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**CELEBRATING
10 YEARS
OF CEQUIN**

2009-2019

THEY SAY

Lora Krishnamurthi Prabhu

Executive Director

Sara Abdullah Pilot

Chairperson

It all started with our animated conversations while working as Programme Officers in UNIFEM South Asia office, Jor Bagh, New Delhi. The idea took shape during our overlapping maternity breaks, when we firmed up plans of setting up an organization that would work creatively and innovatively at the grassroots for gender equity.

Converting ideas to action was the next step. The infrastructure of the Jai Jawan Jai Kisan Trust (JJJKT), set up by Late Shri Rajesh Pilot, provided us the platform to start our work. A preliminary initiative we undertook was to connect with women's groups with support from CGBA and Women Power Connect to put together a Women's Manifesto in 2008. Representatives of the group placed their ideas before the Congress Manifesto Committee, ensuring that senior decision makers in the party were gender sensitized and made aware of women's demands.

Over the next few months, we sought guidance from several influential leaders in the women's movement and the development sector, while brain storming incessantly. In March 2009, Centre for Equity and Inclusion (CEQUIN) was set up as an autonomous unit of the JJJKT.

Our first project was the Gender Resource Centre (GRC) under Mission Convergence, a visionary initiative being undertaken by Delhi Government. It was a perfect fit with what we at CEQUIN had set out to do. We took up the challenge of setting up a GRC in the complex Jamia Nagar area (close on the heels of the Batla House terrorist encounter) catering to poor, minority, vulnerable women.

We have not looked back since, as CEQUIN has grown from strength to strength, both in terms of the depth of our impact as well as expanding outreach. Following up on the advice of Dr Syeda Hameed who exhorted us to work in Mewat, one of the most backward district in the country, we initiated work there in 2013. In the last few years, we have scaled up to wider geographies.

From the outset, CEQUIN has sought to be at the cutting edge. Our baseline study on gender based violence in public spaces in 2009 was one of the first to highlight the issue, prompting a debate on women's safety in the Parliament.

The NCW-UNDP-CEQUIN national level conference on gender based violence in public spaces in 2010, took the lead in expanding advocacy beyond the issue of domestic violence, to look at a host of neglected areas like sexual harassment, honour crimes, acid throwing, witch hunting, concerns of homeless women, etc.

CEQUIN developed a unique two pronged approach to address gender based violence. Advocacy was conducted through men talking to men about respecting women. This campaign was first initiated in partnership with the Delhi Daredevils cricket team in December 2009, and went on to take the shape of the on-going 'Mardo Waali Baat' campaign which is reaching out to men and boys in schools and in the community. The second approach has been to build girls capacities to the extent that they can confidently claim public spaces and resist violence in the home and outside. We are doing this with the impactful tool of football. The football initiative entitled 'Kickstart Equality' was started in Jamia in 2011. Today, CEQUIN is a leader in this space. As the convener of the National Alliance for Women's Football in India, we are playing a vital role in building a girls' grassroots football movement across the country.

Along this journey we have learnt several lessons on how to manage our projects better, how to augment results, how to improve our communications, how to measure our impact effectively, how to expand networks and build partnerships, etc. We have adapted and evolved.

Our core values, however, remain the same. The realization that despite all that we have collectively achieved in the context of gender equity, there is still so much more to be done, does weigh us down. But at CEQUIN, we are more motivated than ever to demonstrate innovative strategies to disrupt and rebuild a gender equitable society for both women and men to live in peace, dignity and prosperity.



