

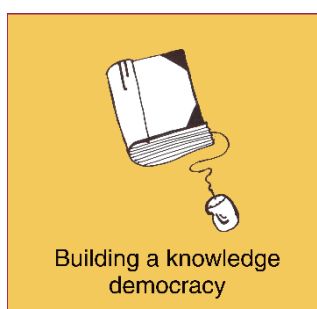


PRIA@40

Shaping our tomorrows, today.

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

FROM
PRIA@40 WEBINARS



WEBINAR SERIES

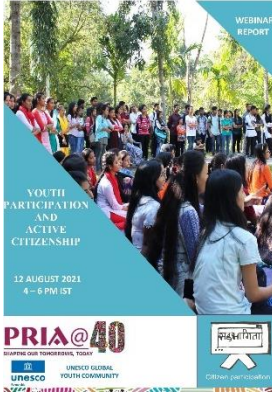
| | THEME | DATE | TITLE |
|----|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | Citizen Participation | 12 th Aug 2021 | Youth Participation and Active Citizenship |
| 2 | Citizen Participation | 12 th Oct 2021 | Trajectories of Participation: From Development to Governance |
| 3 | Citizen Participation | 26 th Nov 2021 | Institutionalising Online Citizen Participation in Policymaking |
| 4 | Decentralised Community Governance | 01 st Oct 2021 | Community-led Adaptation: Water Is Life |
| 5 | Decentralised Community Governance | 17 th Nov 2021 | Participation, Representation and Accountability: Strengthening the Movement |
| 6 | Empowering Civil Society | 31 st Aug 2021 | Accelerating Capacities in Civil Society and Non-Profits |
| 7 | Empowering Civil Society | 02 nd Sept 2021 | Nurturing Civil Society Partnerships in Uncertain Times |
| 8 | Empowering Civil Society | 15 th Sept 2021 | Redesigning Civil Society Ecosystem: From Local to Global |
| 9 | Empowering Civil Society | 30 th Sept 2021 | Investing in Civil Society Innovations |
| 10 | Empowering Civil Society | 23 rd Nov 2021 | Making a Difference: Adapting Impact Measurement |
| 11 | Empowering Civil Society | 29 th Nov 2021 | Changing Contours of Development Cooperation: What Roles for Civil Society? |
| 12 | Making the Gender Leap | 28 th Sept 2021 | Unlearning Patriarchy: Expanding Impacts of Gender Training |
| 13 | Making the Gender Leap | 01 st Nov 2021 | Gender-Transformational Organisational Renewal: Towards Gender Equality |

WEBINAR SERIES

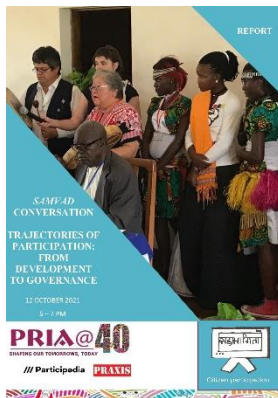
| | THEME | DATE | TITLE |
|----|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 14 | Making the Gender Leap | 09 th Dec 2021 | Gender in Governance: Pathways for Women's Political Leadership |
| 15 | Sustainable Urban Future | 20 th Aug 2021 | Planning With Urban Informalities |
| 16 | Sustainable Urban Future | 6 th Oct 2021 | Inspiring Leadership of Mayors and Councillors for Inclusive Urbanisation |
| 17 | Sustainable Urban Future | 20 th Oct 2021 | Scaling Up Citizen Engagement for Inclusive Urban Governance |
| 18 | Sustainable Urban Future | 08 th Dec 2021 | No Time to Waste: Building Resilient Urban Communities and Cities Through Locally Led Climate Adaptation |
| 19 | Sustainable Urban Future | 18 th Dec 2021 | Migrants Integral To Supply Chains: Designing Post-Pandemic Policies and Programs |
| 20 | Building a Knowledge Democracy | 25 th Nov 2021 | Young Scientists Learning Open Science |
| 21 | Building a Knowledge Democracy | 30 th Nov 2021 | Local Knowledge, Social Movements and Participatory Research: Indian Perspectives |
| 22 | Building a Knowledge Democracy | 16 th Dec 2021 | The Story of Participatory Research: History & Future |

