

GLOBAL ICA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MEETING MINUTE

11 Sep, 2021

Key Decisions:

Next meeting date: 9 October 2021, Facilitator for the next meeting: Sharhzad, Ishu

This is a Global Community Development Meeting. Ishu will reach out global ICAs and invite in the meeting.

Agendas:

1. Introduction
2. Setting up the objectives

Key discussion:

Introduction:

Process of the Meeting:

S.N	Name	Place currently joining from	Any Community Development Experiences
1	Ishu Subba	Lalitpur Nepal Representing from ICA in Nepal	Involved in community development activities through ICA Nepal from 3 months micro level projects to 3-5 years long term projects.
2	Robyn Hutchinson	Australia	Involved in community development activities over the years in Asia, currently in Australia with the Reconciliation Movement and the indigenous first development
3	Shahrzad Saderi	Tehran, Iran	Just starting community development and was in the States. In Iran, my latest project is to provide shoes for young boys work constantly in streets picking up recycles garbage. Hoping to expand, involve in great projects here and collaborate with others.
4	Badriah	Malaysia	I am one of the participants for community development intensive Asia online
5	Patricia Nunis	Malaysia	Talking to a group – virtual community, doing a blog on Malaysian Story, as a part of our National day project- coming up 16 th Malaysia day
6	Adam	Vietnam	We have a community of coach and facilitation practitioner, we meet monthly, develop skills during the lockdown

7	Tatwa P. Timsina	Nepal	This week quite busy visiting mountainous district Sindhupalchowk, nearby district of Kathmandu. Just came back 20 minutes before. We are conducting community development in the district
8,	Puthrika	Srilanka	Part of Master training of Mindfulness offering to schools at the present
9	Evelyn Philbrook		Joined ICA IN 1972, consultant for the refugee that left Philippines. 6000 Pilipino arrived in San Francisco and did not what to do. Project to resettle them. Used 5 principles of human development project. Chicago. I was in College and earning money at the same time. I was a Village worker Women sharing Project. Between 1986-1991, moved to Taiwan and lived ever since. mostly I have been working in Taipei school, rejoined ICA. Most recent, listening all the stories that we left in Africa. Where we now and what are the contradictions? It was like a Flash!
10	Ken Kinney	Ghana	Community Development is what I eat, what I dream about every now and then because of The level of poor development we have in Ghana.
11	Kevin Balm	Melbourne Australia Representing ICA in Australia	Representing the ICAI Board. It is good that Ken and Shahzard is here. We called human development project. It was in the context of that community as in the context of urban community, institution etc.
12	Henry		Long meeting with ICA Africa. Joined ICA 1979 December. I am a child of ICA. All the work i do started with ICA Worked in several places. I worked in ivory coast for four years. After sometime in ICA I left ICA I worked in farmers mobilization. This is what i am doing and will continue Trying to revive activities of ICA in Kenya.
13	Yunusha	Nepal	Good to see you all!

14	Larry Philbrook	Taiwan	Hi to everyone
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Major Issues discussed:

1. Decide whether it would be a combine meeting with Asia Pacific or an explicit Global Meeting.
2. Name of the Team – Community Development or Human Development

Major Highlights:

Pat: Asia Pacific Community Development team has prepared a survey questionnaire and send it out.

Because of the lockdown, we cannot go to the sight. My involvement in community development has been virtual actually creating a virtual community in a sense that we all in this community have access to local community or are working in specific target groups. Because of the lockdown which are no longer go to sit, many of us cannot go to site or restricted many much to actual site but what I have noticed is those of us who have already established links have been able to pick it up on WhatsApp or virtual

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Dharmalingam runs toast master session for them to help them develop their public speaking skills. So, he was sharing some of the online session online, because they have asked to continue the session online.

So, I am quite excited about it but it is kind of going to be some work to get the things or probably stand up. I will send you the link when we are done or we will not be done but you will have enough to launch.

Ishu: this is a global ICA meeting because we want to work together as a global team not only the Asia Pacific as Kevin already mentioned. This is an open meeting.

Ken: We learn everybody. Please clarify in the current context, is it still relevant to use the term community development or we should go back to human development

Henry: Human development was the initial name we used.

Kevin This group of people will determine the name of the team.

During the global dialogue, one of the concern was how are general assembly which are typically 2 or sometimes 3 times a year were very business focused like and the agendas was full, there was not time for time for deep discussion. Usually, they were vote focused discussion cause a vote takes place after the general assembly. So, the concern was how to bring back the deliberative aspects to the general assembly. And by deliberative, we mean taking the time to have deep exploration of areas of concern of significant and allowing those deep conversations to develop proposals, recommendation, strategies, direction etc.

In the Asia Pacific meeting early this year, I raised this concern not just title community development also our understanding of it. The need to be able to scale etc.

Another context is the individual, the human development and the assumption operates from is that the basic unit of a family as an individual and then the basic unit of the community as a family and the basic unit societies, communities.