SNAPSHOT OF OUR JOURNEY SO FAR

→ Gender Resource Centre set up in Jamia, 2009



→ Lora Prabhu as part of Indian delegation on Global Women's Issues, US State Department in 2011



→ Household survey covering 10,000 households in Jamia for Mission Convergence in 2009



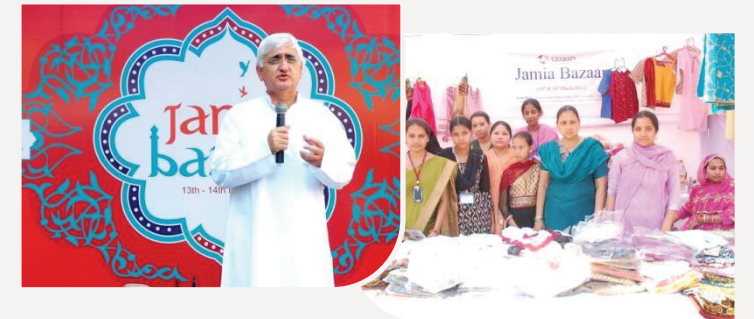
→ Football project initiated in partnership with Jamia Milia Islamia in 2011



→ CEQUIN-CMS baseline study published to understand Sexual Harassment in Public Spaces in Delhi, 2009



→ Jamia Bazaar, 2011



→ Launch of the 'Make Delhi Safe for Women' Campaign in 2009-10.



→ Book Launch - 'The Fear that Stalks: Gender-based Violence in Public Spaces', edited by Sara Pilot and Lora Prabhu and published by Zubaan Books in 2012



→ NCW-UNDP-CEQUIN national level conference on 'Gender-based Violence in Public Spaces: Challenges and Solutions', 2010



→ CEQUIN selected as one of the lead NGOs to implement Awaz Uthao Campaign in Delhi in 2012



SNAPSHOT OF OUR JOURNEY SO FAR

→ Jamia Bazaar, 2012



→ CEQUIN's work on gender equity recognized by Tag Heuer in 2013



→ CEQUIN co-hosts the Women International Network (WIN) conference in 2013



→ The first phase of Mahila Panchayat Programme initiated in 2014



→ Jamia Bazaar, 2013



→ Sara Pilot, as a recipient of the ASSOCHAM award, nominates two girls for the 'Sara Pilot University Scholarships' to attend Rai University in 2014.



→ CEQUIN convenes the first Round Table on the 'Road Map for Women's Soccer in India' in 2013



→ Jamia Bazaar, 2015



→ Launch of the Mewat Women's Health and Leadership Project in 2013



→ Men speak to Men! Mardo Wali Baat Programme launched in 2015



SNAPSHOT OF OUR JOURNEY SO FAR

→ WOWMEN awards organised to recognize 7 men who made exemplary contribution to gender equity, 2015



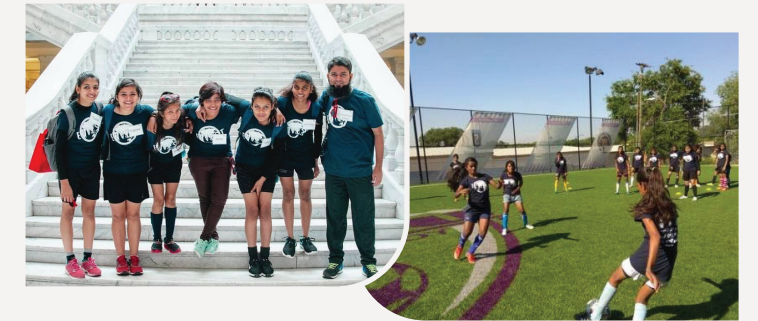
→ CEQUIN takes the lead in setting up the National Alliance for Women's Football in India in 2017



→ CEQUIN takes two girls for football camp at Aston Villa FC, Birmingham in 2015



→ CEQUIN team invited to Goals for Girls Leadership Summit in Etah, USA in 2018



→ Lora Prabhu participates in Dasra Social Impact Accelerator Program- Maternal Child Health & Adolescent Girls in 2015-16



→ CEQUIN partners with DDFC and Football Delhi to start Under-13 Delhi School Girls Football League in 2019



→ 10 girls from CEQUIN become D license qualified football coaches (2015-2019)