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

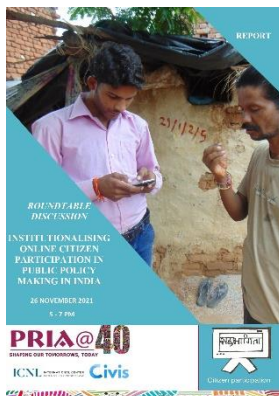
Number of webinars held: 3
Number of panelists: 41
Number of participants: 190
Number of partners: 6



[Youth Participation and Active Citizenship Report](#)



[Trajectories of Participation: From Development to Governance Report](#)



[Institutionalising Online Citizen Participation in Public Policy Making in India Report](#)

Date: 12 August 2021

Youth Participation and Active Citizenship

- **Youth are committed** – Youth are not apathetic; they are already committed to making change, both in their own lives (individual change) and societal change (in families, communities, institutions), including political change. It is both their responsibility and their right to participate. Commitment to participate is strengthened when young people are not seen as 'beneficiaries' or 'instruments of change' but rather as 'equal partners' (in social change).
- **Creative methods facilitate participation** – Enabling, encouraging and energising youth participation relies on methods and tools of engagement that need to be fun and creative. Arts-based expressions (poetry, drama, drawing, etc.), dialogues and discussions between youth and peers, have been found to be very useful.
- **Safe spaces promote learning of active citizenship** – Participation in youth groups, youth associations, and fellowships facilitates learning of active citizenship. Learning requires safe spaces in which youth can participate without judgement. Build youth capacity to design inclusive spaces, take hold of the space, and take the decision on which issues they want to act upon and how to communicate them.
- **Experiential learning of active citizenship is sustainable** – Interventions based on learning from everyday experiences of youth, and taking decisions to act in everyday life, have the most sustainable impact. Sensitisation becomes a crucial foundation necessary for active citizenship as it helps young people locate themselves within the social structures.
- **Higher education institutions can play a crucial role in the learning of active citizenship by youth** – The classroom can become a space for experiential learning of active citizenship. Higher education institutions should recognise and give credits for youth engagement in the real world

Date: 12 October 2021

Trajectories of Participation: From Development to Governance

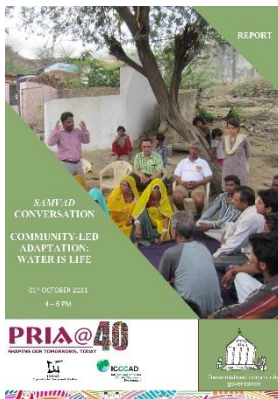
- ***Link participation to human rights*** – In a time of democratic recession, we need to link participation to human rights as it is the only way to protect human rights and ensure meaningful participation.
- ***Strengthen spaces for change*** – Even when civic spaces are shrinking under authoritarianism, people have always found a way to participate. So, we need to find and strengthen those spaces to bring about change.
- ***Inter-relation between learning, knowledge and participation*** – People participate based on available information so there should be a triad of learning, knowledge and participation to transform relations of power.
- ***Bring together multiple thoughts and voices*** – Many civil society organisations promote only one school of participatory thought. So, there is a need to stitch a coalition of multiple voices and thoughts where all kinds of participation are appreciated.

Date: 26 November 2021

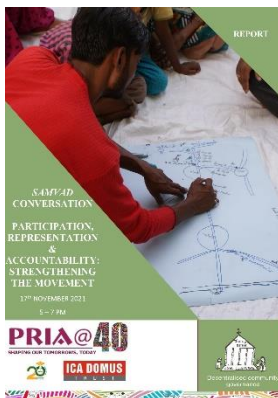
Institutionalising online citizen participation in policymaking

- ***Maintaining an enabling environment for participation*** – The state is obligated to maintain a supportive environment for expression, equality and non-discrimination which are important for participation with the same set of guidelines applying to both online and offline participation.
- ***Online participation approached as part of public participation*** – There is a need to prioritise internet access for everyone but there is a bigger need for digital literacy and citizen education so that online participation can be approached as a framework of public participation.
- ***Feedback and inputs are important*** – Feedbacks and remedies should be provided when the public participation requirements are not satisfied so that the inputs are processed by the government that leads to a meaningful impact.
- ***Create a platform for civic education*** – It is very important to create and maintain a platform for civic education so that not only governments and policymakers understand their impacts but also people put in efforts to be aware of it.
- ***Create multiple approaches to reach out to diverse people*** – We need to create a culture of participation so to bring people from various diverse backgrounds in order to ensure collective ownership of the issues.

