



INTRODUCTION

Praxis Institute for Participatory Practices is a not-for-profit organisation, which believes that for development to be truly democratic, the process must be made participatory and inclusive. Praxis envisages a world without poverty in which every person has the right to participate in decision-making processes, and to live a life with dignity and choices.

The twin focus areas of our work are equity and good governance and this is achieved using participatory approaches to action research, training and advocacy initiatives. Praxis provides a platform for the most marginalised to be included in processes that affect them.

Our work in the past year has been divided across four broad categories – Relief for the poor, Environment, Education and Medical relief. While most projects would ideally fall in more than one of these categories, for the sake of clarity, they have been arranged under the category that best expressed the essence of the project.

FROM THE CEO

Since 2013, Praxis has been involved in using a methodology that creates the scope for 'direct talk', a platform where marginalised and excluded groups engage with stakeholders on policies that affect them. The principle of a 'Ground Level Panel (GLP)' as it is called, is to recognise the expertise of one's lived experience. Who is better placed to talk about the loopholes of an education policy than children who have fallen through the gaps of a vision of Education for all? Who would have more expertise in informing a policy on forest rights, than communities whose rights have been violated? A GLP offers a grounded picture to a High Level Policy, making it participatory and hence, closer to reality.



The year 2018-19 was significant in that, it was probably the first time that a segment of the population that was born only in the 21st century evolved a manifesto by taking part in GLP processes. This generation's aspirations were marked by the familiarity with the internet and social media and the levelling opportunities that technology and education offered. Yet, the children negotiated the continuing realities of casteism, patriarchy, communalism and corruption. This engagement struck home the truth much deeper than most other engagements in recent time had. The world over, there was something that was pushing society and governance

further back in time despite the breakneck speed at which technology and knowledge was evolving.

Through the year, we engaged on wide range of themes – from bonded labour to child protection; from business and human rights to trafficking. Today, as centuries ago, Dalit communities still negotiate for the right to bury their dead with dignity. Parents still get their young girls married, afraid for their safety and growing demands for dowry. Employers still suppress dissent. Girls are being trafficked in the name of marriage, jobs, and once rescued, society still stands as a barrier to reintegration. Our partnership with Corporate Responsibility Watch has shown innovative ways of holding companies accountable to best practices in core operations. With the National Alliance Group for Denotified and Nomadic Tribes, we have engaged with groups marginalised and ostracised from birth.

What emerged is the obvious need to listen, to understand, dialogue and create spaces for engagement with diverse opinions. It is also important to make these voices heard – through advocacy, manifestoes generated from the ground, consultations, state action policies, action research initiatives and publications. We present in this report glimpses of this and Praxis's own role in its facilitation to ensure that the voices that tend to be left out and trampled upon in a race for development, gets a legitimate platform to be heard.

Tom Thomas

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Projects	7
1. Relief for the poor	7
2. Environment	24
3. Education	28
4. Medical Relief	40
Publications	42
Financials	45
Team Praxis	47
1. Team Chennai	47
2. Team Delhi	49
3. Team Patna	52
4. Managing Committee	54
5. Members of General Body	56
List of Offices	57
Partner Organisations	58

Supporting Action Research Groups on Bonded Labour



Participatory action research engages communities in a cycle of research, action and reflection on issues that are relevant to them. Non-governmental organisations facilitating action research groups (ARG) in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Tamil Nadu on issues related to bonded labour were supported by Praxis. Our role was to help the ARGs assess and reflect on the relevance of issues they had been working on since the past three years and to support the development of a future course of action. The action research groups worked on themes ranging from illness and loans to dropouts among Dalit children and intergenerational bondage among others.

Monitoring and Evaluation Study on Bonded Labour



An endline prevalence study was conducted in 2018-2019 in bonded labour hotspots in North and South India. The study was conducted to understand whether there was a change in the prevalence of bonded labour and related vulnerability in villages where local NGOs were carrying out a range of interventions such as providing livelihoods, rescue and rehabilitation, advocacy with government officials as well as linking people to government services. In South India, the interventions focused on garment mills to gain a deeper understanding of bonded labour in the textile industry.

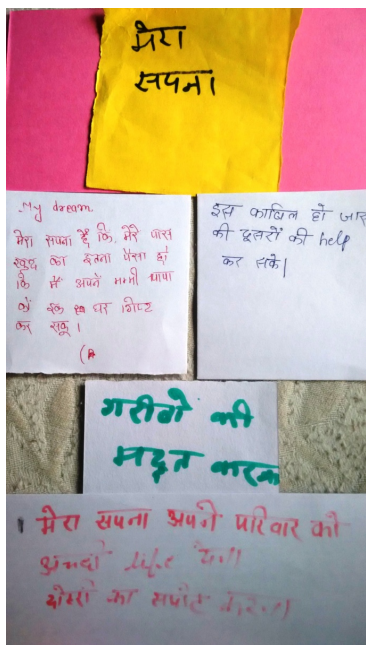
The evaluation methodology included household surveys as well as interviews with different stakeholders such as government officials, organisational heads, frontline workers of NGOs and the community members. The process captured their perspectives on the interventions, the changes seen in the intervention areas and possible suggestions for a way forward to address bonded labour.

Mobilising and Mainstreaming the Marginalised



In keeping with the 'Leave No One Behind' mandate of the Sustainable Development Goals, an effort was made to reach out to community leaders and enhance their capacity to promote partnerships in realising different goals. As part of this process, 56 Community-Led Organisations (CLOs) in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh were provided capacity building and hand-holding support in organising Ground Level Panels (GLP) – a process where people with lived experience of vulnerabilities come together to collect information, analyse and inform policies. In 2018, across the six states, 216 panelists took part in 13 GLPs on thematic areas including education, health, nutrition, and forest rights. 216 panellists were part of these deliberations and CLOs reached out to more than 2,541 people while disseminating demands. The process led to the development of 13 charters of demands by people from Dalit, Tribal and Muslim communities that were shared with local government officials and civil society.