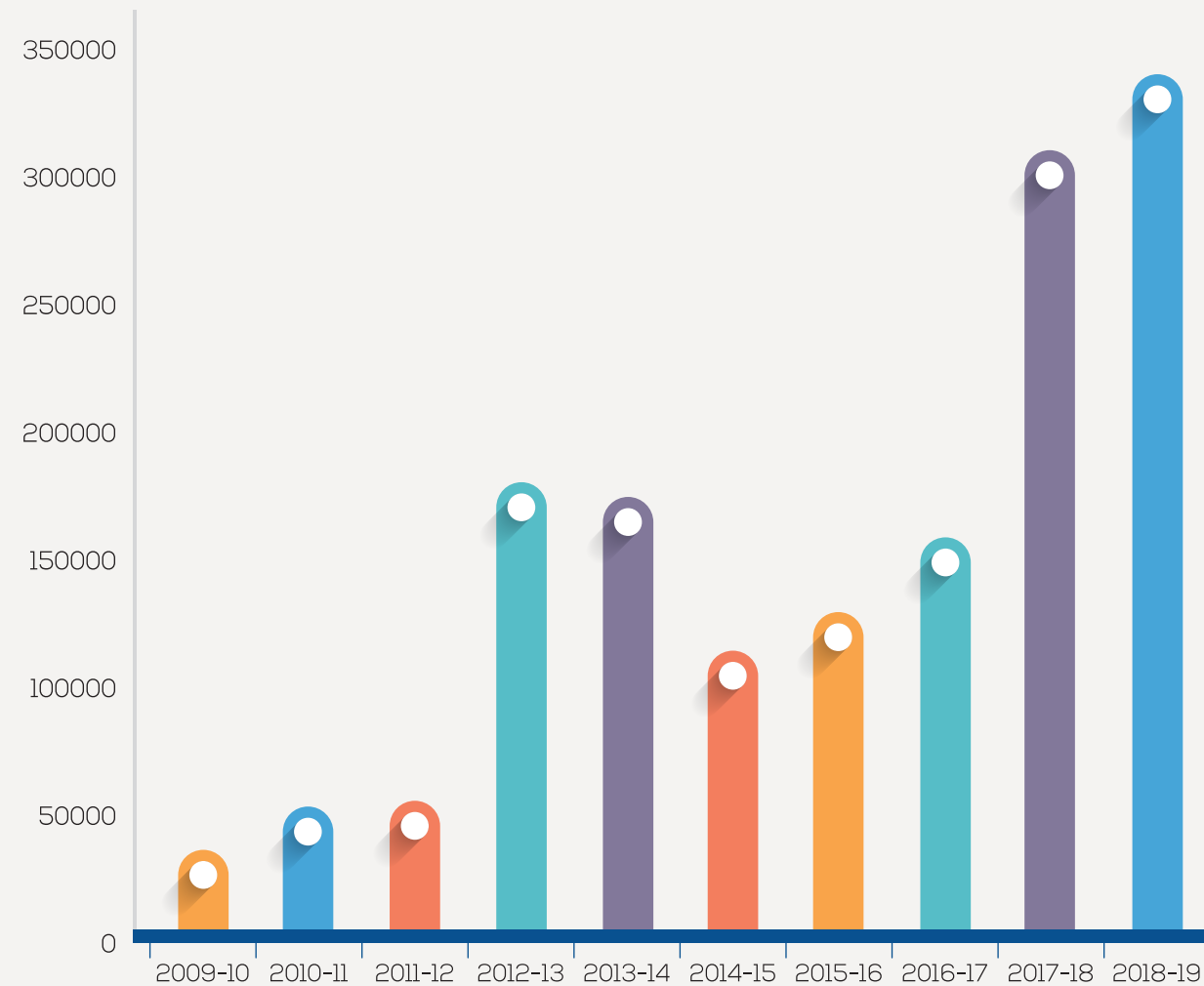
→ CEQUIN gets recognized for the work on empowerment of girls through sports by FICCI in 2019



→ CEQUIN's football coaches get trained under Premier Skills UK, in Mumbai in 2016



HOW WE EVOLVED : 2009-2019



TOTAL OUTREACH
13,77,540
 (Direct + Indirect)