Number of webinars held: 2
Number of panelists: 17
Number of participants: 92
Number of partners: 5



[Community-led Adaptation: Water is Life Report](#)



[Participation, Representation & Accountability: Strengthening the Movement Report](#)

Date: 1 October 2021

Community-led Adaptation: Water Is Life

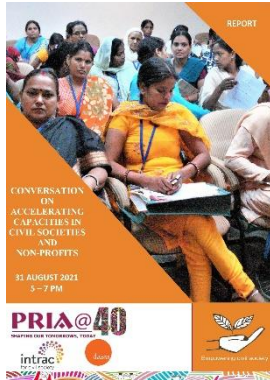
- ***Ensuring leadership within the community*** – Water management can be possible only if it is community-driven and community governed. Leadership inside the communities should be encouraged, especially through the participation of women groups and other vulnerable communities in water resource management.
- ***Link communities with governance*** – There should be an integration of community associations and local governance institutions to build people's knowledge on water sustainability to ensure that their voices and solutions are heard and implemented.
- ***Use data and technology in the community*** – Data and technology should be in the hands of the community to understand, analyse and adopt community governance of water, and educate themselves through a process of continuous learning on the ways to sustain natural resources.
- ***Dissociate water and land rights*** – Ownership and control of water resources and land rights should be delinked to avoid the malfunction of water utilities and to develop shared strategies for both issues.

Date: 17 November 2021

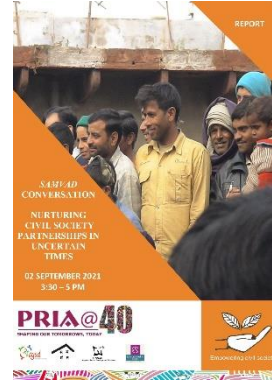
Participation, Representation and Accountability: Strengthening the Movement

- **Create institutions of direct participation** – We need to create and strengthen institutions of direct participation so that it influences representative institutions to build a relationship of trust for the women, poor and the marginalised.
- **Equip groups to understand power relations** – We need to equip the marginalised communities to use the tools of social accountability to understand power relations in participative institutions.
- **Develop the capacities of women** – We need to develop the capabilities of women and demonstrate their leadership on how they run their institutions as a self-reliant organisation.
- **Create an understanding of subsidiarity** – We need to understand subsidiarity in the institutional design process so that elements of direct participation and accountability become a part of the design of the local governance structures.
- **Experiential learning and capacity building of institutions** – Learning and sharing from one's experiences, building the capacities of the community organisation, and being enablers and facilitators of the people's organisation are important to support the movement of participation.

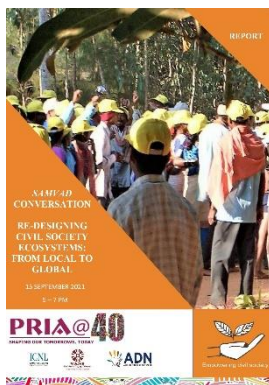
Number of webinars held: 6
Number of panelists: 42
Number of participants: 381
Number of partners: 13



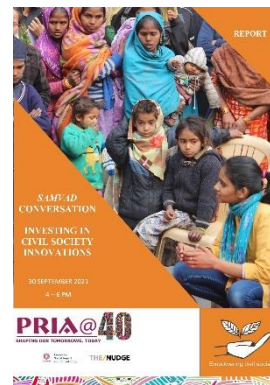
[Accelerating Capacities in Civil Society and Non-Profits Report](#)



[Nurturing Civil Society Partnerships in Uncertain Times Report](#)



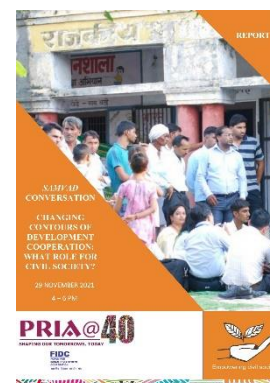
[Redesigning Civil Society Ecosystems: From Local to Global Report](#)



[Investing in Civil Society Innovations Report](#)



[Making a Difference: Adapting Impact Measurement Report](#)



[Changing Contours of Development Cooperation: What roles for Civil Society? Report](#)

