



# Decoding International Development

# Defining Development Activity

Community-based projects, which respond to an identified need by a community within a time bound local intervention. (ACFID)

Development seeks to improve the conditions of communities in a sustainable way. It is based on working with communities, rather than for or on behalf of communities. (ACFID)

# Defining Non Development Activity

**Activity undertaken to promote a particular religious adherence or to support a particular party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party. (ACFID)**

Any activity that supports terrorism

Welfare

# Defining Welfare

- maintains individuals in a particular condition on a long-term basis: e.g. institutionalised care programs (schools, orphanages), individual child / family sponsorship, hospital care programs, hospices, costs for the maintenance of structures for institutionalised care
- includes no strategy for integration into a broader community development program
- is provided on an individual or family basis, rather than on a community basis
- is implemented on a long term basis with no clear exit strategy  
(DFAT)

# ERFA & Sustainable Development

ERFA differentiates between development and welfare, evangelism and partisan politics.

ERFA recognises that welfare is primarily concerned with support and maintenance, more than with the processes of capacity building and empowerment that are intrinsic to sustainable development.

(ERFA Sustainable Development Policy)

# Sustainable Development

## A Holistic, Integrated View

- Economic Sustainability
- Social / Cultural Sustainability
- Environmental Sustainability

# Economic Sustainability

Establishing project financial sustainability beyond ERFA participation

Enabling communities to work towards economic independence

# Social / Cultural Sustainability

Recognizing, respecting, enhancing and incorporating cultural practices of communities into development processes

Communities will never escape from poverty until their human rights are respected and they have a say in how they are governed



# Environmental Sustainability

Poverty and environmental degradation are interwoven

Projects need to consider their environmental impact and implement appropriate mitigation measures

Development is not sustainable if it jeopardizes future generations

# Sustainable Development Projects

## Some Key Characteristics:

- A partnership approach
- In-depth community consultations & needs assessments
- Community participation in program design, implementation & evaluation
- Project ownership & direction by the local community
- Self-sustaining positive change through empowerment & capacity development
- Utilising & building on local knowledge & existing capacity
- A continuous cycle of evaluation
- Priority to engagement with the most marginalised & exploited
- Inclusiveness regardless of race, gender, religious or political beliefs
- Respect & protection of human rights
- Advocacy for the rights of women & children
- Promotion of sustainable living & prudent use of earth's resources

# Sustainable Development

## Key Concepts and Strategies

- **Community Development / Community Engagement**
- **Capacity Building**
- **Cross-cutting Issues**  
(issues which have strong impacts on development)
  - **Protection of Human Rights**
  - **Gender Equality and Female Empowerment**
  - **Protection of Children**
  - **Disability & Inclusiveness**
  - **Environmental Sustainability**

# Community Development

**Combines community with development / interaction between people for joint action**

**Enables communities, through joint action and participation, to become vital, not just economically but as strong functioning communities in themselves**

**Community is both the means and end of community development**

# Community Engagement

## OWIFT / TST

- People at centre of process of development in local area
- Deep listening to concerns
- Respect for their wisdom, culture & traditions
- Trust in their competencies
- Mutual relationship that honours their dignity

Listening

Networking

Participation

Empowerment

Inclusion

Sustainability

Ownership

Exit Strategy

Collaboration

Celebration

# Capacity Building

**Community development and capacity building interlock**

**Individuals become engaged in their own development in a more sustainable way through functioning in groups**

**Groups are a critical vehicle in development processes**

**While community development enables and empowers communities to take joint action, capacity building targets development of the competencies and capabilities of individuals, groups and communities essential for sustained, self-generated development**

# Protection of Human Rights

**Sustainable development and human rights are interdependent and mutually reinforcing**

# **Gender Equality & Female Empowerment**

**Gender rights are human rights**

**Promoting gender justice is promoting human rights**

**Gender justice is fundamental to overcoming poverty**

**Empowering women empowers communities**