40 M+
 Readership of **CEQUIN'S**
 work in Print and Audio
 Visual media

1 M+
 outreach through
SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

1,30,000+
ADOLESCENT GIRLS and
1,39,000+
ADOLESCENT BOYS

130+
EDUCATION
INSTITUTIONS reached

40 M+
 Readership of **CEQUIN'S** work
 in Print and Audio Visual media

3000 + **VOLUNTEERS**
 and **INTERNS**

61+ **WOMEN'S**
COLLECTIVES created

5000+
 Outreach through
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

44,251+
GIRLS reached out
 through **CAREER**
COUNSELLING SESSIONS

2000+
COMMUNITY MEMBERS reached
 out through Non Formal Education
 Programme out of which **366**
 adult women made literate,
300+ out of school children
 mentored and enrolled into
 formal schooling, **70** dropout
 girls mainstreamed into formal
 education through NIOS

480 out of
3500+
WOMEN AND GIRLS trained
 under Vocational Training
 courses earning their
 livelihoods, 80 women have
 been officially recognised as
 artisans by the Ministry of Textiles,
 Government of India.

800+
 Legal cases related to **GENDER**
BASED VIOLENCE resolved through
 multilayered interventions in
 the community

84,900 +
 beneficiaries reached out
 through **HEALTH PROGRAMME**



STORIES OF CHANGE

OUR WORK

Outcomes we are working towards

- Reducing of Violence against Women and Girls
- Improved Education Girls
- Enhanced Livelihoods and resources for Women & Girls
- Enhanced Health and Well-being of Women, Girls and the Community
- Enhanced Leadership of Women and the Youth

Who we work with

- Institutions
- Local Community
- Men and Boys
- Women
- Adolescent Girls
- Government
- CSR
- Multilateral Organisations
- Bilateral Organisations
- Industries

How we work

- Holistic Approach through:
- Building Capacity
 - Capturing Learning
 - Cultivating Networks
 - Advocating for Change



“ WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING HELPS UNLOCK PROGRESS ”

Sharifa Bhatt migrated to Delhi from Kashmir in 1995, when her family was forced to run away due to communal riots. Suddenly, everything changed. She had no idea what the future had in store for her. She was torn between whether to stay in Delhi or to return home. She was greatly worried about her children's well being. Things took a turn for the worse when her husband lost his business and they were pushed into poverty, with not enough to eat and no permanent home to live in. While she was struggling with the uncertainty that lay ahead of them, she came across CEQUIN's GRC. In 2009 she enrolled herself in CEQUIN's vocational training course for cutting and tailoring. She worked diligently to make the most of her learning opportunity. While coming to the Centre she was exposed to ideas of women's capability and the opportunities available. She was determined to hone her skills and make a living out of them. Today, she successfully runs a boutique and production centre, organising exhibitions all over Delhi. Her eldest daughter is now a doctor and is soon planning to shift to Canada, while her son is an engineer and her youngest daughter is an English Literature student. A woman who started this journey penniless, Sharifa, now has annual savings of above Rs. 2 lakhs. She also prides herself for being an employer of women, both in Kashmir and in Okhla, Delhi, inspiring them to stand on their own feet, so that they are never faced with what she lived through.

Asma had been facing domestic abuse for the past few years but never shared her story with others. She was introduced to CEQUIN's Mahila Panchayat programme and got co-opted as a member three years ago. As a member of Mahila Panchayat she underwent intensive training sessions on leadership and women's rights, understanding gender based violence, the relevant laws and key stakeholders in her area. She took a keen interest in the training and emerged a proactive member of the Panchayat, taking up local cases for informal resolution or providing referrals. She has developed her individual leadership along the way, resolving cases like convincing an eloped couple's parents to get them married, helping a poor mother get her daughter married and liaising with the local Councilor to get dustbins installed in her area. She has been actively mobilizing women especially widows to apply for pensions. Helping and enabling community members gave her the confidence to stand up against violence her was facing and she threw her abusive husband out of the house. She's become an inspiration to other women in the locality who now directly approach her with their problems.



