

PARTICIPANT BIOS

ABHAY SHUKLA is a public health physician who works on health issues in collaboration with people's movements and grassroots NGOs. He is Coordinator of SATHI-CEHAT.

AFSAR JAFRI is coordinator of the South Asia office of Focus on the Global South. He works on agriculture and water related issues. He has also played an active role in the anti-WTO and FTA campaigns and is based in New Delhi.

AKHILA VASAN is co-convener of the Janaarogya Andolana Karnataka (JAK). She is an independent public health researcher based in Bangalore. She can be contacted at

AMIT SENGUPTA is Associate Global Coordinator, People's Health Movement as well as national co-convener, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan. He is also associated with the Delhi Science Forum and the Municipal Services Project (MSP) Steering Committee.

AMULYA NIDHI is a health activist from India with 15 years of experience in health and human rights issues. He worked with various organisations and is presently with Shilpi Kendra, Nai Shuruwat and Swasthya Adhikar Manch.

ASHIM ROY is general secretary of the New Trade Union Initiative (NTUI). He has over 25 years of experience in the trade union movement and is the president of the Chemical Mazdoor Panchayat. He is based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

BANA MALLIKA is with ActionAid and has been working on indigenous people's rights in the context of mining, hydropower, trade and borderland issues in the North-East. She writes for several publications and is based in Guwahati.

CLAIRE GRAHAM has recently moved to Bangalore to volunteer in ActionAid India for six months. She has a BA Honours in Modern Languages, French and Spanish, from Newcastle University and an M. Sc .in International Development.

CR BIJOY is an independent researcher and activist, primarily involved with indigenous peoples' struggles, such as the Campaign for Survival and Dignity which works for the rights of forest people.

BENNY KURUVILLA is with the South-South Knowledge Hub at ActionAid. He has worked on trade, investment and climate issues for over a decade and is based in New Delhi.

B.EKBAL is a member of the Jan Swasthya Abhiyan Working Group, and a consultant neurosurgeon and chairperson of the Academy of Medical Sciences, Pariyaram, Kannur. He was involved in formulating decentralised health planning in Kerala.

DANIEL CHAVEZ is a Uruguayan activist-researcher based in the Netherlands. He is a fellow of the Transnational Institute (TNI) and a senior lecturer in political economy at the International Business School (HVA-IBS) in Amsterdam. He is also a film-maker.

DAVID SANDERS is an Emeritus Professor and founding director of the School of Public Health at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa. He has over 30 years of experience in health policy and program development in Zimbabwe and South Africa.

DONTHI NARASIMHA REDDY is a strong votary of public services, and has worked on increasing public access to land, water, electricity and transport. He has built coalitions and guided teams working to protect public rights over commons.

ESHWARAPPA MADHAVALI is an activist photojournalist who has documented various struggles across India. He is currently associated with the Peoples' Campaign for Right to Water-Karnataka and is based in Bangalore.

ESTHER MARIASELVAM is the regional manager of ActionAid, Chennai Regional Office. She works with Dalit, tribal and coastal women on issues related to manual scavenging, HIV, trafficking, governance and domestic violence.

GAURAV DWIVEDI is associated with Manthan Adhyayan Kendra, based in Madhya Pradesh. He has been involved in study, monitoring and research on water issues including privatisation, reforms and public private partnerships.

GREG RUITERS is professor of governance and public policy at the University of the Western Cape and co-director of the Municipal Services Project. He has publications on healthcare, water and electricity and public options on essential services.

JAMMU ANAND is president of the Nagpur municipal corporation employees union. He has worked to campaign against the ill effects of JNNURM, focusing on the area of housing and water privatization.

JOE VARGHESE is associated with Jan Swasthya Abhiyan and is also a research fellow with Centre for Chronic Disease Control. He has been involved in public health for over 12 years as a student, researcher and activist.

KSHITIJ URS is regional manager at ActionAid in Bangalore. He is actively associated with issues of urban governance and is part of the Peoples' Campaign for Right to Water.

