

Why does Community-led Development Matter? A quick look at the evidence

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Photo credit: Jon Warren, World Vision





Source: The Daily Star

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If you have come here to help me you are wasting your time, but if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.

- Aboriginal social activist Lilla Watson



WHY DOES CLD MATTER?

- **Human Dignity and Right**
- **Ensures Utilization (demand driven, not supply driven)**
- **Efficient and Cost- effective**
- **Checks Corruption**
- **Makes Development more inclusive**
- **Is Sustainable**
- **Improves resilience**

HUMAN DIGNITY AND RIGHTS



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**When we do change to people they experience it as violence,
but when people do change for themselves, they experience it
as liberation**

**- Rosabeth Moss Kanter,
Harvard Business School**

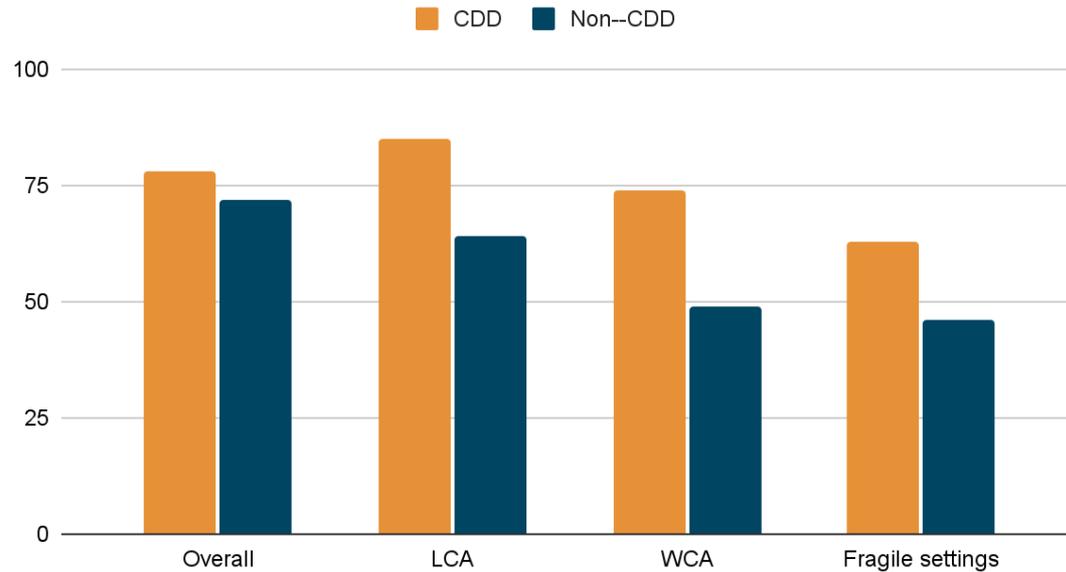
ENSURES UTILIZATION

- IFAD evaluation synthesis: CDD projects had a positive impact on food security due to demand-driven investments in irrigation systems and other infrastructure to improve livestock and fisheries production, coupled with technical skills training for farmers. ([IFAD, 2020](#))
- [Systematic Review of HEP ETHIOPIA](#): Women from model households (MHHs) were four times more likely to use contraceptives and two times more likely to demonstrate good utilization of maternal health services. Proportion of children and women using insecticide-treated net (ITN) for malaria protection were significantly larger in HEP villages
- KALAHI CIDSS: The proportion of households visiting a health facility when sick increased ([World Bank, 2011](#))



EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE

Effectiveness of CDD versus non-CDD projects (IFAD, 2020)



