

# Annual conference on Societal 'Impact of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts.

Organised by AESIS

**Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Founder President, PRIA**

UNESCO Co-Chair, Community Based Research  
and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

**October 13, 2:15 pm IST**

**PRIA@40**  
Shaping our tomorrows,  
TODAY



## Distress to women domestic workers during Covid-19

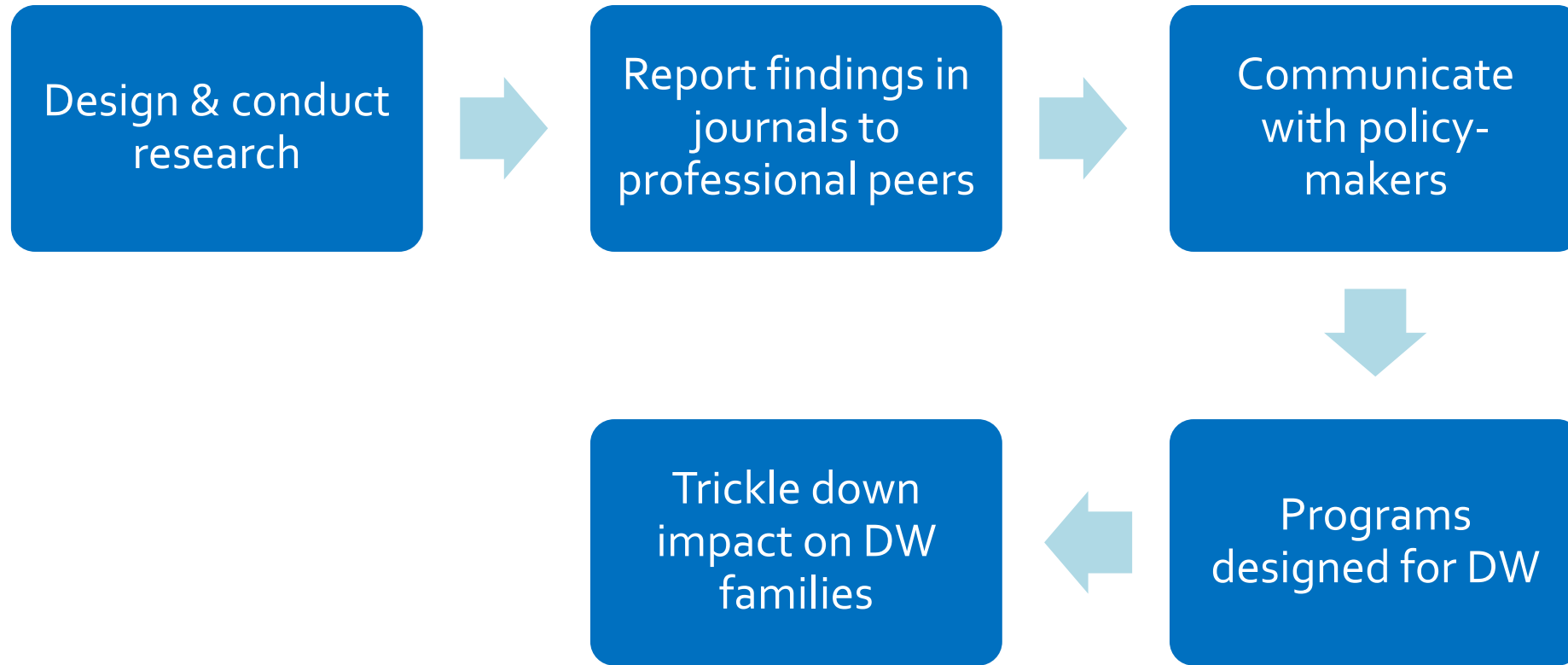
Loss of income

Loss of livelihood

Loss of dignity  
(Labelled as  
"Corona Carriers")