Action Research with the Nat community



Praxis undertook a six-month community-based action research process along with a partner organisation to understand challenges of collectivisation at source and destination among the Nat community, which is traditionally involved in the entertainment industry – sex work, bar dancing and orchestra performance. The entry point of the study was education and livelihood. As part of the exercise, the team interacted with mothers of young children in the Nat community in the source area of Ram Nagar in

Araria district of Bihar where they identified the absence of anganwadi services as a key area requiring intervention and attempted to work towards a solution. In Bandar Sendri in Rajasthan, the team interacted with a group of mothers and young children who identified challenges in education, which was addressed by a community-led tuition centre where students could go and study and receive guidance from older children and educated mothers. In the destination area of Patna, survivors from the Nat community in Ararira studying in colleges came together to identify challenges they faced and came up with action plans to support young girls in their village to complete their education.

Community-led Action Research Study



Praxis supported a partner organisation conduct action research in four wards of Jaipur for a hotspot study on child labour. As part of the programme, ten community fellows were selected. They were trained in participatory methods of research. The fellows formed three different kinds of Action Research Circles in their wards – those comprising of only single women, some with women and some with youth. In addition to this, information centres were opened in each ward. These centres provided the community information about various government schemes and displayed all the relevant evidence gathered during the action research process. As part of the study, Praxis also provided support to another partner organisation in Jaipur to explore ways of increasing the wages of women involved in bangle making and stone cutting using the participatory action research approach.

Evaluation of Child Protection Programme

A process evaluation of a large-scale child protection programme spread across 20 states is currently being carried out by Praxis. The overall objective of the programme was to strengthen child protection institutions and increase the registration of cases related to violations against children. The evaluation delved into the work being carried out in four states – Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. As part of the process, the research team attended key activity events such as legal camps and state-wide consultations and interviewed some of the key stakeholders including police, Women and Child Development Department, State Commission for Protection of Child Rights as well as the partner organisation's team members. The overall objective of the engagement was to create a comparative framework to map the impact of the programme, draw lessons for wider work and make suggestions for the rollout of the next phase to enable sustainable change.

Rehabilitation of Children in Conflict with Law

A study was undertaken by Praxis to explore the status of rehabilitation in the juvenile system and to find ways of further strengthening the rehabilitation and reintegration of children in conflict with law. The study, conducted in a government observation home in Jaipur, examined perceptions of children staying in the home and sought inputs from duty bearers on the current rehabilitation measures and obtained suggestions to improve the rehabilitation process.

Study on Vulnerability, Trends and Patterns, and Support Mechanisms of Trafficking



To understand the scenario of in-country child trafficking across India, Praxis conducted a research with an emphasis on three areas –i) the extent of the vulnerabilities among children in the personal, family and social domains; ii) pattern and trends related to trafficking; iii) mapping of the support systems or resources available to combat child trafficking. The study was carried out in Joynagar II block in South 24 Parganas of West Bengal, where the team met with three sets of respondent groups – men and women, children and other stakeholders including police, government officials, civil society groups, representatives of local governance institutions and school teachers. The study made an attempt to understand how trafficking was viewed by different stakeholders in these communities as well as by government officials.

Evaluating a Programme on Gender Equitable Boys



Praxis carried out an evaluation of a Gender Empowerment Programme, which focused on equipping and building the capacity of gender equitable adolescent boys. The objective of the evaluation process was to develop a clear definition of the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours that a gender equitable boy demonstrates, to update the theory of change that helps articulate how these outcomes can be consistently achieved and to provide recommendations for strengthening the programme. As part of the study, the Praxis team met six community groups in Pune, comprising of boys from different phases of the programme, alumni of the programme and women and girls who are related to the programme participants to understand how the intervention influenced their thinking and actions. In addition to this, the team also met staff that was implementing the programme to input into the evaluation process.

Facilitating Community-Based Child Protection Mechanisms



As a part of an inter-agency collaboration for facilitating emergence of community-led mechanisms of child protection, a team of facilitators and community mobilisers associated with local NGOs in two clusters of villages in Jharkhand were mentored. The first phase of the initiative – implemented between December 2015 and January 2018 – sought to understand harms faced by children from the perspective of local communities in Jharkhand and enabled planning of suitable interventions under their stewardship. The second phase, initiated in February 2018, envisaged deepening of inter-community collaborative action within two village clusters over a three-year period. During this phase the community collectives have started working towards addressing identified child protection issues – 'Early marriage' in Dhanbad and 'School dropout' in Khunti.

Developing Integrated Child Protection Scheme Matrix



As part of an action research project on Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), aimed at strengthening the non-institutional mechanisms in twelve villages each in Erode and Gaya and five childcare institutions in Jaipur, Praxis worked on building the capacity of implementing partners by developing an action research framework and tools to help develop strategies to strengthen ICPS mechanisms.

Costing of Integrated Child Protection Schemes

In collaboration with an organisation, Praxis developed a costing template to assess the arrangement of child protection services and mechanisms. These include Child Care Institutions, Short Stay Homes, Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards, Special Juvenile Police Station, District Child Protection Unit etc., in two districts of Bihar, i.e., Muzaffarpur and Vaishali. A training programme for representatives of the partner organisations was also conducted to build on the understanding of child protection mechanisms and costing.

Documentation of Alternative Child Care Practices in Jharkhand

A study was conducted in three districts of Jharkhand (Khunti, Ramgarh and Ranchi) to document the existing alternate family-based care practices for children, including traditional as well as government-supported initiatives in Jharkhand. The aim of the study was to generate learnings towards strengthening alternate care arrangements for children in need. A state-level workshop was also organised, which involved representatives of relevant government agencies and NGOs to understand the determinants of the placement of a child under alternative care, driving forces to foster a child, adequacy of resources and robustness of systems and accountability.