MAKES DEVELOPMENT MORE INCLUSIVE

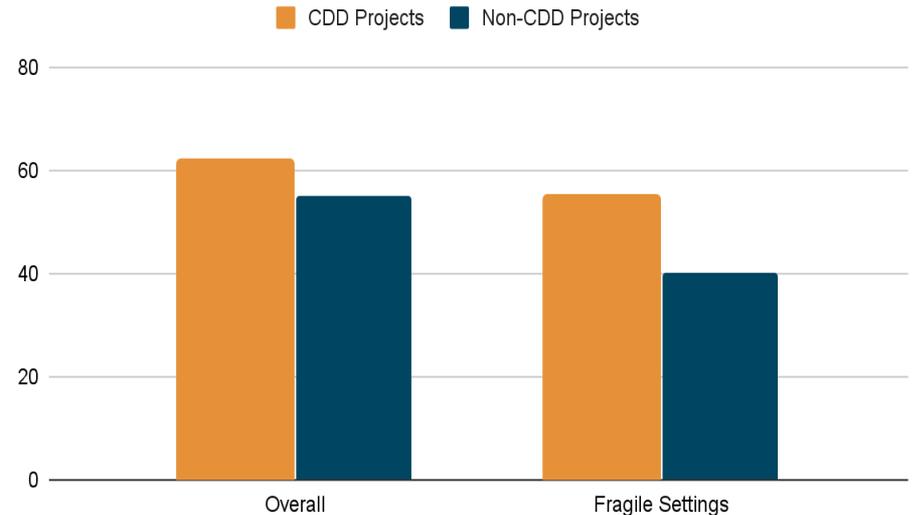
- Inclusion and participation are the cornerstone of CLD.
- Performance ratings for 347 IFAD projects show that CDD projects performed better than non-CDD projects in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. 85.6% satisfactory ratings for CDD-related projects VS 76.3% for non-CDD.
- KDP (Indonesia) and KALAHY CIDSS (Philippines) show that poorest and most vulnerable (including indigenous people) benefitted most.
- KALAHY-CIDSS evaluation also showed that the project preparation cycle increased participation in village assemblies, the frequency of interaction between village leaders and residents, and trust in strangers.
- GoBifo Program in Sierra Leone- contributions to and benefits were distributed broadly and equitably



IS SUSTAINABLE

- Independent Office of Evaluation performance ratings for 347 IFAD projects on sustainability show that CDD projects achieved more satisfactory ratings than non-CDD projects (62 per cent versus 55 per cent). Community ownership helped to ensure the sustainability of natural resources and the physical assets built, but the long-term sustainability also depended on government support.
- In fragile settings, CDD-related projects achieved 55 per cent satisfactory ratings on sustainability, while non-CDD projects achieved 40 per cent

Sustainability in CDD and non-CDD projects: Performance ratings (IFAD, 2020)



IMPROVES RESILIENCE

- [INCLUDE study](#) on 56 programs USAID and MCLD member programs: CLD can increase resilience by developing capacities, social capital and social cohesion, and developing a ‘self-reliance mindset’



SECTORAL IMPACT: A FEW EXAMPLES

Bangladesh: When CHWs are used to treat SAM high recovery rate (92%) and low mortality and default rates (0.1% and 7.5% respectively) with 89% level of coverage- one of the highest recorded.

GoBifo (Sierra Leone): Increase in the outcomes concerning household assets, entrepreneurship and market activities.

Community Health Extension Program (Ethiopia): The HEP enabled Ethiopia to achieve significant improvements in maternal and child health, communicable diseases, hygiene and sanitation, knowledge and health care seeking. There was increased service utilization; improved knowledge and care seeking; increased latrine construction and utilization; enhanced reporting of disease outbreaks; and, high level of community satisfaction.

Senegal: Collective and community-led action in a village in Senegal increased income, access to nutrition and foods for the farmers and families ([El Ouaamari et al., 2019](#))

CLD AT SCALE

- Indonesia (KDP and PNPM): Real per capita consumption gains among poor households were 11% higher than in control areas, and that the longer communities participated in the program, the more benefits increased (Alatas 2005 and Wong, 2012).
- Philippines (KALAHYON-CIDSS): Per capita consumption increased by about 5 percent and impacts are stronger for households that were classified as poor in 2003. Improved access to service delivery; increase in access to safe water; household accessibility; secondary and college education





The most radical vision I can think of for the 'development organisation of the future' is one that has zero agenda, zero thematic focus and zero mission - other than to facilitate the change goals defined by families and communities. Imagine what would happen if an organisation showed up with nothing but two questions: What do you need? How can we help you make that happen?

- Martin Burt, Who Owns Poverty (2019)