



I knew that the comradeship and learning I would get from being part of this global network would be personally enriching. I'm also very interested in thinking about leadership and power structures, especially with women from very marginalized communities.

Smita Dharmamer

Head, Community Strategy

The Aangan Trust, India

I currently lead Aangan's community strategy work - primarily focusing on a training and mentorship program with women from far flung bastis* and villages who are struggling to find a voice and be heard - empowering them with knowledge and skills - so that they can work with local authorities to keep children safe from harm. We focus on community intervention to prevent child harm.

**a basti is a type of shantytown.*

Aangan is a child protection organization working to ensure that even the most vulnerable child is safe, supported and in school, protected from serious harm such as early marriage, trafficking, hazardous work, violence and abuse. Our community-based prevention of child harm model works with cohorts of women who live in vulnerable communities - arming them with knowledge and tools, to work towards increased accountability from local government.

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