Date: 31 August 2021

Accelerating Capacities in Civil Societies and Non-Profits

- **Organisations improving their capacities can be resilient to challenges** – The non-profits must be able to build resilience through leadership and strategies to adapt to new circumstances. Civil societies must understand and respect the experiences of each other which will help them to respond to large-scale issues like climate change, pandemics, political polarisation etc., which can affect their global interdependence deeply. Multi-sector partnerships and multi-directional learnings are valuable in our interdependent world.
- **People have more faith in civil societies than local authorities** – Civil society organisations should undergo self-assessment for their experiential learning and should articulate values so that they can create changes and visions for better and larger societies.
- **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to be a core belief** – The companies need to make corporate social responsibility part of their core business. The civil society organisations need to maximise shared value among them and make corporate social responsibility more effective in the issues of financial and material support.
- **Prioritise adaptive management in the civil society** – Civil society organisations must undergo the challenge of ongoing learning from their experiences and express new solutions to the problems they face daily. They must nourish each other with wisdom and collective learning through participatory communication. They must share the available resources and build on them.
- **Building relationships of trust** – The civil society organisations need to collaborate and build their trust with the other stakeholders so that it can encourage collaboration and participation determined on mutual accountability and transparency. This can further help in responding to the issues of the communities.

Date: 2 September 2021

Nurturing Civil Society Partnerships in Uncertain Times

- **Revisit and realign with the greater purpose** – Partnership among civil society organisations should be steered by shared values and strategies which must be reassessed and realigned so that the purpose and the mission of the organisations do not become passive in time.
- **Information and knowledge sharing** – Continuous engagement with partners around the societal issues helps to contribute meaningfully and communicate with each other. The sharing of knowledge and capacity building between organisations can be useful for one's own future efforts and struggles.
- **Humility and value addition** – Working together with humility and understanding the efforts taken by others are important as the commitments and obligations towards social causes are equal, contributing equally towards a commitment is a big responsibility.
- **Celebrate each milestone** – Achieving a milestone is never easy, be it small or big. So, one should always celebrate these accomplishments to value the importance and involvement of everyone in achieving success for the organisation.
- **Sharing and caring** – Mutual trust and accountability through shared learning is the most important value which bind people together for a cause as it builds transparency among the partners and the organisations. It also paves a way to bring changes in the society.

Date: 15 September 2021

Redesigning Civil Society Ecosystems: From Local to Global

- ***Civil societies are not independent of people*** – The civil society is independent and autonomous of the state and the market, but not independent of the people. We need to find a common ground to make connections between emerging social movements and the funded civil society organisations.
- ***Create space to reconnect*** – We must create space to reconnect with a view to facilitate and support the resistance. These resistances must be decentralised. We need to make civil society actions people-centric because one cannot accept democracy if it does not work for the people.
- ***Use modern technologies to build solidarity*** – As both information and misinformation can be weaponised easily; one need to use the technology wisely. We need to tap technology that makes it possible to globalise our decentralised efforts. We must build horizontal solidarity.
- ***Build local leadership*** – The civil society must navigate through the hostile environment and build the capacities of the local leaders. The idea is to enable the local leaders and not usurp them. We are not built for competition but collaboration and cooperation because we deal with social change.
- ***Crisis of liberal democracy*** – Our society operates within the framework of liberal democracy and this democracy is in a crisis today. This has resulted in shrinking civic spaces and freedoms. We are witnessing the retreat of a welfare state

Date: 30 September 2021

Investing in Civil Society Innovations

- **Provisioning risk capital for civil society Innovations** – It is important to restore the agency of civil society for innovation. Civil society needs to reject ‘conditional funding’. A long-term and patient risk capital, with systematic funding over several rounds is imperative for building the foundational strength of civil society organisations. Civil society organisations need multi-year core support that gives practitioners the space and time to reflect and be stimulated to develop new ideas.
- **Accountability of the funders** – Donors have the primary responsibility to be progressive. They need to have the courage to try something new and develop a large tolerance for failure. We are living in a global world and therefore conversations about partnerships should be anchored in a global framework. Many of our philanthropists are making profits in a global market so they must be held accountable to their global peers as well.
- **Create safer spaces** – There is a need for creating a safer space sector-wide where funders can have conversations with each other and reflect on their actions. We need to create such institutions that produce not only knowledge regularly but also help improve the credibility and increase the visibility of the sector, as a whole. A sector-wide knowledge platform that, over a period, with contributions from the donor community, will act as a mirror for us to reflect on our actions and learn from the same.
- **Importance of evidence** – Civil society needs to learn new instruments for generating data and evidence. Sometimes, evidence alone may not be enough, because there is a lack of political will or lack of capacity in the system to create the circumstances for scaling up the change we want to see.
- **Re-examining strategies** – Spending time in re-examining how change happens, and developing a shared understanding, with everyone in the ecosystem, about how we want to make transformational change happen is a must. Producing results on the ground, but also working to influence the governments and markets to support a level of momentum that can change the world. It is important to recognise that a participatory approach to knowledge, changes the way we can bring about change