Loss of security and  
increased violence

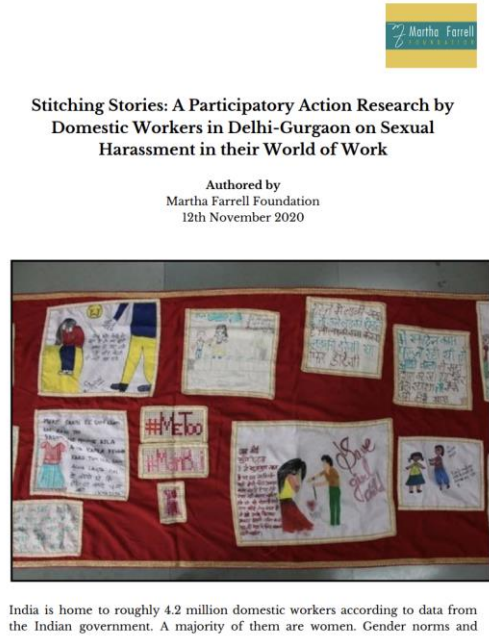




**Traditional Research Goes Like..**

# Alternative PR model..

## Phase 1:

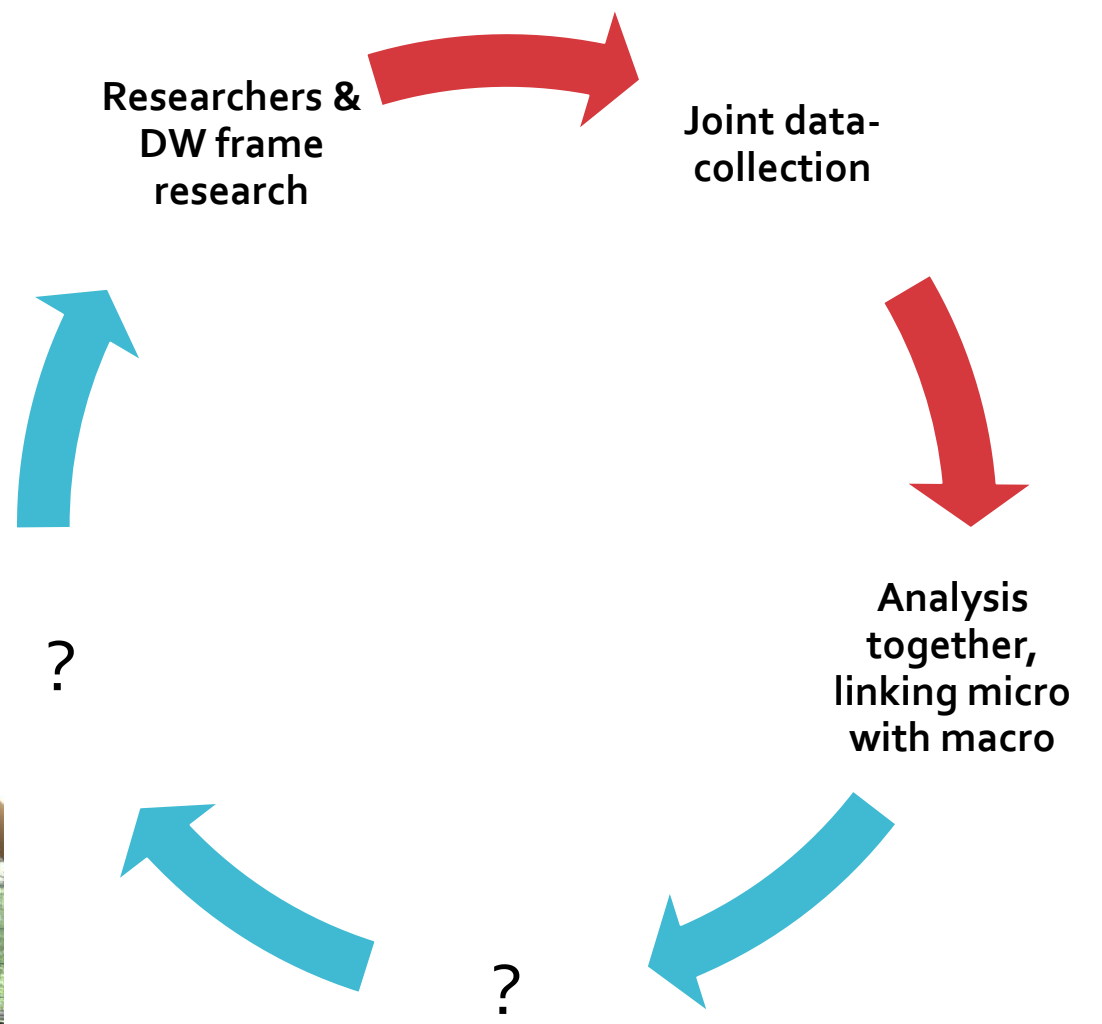


Read full report of the Saree Project [here](#)

Researchers & DW frame research

Joint data-collection


Analysis together, linking micro with macro





# Alternative PR model..

## Phase 2:



**Postcard Campaign**  
*Led by domestic workers of Delhi, Haryana & Chhattisgarh to end sexual harassment in their world of work*  
 December 2020 - February 2021

**Introduction**

Domestic workers, largely women, number around 42 million (official estimates) in India and are informal workers who don't come under the purview of labour laws. Minimum wages, weekly offs, sick leaves, and more are not guaranteed to them. The lack of government data and regulation have opened this community up to a lot of risks in the workplace including violence, sexual harassment and abuse.

