Community Participatory Goal-Identification Process: Foundation for Sustainable Development

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FSD is a San Francisco-based nonprofit dedicated to achieving community-driven goals through asset-based development and international exchange in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.
USF and FSD Partnership

- FSD Headquarter Staff, FSD Jinja Staff, USF Team
- Consultative Approach
- Timeline & Meetings
Objectives

To provide FSD with a multi-site participatory community goal identification process that allows them to confidently pursue their mission of asset-based community-driven development and provides a standard in which to measure their social impact.
Methods

Part 1:

Development theory
  Participatory Rural Appraisal
  Cooperative Inquiry
  Human Rights Based Approach
  Appreciative Inquiry

Case study analysis

Interviews with international development professionals

Part 2:

Pilot Goal-Identification Process in Jinja, Uganda

Incorporate feedback to improve process
Analysis Framework

The 3 Pillars of PRA

- Behaviour and attitudes
- Methods
- Sharing

Chambers 1992

The 4-Phases of Basic Action Inquiry Cycle in Cooperative Inquiry

1. PLAN an improvement to practice
2. ACT to implement the planned improvement
3. Evaluate the outcomes of the action
4. Monitor and describe the effects of the action

Tripp 2009

Tools from Case Study Analysis

- Diamond Method - symbols, voting, reflection
- Participatory Action Research Tool - participatory education
- The Problem & Solution Game - culturally appropriate process
- PRA Tool - Priority Setting
- Participatory Training Evaluation Method - participatory discussion, capacity building
- H-Diagram - priority setting, symbols
- Causal Loop Diagram (CLD) - sampling methodology
- Semi-Structured Interviews & Participatory Community Workshop - agenda setting
Applied Methodology

Human Rights Based Approach

The 4-D Cycle of Appreciative Inquiry

Calabrese, Friesen, Glasgow, & Martin, n.d.
Results – Phase One

Introduction

Describe the purpose of the discussion and setting ground rules
Results – Phase Two

Data Collection

Dream

Group discussion

1. What is the good life?

2. What is your favorite thing about your community?

Discover

1. How do you want your child’s life to be different from yours? OR How do you want your life to be different from your parents’ life?

2. What is your idea of the perfect community?

3. If you could have one thing for your community, what would it be?
Results – Phase Three

Community Priority Identification

Participants vote on the identified priorities

• Sticker voting
• Marker/pencil voting
• Chip/stone voting
Results – Phase Four

Review of the Priorities

Facilitators review priorities with community members
Results – Phase Five

Reflection & Thank You

- Participants share thoughts and feelings about their experience
- Provides a time to discuss possible improvements
Results – Phase Six

Report & Evaluation

Facilitators fill out provided report forms for FSD

REPORT FORM - WOMEN SUBGROUP (26-49yrs)

Date: ________________ Location: ________________
Start Time: ________________ End Time: ________________
Facilitator(s) Name: ____________________________
Number of participants invited: __________
Number of participants in attendance: __________
Number of participants interested in attending another workshop: __________
List all themes covered during the workshop and indicate the top five community priorities by recording them in the designated blanks listed below:
- Number 1: ___________ EDUCA (15 votes)
- Number 2: ___________ HEALTH (11 votes)
- Number 3: ___________ FAMILY CARE (8 votes)
- Number 4: ___________ RELIGION (6 votes)
- Number 5: ___________ FOOD AND NUTRITION (2 votes)
- EMPLOYMENT (0 votes)
- COMMUNITY GROUPS (0 votes)
- SECURITY (0 votes)
- AGRICULTURE (1 vote)
- INFRASTRUCTURE (1 vote)
- CHILD RIGHTS (1 vote)
- CLEAN POLITICAL LEADERSHIP (1 vote)
- SANITATION AND CLEANLINESS (0 votes)
- WATER (0 votes)

EVALUATION FORM

GENERAL ASSESSMENT

1) What was your overall assessment of the event? (1 = insufficient - 5 = excellent)

2) Which aspect of the workshop did you find most insightful or useful?
- __________________________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________________________
- __________________________________________________________________________

3) Did the workshop achieve the project objective to gain a better understanding of community priorities?
- Yes
- No

If no, why?

________________________________________________________________________________

4) Knowledge and information gained from hosting the workshop:

Met your expectations? [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Somewhat

The questions in this report were intended to give the facilitators an opportunity to provide their views and the observations from the entire activity. There must also be a section on challenges during the exercise.

5) What are your suggested improvements?

The process of administering a question to each participant and having each answer stand them in the following way – (1) people take time to think about the questions before answering and a facilitator cannot rush them (2) some responses (answers) are repeated by

________________________________________________________________________________
The Results from Jinja Pilot

Community Determined Priorities:

→ Health
→ Education
→ Agriculture & Education
→ Religion
→ Employment
The Results from Jinja Pilot

Evaluation Results from Women’s Group:
“The results truly indicate what is happening and what is needed on the grass roots.”

“Women yearn for education but they have never been given an opportunity to air out their development priority.”

“Everyone’s ideas were seriously considered and taken down.”

Evaluation Results from Elder’s Group:
“The approach of the research broadens the mind.”

“We enjoyed the organization of the workshop. All ideas have come from us which is wonderful.”
The Results from Jinja Pilot

Evaluation Results from Men’s Group:
“Glad to be part of a team that has put together these fundamental results."

“Angry with the government for not consulting the communities for development priorities like what has just been done today.”

Evaluation from Youth Group:
“We enjoyed the chance for everyone to express themselves without holding back.”

“The research gives insight on how we can teach other youth the core values of our community.”

“We have the power to develop our communities if we know the problems”
The Results from Jinja Pilot

91 of 91 participants reported that they would be interested in attending another similar workshop.

Local FSD Staff rated the overall assessment of workshop a 5 out 5.
Recommendations

- Ensure project goal alignment between FSD Offices
- Communicate with all FSD site teams early
- To prevent the skewing of data caused by power dynamics in the community
- Create a feasible, yet statistically relevant sampling method
- Minimal technical language in the survey instrument
References: FSD, PRA, Appreciative & Cooperative Inquiry

Foundation for Sustainable Development (FSD):

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Approaches:


Appreciative & Cooperative Inquiry:


References: Case Study Review


Just to let you know that it was a good exercise for our communities and they loved it. Thank you so much for this new approach...it is such a powerful tool that generates genuine community priorities without any bias. We were all surprised by the way communities determined their priorities without any attached sentiments as it always is. Thank you!

– Margaret Nassozi Amanyire