Zaima Ayyub , an 18 year old young girl was studying in a private school in Batla House when the school abruptly shut down in the middle of the session, leaving hundreds of students clueless about what to do next. Living in a family of five members, she had lost her father at a very young age and was financially dependent on her mother who is a domestic worker and earns a meager daily wage. Due to adverse financial situation, her mother did not want her to continue studying and instead wanted to get her married off. CEQUIN encountered Zaima during a community mobilizing session for enrolment of drop out girls for NIOS. She was regularly counselled to appear for her 10th class board exam through open school. After a lot of convincing, she started coming to CEQUIN's office for preparatory classes for her boards. Today, she is hopeful that she will score above 80%, take admission in a good school in Okhla for further education and become a teacher in the future.

Shabnam regularly attended CEQUIN's legal awareness sessions taking place in her neighbourhood, learning about legal rights and discrimination against women. When her differently abled brother was once wrongfully arrested by the police and accused of having kidnapped a child, she immediately went to the police station and demanded for evidence or an explanation on legal basis on which this arrest was made. Initially, the police officials did not pay attention to her presence, but when she started debating and held her ground, as she had enough legal knowledge to understand that they had no basis for her brother's arrest, the police had to release him. Shabnam has been actively participating in community affairs and supporting women who need help in her neighbourhood.

“ SUSTAINABLE AND HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY IF THE MARGINALISED SECTIONS OF THE SOCIETY ARE ABLE TO PARTAKE AND BENEFIT FROM THE GROWTH ”



When Nasreen (name changed to protect confidentiality) joined one of CEQUIN's Self Help Groups, she had been married for 14 years and had 6 children. She was constantly being subject to marital rape as well as being forced to engage in unnatural sex. As her awareness and self-worth grew, along with a sense of sisterhood of the collective, she was able to share these problems with her group members. As a result, CEQUIN was able to provide her with legal and family counseling. After this mediation, her husband changed his behaviour and now treats her with respect. Nasreen shares that she would never have had the courage to address her problem, if not for being a part of a collective and building her self confidence. She is now happy and lives a dignified life.

Asma, was married off at a very young age and lived in Himachal Pradesh with her husband. Post-marriage her husband, who was involved in an extra marital affair, would often abuse her. She had a daughter and son from the marriage. Due to neglect and abuse, her son died at the age of three. Soon after, her husband threw her and her daughter out of the marital home. She went to live with her parents who were very poor and not ready to support her. Finally, she moved to Delhi and took up work as a domestic help in order to sustain in the city. During this time, she joined CEQUIN's vocational training course in cutting and tailoring. Seeing her skill and commitment, she was recommended by the instructor to a nearby boutique for a job. Upon joining there, her earning and working conditions improved. She was able to save money and rented a small flat for her daughter and herself. She has been working for years now and has enrolled her daughter in a nearby school.

“VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IS THE BIGGEST OBSTACLE TO SAFE AND HEALTHY SOCIETIES”



“SPORT IS A CONTRIBUTOR TO LIFELONG EDUCATION AND PROVIDES A CHANNEL TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL NEEDS”

Daughter of a shopkeeper, growing up Saiba believed that her dream was to complete her education and get married, just like everyone else in her family. But her life altered when she joined CEQUIN in 2014 and became a part of the Kick Start Equality Programme. Saiba had been shy and had been dominated by people around her. Through football she gained the confidence to assert herself and eventually started travelling alone for various matches with her teammates. This led to holistic development in her personality and the ability to make informed choices in her own life. The exposure to the world outside beyond their reserved community, has matured Saiba and gained her respect from her family. They now trust her opinion, to the extent that she is involved in the process of finding a groom for her sister. Today, she is a D-License coach and working as a coach in Hindustan Academy, Baichung Bhutia Football Academy and CEQUIN.

