can be viewed here: http://www.socialequitywatch.org/images/Files/the%20legacy%20of%20stench.pdf	Praxis and Nidaan
8.	Contribution to publication on children's right to protection	Praxis had assisted Childline in a study to map the status of governance infrastructure and mechanism existing in 11 states across the country for realising children's right to protection. The study makes the state responsive as well as accountable by instituting a child protection consciousness among stakeholders to recognise provision of safe spaces for children by central and state governments. This led to the compilation of a book, 'The Everywhere Child Project: A child-friendly place in every space'	Childline

About Praxis

Praxis - Institute for Participatory Practices is a knowledge-based, not-for-profit development support organisation, registered in 1997 under the Indian Societies Registration Act of 1860. Since its humble beginnings, Praxis has emerged as an independent one-stop centre for undertaking action research, training and documentation dealing with multiple facets of participatory development. Our work vindicates the growing mandate across geographical boundaries that for development to be sustainable and equitable, there is an urgent need to ensure good governance practices and processes. Our strategic networking capability with like-minded people and organisations helps maximise our reach and increases manifold the impact of our interventions.

Our Vision: A world without poverty in which every person has the right to participate in decision-making processes, and to a life with dignity and choices.

Our Mission: To strive for the democratisation of development processes and institutions to ensure that the voices of poor women, men, transgenders, girls and boys are heard and acted upon.

PRAXIS

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