

## RUKMINI BANERJI



Rukmini Banerji has been with Pratham since 1996 ([www.pratham.org](http://www.pratham.org)). She is a member of the national leadership team of the organization. Until recently, she was responsible for Pratham's programs and activities in several major states in India. Rukmini has extensive field experience both in program implementation as well as in assessment, evaluation, survey and research.

Initially trained as an economist in India, she completed her BA at St. Stephen's College and attended Delhi School of Economics. She was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University and completed her Ph.D at the University of Chicago. She did her post-doctoral work at the Population Research Center at the University of Chicago and later worked as a program officer at the Spencer Foundation in Chicago before returning to India in 1996. Originally from Bihar, Rukmini is now based in New Delhi.

Rukmini has led the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) effort since it was launched in 2005. ASER is a nation-wide household survey of children conducted every year in every rural district in India. It is the only current source of information on children's ability to read and do arithmetic for the country. ASER has been acknowledged nationally and internationally for its innovativeness in involving citizens and for its impact on education policy and practice. She currently heads ASER Centre ([www.asercentre.org](http://www.asercentre.org)).

Rukmini has represented Pratham and ASER Centre at a variety of national and international forums. She is currently a member of the CAGE (Central Advisory Board of Education) Committee of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. In the past, she has also been a co-chair for the Global Learning Metrics Task Force (convened by the Brookings Institution and UNESCO), a member for the Hewlett Foundation's advisory group on Quality of Education in Developing Countries, and a member of the international advisory group for the Think Tank Initiative.