



B IN U COM
Building Inclusive Communities



Local Dissemination Workshop

Muthanankulam Settlement, 29th April

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Local dissemination Workshop was conducted by Karpagam Academy of Higher Education (KAHE) on 29th April 2017 at the Muthanankulam slum 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 1. Health & Sanitation 2. Road safety, as it was considered to be need of the hour in this particular slum. It was designed to be an interactive programme that would involve the dwellers in an informal manner. 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 Temple premises of the slum with the chief participants being the residents of the slum.

The first part of the event was a short skit that emphasised the importance of Road safety and THE need of wearing helmet while driving. 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 to the audience to promote interaction and use of colloquial language. The second part of the workshop was a skit on sanitation and health. The

play was enacted as a moral story which was inspired from the day to day lives of the residents. The skit established an emotional connection with the residents because the slum itself located on banks of a polluted lake called Muthanankulam (Kulam means lake in Tamil). The third 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) fear of eviction.
- (ii) lack of employment
- (iii) impact of polluted lake on their daily life
- (iv) Poor infrastructural maintenance (water supply, street lighting and Garbage disposal) and
- (v) Poor responsiveness of the government in addressing these 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 announcement on eviction. 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 Muthanakulam in the future.