

# Project Development Summary (2016-2020)

## A Fair Chance for Education in Haryana Project



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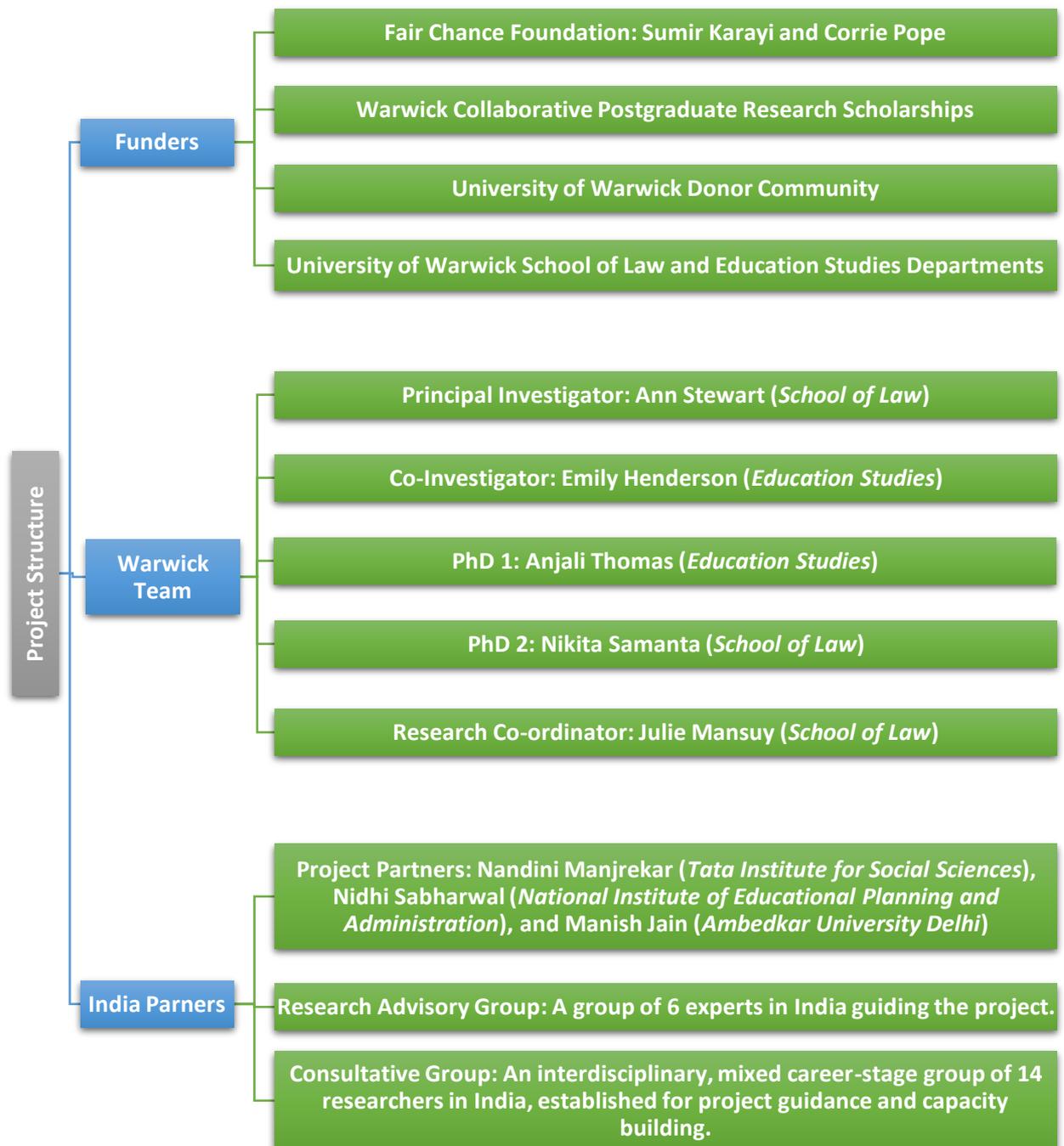
Website: [www.warwick.ac.uk/haryana](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/haryana)  
Twitter: @FCFHaryana

The purpose of this report is to outline the main elements of the project as well as its development from its scoping phase in 2016 until now.

## Overview of Project

*A Fair Chance for Education: Gendered Pathways to Educational Success in Haryana* is a collaborative and interdisciplinary Research Project run by the University of Warwick School of Law and Department of Education Studies.

The project is organised as follows:



# Research

Research Areas: Gender, Higher Education and Human Rights

Context: Haryana, India

Haryana is a state bordering on Delhi, which is (i) under-researched, (ii) a state of interesting contrasts as part of it is highly developed within the National Capital Region and part of it is highly rural, (iii) it presents a conundrum as it has relatively high female participation in education, including higher education, and yet demonstrates high levels of cultural conservatism towards women.

The project is focusing on government colleges in Haryana as these are the least expensive and also the most local forms of higher education provision, so tend to focus on those who 'only just' accessed higher education. This helps us to see how the frontier of access to higher education is shifting.

Research Questions:

- (1) Which factors affect young people's progression to higher education?
- (2) How can gender-related barriers to young people progressing to higher education be addressed through evidence-based intervention?

Data collection:

Pilot phase: Case study of three colleges. Quantitative survey with students in government colleges in Haryana; qualitative interviews and focus group discussions with students; qualitative interviews with representatives from colleges; documentary analysis.

PhD1 study: In-depth qualitative study. Qualitative interviews with students and family interviews with students' families from three government colleges.

PhD2 study: Ethnographic case study with action research elements. Ethnographic documentation of the organisation of two outreach days involving two government colleges and neighbouring high schools. Included interviews and questionnaires for evaluation purposes.

