



Dear CDD Community of Practice Members,

Hope February is treating you well. For CLD, this month we share a recent publication on community driven reconstruction from United Nations University and a recent report from the Government of Ghana on decentralization. As always, we share summaries of recent events, a list of upcoming events and some recent project approvals.

This month we are also saying goodbye to our colleague Helen Liu, who worked with the CLD team for the past two years providing operational support to projects in Africa and most recently developing an operational toolkit on climate change considerations for CLD operations.

As always, we are eager to hear from you! Please share any relevant information and materials that you feel would benefit our community and stay in touch.

With best wishes,

Nicolas, Juliette, Stephen, Ashutosh, and Anastasiia

PUBLICATIONS & BLOGS

[CDD as an instrument for reconstruction in FCV settings just out by Cyrus Samii \(NYU\)](#). A recent working paper published by the United Nations University UNU-WIDER explores whether community driven reconstruction (CDR) projects generate any meaningful impact beyond the short run. The paper argues that existing analyses either underplay or miss entirely three extraordinary successes of CDR. CDR has stood out relative to alternative strategies in terms of its efficiency and relative invulnerability to corruption. Institutions created through CDR initiatives have endured in contexts in which other governance institutions have collapsed. CDR institutions have shown themselves to be adaptable to new service delivery needs that go beyond the original purpose of infrastructure delivery. The paper concludes that CDR is an example of institutional engineering done right, and remains a highly appealing strategy for reconstruction and longer-term development in war-affected contexts.

[Working Paper](#)

[The Government of Ghana launches “The Decentralist”, pledges to deepen decentralization](#): This recent publication by the Government of Ghana provides an in-depth overview on the decentralization policy and agenda in Ghana, and way forward for reforming and deepening the decentralization to bring local governance and access to services to the doorsteps of the communities and people. The document highlights various government programs and initiatives to strengthen decentralization and local governance including the recently launched Ghana Gulf of Guinea Northern Regions Social Cohesion (SOCO) Project. Here is a [link to the publication](#).

RECENT EVENTS

EAP Learning Event focused on the future of CDD. Over three days in December 2022, sixty-eight government and World Bank representatives from 12 EAP and ECA countries gathered in Vientiane, Lao PDR to share experiences with implementing community driven development (CDD) programs. The 5th Asia Pacific Regional Conference focused on “Partnerships for Inclusion and Resilience” occurred on 6-8 December 2022. The learning event provided multiple opportunities for teams to share their work through lightning talks, project booths,

and small group discussions, and also saw dedicated discussion on strengthening social inclusion and climate resilience through locally driven investments. Forty-two out of sixty-eight participants rated the conference experience as either excellent or very good. [Event Website](#) | [Blog](#)

Deep Dive on Integrating Climate Change Considerations into CLD Operations: A 90-minute online course on the Social Dimensions of Climate Change and ways to adapt CLD platforms to promote locally led climate action was held on February 16, 2023. The Deep Dive featured examples from ongoing work on devolved climate finance in Kenya and on integrating climate resilience planning into the participatory decision-making process in CLD programs in West Africa. The course introduced an operational Toolkit being developed and piloted by the SSI Global Unit to help guide task teams and clients in the integration of climate considerations into CLD operations. [Link to Event Page](#)

Launch of Social Cohesion and Forced Displacement Report. On January 18th, the World Bank launched a new global report on social cohesion and forced displacement. The report synthesizes findings from a joint series of 26 research papers on the topic. The analysis offers actionable insights for policymakers and development practitioners on mitigating the negative effects of displacement and effectively promoting social cohesion. [Event Website](#) | [Read the report](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Africa West Social Sustainability and Inclusion (SSI) team, through its South-to-South Learning Exchange platform on Community and Local Development (CLD), is organizing a second virtual roundtable on the theme “Social Cohesion and Community and Local Development.” The event is scheduled for March 9, 2023, at 9am EST, and will have expert speakers from Mercy Corps and three seasoned panelists comprising of the PIU Coordinators for Benin, Guinea and Senegal, who will share their extensive experiences, challenges, and best practices. [Event Link](#)

