

This newsletter provides an overview of the research activity undertaken for the New Urbanisms in India, ESRC funded research project (2013-2016). Further information can be found on the project website. If you have specific questions about the research or would like to speak to the researchers about any aspect of the project, please get in touch.

### Fieldwork January – September 2015

Dr. Cristiana Zara and Dr. Sophie Hadfield-Hill are based in India for a nine month period conducting fieldwork. It has been an extremely busy and fruitful first few months.

The **key stakeholders** have been involved in the fieldwork from the outset, from the development of the mobile app to discussions of outputs from the project and useable data. Community and school based **ethnography** began from day one; the researchers are getting to know, being seen and integrating into everyday life.

Research has begun in four of the local schools, children have been invited to participate in the project and the researchers have asked the children to **draw** their local area to be used as a prompt for the first interview. The 'All About You' **interviews** are underway, leading to other interviews and methodologies. The researchers have also been on **guided walks** with key project stakeholders; attended community engagement workshops with residents from the local area and have planned a **school bus ethnography**.

### Building Smart Child-Friendly Cities event

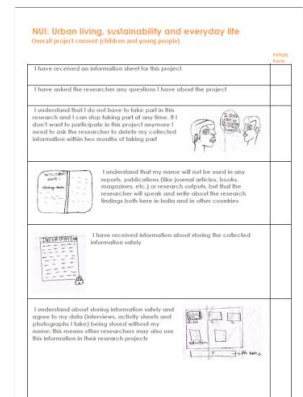
Sophie was invited as an international participant to the 'Building Smart Child-Friendly Cities for 21<sup>st</sup> Century India' event to share best practice in the planning for India's vision for 100 new 'smart' cities. The event was hosted by the Bernard Van Leer Foundation, Ministry of Urban Development, National Institute of Urban Affairs and School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi (November 2014).

### Mobile Apps in Research Summit

Map My Community was officially launched at the University of Birmingham 'Mobile Apps in Research Summit' (December 2014) – the developers and the project team had a stand at the event which aimed to showcase and discuss the future of mobile apps in research.

### Local young person advisory group

A project advisory group of young people has been coordinated in a local school; a group of 10 young people have volunteered to assist with the designing of the consent form and the appropriate translation of project tools and materials.

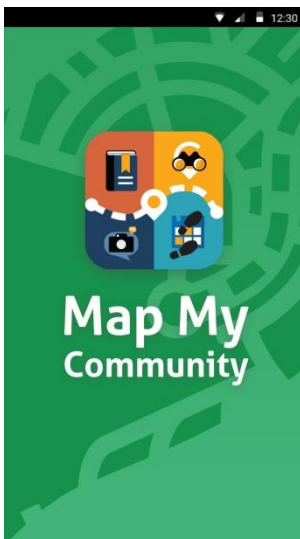


The wording on the consent form was adapted and the children felt that drawings would assist other young people in understanding the consent process.

### Symbiosis International University

The project is supported by Dr. Racha Shah from Symbiosis School of Economics. Manasi Nikam, specialising in development economics will be joining the team for an internship in May 2015.





## Map My Community – mobile app

The app is now available on Google Play for download by project participants. It has also been translated into Marathi for non-English speaking participants. The aim of the app is to gather data on participants' use of the built environment, movement through and their feelings and experience of it. The app has now been launched in the case study area and we are excited to see data emerging.

## Forthcoming presentations

Hadfield-Hill, S. (forthcoming) Landscape and belonging: Life in a new city, Nordic Geographers Meeting, Estonia, 15-19th June, 2015.

Hadfield-Hill, S. and Zara, C. (forthcoming) Making and re-making space: everyday sites of multi culture and intergeneration, URBINO RC21 Conference, 27th-29th August, 2015.

Zara, C. and Hadfield-Hill, S. (forthcoming) New cities, new aesthetics? Creating, governing and experiencing beauty, URBINO RC21 Conference, 27th-29th August, 2015.

Hadfield-Hill, S. (forthcoming) Marginal ethnography in practice: children, young people and families in a new city development, RGS-IBG, September, 2015.

Zara, C. and Hadfield-Hill, S. (forthcoming) Narratives, emotions and encounters: shifting natures in the context of a new urban environment, RGS-IBG, September, 2015.

## Research findings

If you or your organisation would like to receive specific outputs from the NUI project please contact:

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## Project support

The researchers are working with Shweta Joshi a local interpreter, for everyday conversations and formal interviews with Marathi and Hindi speaking participants.

## Tweets from the field

Sophie and Cristiana are tweeting from the field – follow @hadfieldhill for fieldwork reflections

Day 31 in the field: Lovely walk this afternoon, meeting people and running errands #ethnography happens at the weekend too #geography

Day 34 in the field: choosing 'Explore that space' areas with an urban designer to feed into the app #makingresearchrelevant #stakeholders

Day 47 in the field (CZ): cycling in the field, new perspectives of everyday movement #mobility #geography #fieldwork #cycling

Day 48 in the field (CZ): Learning through children's eyes: drawing and sketching 'where I live' #schoolbasedethnography #India #fieldwork

Day 97 in the field: hearing about life in a new city from college students #independentliving #away from home

