

Advancing Environmental Health Science Research and Translation in India through Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR)

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New Delhi, India



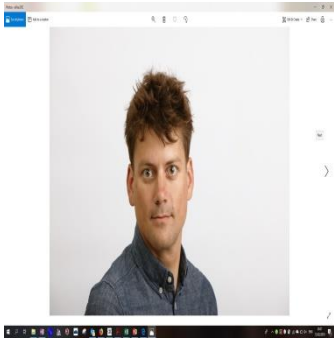
Ashok Kumar Ghosh is currently working as Chairman, Bihar State Pollution Control Board and Professor & HoD, Research at Mahavir Cancer Institute and Research Centre. He also is working on a multinational (Indo-Dutch-Bangladesh) research project *DELTA*P for arsenic mobilization in Gangetic floodplains of Bihar. Dr. Ghosh has been awarded Erasmus Mundus Fellowship in 2010, 2014 and 2015 for collaborative research with University of Applied Sciences, Karlsruhe, Germany and Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden.



Anand Krishnan is professor, Centre for Community Medicine at AIIMS New Delhi. He heads the Centre for Capacity Development and Research in Community based NCD Prevention and Control. He has more than 260 publications with an average impact factor of 2.4. He leads Minerva Network which assigns cause of death for verbal autopsies done under SRS, Office of the Registrar General of India. He works closely with MoHFW and ICMR on various NCD related initiatives like national steering committee of national program for cancer, diabetes, CVD and stroke.



Banalata Sen is an independent environmental health consultant. She advises and helps NGOs build their health portfolio; develops and leads implementation and evaluation of community-based health projects; and helps develop indo-international partnerships in the area of public and environmental health. Prior to this, she was a scientist at the US Environment Protection Agency and US National Institute of Environmental Health for 15 years.



Benjamin Ambuehl is a project officer at eawag – the swiss federal institute of aquatic science and technology – and university of Bern, Switzerland. His field of interest is intercultural work and behaviour change. As a psychologist, Benjamin is profoundly interested in the psycho-social factors and neuro-cognitive processes that determine behaviour. In a participatory project, based in Bhagalpur-area in the state of Bihar, the project team is acting on long-term arsenic safe drinking water consumption. The concept of ownership and habitual behaviour and their relation to sustainable functionality of the arsenic mitigation options and the use thereof are explored.



Binoy Acharya is the Founder Director of UNNATI – Organisation for Development Education, established in 1990. As a social development practitioner and researcher he has been working in the areas of social inclusion, decentralised governance, social accountability and disaster risk reduction. Over the past thirty-two years, he has been associated with grass-roots initiatives, networks and government forums on various development issues. He plays consultative role to a wide range of government and non-governmental institutions.



Dunu Roy is a chemical engineer by training, social scientist by compulsion, political ecologist by choice. He has worked for over four decades in rural and urban scenarios, land and water management, secure settlements, safe work, environmental planning, leadership training, pollution control. He is poised on the delicate borderline between environment and development.



D.K. Manavalan, presently leads a national level NGO AFPRO –Action For Food Production, working in Natural Resource Management, Watershed and Livelihood programmes for Tribals, SC and marginalized population of India. He has done extensive studies regarding water balancing and innovative approach in capacitating communities. Low cost input approach for water management is unique in AFPRO’s interventions. AFPRO has been working in arid zones to find solutions in hard rock areas in India and also bringing awareness among communities and designing sustainable water harvesting structures in rural India.



Doug Brugge, is professor in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. He directs the Community Assessment of Freeway Exposure and Health, a set of studies about ultrafine particles from traffic, their association with cardiovascular health risk and how to reduce exposure and risk. Additional research has been on uranium mining, asthma, and second hand smoke. Most of his work uses a community-based participatory research approach. He has over 160 academic publications and has a deep commitment to seeing research translated into policy and practice.



Diana Rohlman is an Assistant Research Professor in the College of Public Health and Human Sciences. She is interested in the role environmental health literacy plays in how communities perceive, describe, and respond to environmental health hazards. The majority of her research is community engaged, and incorporates returning data to individuals and communities. She received her doctoral degree in Toxicology at Oregon State University.