Organization is my primary context in which I practice. ICA's social development, social innovation, methodologies

WHAT IS THE PRACTICE? What is the practice that we are going to be deliberative about? If you call it community development and you might decide to do that and it might be just what needs to happen. But you got boundaries. How we name things is how we related to things. So, for me getting these areas where we are focusing name is important.

Shahrzad Sadari: Three vision of Community Development

(1) is to document community development approaches, (2) was to expand access and the 3rd is not mentioned (just escape me) These three could we sort with that or is not it something we are already exploring, how are we going to expand is a survey that we have and Pat and Robyn have it has been developed. We have been trying to understand what is going on around in community development among different facilitation groups or businesses and ICA. isn't this the frame for this group to work on? That's the question and I am complete.

Larry:

1. Documenting and Sharing our experience and learning
2. Expanding our community and learning access
3. Determine the new edge of development human and community development

Robyn: I think the part of the question here is we have got a diverse representative groups and really is a global community development meeting and first one of these we had under the setup through the general assembly. What does this group really need from this community of practice? **What is going to be helpful for this group in moving forward in being a global group focusing on practice of community development and documenting the projects that works, how we expand access to the various projects people are involved in?** So, I wonder if we can hear from some people about what the reason or what the need is and why are they actually in this meeting? **Why do they want to be a part of this practice? What is the need this group over the coming years will serve** and maybe that will help to clarify the questions we were asking?

Sharhzad Sadari:

My purpose was to learn about the community development, what are we doing? Is there any international project that we can all be involved? Partly is learning and partly doing.

Robyn: Do we have a common purpose for community development focused? or keep on doing separate things?

Henry: Title Community Development is our title? Or this is given to us in relation to what Kevin mentioned? Is this our title.

Evelyn- human development follows all of ICA work is Human devt flowing through all projects... We call this group called CD whether urban, rural or an organisation.. an ngo that works in specific area... they fall under category of community development.

One of the big dreams of Shanker Jadhav for ICA India is to do Gram Sabha or town meeting as a way to find out which communities are ready to start CD projects. Have to say that ICA has talked about human development as becoming self-sufficient, self-confident and self-reliant. I think calling sustainable community development is fine.

Ken: if we look at 3 dimensions of life or in any space, the 3 things you interact with is **sociocultural, environment and economic issues**. For Ghana, to be able to be effective, confident, self-reliant, we interact with all these elements. To develop as a human being, it must start from society, environment and economic systems. Participation going through all these. **ICA Development practice and philosophy enhancing all these. It is the niche that most inst. do not comprehend and connect all to the element of human development. In African ICAs, going through this revival thing, I suggest going forward you add sustainable com devt, it completes all these issues.**

Then we are there.

Human Being is in centre of anything concerns with human factor in development.

We are there. We shall be there.

Robyn: three directions that we nominated. **They are three dimensions that you would happily live with? The focus of sustainable community development?**

Ken: We should look at three dimensions, ICA METHODS comprehend define the niche either in our community, in country, international, or in individual development examples: climate change, pandemic

Kevin: sense of common good, very helpful comments.

Still think this group needs to wrestle with the word community.

As soon as we talk about community development- we start talking about income generation, education, sanitation, etc, which are very fundamental to sustainable community development.

There are lots of NGOs that do much better than ICAs.

WHAT IS ICAs value add that this community practices that focus on?

I am finding Nepal is starting push at the edges of this. Rather just step back how is it they can support 30-50 other NGOs be more effective.

For me this is representing, a differentiated approach.

Ishu – We are also working on Spark. Training youth people, identify needs and contribute something in the community. We can replicate such project in other areas as well.

How our methods be useful to other organizations, rural or urban?

It is essential that our tools and technologies are useful to ourselves and it is equally useful to others. The context is changing, new dynamics are emerging.

Pat: what is it we can be helpful in coming days?

We have seen in macro level, and now exploring a moving forward such as Nepal

We also have people who are starting. Trying to find an entry point.

Lets hear from new people what your needs are. Apart from providing physical needs, what are your help that ICA can provide?

Robyn: what's the point of the difference? What is the extra? What is the point of difference we can share? With those who are on the field. ? skill, the way they conduct the project?

Inviting new people, a step away from your project, what would be something that improve your project.

Saderi: the support, the support and coaching that this team can provide to review issues that are faced. Or being able to called on some of the more experienced team members. Continue a several sessions, sharing sessions, discussing issues, formalizing what is the value we add. More dialogue from us.

Adam: for me, I am new in community development. join with some people who are visual practitioners and we host the event in October ... for visual practitioners . I also join in community of coaching and facilitation. The difficulty I see is being top down rather than working together. The reason why I look for info on ToP ..hoping that with the method we can facilitate discussion based on collective intelligence. . Currently I am practising learning about facilitation and basics of com devt

Badariah- I am actually new in com devt. In Nov 2018 I have engaged with the Malaysian Relief Agency to build a community centre in Mabul Island to provide free education to children who cannot access formal education. In 2019, centre was built and the team used the dyslexia association to use their syllabus for the undocumented children. Pandemic, delayed many things. In Aug 20, my team trained local people to use the education module for one week not completed now because of the enforcement of the MCO.

