

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



INTRODUCTION

Community is a physical place.

**Development relates to realizing potential,
growth or expansion of something, or making
something more effective**

Community development is an outcome—establishing a city park, improving infrastructure, creating an industrial park, etc. It is also a process—a comprehensive process for managing community change that involves citizens in a dialogue on issues to decide what must be done, to share their vision of the future, and then to involve them in implementation activities (Vincent 2006).



IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Strengthens Social Connections
- Promotes Economic Growth
- Empowers Residents
- Increases Resilience
- Fosters Sustainability
- Improves Quality of Life





FRAMEWORK OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Community Assessment and Analysis

- Needs Assessment: Identifying the strengths, challenges, and resources within the community through surveys, interviews, and research.
- Asset Mapping: Recognizing the existing assets in the community, such as skills, organizations, and physical resources, that can be leveraged for development.
- Stakeholder Engagement: Involving local residents, leaders, and key organizations in the process to ensure all perspectives are considered.

2. Goal Setting and Planning

- Vision Development: Defining a shared vision of what the community aims to achieve through the development process.
- Objective Setting: Establishing clear, measurable, and realistic goals that align with the community's needs and vision.
- Action Plans: Developing specific strategies and activities to meet the established goals. This may involve short- and long-term plans.

3. Leadership and Capacity Building

- **Leadership Development:** Identifying and training local leaders who can help guide the community development process and ensure sustainability.
- **Capacity Building:** Strengthening the skills, knowledge, and resources of community members, organizations, and institutions to effectively implement development initiatives.
- **Empowerment:** Encouraging community members to take active roles in decision-making, which fosters ownership and commitment to development efforts.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Tracking Progress:** Regularly assessing whether the community development initiatives are on track by measuring outcomes and comparing them with the original goals.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Creating channels for community members to provide input on the progress and effectiveness of initiatives.
- **Evaluation and Adjustment:** Analyzing data to identify successes and areas for improvement, making adjustments to strategies when necessary.



6. Sustainability and Long-Term Impact

Sustaining Efforts: Ensuring that community development initiatives continue to thrive after the initial phase, often by creating local ownership, developing sustainable financing models, or embedding initiatives into community institutions.

Long-Term Vision: Fostering continuous growth and development by keeping the community's evolving needs in mind and adapting to changing circumstances.

7. Social and Cultural Considerations

- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Respecting and incorporating local traditions, values, and customs into development plans to ensure inclusivity and acceptance.
- **Social Inclusion:** Ensuring that marginalized groups—such as women, youth, people with disabilities, and ethnic minorities—are actively involved and benefit from community development activities.



LET'S DO NEIGHBORHOOD MAPPING



SHOW YOUR CRITICAL THINKING AND TEAMWORK SKILLS.

- DIVIDE IN GROUPS ACCORDING TO YOUR AREA VICINITY.
- THINK ABOUT ANY 3 PROBLEMS THAT YOU FACE ON DAILY BASIS.
- GIVE ONE PRACTICAL SOLUTION WITHIN YOUR PERSONAL CAPACITY



TYPES OF COMMUNITIES

- **Geographical Communities**

Definition: Communities defined by their physical location or geography.

Examples: Villages, towns, and cities, Neighborhoods and districts.

Relevance in Development: Focuses on improving infrastructure, sanitation, and access to resources.

- **Cultural or Ethnic Communities**

Definition: Communities based on shared cultural, ethnic, or racial identity.

Examples: Indigenous tribes, Migrant

Relevance in Development: Addresses cultural preservation, education, and integration.

- **Economic Communities**

Definition: Communities based on shared economic activities or goals.

Examples: Farmer cooperatives, Industrial worker unions.

Relevance in Development: Aims to promote sustainable livelihoods and economic empowerment.

- **Interest-Based Communities**

Definition: Communities formed around shared hobbies, goals, or interests.

Examples:

Environmental groups.

Technology enthusiasts.

Relevance in Development: Focus on volunteerism, knowledge sharing, and advocacy for specific causes.

- **Religious or Faith-Based Communities**

Definition: Communities united by shared religious or spiritual beliefs.

Examples: Churches, mosques, and temples. Interfaith networks.

Relevance in Development: Promotes moral values, charity work, and social harmony.



Professional Communities

Definition: Communities centered around shared professions or industries.

Examples: Teacher associations, Healthcare worker networks.

Relevance in Development: Enhances professional skills, advocacy, and policy-making.



STATE WHICH COMMUNITY DO YOU BELONG?

