

Knowledge for Change (K4C)

Consortium for training in Community-Based Research

An initiative of



What is K4C?

- Specific structure growing out of the University of Victoria (UVic)-PRIA agreement that supports the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research & Social Responsibility in Higher Education.
- Global consortium made up of training hubs led by teams of civil society organizations and higher education institutions to provide research training through citizen-led field projects and to co-create knowledge through collective action.
- Strong global partnership with shared goals, joint responsibility and a solid plan for building research capacity to address locally pressing societal challenges, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- An initiative which reinforces UNESCO Chair's global leadership in the field of participatory approaches to research and community-university engagement.

Photo credit: Crystal Tremblay



Why K4C?

Previous research led by the UNESCO Chair showed that:

- despite high demand for training and learning about doing Community-Based Research (CBR), formal, structured training opportunities are scarce;
- university training in CBR offers little practical exposure;
- community training is weak on reflection and theory.

The K4C Consortium is conceptualised to seek new ways of learning and creating conditions needed for innovative models of research and research training programs in CBR to flourish. It will offer a variety of means to enhance individual & institutional research training capacities and support the transition of K4C trainees to the workplace in academic and non-academic settings.



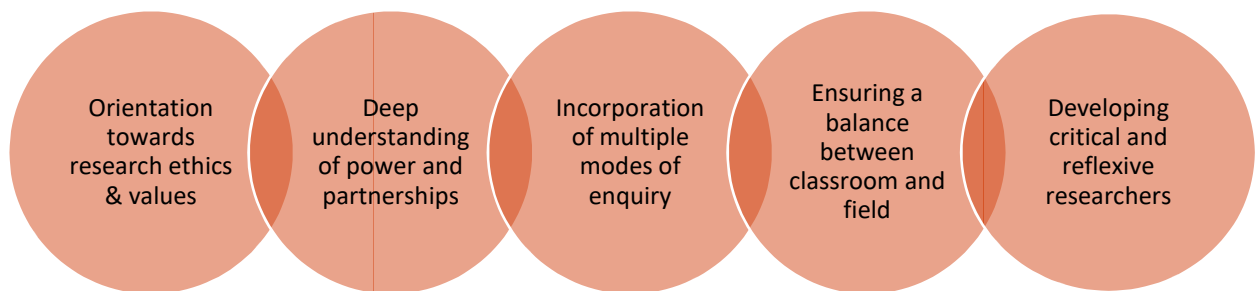
K4C Goals

- ✓ Develop an internationally-accredited gold standard curriculum for CBR training with competency mapping and learning outcomes.
- ✓ Offer a Mentor Training Program (MTP) starting in January 2018 (21-week training of trainers model) delivered through UVic Division of Continuing Studies.
- ✓ Create Training Hubs in various parts of the global South and the excluded North to develop research capacity in local languages using local learning materials.
- ✓ Develop research capacities of trainees in a way that they gain relevant knowledge, skills and experience in and beyond academia.
- ✓ Knowledge generation on participatory research, community-university engagement, and pedagogies of training CBR to promote social transformation and community change.
- ✓ Influence policy and practices in the implementation of the UN SDGs.

Target: 1300+ community based researchers & 100 mentors over 5 years

Pedagogical principles

K4C is premised on 5 pedagogical principles grounded in theories of knowledge that recognize the value of linking community-based knowledge with academic knowledge, and relate to various practical aspects and dimensions involved in training community-based researchers within and outside academia.



These principles are the basis for conceptualizing and designing effective CBR training programs at our K4C Consortium and its local training hubs. They will help in developing the skill sets of K4C trainees and be transferable in a variety of settings and disciplines. They will also promote the development of a true aptitude for research that is conducted in a holistic manner, by bringing together the worlds of practice and research to produce new knowledge and social innovations.

K4C strategy

Decentralised training structure

consisting of a variety of local training hubs, based on a **'cascade model'**

- *Designation of local hubs as centres of excellence for CBR training*
- *Certification of CBR trainers (i.e., the Mentor Training Program)*
- *Localized training courses adapted and offered by Hub Mentors based on a centrally-designed global standard curriculum developed by the UNESCO Chair CBR-SR*



Variety of training methods

Classroom-based, professional development workshops, open online courses, field research projects, individual mentorship

K4C Mentor Training Program (MTP)

- The MTP is a 21-week course consisting primarily of 3 components: online learning activities, a two-week face-to-face learning component, and a field work component to be carried out locally under the guidance of a local supervisor.
- Upon completion of the MTP, mentors will be given a certificate under the joint seal of the UNESCO Chair, PRIA International Academy (PIA) and UVic.
- The MTP is designed for experienced practitioners and community-based participatory researchers within and outside academia. The certified mentors play a key role in the development of the local hub, including the creation of teaching curriculum and pedagogy, and the development of research capacities.
- The MTP is offered twice every year (January-June and August-December). The registration fee is US\$2500, including accommodation and meals during the two-week face-to-face residency.

The K4C local training hubs

- Each hub is required to be a formal partnership between, at least, a higher education institution (HEI) and a civil society organization (CSO).
- Each hub will be led by a coordinator, who will have overall responsibility for the development of the hub, including the selection of mentors and supervisors.
- Each hub will select and financially support between 3 and 5 mentors to participate in the MTP. The selection of mentors will be done in consultation with the UNESCO Chair in CBR-SR.
- The training hubs will adapt the MTP curriculum and pedagogy to design and conduct local educational programs.
- The local course will focus on the co-construction of knowledge and its application to the solution of community issues linked to the UN SDGs

Hubs 2018-2019:

Canada

India (3)

Colombia

Cuba

Indonesia

Malaysia

South Africa

Italy

About the UNESCO Chair in CBR-SR

Established in 2012, it grows out of and supports the UNESCO global lead to play 'a key role in assisting countries to build knowledge societies'. The Chair is co-located at the University of Victoria (UVic), Canada and at Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) located in New Delhi, India. Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Founding President of PRIA, and Dr. Budd L. Hall, Professor of Community Development at UVic, serve as the first Co-Chairs. Please visit <http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/>