7. Anne joined CEQUIN at the young age of 13 years when she enrolled in the Kickstart Equality Programme. There was a lot of resistance from her family, and when she first came, Anne was a very shy and quiet girl, physically unfit and weak and had no access to public spaces such as parks, in the congested area of Jamia. Slowly and gradually, her football skills started skyrocketing, leading to an improved confidence level, fitness and stamina. Anne received her D-Licence for coaching in 2015 and got selected as a member of the football team representing India at the Homeless World Cup in Oslo, Norway in 2016. She performed as a referee in National Inclusion Slum Soccer Cup and won the 'best referee award' in Mumbai in 2017 and in 2018, led a team of CEQUIN football players on a learning visit to the US. Currently, Anne is working as a football coach in Delhi's prestigious British School, Hindustan Academy and CEQUIN. She has given back to her community by opening her own NGO 'Fairy Fari Foundation' in Jamia, which she runs with her sister, educating children for free and teaching them football.



“ STRIKING A CONNECTION BETWEEN INNOVATION, GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT IS ESSENTIAL ”

Sukhdev joined CEQUIN as a volunteer in 2013 in the Mardo Wali Baat programme. Coming from a family where girls are thought to be inferior to boys, Sukhdev’s attitudinal change has been transformative. Within a week of volunteering, he got an opportunity to facilitate community mobilization on his own, leading to an exponential growth in his leadership skills. Today, Sukhdev has connected more than 40 girls from the community into the football programme and counsels their parents on a regular basis. He also facilitates various gender and leadership training sessions and health camps in the community for CEQUIN. Along the way Sukhdev has re-enrolled himself for higher education, improved his articulation and English speaking skills, and from being ‘aimless’ had transitioned into a purposeful young man.

Mohammad Azad Hussain has been associated with CEQUIN for the last 5 years. From being a shy and quiet boy, Azad today is a confident young man dreaming of becoming a journalist and bringing about social change. Azad became a part of the Mardo Wali Baat programme, attending gender training workshops conducted by CEQUIN and becoming aware of gender inequality around him. From a mere participant, today Azad has become a lead trainer, conducting various gender training with boys in schools and communities. Azad has emerged as an excellent public speaker, and had been awarded by his educational institute. After his sister’s marriage, he started helping his mother with kitchen and household chores, leading to ridicule from his brothers and friends. Azad continues to set an example through his actions and behaviour, optimistic that social change towards gender equity will happen with time and one has to constantly work towards it.



Nigar’s introduction to CEQUIN happened through ‘Bismillah’ Group, the first SHG set up in Jamia. Proactive and keen to learn, she took up the task of accounts’ manager of the group. Gradually, she started getting involved and contributing to more programmes at CEQUIN, in turn gaining confidence along the way. Taking interest in the concept of the Mahila Panchayat programme, she joined CEQUIN as a ‘Community Mobiliser’ and started door-to-door visits, to build contacts and meet women in the community. However, this journey wasn’t a cakewalk for her, with resistance from her in-laws about her taking up a job, and fears of a conservative community. However she has overcome it all, reaching a point where they encourage her to work, take pride in her achievements and take care of the house in her absence. Nigar feels that not only has it been transformative for her, but her entire family has been able to benefit and evolve from her involvement with CEQUIN, accepted her as a working professional, beyond her role and responsibilities as a homemaker.

Anjali Mandal migrated from Bihar to Delhi with her family years ago and worked as a labourer in Batla House. Her employer offered her the piece of land she was staying on temporarily with her family. As per the offer, she saved Rs 80,000, paid him the full money, bought that land, made a small house and started living there. However, the happiness of having her own house didn’t last long when one of the employer’s relatives threw her family out of the house claiming that it’s his property. The police didn’t help her either and they were left with no option but to stay near a big garbage dump for over a month. She got to know about CEQUIN from another community member and shared her problem with the field team. CEQUIN provided legal counselling to her and took her case to the police. The police helped her in getting her house back within a week of this intervention. Anjali has been staying in that house with dignity since then.

“ THERE IS NO TOOL FOR DEVELOPMENT MORE EFFECTIVE THAN THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN ”

Forging Sustainable Partnerships helps to create multi-stakeholder platforms to facilitate collaborative action on issues related to women and girls.