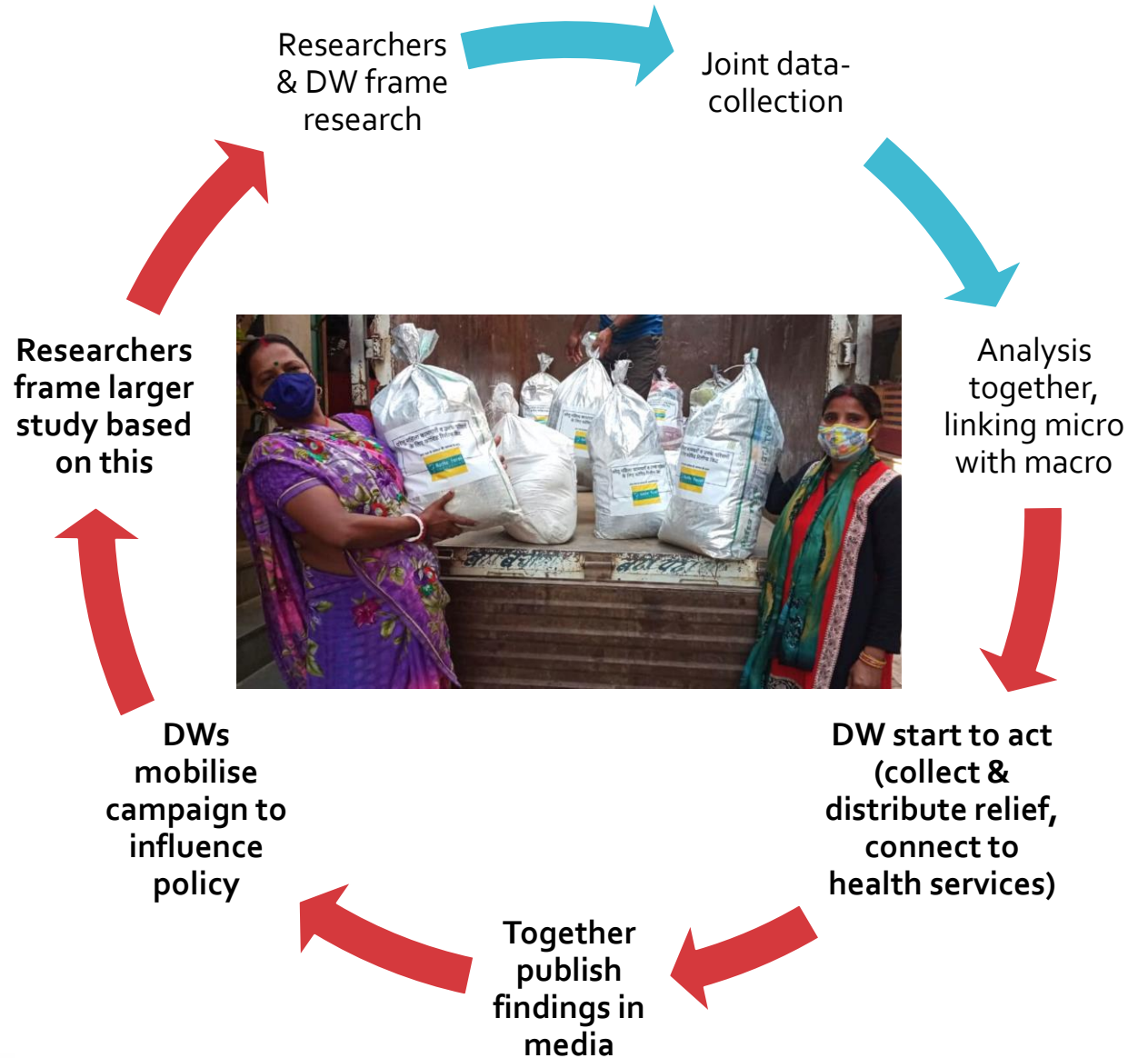
Domestic workers don't speak openly about their experiences of sexual harassment. The culture of silence around the issue is compounded by their economic vulnerability, and a fear of losing their jobs. Consequently, instances of sexual harassment that they face in the workplace remain grossly underreported.