Education with short term mission.... to provide basic education in the centre. Not yet plans for long term plans for the project. Joined the Com dev intensive to learn how to promote long term devt for Mabul Island. I want to learn, what the next is.

Ken: What is devt? Can we answer those questions...? World is structured from the micro level to the macro levels. Devt must begin from the micro /meso level. With this in mind, the value add... is ICA's process of including everybody in the site. We are all part of the puzzle. ICA's participatory approach.... is a basic principle that can be used to ensure inclusiveness in any diverse project

We need to look how we inculcate all these levels.

Roby: Principles of ICA, PARTICIPAOTRY, Having long terms of strategic planning build upon bottom up, The spirit method, eg. song, story , symbol, deep listening,

Kevin: 2 threads – not mutually exclusive.

1. This forum could be a practitioner focused where the emphasis on community practitioner. Being support, resource, capability building, they go out more effective in implementation
2. ICA Perspective what is the edge contribution a value add to the area community development?

Asia Pacific Strategic Framework we created: First three impacts:

- Inclusive decision making methods in societal transformation
- Scalable grassroots development models
- Individuals taking responsibility for the change process

Three applied to both threads.

Over the years, (helpful for myself) ICA Methods are social innovation methods, intentionally. Otherwise it narrows down to facilitation meeting, not human development.

Evelyn: Adding Social Artistry methods to Spark Project for youths. This is a new aspects. This is a common practice for ICA Nepal. Social Artistry they are doing since 2005. Incorporating the methods in we do.

Henry: no one talks bad about ICA methods. Are we trying to establish a niche for ICA approaches ... one of the remarks is that it is about comprehensiveness in com devt. Very participative so that people get involved, contribute to ideas, eg in Kenya. The village consult method. One week and at the end you come up with a strategic plan with the priorities of the community.

What is our niche as ICA and how do we expound on it and make it stronger and known?

Larry: what Henry is about is what Kevin is talking about. What is the edge contribution, value add that ICA can bring to com devt. ? I think the aspect, the survey piece, how do we figure out

what we actually doing now. We have lots of history, need to aware of, Lots of things happening, different people are engaged, implementing our ICA methods and applying new methods as well.

What is actually going on? Lot more work going on.

Hope this group, Suggest that this group document what is happening and find ways to support others and reach out to what is the next iteration... experiment with using ICA processes and methods...Document the work going on.

ICA Nepal combining fundraising and other work.

Tatwa: just been from the community. Involved in different projects run by different communities with our support.

Key point: **linking overall community development with training part TOP, very good mix**, over all vehicle community development and wheels TOP to generate fund. Now we are thinking separately. We can apply them together. That is what we are doing in Nepal.

Flexibility in ICA. We can develop our own operation. That is why we develop Fundraising program. This is what we learn from ICA. Implementing self-sustaining. We are fully dependent on donors. We are donors for our own project, we generate through local support, sometimes we generate through ICA International.

Generating local supports, we learnt from ICA. We have a meeting with ICA Bangladesh. They see funds as a hurdle. But there are many things that can be done on our own.

Ishu- what would be the agenda for the next meeting?

Robyn: Build on the ICA Nepal is doing? If it is our part of edge, building on the threads raised.... and the work that ICA Nepal is doing. If we identify that as part of our edge... can we look at that from the context of the com of practice.

Kevin: is this the case APRM group wants to continue? The decision has to be made. Should not try and combine one. Line to cross, be explicit.

Ken: Asia Pacific as laboratory, Global Community is responsible to create the niche.

Larry: which one is the global meeting and which one is the Asia Pacific Meeting? Is there anyone willing to reach out is there anyone willing to reach out to others...rest of the world... and decide what the Global meet should be? It is more confusion. And relatively clear.

Kevin, Evelyn: if it is Global, there are South America actively involved in community development, Africa, there is a group of Chicago, group of NGOs that meet regularly.

Ishu: Next Task- is to reach out all the regions and invite about this meeting.

Sharhzad Saderi: This group is it a micro level. There are a new people interested in learning, practice need to expand and learn, laboratory, as we are

Why not couple of sessions have, may be give a framework, we give it some framework. Anybody have some challenges, the group be support. Continue.

Robyn: we keep inviting and keep going and focusing what we have articulated.

Pat: Community Practice will be distinct from the Global Meeting?

Robyn: this is populated from Asia and few from Africa, we want to invite others

Kevin: useful for this group to develop a continuum. From traditional com dev.. And the extreme right is? Supporting the devt of NGOs that are assisting communities directly.

Pushing at the edge: developing models, proposals, processes and methods.

Ishu: When do next meet?

9 October, 2021 – 12 Noon Togo time.

Next Meeting Facilitator: Shahrzad Sadari, Ishu

Facilitated and Drafted by: Ishu, Nepal