Date: 23 November 2021

Making a Difference: Adapting Impact Measurement

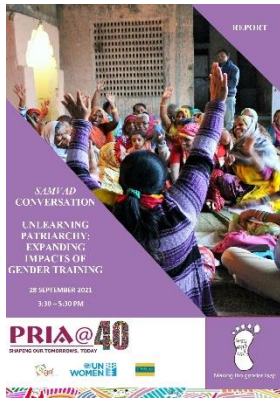
- ***Adapt impact measurement as if people matter*** – We need to make sure that impact measurements make lives better for micro-level communities and individuals. There should be new openness to dialogues in order to create a hybridisation of methods from both the young and old players.
- ***Bring together gender and sustainability lens*** – We need to invest in the nexus of gender and sustainability lens because it is an innovative toolbox of standards and metrics for financial institutions enterprises and can also be a powerful sight of ingenuity in advance.
- ***Need to have a strong context of impact measurement*** – As impact measurement is a collective effort, we need to ensure that people have a say on how their work is going to be measured. In addition, these measurements are used for improvements rather than instilling fear.
- ***Funders must change their stance reflecting power*** – Funders need to be in the centre of the game and influence the shaping of what is being monitored and evaluated. As funders often see impact assessment as an endeavour to build social and political capital.
- ***Data dissemination is important*** – There is a need to develop and design effective data collection tools to ensure high standards of outsourcing to undertake impact assessment.
- ***Build trust between funders and communities*** – It is important to build trust between external agencies and the communities for any developmental intervention. Otherwise, the communities might be conditioned to behave as the funders would like them to behave.

Date: 29 November 2021

Changing Contours of Development Cooperation: What Roles for Civil Society?

- **Use triangular cooperation as a platform** – We need to work together to help operationalise the recommendations which can improve civil society engagement and collaboration by using triangular cooperation as a mechanism.
- **Promote and protect civic space** – The civil societies and other actors need to develop clear policy positions on the value of an inclusive and independent civil society, respecting, protecting and promoting civic space in line with rights to the freedom of peaceful assembly, association and expression.
- **Incentivise civil society to be effective** – We must not just instrumentalise civil societies to deliver programmes, but we require efforts to make a shift in the mindset of the governments and incentivise civil society organisations to be more transparent and accountable.
- **Civil society adds values to development cooperation** – Bringing expertise from the grassroots, holding government and intergovernmental agencies accountable, explaining complex issues in lay terms and collaboration, are some of the value additions from the civil society for development cooperation

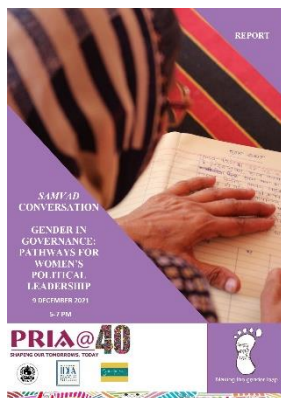
Number of webinars held: 3
Number of panelists: 29
Number of participants: 169
Number of partners: 5



[Unlearning Patriarchy: Expanding Impacts of Gender Training Report](#)



[Gender Transformational Organisational Renewal: Towards Gender Equality Report](#)



[Gender in Governance: Pathways for Women's Political Leadership Report](#)

Date: 28 September 2021

Unlearning Patriarchy: Expanding Impacts of Gender Training

- ***Need to move from training to mentoring*** – Training often gets restricted with time and can be an incomplete tool without planning and strategising the resources. We need mechanisms to monitor training and provide hand-holding support to the participants.
- ***Use feminist methodology and popular culture*** – Gender trainings must move beyond the binary and include conversations on sexuality with the help of popular culture and feminist learnings.
- ***Build a cadre of trainers*** – A mixed group of trainers including the younger generation can bring innovative perspectives and make gender trainings transformative.
- ***Investment in trainings*** –As short-term trainings do not yield desired results, there is a need to invest time and research in the programme design. This will ensure practical changes through repeated reflection and internalisation.
- ***Provide safe spaces*** –The training must provide safe spaces to participants and survivors of violence so that they can collectivise, share and co-learn.
- ***Know the social context and the realities surrounding gender*** – The training content must be mindful of gender realities and the social context pertaining to it so that field actions can be practical.