In 2018, the Martha Farrell Foundation undertook a research project drawing narratives from 45 domestic workers in Gurgaon, where we found that sexual harassment of domestic workers is rampant. The Network for the Rights and Voices of Domestic Workers, a Delhi-based collaboration of organisations working with domestic worker communities in the NCR region backs this finding. Conversations across communities reveal that the silence on the issue is compounded by stigma, power, gender and caste divisions.

A recent report by the Human Rights Watch, released in October 2020, titled 'No #MeToo for women like us' explores and adds to this. The report also elaborates how the issue has been compounded significantly in light of the lockdown triggered by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Although not under the purview of labour laws, domestic workers are in fact, protected under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act of 2013. The Law mandates the formation of Local Committees in every district, which is responsible for the safety of domestic workers in their world of work. An RTI study by Martha Farrell Foundation in 2017, out of 653 districts in the country, only 191 districts were found to have set up a LC, out of these only 181 had conducted orientation of members or awareness programmes, 97 did not respond about SC/ST membership, four districts, one each in Jharkhand, Uttarakhnad and Punjab (two) had male chairpersons. 11 districts had no NGO representation and 103 replied to say that they are

Read here:



# Key Components of PR Model



**BUILD TRUSTING PARTNERSHIPS**



**RECOGNISE & VALUE EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE**



**JOINTLY FRAME RESEARCH QUESTIONS**



**INVOLVE IN DATA-COLLECTION & ANALYSIS**



**USE MULTIPLE METHODS OF DISSEMINATION OF FINDINGS**



**SUPPORT AWARENESS-RAISING**



**SHARE EVIDENCE FOR POLICY INFLUENCING**

Reimagining the world of work for Domestic Workers: Covid and Beyond

Keeping the Voices of Domestic Workers: Front and Centre

16<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Domestic Workers Action Network, MFF | Domestic Workers Network | Gharelu Kangan Panchayat Sangam | Gharelu Kangan Mahila Mandali Chhattisgarh

[Read here](#)

# Contact us!



## Dr. Rajesh Tandon and Dr. Budd Hall

@RTandon\_PRIA

@buddhall

@UNESCOchairCBR

@UNESCOChairCBR

Email:

rajesh.tandon@pria.org

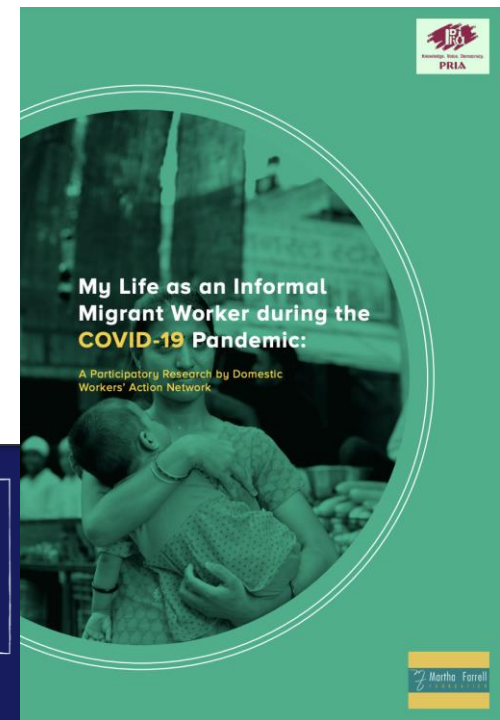
bhall@uvic.ca

Websites:

[www.pria.org](http://www.pria.org), [www.unescochair-cbrsr.org](http://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org)



Read [here](#)



Read [here](#)

Reimagining the World of Work for Domestic Workers:  
COVID and Beyond

Keeping the voices of domestic workers front and centre

National Level Virtual Round Table

Authored by  
Martha Farrell Foundation  
June 2020

This roundtable discussion was led by the Martha Farrell Foundation in collaboration with Nari Shakti Manch, the National Domestic Workers' Movement, SEWA, National Alliance of People's Movements, Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), Jagori, Samarthan CDS, Domestic Workers Network, Domestic Workers Forum Ghetanalaya, Delhi Gharelu Kamgar Union, Shabri Gharelu Kamgar Union, National Platform for Domestic Workers (NPDW) and Gharelu Kamgar Panchayat Sangam.

### Context

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been excessively felt by informal migrant workers. They've found themselves faced with impossible choices between health, hunger and survival at this time.

Among the informal working population in India, the domestic workers - largely made up of women - have found themselves in a doubly disadvantaged position, with an acute rise in their vulnerability to exploitation, violence, harassment, forced labour and more.

Read [here](#)