End-line Study of Citizen's Report Cards

In the previous year, citizen report card formats were developed to study the status of welfare schemes such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, Right to Information and the Integrated Child Development Services in Jharkhand from a citizen's perspective. As part of the project 'Initiative for transparent and accountable governance system in Jharkhand', data was collected from 52 villages in four districts namely Dumka, Khunti, Pakur and Sahebganj of Jharkhand. This year, an end line study of citizen report cards was undertaken in these four district of Jharkhand. Over 1,040 data sets were generated from 52 villages to generate report cards on these public welfare schemes. The findings of the study were presented in a workshop organised in the month of October in Ranchi.

Formulation of Strategic Action Plans for Adolescent Empowerment and Prevention of Child Marriages



Praxis partnered with an organisation for the formulation of Strategic Action Plans for adolescent empowerment and abolition of child marriages in seven states across the country, including Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Consultations at community and divisional level were undertaken in all the seven states. The process sought to seek inputs from primary stakeholders as well as key department officials in order to deal with the core issues and make the plan more acceptable for the community at large. The action plan hence prepared will include cost elements for each of the actions proposed and a comprehensive monitoring framework to track the implementation. In some states, draft action plans were also submitted for review.

Costing of Jharkhand Action Plan on Ending Child Marriage

Praxis supported a partner organisation in reviewing and modifying the existing State Action Plan (SAP) for elimination of child marriages in the state. The prime focus of the initiative was to include cost elements for actions proposed in the existing SAP. Each action was broken down in terms of responsible departments; timeframes for implementing the proposed action; cost drivers associated with the action; availability as well as adequacy of the budget under relevant schemes and budget-heads sanctioned for the concerned department; and additional requirements of resources to scale the intervention over a period of five years. Furthermore, a comprehensive monitoring framework was also included in order to make the plan robust and actionable.

Child-Led Manifesto



Praxis supported a partner organisation in its bid to include children's voices in the manifestos of political parties. Ground-Level Panels were facilitated in Bangalore, Delhi and Kolkata where 70 children from 19

states participated. One national consolidation meeting was also held. Their demands were shared with political parties ahead of the general election.

Developing Community Maturity Tools in South India



In approximately 400 primarily Dalit communities, a partner organisation has been supporting local Community Based Organisations (CBOs) to form groups of adolescents and adults working in mills around issues of violation of basic rights at work. Young people, especially girls, often enter the mills under very risky circumstances and encounter poor and unsatisfactory working conditions at their worksites. The community groups have been promoting problem solving and local advocacy around economic entitlements, income alternatives, family communication, challenging gender discrimination, improving educational access and quality, mill conditions and unionisation. In this background, Praxis developed a tool for partner organisations to understand and assess the awareness and knowledge of rights among the workers as well as the extent of community action being undertaken. The tool was used over a period of time to map the change in community maturity on the issues listed above.

Updating the National Voluntary Guidelines

Praxis, the Secretariat of Corporate Responsibility Watch, contributed towards a project that looked at the revision of the National Voluntary Guidelines on the Social, Environmental and Economic Responsibilities of Business (NVGs). The NVG framework contains nine core principles that provide guidance to businesses on what constitutes responsible business conduct. In order to align the NVGs with the Sustainable Development Goals and the 'Respect' pillar of the United Nations Guiding Principles, the process of revision of NVGs started in 2015. After revision, the new principles are called the National Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct. Praxis was involved in mapping of the SDG and NVG indicator framework and developing a feedback format that was uploaded on the ministry website for various stakeholders to provide their feedback and inputs.

Consultations for National Action Plan



In order to build consensus and ensure broad support for the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP),

from all constituencies including political, business, civil society, human rights defender, professionals, victims and academic institutions, etc, country-wide regional briefing cum consultative sessions were held with a diverse range of stakeholders in 5 cities- Guwahati, Bhubaneswar, Delhi, Jaipur and Bengaluru. The report developed through the consultation collated the voices of those generally left behind and aims at ensuring actions and strategies for them are drawn from existing expertise and practice wisdom.

Evaluating a Film-based Toolkit with Adolescent Girls



A partner NGO developed a film-based curriculum for adolescent girls working in cotton mills, which aims to bring people together to discuss problems and develop common solutions to issues that girls face at home and at the workplace. Praxis monitored the programme through a baseline and endline assessment. The curriculum implementation and its effectiveness were based on the monitoring and evaluation model focusing on measuring

results from the adolescent girls' groups belonging to three NGO's of Dindigal district of Tamil Nadu. Based on the analysis of the baseline data, the film-based curriculum implementation and end line data was collected within the span of a year. The aim was to recognise how the film-based curriculum has brought changes among the adolescent girls of the programme. The focus of this study is limited to a few measures of acquisition of knowledge and use of the most relevant attitudinal scales.

Dipstick Study on Zero Budget Natural Farming



Praxis conducted a study to understand as well as capture the experiences of 100 farmers who practised natural farming across 13 districts in five states of India. These included – Ananthpur, Visakhapatnam and West Godavari in Andhra Pradesh; Mandi in Himachal Pradesh; Beed, Latur and Wardha in Maharashtra; Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur and Raichur in Karnataka; and Palakkad and Thrissur in Kerala. The particular focus of the study was to capture the adoption and implementation of Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) among the sample farmers, reflect upon their experiences and identify positive and negative impacts to help in mapping key factors facilitating scaling up of the ZBNF method.

Dipstick Study on Shivansh Khad



A dipstick study was conducted to understand farmers' experiences vis-a-vis a particular method of composting named Shivansh. The study was carried out in seven districts across three states –Yavatmal in Maharashtra, Banda, Hamirpur, Kushinagar, Maharajganj and Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh and Tehri Garhwal in Uttarakhand. The overall objectives of the study were to unpack the process, production and diverse usage of Shivansh Khad, identify the challenges, merits and limitations, detail the economics of production and the scope of scaling this method and gauge the impact on the yield of agriculture, environment and economy.