Date: 01 November 2021

Gender-Transformational Organisational Renewal: Towards Gender Equality

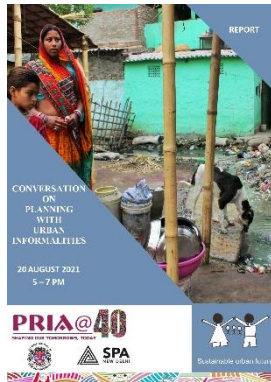
- ***Respect the differences of cultures and individuals*** – The socialisation process of each person is different; therefore, we need to respect the cultures of the individuals working in organisations so that safe workplace can be created.
- ***Empathetic facilitators required for transformation*** – A team of external facilitators who are empathetic but critical are needed for gender training that can help organisations to change their perspective from being gender-blind to gender-social transformation.
- ***Commitment needed for gender transformation*** – A long-term and demonstrable commitment from the top is important. There should be an opportunity to access wider groups of people than the traditional gender focal points for gender transformation.
- ***Create a body of expertise and knowledge*** – Producing learning materials to enable voice, participation and a willingness to embed and translate ideas in the organisations is required to help facilitate gender mainstreaming.

Date: 09 December 2021

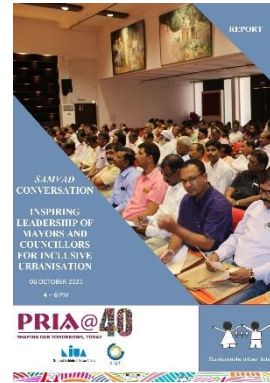
Gender in Governance: Pathways for Women's Political Leadership

- ***Women's leadership is a democratic agenda*** – In the sense we recognise gender equality as a societal agenda, similarly we need to recognise women's political leadership as a democratic agenda to enable political representation of women from all sections of society.
- ***Women learning to trust women's leadership*** – Women can be better leaders in politics as they have varied experience, power of empathy and sensitivity, which are often considered as negative or weak emotions by society.
- ***Support women's mobility from local to national*** – There is a need to support elected women representatives by political parties to make them capable enough to mobilise them from local to state and to national-level politics rather than subjecting them to character assassination.
- ***Never give up*** – Women are being actively fenced out of the state and national level politics because politics is heavily guarded by the patriarchal system. Therefore, we should be unwavering and understand that this is a demonstration of a changed reality. It is imperative that we train and enable a younger generation of women leaders so that they can lead.

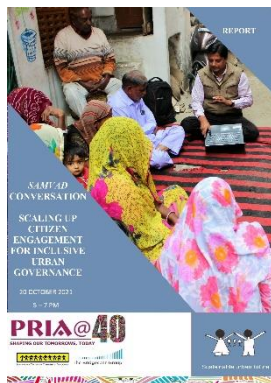
Number of webinars held: 5
Number of panelists: 48
Number of participants: 496
Number of partners: 9



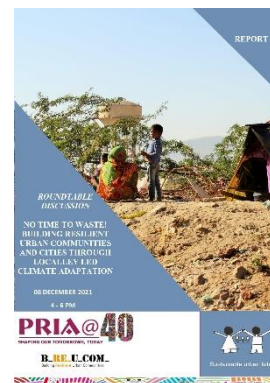
[Planning with Urban Informalities Report](#)



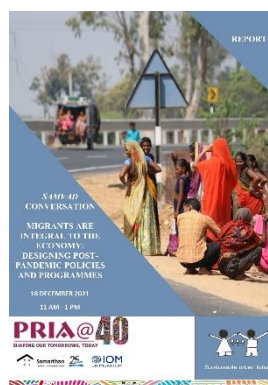
[Inspiring Leadership of Mayors and Councillors for Inclusive Urbanisation Report](#)



[Scaling up Citizen Engagement for Inclusive Urban Governance Report](#)



[No Time to Waste: Building Resilient Urban Communities and Cities Through Locally Led Climate Adaptation Report](#)



[Migrants are Integral to the Economy: Designing Post-Pandemic Policies and Programs Report](#)

