

Workshop on

Participatory Video Production

facilitated by

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Organised by

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Day 1

Workshop commenced late in the afternoon and we only got a few hours on the first day of the workshop. The session started with a general introductory session. The facilitator shared about himself and his work. Similarly the participants shared about themselves and their experience so far in the M.A. programme.

The facilitator then talked about how videos are one of the important tools in communication and how we can use it as a C4D tool. After this, he started speaking about participatory videos and also gave anecdotes and references from his own work and personal experiences. He also introduced the participants, in a brief way, to the various projects and programmes related to participatory videos that's happening in the country.

After this, he thoroughly discussed the steps involved in the making of a participatory video and also explained the relevance of each step. In this process, he emphasized that in a participatory method, process is more important than the end product.

Moving forward, he explained the outline of the workshop and gave little insights to it. After this, he asked the participants to divide themselves in two groups and decide on the community they would want to work with during the course of the workshop and in future as well. As instructed, the participants formed two groups. With this, we concluded day 1.

Day 2

Day 2 started early in the morning and it was completely a field exercise. The two groups were asked to go around the neighboring villages and interact with the community members. The agenda was to identify volunteers for the project with whom the two groups will work further for the participatory video production. It was a full day exercise.

The participants started from one end of the village and went around multiple villages, interacting with different people from the village; a few teachers, ASHA and Anganwadi workers, farmers, school students, college students, priests, youths and a few other residents.



By noon, the participants were able to identify two volunteers for each group. In the afternoon, the volunteers and the workshop participants were asked to gather in a nearby school by the facilitator. Once everyone was there, there was a general introduction as the volunteers were new to the larger group and the workshop setup.

The facilitator gave the volunteers a short brief on how they can use video to highlight their local problems, issues or anything they feel needs to be captured or documented. Once the volunteers got acquainted with everyone and the workshop set up, the facilitator introduced the equipment to the group. He explained the basic technicalities of the camera and sound; how to set up the camera, how to capture video, basic shots, how to set up a microphone and so on. After this, the volunteers were given time to explore the devices on their own for some time. The volunteers tried to capture different things and also asked several questions, some technical and some non-technical. This entire exercise was a fun activity for the participants as well as the volunteers.

Facilitator explaining the camera basics to the volunteers

After this exercise, the groups went to



Volunteers trying to use camera

the respective villages with their volunteers and brainstormed on the topic(s) for the participatory video. This also included talking to a few other community members decided by the volunteer.

The groups in consultation with their respective volunteers and the other community members did thorough

discussions on the ideas presented by the community members. Discussions were around the importance of the topic, why it is important and why it needs to be documented, if everyone thinks the same way or there is any other opinion by other members, availability of the community members and so on. This was a full day exercise. The first level of discussion was among the volunteers and their respective groups which included the basic direction in which the volunteer is thinking and the details about the village and its people. The second round of discussion was with the larger community member.

Once everyone came to a conclusion, a date and time for the shoot was decided which was the next day early in the morning at around 6 o'clock to 10 o'clock for one group and for the second group 9 o'clock to 2 o'clock. With this, we concluded day 2.

Day 3

Both the groups reached their respective locations at the decided time, fully geared up with equipment and the energy for the shoot. Respective groups shot according to their plan and returned to the campus with their volunteers.

After this each group started reviewing their footage in detail. The facilitator was also present in this process. The review process took a lot of time as each and every footage had to be carefully seen and analysed as to where and how we can use it in the film. Once the footage review was done, A few voice overs were recorded for the films. Day 3 concluded with this.



Facilitator explaining the camera basics to the volunteers



Facilitator explaining the camera basics to the volunteers

Day 4

The entire day was dedicated to editing. The volunteers had instructed their respective groups on the story line/film story, how they wanted the footage to be used and so on. Following these instructions, the groups started editing their film. The facilitator was with the groups throughout the editing process and helped them whenever and wherever required. The volunteers were present in the editing room as they were a crucial part of this film. They were constantly instructing their respective groups.

The editing took the whole afternoon and evening. Almost at around midnight, the editing was completed.

Day 5

It was the last day of the workshop. Each group had to screen their film and share their learnings and challenges. Members from the village were also invited who were part of the film.

Prof. Sunil Kanta Behra delivered the valedictory talk. The facilitator also shared his experience with this new set of learners.



The volunteers also shared about their filmmaking journey.

After this, each group, one-by-one presented their learnings from the workshop and the entire process of film making, and their challenges.

This was followed by the screening of the film. The facilitator gave his comments and suggestions.



Community members enjoy the screening



Commemorative photograph

This was followed by the comments from the faculty members and the volunteers also. The community members also gave their views on the film. Dr. Joya Chakraborty delivered a vote of thanks and with this the workshop was concluded.