Discussion on Inclusion at Water Week. The Water GP has achieved good progress in embedding inclusion in its operations in recent years. However, moving from intention to outcome in a context where the “last mile” is getting longer because of conflict and climate, can be challenging. Achieving sustainable inclusion in water means going beyond entry points to changing institutions, shifting norms, and aligning incentives. The objective of this session is to bring together the diverse teams (within water across regions, and with SSI, and other GPs) working on inclusion in the water agenda to ensure inclusive and outcome-oriented water operations, to develop an awareness of implementation experience and tools across the Bank, and to develop a consensus on how to deepen inclusive outcomes in water going forward. This will be achieved by exchanging information among staff about existing tools and guidance, implementation experiences from the ground, and effective approaches and strategies to achieving the highest and most inclusive outcomes in water. [Event Page](#)

Ghana Local Economic Development Webinar: The Ghana SOCO Project is organizing a webinar titled “How Can We Promote Inclusive Local Economic Development (LED) in Northern Ghana?”. The Government of Ghana has developed a National Local Economic Development (LED) Policy in 2020. The Ghana SOCO Project aims to operationalize government’s LED Policy in Northern Ghana, which is a lagging area, with the objective to fully harness the economic potentials of the project districts for inclusive job creation, thereby contributing to the Ghana Beyond Aid Agenda. This webinar will engage policymakers and development partners to discuss the LED policy, and the challenges and opportunities for operationalizing this policy to promote inclusive local economic development and jobs in Northern Ghana. This webinar is scheduled on March 22, 2023, 9 am EST.

Including Women with Disabilities in World Bank Operations. On the occasion of International Women’s Day 2023, the World Bank’s Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice is launching a toolkit on Including Women with Disabilities in World Bank Operations: March 8, 2023, at 8.30-9.30am . The document lists World Bank Group commitments to women with disabilities, examples of law and policy reform, key barriers and solutions across several World Bank sectors, as well as a checklist for World Bank project teams. The toolkit aims to support World Bank task teams to design disability- and gender-inclusive operations. It also provides many useful examples and guidelines for other stakeholders, such as international development organizations and human rights advocates. [Details](#) | [Register](#)

PROJECT APPROVALS

ADDITIONAL FINANCING 2 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT RESPONSE TO DISPLACEMENT IMPACTS PROJECT (P179954). The project was approved on 22 February 2023 for 3.4 million in TF financing and aims to improve access to basic social services, expand economic opportunities, and enhance environmental management for communities hosting refugees in the target areas in the Recipient's territory.

KOSOVO GREEN ACTION (P179084). The project was approved on 9 February 2023 for 0.5 million TF financing and aims to contribute to improving accountability of relevant Kosovo public institutions in the implementation of the Green Agenda.

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

The Community and Local Development CoP and GSG connects peers, thought leaders, and practitioners across governments, agencies, and academia, to share ideas and experiences on CDD approaches. This CoP/GSG is facilitated by the Global Programs Unit of the Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice at the World Bank, with inputs from around the world.

To share papers, project news, interesting blogs, or upcoming events on CLD and other relevant themes with the CLD CoP, please email the CLD email and we'll incorporate these in the next "What's happening in CLD" newsletter.

To sign up for CLD CoP membership and receive our monthly newsletter, please [click here](#)

Please visit and bookmark our sites!

CLD Global Solutions Group (WB internal):

<https://worldbankgroup.sharepoint.com/sites/gsg/CDD/Pages/Home.aspx>

CDD Collaboration4Development (C4D) (external):

<https://collaboration.worldbank.org/content/sites/collaboration-for-development/en/groups/community-driven-development-global-solutions-group.html>

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