Date: 20 August 2021

Planning with Urban Informalities

- ***Both informality and formality co-exist*** – The idea of informality is created by a planning process that imposes unrealistic formality. Acknowledging informality must be the dominant feature of planning for a sustainable urbanisation process in India. Informality has been a way of life and imposing order might produce confrontations between informality and formality as the perception of urban planners is different from those who reside and use the city.
- ***Understanding informality is understanding the 'other'*** – Informality and formality are compared in terms of value – the formal operates through fixing of values and the informal operates through constant negotiability of values. The formal is often seen as legal and the informal is seen as illegal which further deepens the process of 'othering'.
- ***Development narrative needs to change*** – The development narrative needs to change from being illegal and exclusionary to being legal and inclusionary. It needs tactical and deliberate plans to promote participation with good governance.
- ***Link planning with governance*** – Planning needs to start with a purpose in mind. This purpose must define the process. It is important to monitor and constantly re-plan given the dynamic nature of the urbanisation process. We also need to make the governance system accountable and capable.

Date: 06 October 2021

Inspiring Leadership of Mayors and Councillors for Inclusive Urbanisation

- ***Invest in the training of elected leaders*** – There should be a continuous learning process for the elected representatives at the local level and a need for peer-to-peer mentoring and support to inspire the next generation of leaders and young people to engage in decision making of their communities.
- ***Build relationships beyond the formal authority*** – Councillors and mayors need to bridge the gaps between the policies and practices so that the cities are not only seen as engines of economic growth but also of inclusiveness and sustainability.
- ***Mobilise expertise to a common purpose*** – Elected leaders should pay attention to the issues faced by people. They should also know how to plan and organise smartly with the available resources to improvise and sustain the living conditions for the citizens.
- ***Need for collaboration and cooperation*** – Mayors and councillors should communicate and empower themselves so that they can build pressure through collective efforts to claim their decision-making authority and make the governance of the city sustainable.

Date: 20 October 2021

Scaling Up Citizen Engagement for Inclusive Urban Governance

- ***Sustain trust and engagement with communities*** – Partners engaging with communities need models that can tailor solutions in addressing their diverse needs and build trust amongst the communities for inclusive urban governance.
- ***'Do no harm' principle of urban practice*** – Upscaling civic engagement needs no brutal policing regimes. It must create space to address the sustaining violence and think about reconciliation and resolution as part of that effort.
- ***Support the functions of ward committees*** – The functions of ward committees and Mohalla sabha must be endorsed for decentralised governance where people can engage themselves, build consensus and resolve their conflicts.
- ***Local data keeping is critical*** – It is important to observe the use of public spaces and data at the neighbourhood scale and map the impact of the work which is being done in the communities to make cities more inclusive.

Date: 08 December 2021

No Time to Waste: Building Resilient Urban Communities and Cities Through Locally Led Climate Adaptation

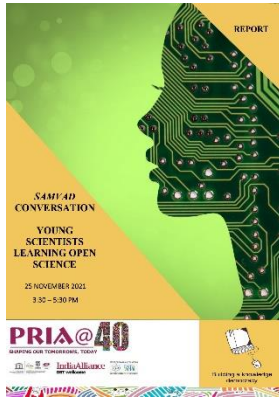
- ***Find a common language*** – There is a need to use simple language to make things understandable for citizens and policymakers. Often the language used in climate change discussions is highly westernised. We need to break it innovatively and make it contextualised at the local level so that the communities can be engaged.
- ***Engage with civil societies*** – Municipal governments have limited capacities to engage with local communities. Therefore, civil societies need to engage with local communities through organised conversations regarding their concerns and needs.
- ***Need formal financing for building resilience*** – There is a need to shift towards a more innovative approach for generating formal financing to build resilience that can empower local decision-making.
- ***Collection of data adds value*** – Data needs to be collected in a systematic format and analysed so that there is value addition and that it can further be translated into meaningful actions.

Date: 18 December 2021

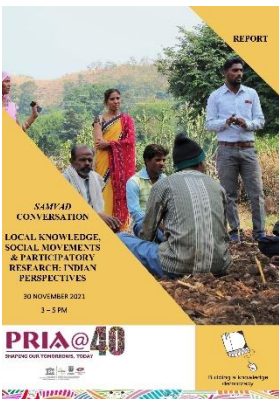
Migrants Integral to Supply Chains: Designing Post-Pandemic Policies and Programs