Module on Urban Farming



Praxis co-created a module on urban terrace farming with the idea of popularising farming as a concept in urban spaces and bringing the debates surrounding the farming crisis closer to the urban audience. The module focuses on sustainable farming practices and details out the different techniques and procedures that are important for farming in urban landscapes.

Formulating District Disaster Management Plan for Bihar



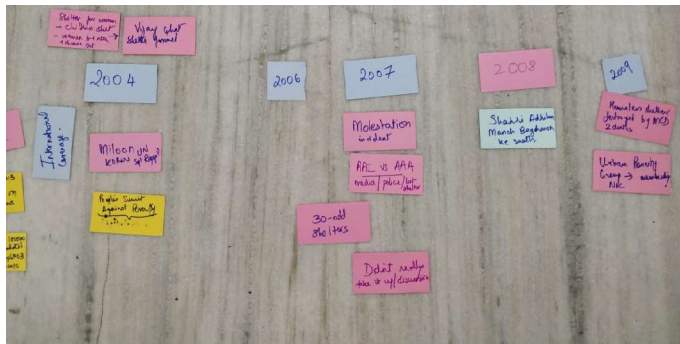
The process of formulation of a District Disaster Management Plan 2017-2018 for the state of Bihar was facilitated. The plan focused on strengthening arrangements for prevention of disasters and bringing about better preparedness. The collaboration aimed at institutionalising risk-informed planning, for which an advanced version of a self-administrable instrument, capable of auto generating reports on status of community resilience as well as resilience of vital institutions, was evolved. A sample of 72 villages across five disaster prone districts in the state was covered for piloting the instrument. The 'Risk profile' of two high priority districts, namely Sitamarhi and Purnia, was also prepared based on primary and secondary data with the aim of projecting hazard-specific scenarios based on risk sensitivity of locations, thereby contributing to reduction of adverse impacts of disasters, especially on the health of vulnerable groups.

Designing a Leadership Development Programme



A partner organisation aimed to develop a pilot leadership programme for NGO partners who are working in the sphere of trafficking and bonded labour by October 2019. For this, Praxis conducted a formative research that will inform the shape, content and delivery of this pilot programme. A hundred case stories of community leaders (across north and south India) were collected and interviews were held with organisations that conduct similar leadership programmes. Drawing on the insights from these group processes, Praxis developed some draft models for the proposed Leadership Development Programme. Following this, consultations were held with potential participants and various stakeholders to gather their feedback and suggestions, which were then included in the proposed models.

A study on Movements and Collectives of Marginalised Communities



A partner organisation is keen to facilitate and support programmes in leadership building among survivors of sexual violence. In order to inform their learnings, Praxis conducted a study of existing movements and collectives that have built leadership among different target groups. To gather varied perspectives, the study team interacted with groups working with those who have experienced marginalisation of different forms – through gender and caste identity (such as sexual minorities, Dalits), through occupation (such as sewerage workers, sex workers) and through social mores (such as single women, urban poor), among others. The team interacted with seven such collectives to explore the different markers and trajectories that determine the journey of a collective. The aim was to develop a comparative learning which could be used by practitioners and potential promoters who intended to support other similar efforts.

Child-Led Assessment of Shelter Homes



Children who live in shelter homes are the best stakeholders to assess the quality of care services they receive. Keeping this in mind, last year, shelter homes in Patna were assessed using participatory processes with the children, wherein they identified indicators that went into the formulation of a participatory tool. This year, a more robust documentation of the homes was undertaken, that could serve as a policy document for local governance bodies and administration to replicate this model in childcare institutions in other cities across Bihar as well.

Formulation of an Online Repository of Reintegration Resources for Survivors of Sexual Violence and Trafficking

Praxis supported an NGO partner in the formulation of an advanced GIS-based multilingual web application for locating resources related to various needs of survivors of trafficking. A state-level consultation was organised in Kolkata by the NGO to share the draft design with wider audience for their suggestions, which included senior bureaucrats from various departments and representatives from civil society organisations working on relevant themes. More than 50 members participated in the consultation and contributed suggestions to make the application handy for use by survivors and also to safeguard the same from cyber-crimes.

Developing a Participatory Monitoring System for a Sex Workers Collective in Andhra Pradesh



Praxis is providing technical support to NGO partners to develop a participatory monitoring system for a community-based organisation (CBO) in Krishna District in Andhra

Pradesh. A visit to the CBO was undertaken to orient their board members about the purpose of participatory monitoring systems and to develop key indicators for their governance, core activities as well as projects. Tools for some of these indicators were also developed jointly with the CBO. The tools ranged from assessment of crisis management, second line leadership, service delivery and networking. The emphasis was on co-producing knowledge and co-learning.

Fair & Equitable Research Partnership Study

The aim of the study was to understand the perspective of global south partners on what makes a fair and equitable research partnership in response to global challenges. In addition, it hoped to identify barriers to, and opportunities for, participation in research funded by the UK government. A group comprising of various civil society organisations, including Praxis, were invited by Research Councils UK, which manages funding from the UK government for research into global development challenges, to present them with evidence and recommendations aimed at improving research partnerships and use this as a basis for establishing principles for 'best practice' for a range of stakeholders.

SDG-5 Monitoring

To help an organisation in monitoring an intervention from the lens of Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality and to promote the influence of marginalised groups in the delivery of the same, Praxis developed a tool in the form of an app for smart phones. The app was piloted in the states of Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Participatory Action Research Workshop in Nepal



As part of a global study, a partner organisation aims to identify 'pathways of change' to promote broad-based and equitable access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene services (WASH) in Nepal. The objective is to understand what factors influence WASH planning and resource allocation at the level of local municipalities and specifically what existing planning and monitoring processes do (or can) help address inequalities. Praxis was invited to facilitate a workshop on participatory action research, which could help strengthen approaches to local planning for WASH. The purpose of the workshop was to identify participatory methods and tools to engage with municipalities in helping them reflect and find ways for WASH services to reach all populations.