Edith Parker serves as Dean of the University of Iowa, College of Public Health. She also directs the Prevention Research Center for Rural Health, based in the University of Iowa, College of Public Health. Her research focuses on the design of community health promotion interventions that address social determinants of health and health disparities. A nationally recognized expert on Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR), her work centers on engaging community members in the design, implementation, and evaluation of research interventions, and translating and disseminating research findings for program and policy change.



Gwen Collman, is director of the NIEHS Division of Extramural Research and Training. She directs scientific activities across the field of environmental health sciences including basic sciences (i.e., DNA repair, epigenetics, environmental genomics), organ-specific toxicology (i.e., reproductive, neurotoxicology, respiratory), public health related programs (i.e., environmental epidemiology, environmental public health) including Global Environmental Health, and training and career development. She also oversees the implementation of the Superfund Research Program and the Worker Education and Training Program.



Jagadanand leads the Centre for Youth and Social Development (CYSD), an autonomous development organization working with the tribal and rural poor in Odisha with an aim to realize the goal of people-centered equitable development. Sustainable Rural livelihoods, participatory governance and community based disaster resilience are amongst the major areas of work of the centre. Presently, he is a Member of the Standing Committee (CSOs) at the NITI Aayog the highest think-tank body at the National level on Institutionalizing Partnership between Civil Society and the Government. His publication '*Civil Society Legitimacy and Accountability*' is widely available in French, Spanish, Arabic and English languages.



Jill Johnston is an Assistant Professor and Director of Community Engagement in the Division of Environmental Health at University of Southern California. Broadly, her research focuses on addressing unequal exposures to harmful contaminants that affect the health of working poor and communities of color. She previously worked as a community organizer on issues of environmental and economic justice in South Texas. Currently, she engages in collaborations with grassroots organizations to conduct community-engaged action-oriented research at USC to support environmental justice.



Jagdish Patel has established Vyavsayik Swasthya Suraksha Mandal (VSSM)- a local pressure group on OSH. In 1988, he started irregular OSH newsletter in Guajrati which was renamed as SALAMATI and was made bimonthly in 1998. In 1990, he played important role in initiating national campaign on dust related lung diseases. In 1992 he helped establish Peoples Training & Research Center. Through PTRC, he has consistently advocated for social justice for the victims. In 2007, he received International Award of OHS Section of American Public health Association (APHA). He is in forefront of the struggle to get asbestos banned in Asia. He has helped several victims get compensation from ESIC for occupational diseases like noise induced hearing loss, occupational dermatitis, occupational asthma, chromium toxicity, silicosis and so on. He has authored several booklets on the subject and has trained several hundred workers in OSH.



Karthick Radhakrishnan is a research associate at S M Sehgal Foundation. He is also pursuing his PhD (TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi) and holds M.Sc. in Applied Economics specialization with Environmental Economics from Madras School of Economics, Chennai. He has experience in research for more than 5 years. He was associated with M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Madras Institute of Developments Studies, Ashden India Collective and TARU Leading Edge. His area of interest lies in developmental economics, agricultural economics, environmental economics especially on agriculture and water-related issues.



Kim Harley is a reproductive epidemiologist and a faculty member in Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. Her research focuses on the effects of pesticides, endocrine disruptors, and other chemicals on women's and children's health. Dr. Harley has considerable experience in community-based participatory research (CBPR) in agricultural communities, including serving as the Associate Director of the CHAMACOS Study, a 20-year long CBPR project of immigrant farmworker women and their children in California. She also leads several youth participatory action projects that engage young people in environmental health research, literacy, and advocacy in their communities.



Kamalesh Sarkar is a public health physician by training and is currently working as Director, ICMR-National Institute of Occupational Health at Ahmedabad, India. Dr. Sarkar has more than 30 years of experience & expertise in control of all sorts of locally prevalent communicable as well as non-communicable diseases. He also received the prestigious ICMR Award - 'Dr. M. K. Seshadri Prize' for his significant contribution in the field of HIV/AIDS. He has also been elected as member of National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) based on his professional achievements. He is currently working on improving the occupational health scenario of the country through research, training & technological development.



