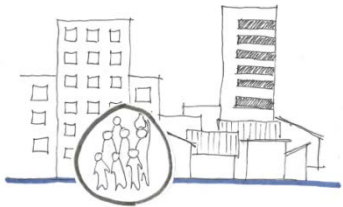




B IN U COM
Building inclusive communities



Local Dissemination Workshop

AmmanKulam Settlement, February 24th 2017



The Local dissemination Workshop was conducted by Karpagam Academy of Higher Education (KAHE) on 24th February 2017 at the AmmanKulam Housing Unit, which is a typical example of a slum Resettlement Project in Coimbatore. The intention of the workshop was to spread awareness amongst the stakeholders about Binucom project and serve as a trust building exercise for initiating dialogue between the colony dwellers and the Binucom team.

The workshop was conducted as an event based on the theme of "Health & Sanitation" as it was considered to be need of the hour in resettlement colonies all over the city. It was designed to be an interactive programme that would involve the colony residents in

an informal manner instead of a formal approach within closed doors.

The programme was executed jointly by the students of the Faculty of Architecture and Alumnus of the Master of Social Services, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, and was conducted in the common space of the housing unit itself. The chief participants were the residents of the colony and the local self-help group.



The first part of the event was a short skit that focused on the importance of maintaining a clean environment and the hazards of open defecation. The play was enacted as a moral story which was inspired from the day to day lives of these very residents. It operated as both, a tool of awareness and a form of entertainment that drew the attention of the people. The informal approach was exemplified by assigning simple tasks.

The second part involved a short briefing session wherein the objective of Binucom and the purpose of the study was put forth to the people. This was followed by a dialogue between the research team and the residents regarding their grievances.

Major complaints from the residents were

(i) lack of tenements for about three hundred households which had been relocated from ValanKulam

(ii) small size of dwelling unit

(iii) renting of the apartments

(iv) poor infrastructural maintenance (water supply, street lighting and Garbage disposal)

(v) commuting difficulties

(vi) lack of social infrastructural amenities like community hall, night school, libraries etc. and (vii) Poor responsiveness of the

government in addressing basic complaints.

The workshop was the first step towards the development of a working relationship between the users and the research team. It served as a platform through which the

inhabitants could voice their perspective about the government and its capacity in providing them with a home. The exercise also proved useful in building contacts with many other organisations like the youth wing and the colony association.



Despite the participation of many dwellers, there was still a small section of the residents who were hesitant to express their woes. This, however, could be offset by conducting many more events. Overall the workshop

was a veritable event which has ensured the research team an unrestricted access to the Amman Kulam housing unit in the future.