Understanding Contemporary Development Processes



A 19-member team including 16 students and three faculty members engaged in a five-day process with the Praxis team to have a better understanding on development processes. The group comprised students from diverse disciplines ranging from Music to Computer Science and their focus was to understand the relevance of Gandhi's ideology in present-day India. During the process, participants were oriented on participatory approaches and methods as well. A field visit was also carried out in Chennai, which included interaction with collectives representing LGBTQIA+ communities as well as children's groups in urban areas.

Training on Project Management

A two-day training was conducted for a group of partner organisations working with survivors of human trafficking for sexual exploitation on project management and monitoring and evaluation in Kolkata.

Internal Organisational Planning Exercise

A partner organisation was keen to go through a process of (re)aligning and (re)uniting the 65 team members and requested Praxis to facilitate the process. The idea of revisiting organisational culture and values was to be able to have conversations to develop a shared understanding about the trends and trajectories of external contexts they are working with and against; unpack the shared understanding about their 'culture' and to evolve a shared understanding and commitment to both external facing and internal facing shared ambitions, goals and objectives for 2018.

Strengthening Civil Society Organisations in Bihar

Praxis will support newly formed CSOs as well as promising individuals in Bihar, who have passion to do something meaningful for the community and aspire to bring about a change. Playing the role of a mentor, Praxis will support such individuals and CSOs articulate goals, recognise challenges and develop nuanced perspectives in their effort towards bringing the desired change. The overarching vision of the proposed initiative is to strengthen organisational resources in states like Bihar to play an effective role in deepening democratic practices and values of social justice in processes of development. Under the proposed initiative, eight organisations/individuals would be identified and engaged with over three years to develop a range of skills, attitudes and demonstrable plans of action for evolving into formidable resources, who could spearhead substantive development initiatives and strengthen the civil society. Six such organisations and two individuals were shortlisted in the past year for closer screening.

Certificate Course on Project Planning and Management



Praxis conducted a certificate course on project planning and management in an educational institution. The training was facilitated through four modules, i.e., basics of project cycle management, project planning, monitoring and evaluation and participatory approaches in project management.

Training on Gender Transformative Programming

Praxis facilitated a two-day training workshop on Gender Transformative Programming in Patna for project partners. Discussions focused on the theme of gender and participatory tools that can be facilitated to capture gender disaggregated insights.

Workshop on Immersions

Fifty students pursuing their Masters in Political Science sought to conduct an immersive research in 18 states across India. Praxis supported them by planning their immersion programme – how they could sequence the time they would be spending in the villages and what kinds of individuals and group activities and tools they could use. A one-day orientation programme was held for the students to orient

them on methods, expectations and management of challenges while in the field. Experiences of Praxis from past immersion processes were also shared.

Workshop on Participation & Responsible Business Practices

A two-day workshop was held in an educational institution to orient the students on participatory methods and approaches which they could use during their two-week fieldwork as part of their course. A separate half-day workshop was also held on responsible business and Corporate Social Responsibility during which the findings from the 'Status of Corporate Responsibility in India' report were shared and interactive discussions were held on the role of businesses and their responsibilities towards employees and society at large.

Praxis Annual International Workshop



Praxis conducted its 21st Annual International Workshop in Jaipur, Rajasthan in October last year. The workshop saw 45 participants from different sectors and experiences. Two modules on Participatory Methods and Approaches and Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation were run at the workshop.

Workshop on using Participatory Monitoring and Accountability for Environment Conservation



A partner organisation has initiated experiments in ecological protection and restoration of the Eastern Himalayan Region through the concept of Naturenomics. The organisation works with rural communities through projects that will enhance social and economic mobility, thereby providing them with the capacity and opportunity to take educated decisions, ultimately leading towards conservation of biodiversity and sustainable futures. Praxis was invited to do a workshop at the Eastern Himalayan Naturenomics Forum to introduce the idea of using participatory methods to engage with communities on conservation.

Training on Context Analysis and Baseline Studies

A partner organisation, which has been working in India since 1970's, operates through a network of nine development partners for the empowerment of marginalized groups and individuals with the main aim of facilitating poverty reduction. Their thematic work is on education and economic inclusion in North India. As part of their annual Partner's

Network Meeting, which provides a platform to its partners to share and learn from each other, Praxis was invited to build the capacity of the partners on context analysis and conducting baseline studies.

Workshop on Participatory Methods and Approaches



Praxis conducted a day-long workshop on participatory methods and approaches for a fellowship programme. Fellows, who came from diverse academic and professional backgrounds, were oriented on basics of participation and facilitation of community processes using participatory tools, equipping them to have evidence based discussions with communities, particularly marginalised groups who are experts by virtue of their lived experience. They also discussed about some of the challenges they could foresee in their direct engagement with communities and the possible strategies to overcome them.

End-line Survey on Campaign for Education, Prevention and Treatment of Tuberculosis Project

Campaign for Education, Prevention and Treatment of Tuberculosis started in 2013 and covers a population of approximately 3.34 million from 11 blocks of the Virudhunagar District and six blocks of the Kanchipuram District in Tamil Nadu. The objective of the study was to identify the contributions and impacts (intended and unintended) of the project with respect to the project goal, objectives and expected outcomes and to compare these with the baseline findings. This study involved a cross-sectional approach with a mixed method of both quantitative and qualitative data collection. The quantitative aspect involved a survey of various community members (women, youth, students, etc.) as well as patients and beneficiaries of different programmes. Qualitative data was collected through focused group discussions and semi-structured interviews that were held with officials and different stakeholders part of the project.

Formulating a Social Behaviour Change Strategy for New-Born Child Survival in Bihar



To contribute to the efforts of improving new-born child survival in Bihar, a Social and Behavioural Change strategy was designed. The strategy adopted a life-stage approach, covering a period of approximately 306 days, starting from day 1 of a child's conception till the time the baby is 28 days old, where specific interventions were targeted towards certain stakeholders at specific times. As part of the process, field visits were undertaken across select locations in Gaya, Purnea and Sitamarhi districts and the learnings were exchanged with government functionaries and CSOs at state and divisional levels. The main objective of the consultation was to gather experience-based learnings about essential roles, arrangements, processes and precautions that help to enhance new-born survival, for developing a holistic Social and Behaviour Change Strategy for New-born Survival for the state of Bihar.