- **Need structural reform to address migrant issues** – We have been ignorant and unaware of the issues of the migrants. We need to have a structural system to understand the numbers, patterns needs and concerns of migration. The whole system needs a structural reform when it comes to identification of labourers, designing and delivering schemes. We need to address the anomalies in our scheme designs and address them so as to create an equitable system.
- **Strengthen the labour laws** – The issues of labour exploitation usually go unnoticed and unreported. Adequate media attention should be drawn towards these issues. We need to bring the domestic workers within the ambit of labour laws and employment regulations in India. We need more systems like the e-SHRAM portal. We also need to develop a different system to integrate their needs and issues.
- **Understand the dignity and value of labour** – We need to underline the importance of the dignity of labor which is often ignored and forgotten. Migrant laborers should be given decent access to basic protection measures which is often dealt with as a very mechanical process in this society.
- **Need to have a clear problem statement** – We need to have a clear problem statement to make progress. Civil society organisations have an important role in collecting data from the grassroots level to showcase the problems of the migrants. We need to change the perspective of government and the other stakeholders so as to increase their inclusion criteria in our policies. In this context, the biggest challenge is the delivery mechanism

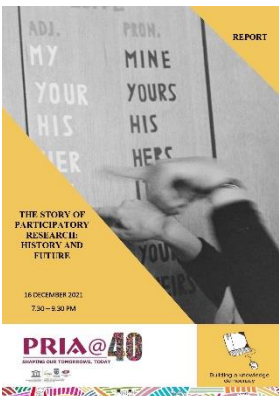
Number of webinars held: 3
Number of panelists: 26
Number of participants: 273
Number of partners: 4



[Young Scientists Learning Open Science Report](#)



[Local Knowledge, Social Movements & Participatory Research: Indian Perspectives Report](#)



[The Story of Participatory Research: History & Future Report](#)

Date: 25 November 2021

Young Scientists Learning Open Science

- ***Need for public engagement on the research agendas*** – There is a need for greater public consultations on all the elements of the research process, and young scientists should be given the appropriate training and the right to access materials freely.
- ***Build capacities in communication of science*** – We need to build the capacities of the scientists by sharing knowledge with the stakeholders, doing research on science communication, and then mainstreaming and promoting it to be more open with the public and other scientists of different domains.
- ***Gender inclusion is important in open science*** – The experiences drawn from the inclusion of gender can help understand what changes are required in structures, processes, and institutional culture to put equity and inclusion at the core of Science, Technology and Innovation policy.
- ***Create a supportive culture for scientists to learn and grow*** – We need to create an enabling, supportive culture and practices to nurture young scientists who can make effective use of funding and career development programs so that they get a fair chance to thrive in this ecosystem and contribute to the society

Date: 30 November 2021

Local Knowledge, Social Movements and Participatory Research: Indian Perspectives

- ***Direct democracy supports indigenous knowledge*** – Decision-making should be in the hands of people. Community needs to be the foundation of our democracy.
- ***Make indigenous knowledge more amenable to young people*** – There needs to be a well-balanced but hybrid knowledge system. A system that blends both the indigenous and traditional knowledge with modern knowledge practices to attract and respond to the young people – their needs and aspirations.
- ***Acknowledging Indigenous knowledge system in policies*** – Recognising and acknowledging indigenous knowledge as a viable knowledge needs a collective will and knowledge especially in legislative policies.
- ***Need to keep the knowledge ecosystem alive*** – It is important to keep the knowledge ecosystem relevant to enable the traditional system to flourish without the ecosystem being destroyed. It would be difficult to revitalise knowledge without the basis from which it is derived.
- ***We cannot stop our resistance*** – It is important to recognise that the sustenance of traditional indigenous and diverse knowledge systems is a part of the resistance movements. These resistance movements demonstrate the two different civilisational worldviews that emerged from some of the resistance movements. These movements are resistant to the basic structures that create inequality, injustice and unsustainability.

Date: 16 December 2021

The Story of Participatory Research: History and Future

- ***Share the wealth of your skills and knowledge*** – Sharing the wealth of a researcher's skills and our knowledge with the community enables them to have a voice in the decisions that impact their lives.
- ***Listen and connect*** – Knowledge when used to connect and build networks for local communities with those in positions of power who take decisions, enhances voice and skills of communities to push for the change they want.
- ***Decolonise higher education curriculum*** – Universities cannot depend solely on a Eurocentric knowledge system anymore. It is not sufficient to solve the problems of inequality. Engage students and teachers through research and pedagogy to democratise knowledge.
- ***Change the development discourse*** – We cannot rely on quantitative data and analysis alone. Knowledge shared through participatory processes is critical for sustainable impact of development programs.