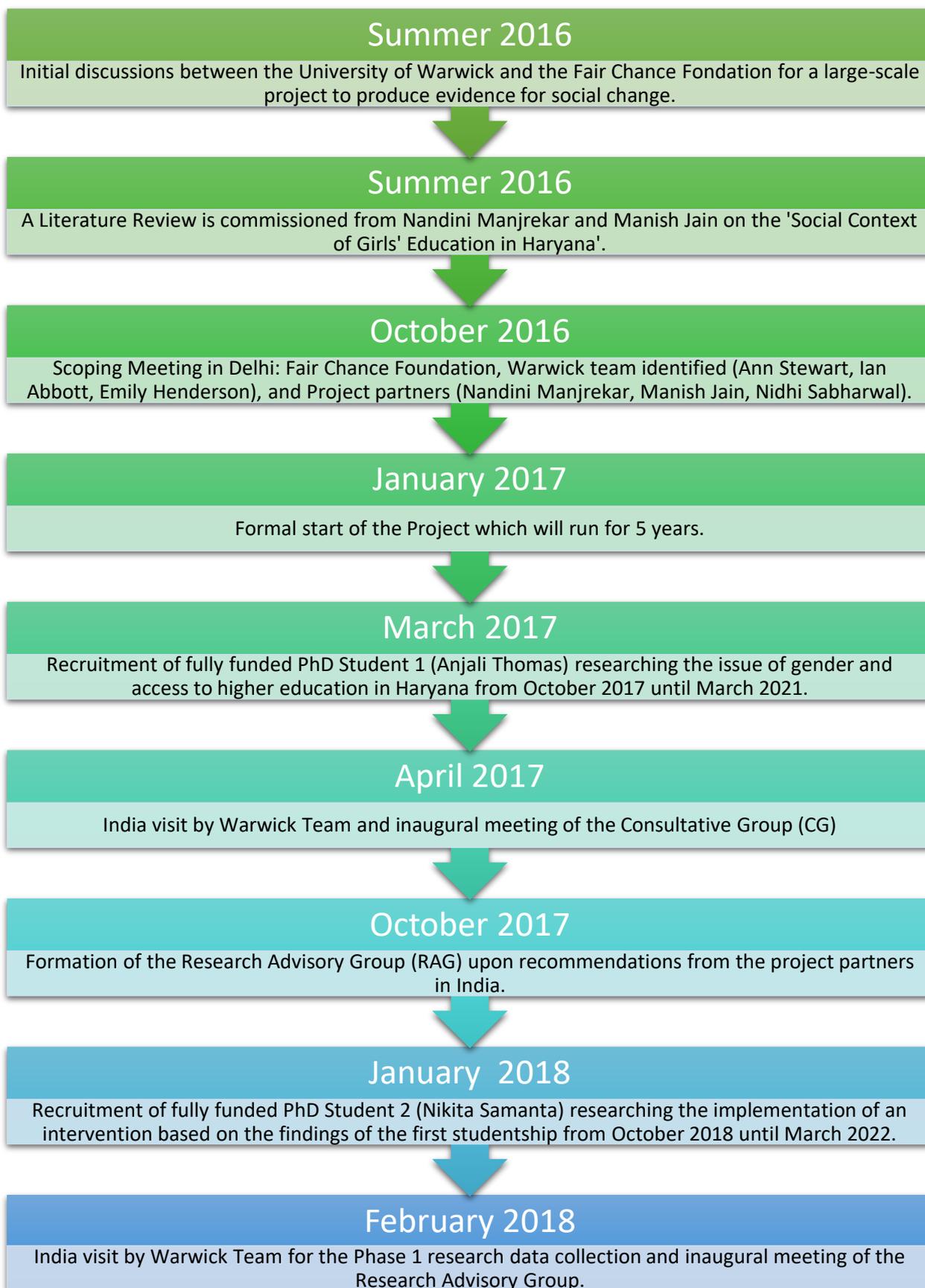
Objectives:

- a) To contribute to capacity building in Indian higher education through two funded doctorates, project activities for students and colleagues, project visits in India and UK.
- b) To design, implement and evaluate an intervention that targets obstacles identified in the first stage of the study, thus contributing to the knowledge of 'what works' in the Global South countries' higher education policy landscape.
- c) To produce useful, robust evidence that may bring about social change.

PhD Supervision:

- Anjali Thomas is supervised by Emily Henderson with Ann Stewart
- Nikita Samanta is supervised by Ann Stewart

## Project Timeline



September 2018

Ian Abbott stands down from his position as Co-Investigator on the project due to his impending retirement.



October 2018

Anjali Thomas starts her fieldwork in India and some India partners visit the Warwick Team at the University of Warwick.



February 2019

India visit by Warwick Team to advise Anjali Thomas on fieldwork, along with a CG meeting.



April 2019

Anjali Thomas returns from her fieldwork study.



June 2019

Project Partner in India Nandini Manjrekar visits the Warwick Team at the University of Warwick.



September 2019

PhD 2 Nikita Samanta leaves for her fieldwork in India.



October 2019

Ann Stewart visits India for meetings with partners and officials, including RAG meeting, and assists with Nikita Samanta's fieldwork preparation.



January 2020

Nikita Samanta returns from her fieldwork study.

## Next Steps

### Anjali Thomas

- Anjali is writing up her thesis and aiming to submit by September 2020

### Nikita Samanta

- Nikita is in her data analysis stage

### Pilot Phase Report

- The report is to be completed this year, along with two planned publications to be drafted.

### Dissemination & Impact

- Plans are underway for impact and dissemination. This will include:
  - A research-focused conference at TISS Mumbai
  - A policy-focused event potentially at NIEPA in Delhi
  - A Haryana specific event to be hosted by one of our project contacts.

### Follow-up Project

- The team is considering further funding for a follow-up project.