National Chapters of the Movement for Community-led Development

John Coonrod, Revised April 2017

Purpose of the Document

- To provide **broad terms of reference** for the activities and leadership of national chapters of the Movement for Community-led Development (MCLD). Within this general guidance, National Chapters will have maximum flexibility in organizing themselves to achieve Movement Goals within their national context.

What defines a national chapter?

- A national chapter of the MCLD is a group of civil society organizations working together to achieve the 7 goals of the Global Movement in their national context **(Annex 1)**. We envision there being at least 10 member organizations per chapter.

- **Member organizations** must:

    ○ Meet the prevailing national standards for being a reputable civil society organization within their country,

    ○ Have a demonstrated public commitment to Community-led Development, preferably visible on their own public organizational website, and

    ○ Be willing to be publicly associate with Chapter activities, including being listed on the country-page of the global CLD website. While there is no required level of participation, we intend that all members experience the movement as an opportunity for their leadership.

- Chapters publicly **declare themselves** as a result of initial exploratory meeting organized in coordination with the global movement. **(Annex 2)**

- **Chapter leadership** is defined by the chapter members, but must include at least one chair (or coordinator) willing to be accountable for regular communications among members and with the Global Movement.

Typical chapter Activities

To date, Chapters have carried out two major thrusts of activities:

- **Community-of-Practice:** members share their methodologies and recommended good practices through presentations, webinars, document sharing and other means. These activities are motivated by the ultimate vision of

working together to facilitate CLD at a far larger scale than can be achieved individually.

- **Policy:** members collectively engage with policy makers and other development actors to establish policies and funding so that all communities gain access to the resources and capacity-building they need to successfully take charge of their own development – essentially "**localizing the SDGs**" supported by Country-owned national programs for Community-led Development **(Annex 3)**. These may include presentations, side-events at conferences, social media, site visits for policy makers to see successful CLD programs, white papers, press conferences, one-on-one meetings and parliamentary briefings.

Role of the Chair(s)/Coordinator(s) – Chapter Leadership

- **Building the chapter:** individuals with outgoing personality, broad respect of the development community, and backing of their organization must commit themselves to building and facilitating the chapter.

- **Time Commitment:** At this time, there is no funding for paid chapter coordinators or activities, although we are seeking funds for this purpose. In the meantime, the member organization providing the leadership must expect to devote a significant portion of a staff member's time for this work.

- **Communications:** Chapter Leadership commit to stay in at least monthly communication with the Global Secretariat and with chapter members.

- **Workplan:** Chapter Leadership will work with members to develop a written policy strategy and annual work plan, and share it with the Global Secretariat.

Role of the Global Membership and Secretariat

- There is a **global membership** of international civil-society organizations committed to achieve our Movement goals by engaging with international organizations and to support the formation and activities of National Chapters.

- There is a **Global Secretariat**, currently provided by the DC Office of The Hunger Project, that coordinates global activities and maintains regular communication to all national chapters.

- As the number of national chapters grows (hopefully to 50+), we will create regional leadership to provide better support.

Annexes

1. [CLD Flyer](#)

2. [Exploratory Meetings for Community-led Development](#)

3. [Country-owned programs of Community-led Development](#)