



Best Practice – I

Sangwari Hub: The Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) Hub

➤ Objectives of the Practice:

The Sangwari CBPR Hub was established with the aim of fostering innovative models of research and research training grounded in community engagement. The objectives are as follows:

- To explore new methodologies of learning through community collaboration.
- To build individual and institutional capacities in Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR).
- To support trainees' transition into professional roles in both academic and non-academic sectors.
- To align with the University's mission of imparting quality education and research with social relevance.

➤ The Context:

Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) play a vital role in promoting social responsibility and community engagement. In alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the CBPR model serves as a bridge between academic theory and real-world practice. Through direct engagement with communities, this practice:

- Encourages the development of locally relevant solutions.
- Facilitates a two-way flow of knowledge between academia and communities.
- Informs curriculum design with lived community experiences.

- Builds empathy and fosters mutual respect between students and local populations.

➤ **The Practice:**

- Introduction of a Certificate Course on CBPR from the academic session 2018–19 in collaboration with the State Planning Commission
- First university in India to initiate a CBPR course; a part of the Global Knowledge for Change (K4C) Consortium
- The Hub is a part of the UNESCO Chair for CBPR
- Trained three faculty mentors in CBPR methodologies
- Mentoring next generation of CBPR researchers/trainers
- Establishment of the Sangwari CBPR Hub, which regularly organizes:
 - Conferences
 - Seminars
 - Training Programs
 - Workshops and Symposiums
 - Awareness Campaigns related to the SDGs
- Conducted a campus safety audit using CBPR methods
- CBPR has been integrated into:
 - Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) electives
 - Ph.D. program

➤ **Evidence of Success:**

- Recognized in the UGC Report (2020) on *“National Curriculum Framework & Guidelines for Fostering Social Responsibility & Community Engagement in HEIs in India”* under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) initiative
- Successfully led to innovative models of teaching, learning, and research
- Enhanced institutional and individual research capacities
- Supported smooth workplace transitions for trainees
- Mentors contributed to the development of study material through their fieldwork reports
- Students conducted impactful research projects, including:
 - Awareness on sexual harassment in sports settings

- Assessment of women and child health services at Anganwadi centers
- Role of women in Panchayati Raj institutions
- Women's status in villages of elected parliamentary representatives
- Evaluation of skill development schemes on women's economic empowerment

➤ **Challenges Faced:**

- Lack of awareness and understanding of CBPR within and beyond the university
- Difficulty in establishing and sustaining partnerships between academia, communities, and other stakeholders
- Challenges in forming dedicated and cohesive CBPR implementation teams
- Limited access to funding for fieldwork and research activities
- Need for professional expertise in delivering CBPR programs at different academic levels
- Inadequate support for national and international exchange programs

➤ **Resources Required:**

- Institutional funding and external grants for CBPR projects
- Professional development opportunities and CBPR fellowships
- Infrastructure for hosting community-academic collaborative activities
- Enhanced networking and partnership platforms

Link to the relevant document: [Click Here](#)