Dear CDD Community of Practice Members,

Welcome back from the Thanksgiving holidays! We hope that everyone had a bit of rest and time with family and friends to get ready for the holiday season.

The CoP has been active since our last newsletter, hosting two thought-provoking BBLs: one featuring the Vice President of TechnoServe to discuss harnessing the private sector to reduce poverty (see link to the recording below). The second BBL featured the team of the Cameroon Community Development Program Support Project (CDPSP), reflecting on lessons learned from integrating citizen engagement in community processes. Last but not least, we held the first general meeting of the CDD Community of Practice of the fiscal year – followed, of course, by a happy hour.

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

In that context, we have an important ask: photos! As many of you are based in the field or travel with frequency, you have the opportunity to enrich our photo library. We kindly request that when you are in the field, please take photos of CDD projects and send these to us – they will enliven many an IDA brochure in years to come, and make you moderately famous...

With best wishes for a successful last stretch of the calendar year,

Nik

**Resources**
For those with access to the World Bank intranet, the CDD cluster maintains a library of useful CDD resources.
- Operational and knowledge resources
- TORs
- CDD consultants roster
- CDD Project Database

If you have any such materials or resources that you feel would benefit the CoP, please share them with us.
Have a thought? Join the Community of Practice (CoP)!

The CDD Community of Practice (CoP) connects peers, thought leaders, and practitioners from governments, agencies, academia, and elsewhere to share ideas and experiences on CDD, community-based, and participatory approaches. This CoP is facilitated by the Global Programs Unit of the Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural, and Resilience at the World Bank, with inputs from around the world. Take part in the conversation and join us on our CoP website, welcoming experts inside and outside the Bank.

To share papers, project news, interesting blogs, or upcoming events on CDD and other relevant themes with the CDD CoP, please email the main CDD email (cddgsg@worldbank.org), or if you prefer, Evan Caplan (ecaplan@worldbank.org), and Nik Myint (nmyint@worldbank.org), and we'll incorporate these in the next CDD "What's Happening" newsletter.

To facilitate dialogue and improved communication, the World Bank also maintains the CDD Global Solutions Group, which supports the Bank’s internal community of CDD practitioners. If you are a World Bank staff member who would like to receive CDD-related information more regularly, please join the GSG. Click below to join.

Join the GSG

NEWS FROM THE REGION

Feature Story: Cash Transfers in Benin: A Response to Child Trafficking
World Bank
Since 2013, the Decentralized Community-Driven Services Project (PSDCC) has provided direct cash transfers and created public works programs in poor areas of Benin. The project aims to decrease child trafficking by increasing incomes through employment, while the communities themselves identify and implement subprojects with this funding. PSDCC has backed more than 800 subprojects thus far, supporting more than 1 million jobs. The cash transfers and payments for community works have helped reintegrate marginalized households.

RESEARCH & REPORTS

Report: Growing the Rural Non-Farm Economy to Alleviate Poverty
World Bank Independent Evaluation Group
Rural poor households relying only on farming tend to be among the poorest, yet sustainable income gains at the household level come from non-farm activities. A new World Bank IEG report shows that there are several constraints to accessing non-farm activities, including education and relevant skills training, finance, and legal rights. The report suggests that the World Bank Group needs to better target its rural poverty projects, inclusive of gender impacts, especially at the community-needs level.

PREVIOUS EVENTS

**Brown-Bag Lunch: The Private Sector and CDD featuring TechnoServe**, November 9
TechnoServe’s mission is to address the challenges of poverty at the community level by linking poor farmers to markets. At the same time, it creates partnerships with large multinational organizations and donor organizations for a multiplicity of models in its efforts, acting as management consulting for small enterprises. TechnoServe operates in 30 countries across Latin America, Africa, and India, with more than 600,000 businesses in agricultural industries. TechnoServe has worked with the WB in a host of different countries including Benin, India, and Mozambique, to develop markets in areas like cacao, coffee, and cashew.

**Community of Practice Meeting and Happy Hour**
On November 16, the CDD Secretariat hosted a vibrant meeting to bring together members of the CDD CoP and GSG. Global Lead Susan Wong discussed the two major thematic FY18 priorities – local economic development and CDD in FCV contexts. We also spoke about upcoming international events and overall goals for FY18. The meeting was integrated into a happy hour to facilitate informal knowledge exchanges.

**Brown-Bag Lunch: Mainstreaming Citizen Engagement in Cameroon**, November 30
Benjamin Burckhart, Senior Social Development Specialist, as well as his colleagues Nicolas Perrin and Abel Bove, discussed his work in Cameroon under the umbrella of the Community Development Program Support Project (CDPSP). The project is part of the Bank’s effort to support the country’s decentralization process as part of the new 1994 constitution. In this project, villages identify community needs through a participatory planning process, financed by a performance-based grant system. The project uses feedback mechanisms and scorecards to assess the quality of services and the satisfaction of beneficiaries. Benjamin and his colleagues spoke about their experience in integrating the citizen engagement elements of the project and discussed lessons learned and best practices.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

*Call for Photos*
We know that images can speak louder than words, and as this newsletter shows, image-rich information is more engaging. As many of you are based in the field or travel with frequency, you can help us deepen our ability to document the work of CDD. We kindly request that when you are in the field, take photos of project implementation, anything from construction to inaugurations. When you send them, please include background and credit information (name, date, location). Thanks in advance!