PUBLICATIONS

Status of Corporate Responsibility in India, 2018



Praxis, along with Corporate Responsibility Watch (CRW) scanned the business environment from an equity lens across five community-focused issues: Non-discrimination in the workplace, employee well-being, inclusiveness in supply chain, and the community affected by business, in addition to the community development covered by conventional

corporate social responsibility.

Are Children Safe in Schools? An Analysis of Media Reports from 2017

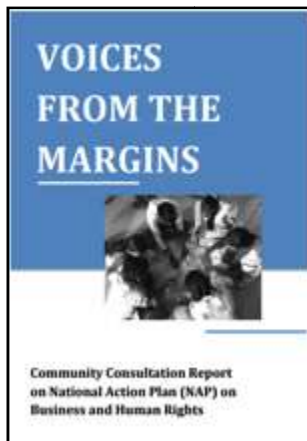
Praxis, as part of the Shikshagiri initiative conducted a review of 114 newspaper articles pertaining to crimes against children in educational institutions. The aim was to understand how safe schools are and how much information about the 'unsafe aspects' of schools is available in the public domain. Findings were analysed along with children and then presented to school

management committee members and civil society members.



Voices from the Margins

The report is a compilation of voices of various stakeholders including businesses, trade unions, CSOs, academic institutions, human rights defenders and vulnerable and marginalised communities, who are most impacted by business operation. Collated through consultations co-facilitated by Praxis with other partner organisation in five cities including Guwahati, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Bangalore and Delhi, the report compiles suggestions of stakeholders about the content of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, in accordance with the UNGP "Protect, Respect, Remedy" framework.



'Whose Ethics Count?'

The chapter 'Whose Ethics Count? Ethical Issues In Community Development And Action Research With Communities Facing Stigmatisation' in the book Ethics, Equity and Community Development offers a unique focus on the everyday ethics of community development practice in the context of local and global struggles for equity and social justice. Through an example of

work that Praxis did with sex workers, the chapter discusses ethical issues arising from work with them as well as ethical dilemmas of measuring or evaluating the effectiveness of interventions designed to mobilise sex workers to form groups and take action for change.



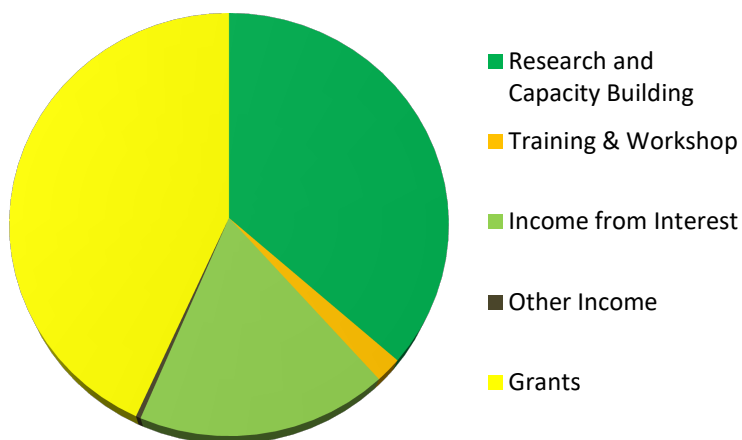
‘Rethinking Research Impact through Principles for Fair and Equitable Partnerships’

The article suggests a need for different types of relationships between UK-based academics and their research partners; which in turn can enable a more diverse, inclusive, and relevant approach to the production of development knowledge.

FINANCIALS

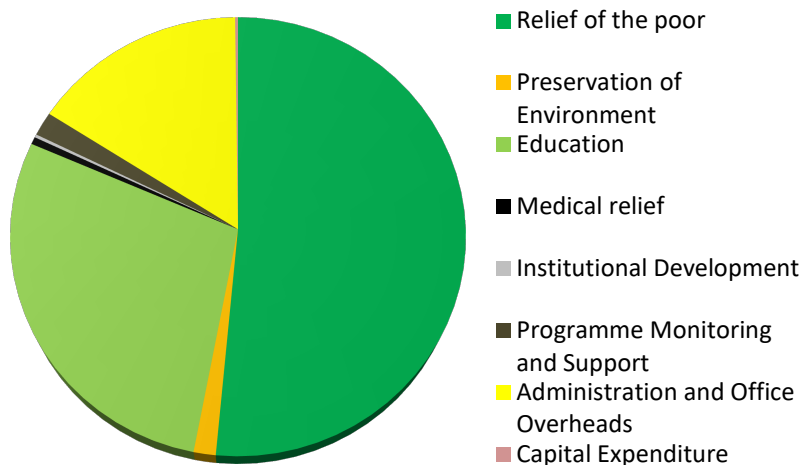
SOURCES OF FUNDING (Figures in Rs 000s)				
Activity	2018-2019	%	2017-2018	%
Research and Capacity Building	22228	36.47	42078	69.84
Training & Workshop	1167	1.91	48	0.08
Income from Interest	10978	18.01	9465	15.71
Other Income	213	0.35	1500	2.49
Grants	26360	43.25	7158	11.88
GRAND TOTAL	60946	100	60249	100

Sources of Funding 2018-19



DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE (Figures in Rs 000s)				
Activity	2018-2019	%	2017-2018	%
Relief of the Poor	21592	51.50	19336	47.51
Preservation of Environment	639	1.52	47	0.12
Education	11919	28.43	5571	13.69
Medical Relief	228	0.54	2578	6.33
Institutional Development	98	0.23	31	0.08
Programme Monitoring and Support	746	1.78	5437	13.36
Administration and Office overheads	6617	15.78	7327	18.00
Capital expenditure	89	0.21	368	0.90
GRAND TOTAL	41928	100	40695	100

Distribution of Expenditure 2018-19



TEAM PRAXIS

TEAM CHENNAI

Baskar R. (Programme Assistant)

Baskar has worked on issues of marginalisation and community mobilisation with sexual minorities, advocating for the rights of people of alternate sexualities to lead a life free of stigma and discrimination. As part of this, he has conducted trainings of trainers in use of self administrable tools to monitor community mobilisation.