KY BABU has extensive experience in the NGO sector and has also worked with government institutions. At ActionAid, he works with the urban poor, homeless, fisherwomen et al. He is involved with alternatives to privatization of water and agriculture.

LA SAMY has extensive experience in the NGO sector spanning over 30 years. He has also been an independent development management consultant and has also worked on health.

LEO SALDANHA is the coordinator of the Environment Support Group and has done extensive work on environment and urban governance and issues related International Financial Institutions. He is based in Bangalore.

MADHURI KRISHNASWAMY is a tribal rights activist based in Madhya Pradesh. She has been active in the field of maternal health and is with the Jagrit Adivasi Dalit Sangathan. She can be reached at

MALARVIZHI M is a field officer with ActionAid Bangalore region where she works with issues related to urban poverty.

MARY ANN MANAHAN is a program officer with Focus on the Global South, Philippines. She works on the commons, including issues as they relate to international financial institutions, privatization and regulation of public utilities.

MOHAN RAO is Professor at the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He is the author of 'From Population Control to Reproductive Health: Malthusian Arithmetic'.

MEENA ARTWANI is a fellow with ActionAid Bangalore region and is a member of Peoples' Campaign for Right to Water-Karnataka. She is involved with research and communications aspects of the campaign.

NÚRIA MOLINA is associated with the European Network on Debt and Development and is currently director of policy, advocacy and campaigns, ActionAid UK.

PRABIR PURKAYASTHA is associated with the Delhi Science Forum and is the founder of NewsClick.in, an independent news website. He is also the author of several books and articles on energy and technology related issues.

PRAGADA SRINIVASU has worked with slum dwellers and homeless communities in Visakhapatnam since 2009. He has been involved in work related to stopping forceful evictions from slums and strengthening homeless collectives.

RAJU MIMI has been involved with the All Idu Mishmi Students Union, a community-based student organization where he participated in the anti-dam movement against the Dibang Multipurpose Project. He is also a journalist with Arunachal Times.

RICK ROWDEN works with ActionAid International as senior programme manager for democratic governance. He is also currently finishing his PhD, focusing on India-Africa economic relations.

SAIBAL JENA works with Shaheed Hospital and is engaged with issues relating to improving health of workers, through worker-led initiatives. He also works in the field of rational medicine.

SANKAR TEDDU is involved with the Fishermen's Youth Welfare Association in working with fishers, street vendors and other urban issues in the Visakhapatnam urban area. He has worked for rights of slum dwellers and in widening the advocacy framework.

SHARAN PRAKASH PATIL is the Minister for Medical Education in Government of Karnataka.

S. KANNAIYAN coordinates the South Indian Coordination Committee of Farmers Movements (SICCFM), involving the coordination of farmers movements in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

SUDHANVA DESHPANDE is the Managing Editor of LeftWord Books. He is also an actor and director with the New Delhi based Left-wing activist theatre group Jana Natya Manch.

SUJATHA RAO is former secretary in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. She is currently working on a paper on interstate comparisons of health outcomes for the 14th Finance Commission.

SULAKSHANA NANDI is a national joint-convener of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (PHM-India). She is involved in public health research, capacity building and advocacy on people's access to healthcare.

SURESH JVV is a Reader in the Department of Public Health Dentistry. He is state convener of Jana Vignana Vedika, a member organisation of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan. He is involved in the Health Education through Academic Research and Training programme in Guntur District.

SUSANA BARRIA is associated with the New Trade Union Initiative (NTUI) where she contributes to research on trade policy and energy issues. She is also an associate researcher at the global secretariat of the People's Health Movement.

SYLVIA KARPAGAM is a medical doctor specializing in public and is currently co-convener of the Janaarogya Andolana Karnataka and is based in Bangalore.

VANDANA PRASAD is a community pediatrician and public health worker with two decades of work in the social sector. She has been involved in strengthening health systems and worked on child health and malnutrition related issues.

URVASHI SARKAR is programme coordinator with the South-South Knowledge of Hub at ActionAid India. She is also a journalist and writer and has a Master's degree in international politics from Jawaharlal Nehru University.

UT KHADER is Karnataka Minister for Health and Family Welfare.