JAMIA MILIA ISLAMIA UNIVERSITY

CEQUIN's forays into Jamia Nagar in the initial days would not have been possible without the critical partnership with Jamia Milia Islamia while setting up the Gender Resource Centre GRC in 2009. The University's role has been significant since then. In the early days when CEQUIN did not have any infrastructural facilities to call their own, the University provided office space to initiate work. The partnership supported CEQUIN in building credibility and forge links with the local community. In subsequent years the University grounds have played a vital role in fostering girls football movement in the conservative Jamia area, since 2011. Young girls, often in hijabs, from underprivileged households in and around Jamia Nagar, streaming into the Jamia University football grounds for regular practise sessions is the new normal.



RESIDENT WELFARE ASSOCIATIONS

As a part of CEQUIN's efforts to engender public parks, young girls started playing football in small parks in Okhla and Ghaffar Manzil Park. Due to poor maintenance, the predominant presence boys on the ground, as well as the presence of anti social elements, it was very difficult for the girls to use the grounds. In order to create an enabling environment for the girls to play, CEQUIN approached the local Residents Welfare Associations (RWAs) on behalf of the girls. Through a process of sensitization, the RWAs were soon co-opted. The RWA members took it upon themselves to clean up the playground, ensuring a safe and healthy environment for the girls to play. With support from RWA members, CEQUIN has extended the programme to other public spaces as well, allowing girls and women easier access to public spaces. As the girls in these localities have started playing football in their own neighbourhood, it is going a long way in changing local attitudes and perception of gender stereotypes. These local RWAs are even providing their own staff and members to stand near the grounds to ensure the safety of girls while they play. The ownership of the initiative for adolescent girls empowerment by the local RWAs is exemplary.



POLICE

CEQUIN has worked closely with the Delhi police through the Awaz Uthao Campaign, Police Awareness drives, gender sensitization sessions, self defence camps and monthly meetings at the Special Police Unit for Women and Children (SPUWAC). In Jamia, CEQUIN organizes regular public interface meetings with the local police, where findings from various women's safety audits undertaken by CEQUIN are discussed. The women in the community get an opportunity to directly communicate their concerns to the local police. The police also seek advise on how they should proceed with regard to handling cases of violence against women and girls. The Mahila Panchayat members from the community, through their regular interface with the police have become empowered with legal awareness. The community members as well as the local police often reach out to them as resource.



CEQUIN-FOOTBALL DELHI-DELHI DYNAMOS FOOTBALL CLUB

CEQUIN partnered with Football Delhi and Delhi Dynamos Football Club (DDFC) to launch the U-13 Delhi School Girls Football League with an aim to create a platform for young girls to play competitively in a league format, creating a pathway for future excellence. This partnership has demonstrated the efficacy of diverse stakeholders working together for a common cause. Football Delhi as the state association and DDFC as corporate entity worked closely with CEQUIN through a gendered perspective, achieving a record participation of young girls. The opportunity to create a wide spread girls football movement has been set in motion.



TESTIMONIALS

“ Congratulations to CEQUIN on the occasion of your tenth anniversary. The Australian High Commission is proud to have partnered with CEQUIN over many years, supporting programs that aim to empower women and girls through sport, education and employment. It is a pleasure to work with an organisation that has real impact and makes a difference to people’s lives. In particular, we commend CEQUIN’s efforts to increase girls’ participation in football and, more recently, to scale up these achievements collaboratively through the National Alliance for Women’s Football. ”

**Rod Hilton, Deputy High Commissioner,
Australian High Commission**

“ It is very refreshing to see the girls’ active participation, not only in education but different skill development courses, football, self defense, etc. Through education, they achieve knowledge, but through the other activities of CEQUIN, they are gaining confidence and self-esteem in themselves. Jamia university is happy to help CEQUIN in the future also. ”

