Mugdha Kinjawadekar

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EDUCATION

Columbia University, *Master of Public Health (GPA 4.1/4.3)*

Sept 2023 - May 2025

Dept. of Environmental Health Science, certificate in Infectious Disease Epidemiology.

National Law School of India University, Master of Public Policy (GPA 3.8/4)

Jul 2018 - Apr 2020

Master's thesis titled 'Prenatal Care Utilization in Four District Hospitals of Bihar,' completed after six months of ethnographic research. Received the highest grade and the 'Outstanding Dissertation' award.

St. Xavier's College Mumbai, <u>B.A. in Economics and Sociology</u> (GPA 3.8/4)

Jul 2014 – Apr 2017

Co-founder of the Xavier's Film and Literature Society.

CLIMATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

WE ACT (Air Quality in Northern Manhattan)

Jan 2025 - May 2025

- Analyzed hourly trends in PM2.5 levels before and after the implementation of congestion pricing in NYC, using data from 11 sensors installed by residents across West Harlem, and data from NYCCAS survey monitors. Findings were shared in the form of public awareness infographics and a policy memo.
- Built an interactive dashboard using R Studio and GitHub to effectively communicate scientific information with 70+ Harlem residents at WE ACT's monthly community meeting. Supported WE ACT's mission to strengthen citizen science and grassroots policy advocacy through this project.

Columbia World Projects (Household air pollution in Ghana)

Jun 2024 - Dec 2024

- Designed a household survey to understand consumer behavior and reliance on traditional fuels in sub-Saharan Africa. Conducted a scoping literature review on the regulatory, infrastructural, and financial environment for targeted investment in clean cooking.
- Built a bug tracker for GasPay, a mobile app to help accelerate household-level clean energy transition (from traditional fuels to LPG) in Ghana. Supported grant writing to scale up GasPay across other countries.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Alameda County Department of Public Health

Jun 2024 - Dec 2024

Program Evaluation Assistant

- Project management for an impact evaluation among 15 grant-funded organizations. Identified project bottlenecks, conducted needs assessments, and developed tools for grantees as technical support. Developed and managed knowledge products to systematize learnings across partners.
- Co-developed a final showcase convening where the grantees presented their photovoice visual outputs to county leaders. Assisted with planning and coordinating logistical arrangements for this showcase.
- Facilitated 7 monthly workshops for effective and inclusive partner engagement and to improve actionable learning experiences.

Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH)

Jun 2022 - Jul 2023

Program Associate 🛮

- Designed operational plans for field outreach in 15 states to assess a national nutrition program in India. Designed indepth interview schedules and facilitated training of the research team. Initiated strategic partnerships with think tanks, government stakeholders, and local implementation partners. Tracked project timelines to ensure managers meet critical internal and external deadlines.
- Led a systems analysis of the point-of-care diagnostic industry in India. Conducted key informant interviews with innovators and policy experts in India. Independently presented a summary to donors.
- Planned and coordinated dissemination events and developed knowledge products such as policy memos, white papers, presentations, and pitch decks. Prepared meeting briefs and portfolio highlights to support donor reporting.
- Wrote grant proposals for institutional fundraising. Supported Salesforce database management and donor stewardship for active grants. As the lead coordinator for South Asia expansion (family health portfolio), initiated strategic partnership communications with the development sector and government partners across South Asia.

Consultant 🛮

- Supported the post-merger financial integration of a health insurance company with a leading healthcare corporation. In charge of streamlining conflicts arising from ERP differences between the merging entities.
- Resolved 900+ ledger differences by facilitating discussions between the finance governance teams from both entities. Received a fast-track promotion from business analyst to associate within 11 months.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

CARE India (Maternal health service delivery)

Oct 2019 - Dec 2019

• Conducted an ethnographic research study to identify key actors and subjective drivers behind patient decision-making during obstetric referrals in a District Hospital in Bihar, India. Research published through my master's thesis, awarded the highest grade.

Foundation for Agrarian Studies (Women's unpaid labor)

Oct 2017 - Dec 2017

• Conducted a Time Use Survey to compute the time spent by 40 female agrarian laborers on economically productive SNA' activities and unpaid domestic work in two villages in Karnataka, India. Findings published through an article on the organization's website. Synthesized desk research on sustainable food systems, nutrition and health.

PUBLICATIONS	
Regulatory Failure as State-Corporate Crime in the Indian	2023
Health Sector <i>Social Science Research Network</i> (Presented at the 2023 Annual Corruption in the Global South Network Conference in New York City).	
The Fate of the Left Out: A Case Study of Beed Deccan Herald ☑	2020
Maternal Mortality in Bihar: Does India really care about its Mothers?	2019
Feminism in India ☑ Women's Domestic Work: A Report from Alabujanahalli Village, Karnataka, Foundation for Agrarian Studies ☑	2017
The Effectiveness of Foreign Aid in Improving Health Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa, Arthniti (ISSN 2277 1344)	2016

INTERNSHIPS

The Indian Express Aug 2017 – Oct 2017

Published over ten bylines in the city beat in this leading national daily newspaper.

Economic and Political Weekly

Apr 2016 - Jun 2016

Research and copy-edit assistant to the editor on three investigative pieces.

SKILLS

MS Office | R Studio | Salesforce | Project Management | Canva | Asana | Native fluency in English, Hindi, and Marathi

VOLUNTEERING WORK

Kamalesh Mother and Child Hospital

2020

Organized and managed an anemia screening camp, where over 85 women were screened in two days Counseled beneficiaries on the implications of anemia and the importance of treatment compliance

Children of the World (Trust), India

2015

Taught the English and Hindi alphabet, and occasionally dance routines to 20 children (ages 4–6 Administrative assistance for organizing and executing field day trips for the children

OTHER INTERESTS

I enjoy playing the piano, running, reading, and cooking. I'm also a certified deep-sea diver, usually dreaming about the next dive site to explore!