

# **Pelican Initiative: Platform for Evidence-based Learning & Communication for Social Change**

## **Discussion on Using Film to Facilitate Social Change July 2016**

Hi Pelicaners,

I'm doing some research into projects that have used film at the grassroots level to facilitate community learning, advocacy, action research, peace building, community consultation, social action, monitoring and evaluation. I'd be grateful for any examples you can share with me, and even better, any evaluations of these projects.

Many thanks in advance

Georgina

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Hello Georgina. The Deccan Development Society is the most innovative and grassroots film producer I have ever come across. They deal with many issues, with a strong advocacy and community learning orientation. Most of the film makers are themselves women farmers from marginalized (Dalit) communities, which makes the work even more remarkable. You'll need to browse around their website to find what you are looking for.

<http://ddsindia.com>

Daniel

DANIEL BUCKLES, PhD.

Adjunct Research Professor, Carleton University

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Dear Georgina:

We are just finalising an initiative with UNESCO working with Community Radio stations across the country where we have built capacity of grass root radio volunteers and reporters to document their practice using mobile phones. In all over 40 short video diaries have emerged after a three day training program with the community Radio stations. These have been shot entirely by the grassroots workers using simple android phones costing no more than \$120.

The video diaries are all 3-4 minutes long and have also been edited on the phones using freeware.

I will be happy to provide more information about the "Our Practice" Initiative for Community Radio In India and about our organisation Ideosync media Combine.

Cheers,  
Venu

Venu Arora  
Executive Director  
Ideosync Media Combine

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Hi Georgina

I'd recommend exploring InsightShare's work [here](#). We use participatory video to give voice to local communities: to facilitate learning, as an advocacy tool, and, combined with Most Significant Change, as an evaluation tool (for peace building projects - see [here](#), and our recent facilitators guide: \*Participatory Video and the Most Significant Change Technique\*, available to download [here](#)).

Feel free to get in touch, either with myself or Gareth Benest, Director of Programmes, email: [gbenest@insightshare.org](mailto:gbenest@insightshare.org)

best

Stuart

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Hi Georgina,

You may want to look up the Fogo Island film project (Canada); film used as an agent of social change.

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Hi Georgina

I worked on a project with Su Braden in Malawi 1996-98 using participatory video funded by the DFID forestry research programme. This aimed to facilitate community enquiry and communication including communication with national policy makers, local authorities, NGOs and within the village. It was before digital cameras but I think I could get the films to you if you were interested.

Also please see this link to a CCAFS project where we combined the use of participatory video with study tours and climate analogue tool. Farmers and other local stakeholders travelled from the N to the S of Tanzania visiting adaptation learning sites and from N Ghana to S Burkina Faso. There are links to various outputs including a summary report and process videos (which explain what we did).<http://projects.nri.org/farmsofthefuture/>

I would be very interested to see any study you do or analysis of evaluations of participatory video work as sometimes that has been lacking in the field I think!

Best wishes  
Valerie

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Following on from this, the Fogo Process is documented through the former extension service of Memorial University of Newfoundland (the work is largely credited to Don Snowden and Fred Earle), and is on some level alive and well with Fogo Island's Shore Fast Foundation - a community development success story.

<http://shorefast.org/film/the-fogo-process/>

Heather Squires

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Hello,

I'm glad to hear you are interested in innovative ways to use film for social change. I've fascinated by the topic as I recently completed my PhD on "How participatory video can enable citizen voice in international development contexts." The study explores the participatory video as a tool for development and social change, and has many links to project examples in the references. It also includes a critique on the enablers and constraints in practice, and offers a theory of change for using participatory media for raising equitable voice. Please email me if you'd like a copy (I'm finishing up the final submission in the next 2 weeks; so can send out then)): [t.plush@uq.edu.au](mailto:t.plush@uq.edu.au).

You can also read a few publications and case studies from visual storytelling projects I've worked on with CARE, ActionAid, Plan and a few others at <https://tamaraplush.wikispaces.com>.

Good luck in your filmmaking adventures.

Cheers,  
Tamara

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Hello Georgina

Ray McFarlane has some interesting work on Vimeo.

Two projects might be of interest: The first one is a project with parking in Dagenham primary care trust to enable patients to have more say over their care.

The second one is a project based in Brixton, as part of an initiative by Makerhood. This aim to bring makers and community together in a collaborative learning event for all ages. I especially like the intimacy that Ray brings to the films.

Makerhood film

<https://vimeo.com/72914334>

Barking and Dagenham Film

<https://vimeo.com/72914334>

All the best

Andry

Andry at The Learning Moment

[www.thelearningmoment.org](http://www.thelearningmoment.org)