Talat Ahmed, Former Vice Chancellor, Jamia Milia Islamia

“ While there is value in ideas and causes, their true potential can only be realized through clarity of vision coupled with a dedicated and unrelenting approach. Over the past 10 years, CEQUIN has managed to bring all of these elements to the fore towards promoting discussions and action on gender issues. However, their biggest victory in my opinion has been spreading their spirit to all those around them, including our organization and others who are a part of the National Alliance for Women's Football. ”

**Ramit Singh Chimni, Co-founder
Bone Foundation**

“ CEQUIN has strived hard to make its place in Mewat by conducting a study of the literacy culture in this rural district of Haryana. Their outreach to all the schools, interventions in the KGBVs and communities in Mewat is building towards a better future for the women and girls who have for so long been downtrodden; while also giving them an opportunity to open up, discover and explore more about themselves. ”

Gianwati, DPC (Rtd), District Commissioner’s Office

“ Working with CEQUIN has empowered me so much that today I’m proud to say that I’m all for marriage with a woman who works and to make decisions together for a happy and healthy life. ”

Md. Amin, Project Officer, CEQUIN

“ I want to congratulate CEQUIN for its multi-layered intervention in Jamia Nagar. Real issues like lack of proper health and safety issues, education, and gender sensitivity are being addressed and I will support their work in every possible capacity to make Okhla a safe space for women and girls. ”

Shoaib Danish, Ward Councilor, Zakir Nagar

“ CEQUIN’S training made me realize that our roles are equal; there is nothing a girl can do that I can’t do. Similarly, there is nothing I can do that she can’t do. ”

Mohammed Irfan, Participant, Agents of Change

“ I have confidence in myself now . I have seen that girls can do a lot of things. Getting trained by CEQUIN helped me to choose my goals, to choose better people around – those who will be good influence for me and my future. ”

**Anju, Participant,
Employability Training for Girls**

“ I don’t want my children to experience what I did. I want them to be feminist, advocate for women’s rights, and have the freedom to express their feelings and their emotions. CEQUIN has enabled me to dream big and take my own decisions. ”

Zulfia Masood, Administrative Officer, CEQUIN

“ After working with CEQUIN, my thinking about girls has completely changed and I’ve become more conscious of how I treat girls and women around me. I always thought that girls and boys can’t be friends but after attending Mardo Wali Baat sessions, I realized that such thinking is disrespectful is a part of harassment that girls and women are regularly subjected to. Now, I’m motivating other boys from my neighbourhood to volunteer as well to make our area a Gender Based Violence free zone. ”

Zeeshan, Volunteer, Mardo Wali Baat

“ CEQUIN’s awareness raising and sensitization workshop with students is one of the most exciting interventions I have seen. What is truly unique and refreshing about it is that besides working with the girls, CEQUIN is involving and engaging the interest of the boys and this makes a huge difference in creating change in the community. ”

Poonam, Beat Officer, Vasant Vihar Police Station

“ Working with CEQUIN didn’t only give me confidence, it changed my life. It is the reason I could marry the person of my choice. Even though he didn’t belong to the same community, my family, seeing my work at the NGO and the confidence that had developed as a result, over time, realized that I could make my own decisions and let me marry my husband. I started as a person who could barely talk to strangers. After my years at CEQUIN, I have become the one they send to talk to strangers, when everybody else feels conscious to do so! ”

Zeba Kazmi, Project Officer, CEQUIN

“ CEQUIN through its approach of involvement of men and boys in the struggle of a gender just society has always managed to incorporate innovative means in order to create a resonance around the pressing issue of GBV. With a team of dedicated individuals and passionate activists, it has always demonstrated a ‘never give up’ attitude for realization of its goals of an inclusive, peaceful and violence free society. I wish them all the best for their future endeavors. ”

**Ahmad Faraz, Coordinator Men Engage and Programme Officer,
Centre for Health and Social Justice**

“ One year back I could not have even imagined playing football in my own school ground. But thanks to CEQUIN for supporting me throughout and making me believe in my talent! I feel so proud of myself to be a part of the U-13 league! ”

**Jyoti, Participant,
U-13 Delhi School Girls Football League, RPVV Lajpat Nagar**