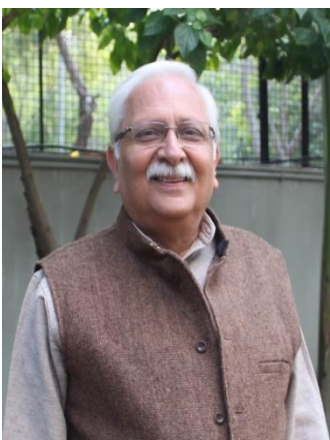
Mudita Vidrohi has worked with organisations like Gujarat Vidyapith, Centre for Environment Education and Nehru Foundation for Development for over a decade. She has been working as an activist and has been playing an active role in various people's movements in Gujarat, especially those related to natural resources. She has successfully lead some of the very important struggles, such as the struggles against a proposed hazardous chemical waste dumping plant on agricultural in Dholka block of Ahmedabad district, the struggle against a salt factory on agricultural land in Surendranagar district etc., which resulted into victory.



Mohit Gupta is working with Environics Trust on the issues of Occupational and environmental health. His work involves research on pollution from the workplaces which impact the workers and communities living in proximity to the factories and mines. He has been part of several medical camps which have been organised to identify victims of occupational lung diseases like Silicosis and Asbestosis in several parts of the country. His current work is focussed on the ascertaining the air pollution impact of Thermal Power plants and Coal mines on the surrounding communities. He has been the coordinator of Asian Network for Rights of Occupational and Environmental Victims (ANROEV) and Occupational and Environmental Health Network of India (OEHNI).



Praveen Kumar is an Assistant Professor at the Boston College School of Social Work, USA. His research examines economic, social, and behavioral responses to environmental changes that impact well-being of poor communities in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. His scholarship has two interrelated tracts. They are: 1) impact of household air pollution on the well-being of poor households; and 2) economic, social, and behavioral challenges that perpetuate energy poverty. Dr. Kumar uses quantitative methods, and system sciences such as community based system dynamics and ego-network analysis for his trans-disciplinary research. His work has been funded by the NIH, UN Foundation, DFID (UK), and multiple UN agencies.



Rajesh Tandon is founder-president of Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA www.pria.org). He is also Co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair on Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education since 2012. In 2018, he was appointed member of the Subject Expert Group on Curricular Reforms and Educational Institutions Social Responsibility under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA). A pioneer of participatory research, Dr Rajesh Tandon has given new meaning to academic research by redefining the relationship between the researcher and the researched. He has championed the cause of building organisations and capacities of the marginalised through their knowledge, learning and empowerment, contributing to the emergence of several local, national and international groups and initiatives to promote authentic and participatory development of societies.



Rituu B Nanda has experience in research, M&E, community engagement, and knowledge management. She currently works for Institute of Social Studies Trust, Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and Constellation. She has combined SALT, a strength-based approach in participatory action research (PAR). She was also engaged in Multi-country PAR for IDRC on sex workers and advocacy in Cambodia and India and systemic PAR for IDS since 2015 in relation to the Freedom Fund 'hotspot' in northern India, a project that seeks to reduce bonded labour in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.



Nicole Novak, is a social epidemiologist and community health researcher with a focus on health equity and health disparities in the United States. She uses epidemiologic and community-engaged research methods to understand systems and policies that affect the health of marginalized population groups, including immigrants, Latinos and rural residents. She has particular interests in reproductive and perinatal health. She partners with multiple community-based organizations addressing issues related to health equity in Iowa, a rural state in the Midwest of the United States.



Nanda Kishore Kannuri is an anthropologist by training with over 20 years of experience in development sector and academia. He has worked for national and international development organizations before shifting to Indian Institute of Public Health Hyderabad, established by Public Health Foundation of India in 2009. He is inspired by the applied approaches in anthropology and methods of ethnography to research on contemporary issues in public health. His research interests are in the areas of Environment and Health, Citizen Science for Public Health, One health approach, Health Policy and Health systems research, Tribal Health, Technology for inclusive health, Health equity, Community based participatory research and Participatory design.



Upasona Ghosh is a Senior Lecturer, Indian Institute of Public Health, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India. In her decade long ethnographic research she focused on the linkage between climate, society and health in one of the climate change hot spot of India-the Sundarbans. Her research further explored the history of marginalization and present political-ecology of the region to unearth system's challenges which includes vulnerability analysis of the region. Her current research interest is to focus on the social vulnerabilities of the communities experiencing climate change and also throws light on the political-economic dynamics impacting transformational changes towards climate sensitive health system. Her aim is to build up community based practical knowledge towards a sustainable pathway of change in health policy process for the vulnerable and disadvantageous populations.