M. J. Joseph (Director – South India Operations)

Joseph has close to three decades of experience in social work research and practice, with a major part of the experience in 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 (PLA) focused on various areas of social development

Mary George (Fellow)

With close to three 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.

Moulasha Kader (Programme Manager)

Moulasha is a demographer and researcher by training. He has more than two decades of experience working with

national and international development agencies. For the past 5 years, he has also handled projects focusing on monitoring community mobilisation, community participation and water governance. His current research interests revolve around issues of religious minorities, child rights, madarassa education, urban poor, maternal and child health.

Sabu Varghese (Administrative Officer)

Sabu has an academic background in Automobile Engineering (ITI) from Central Technical College, Kerala. Sabu has more than 15 years of driving he also assists in the day-to-day activities like photocopying, filing, stores and office maintenance.

Tom Thomas (CEO)

Tom has close to three decades of experience in international social development with expertise across various thematic areas. He has 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 the world. Prior to joining Praxis, he held senior positions with Action Aid in India, Bangladesh and the UK. Tom is also Convener of Corporate Responsibility Watch, a coalition of organisations and individuals tracking responsible business in India. He additionally holds membership of several national and international civil society coalitions furthering the idea and praxis of community participation as well as responsible business. Tom is also member of the Praxis Board.

TEAM DELHI

Anusha Chandrasekharan (Senior Programme Manager, Communications)

Anusha has worked as a print journalist with several leading newspapers before moving to communications in the development sector. She is interested in areas of gender and sexuality and has been involved in capacity building, participatory research and communications in multiple mediums such as participatory video and digital story-telling.

Deepti Menon (Programme Assistant)

Deepti has an academic background in Social Work and has been inclined towards working for children and has been part of research related with child labour and women empowerment. She has been part of projects which has enabled engagement with rural and urban community in understanding their needs, aspirations and helping in identifying scope of engagement with them.

Dheeraj (Programme Manager)

Dheeraj has close to a decade of experience in the realm of community mobilisation, community institution building, participatory monitoring and evaluation, decentralised micro-planning and developing implementation systems. For the last four years he has been researching disclosures and policy commitments of top 100 listed companies in India. He is part of the Principal Research Team of the India Responsible Business Index.

Md. Nishar Alam (Senior Finance Officer)

Nishar has close to 10 years of experience in the areas of Finance & Administration with organisations in the development sector. He is well versed in the domain of

general accounting, payroll, budgeting, journal entry preparation and taxation.

Nirmita Roychowdhury (Programme Assistant)

Nirmita is a geographer and qualitative researcher by training. Having worked with diverse research themes for past 5 years, her work is interdisciplinary in nature, largely bringing insights from anthropology and cultural studies. Extensive travel across nooks and corners of rural Bengal for field work has given her the exposure to reach out marginalised communities. Her research interests revolve around gender scapes, border conflicts, child protection, reproductive health, local history, cultural hybridity, landscape studies, geographies of religion, folk traditions and tribes.

Pradeep Narayanan (Director, Research and Capacity-Building)

Pradeep is a human rights activist-researcher associated with many rights-based NGOs and campaigns in India. He has close to two decades 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 (General Manager, Finance and Administration)

Ranjit has an experience of more than two decades in the development and corporate sector. His key proficiencies include grant and financial management, and developing

budget monitoring and financial systems. He manages audits, risk and compliance with Income Tax, provident funds, gratuity and other aspects of financial law. He heads the finance and administration unit of Praxis.

Shireen Kurian (Consultant)

Shireen is a journalism and media specialist who coordinates the corporate responsibility initiative of Praxis. She has experience in CSR-related work and projects in effective communication and documentation around corporate transparency and accountability. Her interests lie in gender issues, development media, law, civic issues and human rights.

Shishupal Prajapati (Senior Administrative Officer)

Shishupal has worked for more than a decade in the development sector, providing Administrative, Programme and Information Communication Technology support to several organisations. He volunteers with organisations working for the poor and marginalised in his spare time.

Sowmyaa Bharadwaj (Deputy Director, Research and Capacity Building)

Sowmyaa has more than a decade of experience in the development sector with expertise and interest in poverty, water, sanitation and hygiene, gender, urban development and rights. An experienced facilitator and a practitioner of participatory approaches, she has been involved in various trainings and capacity building initiatives with a range of communities and groups as well as been part of several participatory research studies, monitoring designs, assessments and evaluations.

Tarini Shipurkar (Programme Assistant)

Tarini has a background in Sociology. In the past, she has worked as a researcher on projects related to youth, gender, climate change and the urban labour market. Her main interests lie in the areas of gender, sexuality and human rights.

Vikas Yadav (Programme Assistant)

Vikas has a background in Social Work with vast experience in the realm of community mobilisation and community institution building. As part of the programme team, he has been instrumental in the Child Labour Free Jaipur initiative. In the past, he has worked with Denotified and Nomadic Tribes across India and was part of a team reviving the National Alliance Group for Denotified and Nomadic Tribes.

TEAM PATNA

Abhay Kumar (Senior Programme Officer)

Abhay has close to 10 years of association in development sector with experience in conducting participatory evaluations, action research, budget analysis and capacity building activities. For last four years he has also been engaged in initiatives related to resilience building and developing disaster management plans.

Anindo Banerjee (Director, Internal Programme Initiatives)

Anindo has over two decades of experience in international social development, particularly in conducting participatory assessments, policy analysis and capacity building processes. His areas of interest include governance reforms, affirmative action and democratic decentralisation.

