

**EXPLORING THE  
PRIMARY TASK OF THE  
NON PROFIT SYSTEM WE  
BELONG TO: A DIALOGUE**

Online on Jan 22, 29 & Feb 12, 2022

Offered by Group Relations India

The non-profit sector is diverse with many sub systems driven by a desire for change in society. Over the years, this sector has 'professionalised' and expanded to include social enterprises, more market-based responses, specialist support groups among others. While the overall space of civil society has become a contested one, within the larger political landscape, COVID response also showed the significance of civil society for bolstering resilience within communities. Some of these developments have made many organisations and individuals think about what is really at the core, their purpose.

Group relations frameworks help us unpack and explore purpose through the idea of the primary task. Primary task gives meaning to the system in its context. answers the question – What is that core – which, if were to be lost, the system might as well cease to exist? It orients the system – where do we want to go and why? It serves as a north star or a guide to navigate unconscious dynamics that the system may be caught in.

As a development practitioner, one may have held many organizational roles in the non-profit system. What has been one's own understanding of the primary task of the nonprofit system that one has a relationship with or one belongs to? What are unconscious assumptions about the community and ourselves that are revealed by different articulations of the primary task? What unconscious dynamics may be revealed when we explore the divergence between our intention, our policies, our actions and their outcomes? How could this inform the role that one takes as a development practitioner? The proposed dialogue is an invitation to explore some of these questions together.

## Primary task

*Explore one's formulation of the primary task for the nonprofit system that one is part of – what is stated and what one works towards in the mind – i.e more unconsciously, through reflection on own experience and collective exploration with other members.*

## Membership

We invite those working or associated with the non-profit system in any role - implementor, researcher, activists, manager, founder or consultant - to join the dialogue. Prior experience and familiarity with group relations frameworks may be helpful but is not a prerequisite to your participation in the dialogue. It would be helpful to build the dialogue, if you can attend all three sessions.

Please send a short note to [study@grouprelationsindia.org](mailto:study@grouprelationsindia.org) including what interests you about this event and why you would like to join it.

## Method

Three sessions are planned on Saturdays (January 22, 29 and February 12) from 1800-1930 via Zoom. We would also be sharing a few readings with a view of furthering one's own reflections.

## Administrative information

GRI Dialogues is a space for reflection and furthering application of GR frameworks. In spirit of co exploration, no fee is charged for participation. There are 17 places available on a first come first serve basis. Vartika Jaini will be in role of convenor of the dialogue.



## About GRI dialogues

GRI Dialogues are offered with the idea that GR frameworks can be applied to develop an appropriate response to the needs of our times. The first dialogue was offered in June 2021 on Sources of support in the systems we inhabit: an exploration for Covid times.

## About Group Relations India

Group Relations India (GRI) was founded in 2013 with the vision of an institution that is committed exclusively to group relations methodology, and of making the potential of this methodology available to members from a wide section of Indian society, having different representations and interests. It is conceived of as a 'home for GR' in India.

GRI seeks to promote experiential learning about individual, group, organizational, and systemic processes using group relations frameworks based on systems psychodynamic and socio-analysis approaches, which pay particular attention to unconscious processes.

Towards this end, GRI offers a variety of educational programs and workshops for the enhancement of skills and competencies in this area. It also networks with like - minded professional bodies and organizations to further this aim.

Visit our website [www.grouprelationsindia.org](http://www.grouprelationsindia.org) or write to [office@grouprelationsindia.org](mailto:office@grouprelationsindia.org) | [programmes@grouprelationsindia.org](mailto:programmes@grouprelationsindia.org) to know more about us and what's on offer.