BUILDING HEALTHY CITIES

Indore Workshop Report: Clean Air Guide Refresher Training

January 29, 2021

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ACRONYMS

BHC	Building Healthy Cities
ISSW	Indore School of Social Work
JSI	JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc.
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

Building Healthy Cities

Building Healthy Cities is a five-year cooperative agreement funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under Agreement No. AID-OAA-A-17-00028, beginning September 30, 2017. Building Healthy Cities is implemented by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI) with partners International Organization for Migration (IOM), Thrive Networks Global, and Urban Institute, and with support from Engaging Inquiry, LLC.

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INTRODUCTION

In Indore, India, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Building Healthy Cities (BHC) project is jointly implemented with Indore Smart City Development Limited with the objective of making the city a "healthy, liveable Smart City for all." One project activity was to increase community participation in air pollution mitigation in Indore. This included supporting the installation of low-cost air quality sensors and the training of Clean Air Guides to work within communities.

This report details a refresher training for Clean Air Guides, organized by BHC and the Indore School of Social Work (ISSW), held during the Monthly Meeting for Clean Air Guides on January 29, 2021.

WORKSHOP DESIGN

On January 29, 2021, the first Monthly Meeting for Clean Air Guides was held at Indore School of Social Work. The main goal of this meeting was to examine how much information the Clean Air Guides had retained from their initial training on January 8, 2021, and provide a short refresher course to reinforce the basic information needed to fill this role in their communities. The meeting was attended by 15 Clean Air Guides (6 men and 9 women).

Dr. Damodar Bachani, BHC Deputy Project Director, was the key note speaker, assisted by Mr. Neeraj Mishra, also from the BCH project. Dr. R.K. Sharma, Dr. Mathew C.P, and Dr. Minakshi Kar, officials of the Air Pollution Study, also attended. The meeting followed COVID-19 safety guidelines and precautions.

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Introductory Session

Dr. R.K. Sharma welcomed the participants for the very first Monthly Clean Air Guides Meeting, and introduced Dr. Damodar Bachani to the participants. Dr. Bachani started by explaining his objectives in taking part in the monthly meeting. Each participant introduced themselves by their name, the community in which they will be working as a Clean Air Guide, their education qualifications, and their working experiences.

Pre-test Session

After the introduction, participants were asked to complete a 'Pre-Test' form on the basis of their knowledge of air pollution and application of mitigation strategies by agencies. Within 20 minutes all the participants had completed the task. The form was well liked by many of the participants as it was in Hindi but a few found it difficult because of their reading competency levels. A few confused some of the points such as: PM stands for particulate matter; air inside a home is never as polluted as air outside a home; community members share their complaints/data about air pollution with their city official; and the best type of data graph to use.

Session on Air Pollution

This interactive session was conducted by Dr. Damodar Bachani. He presented information on how air pollution can cause severe harm to people's health. The session sensitized the Clean Air Guides to the urgent need to work in this field and the necessary action to be taken in their assignments. Participants were able to ask Dr. Bachani questions and clarify any confusion related to the topic of air pollution and their responsibilities.

Post-test Session

The session was followed by a Post-test activity. Test forms were redistributed to the participants, who quickly completed the questions. The Clean Air Guides were more confident in responding to most questions, but were still unsure the answer to a few questions such as: the best type of data graph to use; and the Indian National Ambient Air Quality Standards daily limit for PM2.5, meaning any value above this limit indicates the air is unhealthy. After the completion of the task Dr. Bachani shared the correct answer of each question and held a small discussion regarding the color spectrum designating for air quality status.

Work Plan Session for the Month

A joint session was conducted by the project officials of BHC and ISSW to discuss finalization of sites to install the low-cost air quality sensors at the community level. A few of the Clean Air Guides shared their difficulties in seeking permission for installation sites. Mr. Neeraj Mishra assured that he would support this process. A project information letter was also handed out to those who were struggling to get permission from the building owner to install the sensors at a particular site. Other Clean Air Guides requested the same letter to ensure that all permissions from site owners were requested and secured in a formal manner. The process for payment of the honorarium was also discussed. Towards the end of the meeting hand-on activities for the month of February were discussed and a vote of thanks was extended by Dr. Minakshi Kar.

PRE AND POST-TEST RESULTS

No.	Question Topic	Pre-Test		Post-Test	
		Correct	Incorrect	Correct	Incorrect
1.	Air you breathe is polluted	9	6	11	4
2.	PM stands for	12	3	15	0
3.	Difference between PM2.5 and PM10	14	1	15	0
4.	Other than PM2.5 and PM10, any other air pollutants to be measured	8	7	11	4
5.	Air inside a home is never as polluted as air outside a home	3	12	10	5
6.	Indian National Ambient Air Quality Standards daily limit for PM2.5, meaning any value above this limit indicate the air is unhealthy	2	13	11	4
7.	Important to measure air quality over several days or weeks instead of at just one point in time	9	6	14	1
8.	According to the Indian Government air quality categories, if air quality is "severe" (PM2.5 over 250), the human health impact of that pollution	14	1	15	0
9.	Community members share their complaints and data about air pollution with their city official	11	4	13	2
10.	Need to show local officials for air quality change over time in our neighborhood; the best type of data graph to use	11	4	8	7

PARTICIPANTS

Clean Air Guides

	Name
1.	Miss Nisha Malvia
2.	Mr. Vinamra Solanki
3.	Mrs. Pooja Raghuwansi.
4.	Sri. Jugal Kishore Chouhan
5.	Miss. Vadeeni Pradhan
6.	Miss. Isha Parulkar

7.	Smt. Madhurta Yadav
8.	Mr. Deepak
9.	Mr. Ankit Soni
10.	Miss. Anjani Jain
11.	Mrs. Manjit Garg
12.	Miss. Shalini Bhagora
13.	Mr. Himlesh Joshi
14.	Miss. Vani Joshi
15.	Mr. Piyush Porwal

Meeting Organizers

	Name
1.	Dr. Damodar Bachani
2.	Mr. Neeraj Mishra
3.	Dr. R.K. Sharma
4.	Dr. Mathew C.P
5.	Dr. Minakshi Kar

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