

Alankriti Gopinatha

London | gopinatha.alankriti@gmail.com | [Design and Research Portfolio](#)

Professional summary

Community engagement and participatory-practice practitioner with experience coordinating workshops, stakeholder activity, qualitative research and communications across the UK, India and Brazil. MSc graduate in Building and Urban Design in Development from UCL, with a focus on housing insecurity, urban inequality, gender and spatial justice. Skilled in designing inclusive engagement approaches, facilitating community discussions, maintaining clear project documentation and translating lived experience into accessible resources, reports and recommendations. Committed to strengthening resident voice and supporting meaningful participation in decisions that affect communities.

Education

UCL, BARTLETT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING UNIT

London, UK

MSc: Building And Urban Design in Development

2024 - 2025

- Developed an understanding of UK housing, planning and local-government contexts through research and urban-development work, with a particular interest in resident voice, inclusive consultation, regeneration and more accountable decision-making.
- Carried out London-based urban research and engagement across North Woolwich, King's Cross and Spitalfields, exploring how regeneration, housing, public space and local histories shape everyday experiences of belonging, access and exclusion.
- Led community engagement and participatory research with MTST (Homeless Workers' Movement) and MSTC (City Centre Homeless People's Movement) in São Paulo, using mapping, knowledge-sharing and advocacy workshops to engage residents facing housing insecurity. Developed flashcards and digital tools to make housing-rights information more accessible and support collective learning.

MAHE, MANIPAL SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

India

B.Arch: Bachelor Of Architecture GPA 7.69/10

2018 - 2023

Professional and Research Experience

Foster + Partners

London, UK

Urban design assistant

Feb 2026- Apr 2026

- Explored strategies for active and inclusive public realm, high streets and local centres, considering how ground-floor uses, programming, community needs and development proposals can support vibrant places throughout the year.
- Conducted research on urban policies, development strategies, and regulatory frameworks to inform project directions.
- Developed an understanding of how UK planning policy, local authority requirements and development constraints shape project viability and delivery.
- Analyse urban context, including morphology, demographics, anthropology, and local histories, to frame project briefs and strategies.
- Develop urban design interventions and strategic frameworks tailored to each project's objectives and constraints.
- Produce clear reports, diagrams, and presentations that translate complex research into actionable insights for project teams and stakeholders.

Female Architects of Minority Ethnic Collective (FAME Collective) (social media: [FAME Collective](#))

London, UK

Research communications and social media content creator volunteer

Sept 2025-present

- Support the communications of a research-based collective examining racial, gender and intersectional barriers experienced by women from minority ethnic backgrounds in architectural education and practice. FAME's participatory research centres lived-experience narratives to challenge systemic inequities and support a more inclusive profession.

- Help amplify underrepresented voices and encourage engagement with conversations on equity, representation and social justice across architecture and the built environment.
- Produce social-media and outreach content that translates research-led advocacy, events and collective activity into clear, accessible public communications. Contribute to the collective's public-facing campaign for inclusive architectural education and professional practice.

THISAI

Chennai, India

Participatory planning and engagement project volunteer

July 2025-present

- Co-developed and facilitated a participatory urban-planning card game on housing justice, using accessible methods to support discussion of local experiences, housing needs and development priorities.
- Contributed to project planning and the development of community-engagement approaches for an inclusive urban-development strategy.
- Project and event coordination: workshop planning, participant communications, stakeholder liaison, meeting and action-note support, resource coordination, project scheduling, documentation and follow-up.

Participatory Housing Engagement for Spatial and Social Justice (report :[2025 OPE Report](#))

São Paulo, Brazil

Participatory research and engagement practitioner

Feb 2025- May 2025

- Conducted qualitative primary and secondary research on housing insecurity, urban informality, housing adequacy and intersectional discrimination.
- Planned and facilitated participatory mapping, knowledge-sharing and advocacy workshops with MTST and MSTC social movements, engaging residents facing housing insecurity. Supported stakeholder engagement and co-produced housing-rights resources, including flashcards and digital tools, to make research insights accessible to community participants.
- Synthesised fieldwork and literature into recommendations for inclusive housing and social-policy interventions.

Samar Ramachandra Associates

Hyderabad, India

Junior architect

Jul 2023- Jun 2024

- Coordinated project documentation, schedules, meeting records and formal correspondence across multiple residential projects, ensuring accurate information management and timely communication.
- Liaised with clients, consultants, contractors and suppliers, building effective working relationships and resolving queries collaboratively.
- Supervised multidisciplinary teams and mentored 10 interns, organising tasks and explaining complex project information clearly.

Understanding the Negative Impact of Binary Public Spaces on the Transgender Community

India

Undergraduate community fieldwork and research

2022

- Conducted in-depth qualitative research with transgender and gender-diverse participants, using one-to-one interviews, group discussions and participatory mapping to explore everyday experiences of public space.
- Facilitated mapping exercises where participants identified spaces of exclusion, safety and visibility, generating spatial data grounded in lived experience.
- Combined these primary methods with literature and policy review to analyse how binary spatial norms and design decisions shape barriers to access, safety and belonging.
- Synthesised findings into recommendations for more inclusive public-space design and planning, foregrounding social justice and the voices of marginalised communities.

Skills and Tools

Design Tools: Adobe Creative Cloud Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop), AutoCAD, Canva, Microsoft Office (word, excel, powerpoint), Mapping, SketchUp, Concept development.

Technical Skills: Briefing reports, collaborative design, participatory research, community engagement, visual presentations, qualitative research, project documentation, client liaison, training and mentoring, Zoom meetings and Zoom webinars.