

## **PROOF and Janaagraha: Year 2**

The first year of PROOF has been completed, and it is good news that the campaign is being extended for another year. While the idea of PROOF has been seeded, there is still much work to be done. The structure of the management of the campaign has changed slightly from the first year: we now have two coordinating partners, and two other partners who are involved in the campaign to a slightly lesser degree. A core group of citizens called the Proof Energy Centre (PEC) has been created through the efforts of VOICES: their efforts in honing their activities around the second year of the campaign need to be supported. Over the course of this year, a clear identity for the campaign needs to emerge; one option is for PROOF to become a standalone platform, running its secretariat and engaging with a variety of partners. In keeping with our original intent of citizens at the ward-level to relate to PROOF, ward-PROOF activities need to begin. More areas of Performance Indicators need to be created, following the successful beginning in the Education area.

From Janaagraha's perspective, our rationale for PROOF can be summarised by quoting from our statement in the first year of PROOF:

*"We believe that PROOF is a remarkable opportunity to create a platform for citizen engagement. Information that comes out of the PROOF documents will only be the first step. By itself, this information is passive, inert. It needs to come alive with participation, internalisation and ownership by the citizens in their neighbourhoods. Our vision for how this will work is that the PROOF documents act as a catalyst for the average citizen to engage more, get a firmer comprehension of how –in this case – their local BMP government works, and then take the next step: ask the question, "What does this mean in my ward, my locality?" This will in turn spur more disaggregated analysis and debate."*

For Janaagraha's part, we commit to do the following:

1. Continue to run the secretariat for the campaign
2. Support the PEC on activities that are related to the PROOF campaign
3. Take up "PROOF-in-my-ward" activities, specifically:
  - a. Develop formats for ward-level reporting
  - b. Procure information from the BMP for ward-level data
  - c. Conduct 1 general orientation session with communities
  - d. Support community-led initiatives to get "PROOF-in-my-ward"
  - e. Blend "PROOF-in-my-ward" into the Monthly Review Meetings being held at the ward level, at least once a quarter

We hope that the PROOF campaign can acquire an aura of permanence by the end of its second year. Like the child, we hope that this baby begins to walk in 9 months.

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