Pradeep Kumar (Administrative Officer)

Pradeep holds a Post Graduate Diploma in TV Production from Notre Dame Communication Centre, Patna, and a Certificate Course in photography from Ravi Bharti Institute of Communication Arts, Patna. Before joining Praxis he worked as a freelance photographer for seven years.

Rajendra Ram (Office Assistant)

Rajendra Ram has more than three decades of supporting development organisations. He assists in day-to-day activities like photocopying, filing, stores and office maintenance.

Shilpi (Programme Officer)

Shilpi has seven years of extensive experience on several research studies and capacity building initiatives including Women Empowerment, Sexual and Reproductive Right of Women, Migration, Child Protection decentralised planning and governance etc. She has assisted in conducting participatory assessments and evaluations of livelihoods project in Bihar India. Her expertise lies in the application of participatory learning activities (PLA), ethnographic methods including semi-structured interviews, focus group and facilitating capacity building training.

Somidha Ray (Development Trainee)

Somidha has a background in mental health. She has experience in both qualitative and quantitative research in the field of mental health/psychology and has worked on several research projects, both independently and as part of large, interdisciplinary teams on themes ranging from assessment of reintegration programmes for former child soldiers to designing guides for delivery of mental health services to refugees. Her main interests lie in the areas of

Mental Health and Psycho-social Support (MHPSS), and Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH).

Vijay Prakash (Programme Officer)

Vijay has a background in Development Studies. He has experience of working on the issues of poverty and challenges of entrepreneurship among scheduled caste youth. He is competent in participatory research, impact assessment, data analysis, documentation and training. His research interest includes gender, rights, dalit issues, poverty, etc.

Vijeta Laxmi (Senior Programme Officer)

Vijeta has a background in social work and human resource management. Her key competencies are participatory research, documentation, project management and networking. She has prior experience of working on the issues of untouchability, food security, livelihood, health, etc. besides, her interest lies in the areas of gender, human rights, sexuality, health and sanitation.

MANAGING COMMITTEE

Tomy Mathew (President)

Tomy Mathew heads Elements, a business endeavour committed to organic and fair trade. He is the founder promoter of Fair Trade Alliance Kerala, a small farmer collective of 5000 farmers in the Western Ghats of India, engaged in environmentally sensitive stewardship of the soil and trade justice. Tomy was previously the Vice President, Corporate Communications, Alacrity Group of Companies, Chennai.

Tom Thomas (Secretary)

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

V S Thyagarajan (Treasurer)

Thyagarajan is a Chartered Accountant by profession and has over four decades of corporate and development experience. His specialisation is in Governance and Accountability and he has vast experience in managing finance, HR and administration in the NGO sector. He has worked as the Director of Finance and Administration for the Action Aid (UK) for its India Programme (for 8 years) and also in the same capacity for AMREF (African Medical Research Foundation) for 6 years. AMREF is an International NGO focused on health, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. He has served for six years from 2007 to 2013 on the board of Richmond Fellowship Society, an NGO working in the area of psycho-social rehabilitation. Richmond Fellowship have their headquarters in Bangalore. He is currently an advisor to the Board of Belaku Trust, an NGO that works with health and livelihood of rural women and children.

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.

Dr T S Syamala (Member)

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

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL BODY

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

Mr Arjun Rajagopal

Prof. Dr Arif Hassan

Dr Robert Chambers

Mr Shankar Venkateswaran

LIST OF OFFICES

Praxis Delhi

BB-5, Second Floor, Greater Kailash Enclave II, New Delhi -110
048

Tel: + 91-11- 4164 1512/2922 3588

Praxis Patna

1st Floor, Maa Sharde Complex, East Boring Canal Road, Patna
– 800 001

Tel: + 91-612 – 2521 983 Mobile: +91- 94310 17711

Praxis Chennai

Flat No – 5 D 808 Poonamallee High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai -
600 010

Training Centre, Tharavad

Panayoor P.O Vaniyamkulam, Palakkad District, Kerala – 679
522

Tel: +91 – 466 – 2226267

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

ATE Chandra Foundation	Institute of Development Studies
Badlao Foundation	Institute of Leadership Development
Best Practices Foundation	Justice Venture International
CARE	Kamonohashi Project
Caritas	Kolkata Samved
Central Tibetan Relief Committee	Sanjog
Centre Direct	Labour Education and Development Society
Centre for Social Equity and Inclusion	Life Education and Development Support
Centre for Sustainable Development Goals	Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Centre for World Solidarity	Mithila Gram Vikas Parishad
Centre for Child Protection	National Alliance Group for the Denotified and Nomadic Tribes
Change Alliance	Network for Enterprise Enhancement & Development Support
Chetna Vikas	Oak Foundation
Child In Need Institute	Oxfam India
Child Resilience Alliance-Columbia group	Partners in Change
Child Rights and You	Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Childline India Foundation	Peace Trust

Children's Investment Fund Foundation	Plan India
CINI	Pragati Gramin Vikas Samiti
Columbia Group of Children Inc	Pravah
Dalit Adhikar Manch	Rainbow Homes Foundation of India
Dasra	Rights Education and Development Centre
Development Management Institute	Samagra Shiksha Evam Vikas Sansthan
Edible Routes	Samarpan Indramani
Equal Community Foundation	Save the Children
EKJUT	State governments of Bihar, Rajasthan and Assam
European Union	SEWA Bharat
Genpact	Terre Des Hommes
Georgia College & State University	The Freedom Fund
Global Compact Network Initiative	UNICEF
Greenpeace	Vaanmuhil
Human Rights Advocacy and Research Foundation	Water Aid India
Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs	Welthungerhilfe
Indian School of Development Management	WORD



Praxis Institute for Participatory Practices
BB - 5, Second Floor, Greater Kailash Enclave II,
New Delhi – 110 048 | Tel: +91-11-4164 1512/2922 3588
info@praxisindia.org | www.praxisindia.org