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To:CDD Community of Practice Group -
 Bank, CDD Community of Practice Group -Non-Bank
Cc:Kaori Oshima/OU=Person/World Bank <koshima@worldbank.org>, SDV-SAccDFGG

Dear CDD Community of Practice,

Please find attached the November edition of the CDD "What's happening" monthly email. This month as you would have seen there were several exchanges around the DEC Policy Research Report and the press reports that came after it. We are attaching below the link to the actual report as well as a link to another blog article that came out on the PRR in The Guardian and is less negative than the article that came in The Economist. The article is called *"How to Best Engage Communities in Development Projects"* and you can also find the link here.

Meanwhile, we were advised that some sites are very slow in uploading on Bank computers due to the recent re-imaging of some laptops. So for Bank internal users whose PC has been re-imaged, you may want to access the links using 'Google Chrome' instead of internet explorer.

As always, we are eager to learn from you about any news happening around you as they will enrich this communication among the CoP - so, please share any information or updates you have on CDD (e.g. papers, blogs, project updates, videos, events, etc.) with us, by sending them to either me (jsingh1@worldbank.org) or Kaori Oshima (koshima@worldbank.org). We will incorporate those in the future summaries.

Regards,
Janmejay

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BLOGS, RESEARCH & REPORTS

Policy Research Report: Localizing Development - Does Participation Work?
By Mansuri, Ghazala and Rao, Vijayendra, World Bank
Abstract:
A new Policy Research Report analyzing community development and decentralization projects, shows that such projects often fail to be sensitive to complex contexts – including social, political, historical and geographical realities – and fall short in terms of monitoring and evaluation systems, which hampers learning. Citing numerous examples, including projects and programs supported by the World Bank, the authors demonstrate that participatory projects are not a substitute for weak states, but instead require strong central support to be effective.
Here is the official press release of the report >>
Here is also a related blog post on "PovertyMattersBlog" of the Guardian >>

Poverty Reduction That Works: Experience of Scaling Up Development Success
By Paul Steele, Neil Fernando, Maneka Weddikkara, published with UNDP
Abstract:
This book provides an excellent framework to analyse the experience of a wide variety of successful initiatives across the world and draws attention to critical issues that practitioners need to think about when designing poverty reduction interventions and scaling up.? Bill Tod, Regional MDG Adviser, SNV Asia ?With its wide regional coverage, and frank discussions of issues and problems encountered in designing projects that directly tackle poverty, this will be a very useful reference book for NGOs, INGOs, and also for multilateral institutions.? Johanna Boestel, Country Economist, Asian Development Bank, Sri Lanka Resident Mission We are now at the midpoint for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the objective of halving poverty by 2015. Despite commendable efforts and much progress, up to 750 million people are still living in absolute poverty. To lift these people out of poverty, macro-economic policies must be complemented by targeted and local level poverty reduction. This book looks at twenty of the most innovative case studies of poverty reduction and Millennium Development Goal localization from fifteen countries - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Paraguay, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam - covering diverse issues ranging from housing and tourism to socio-economic empowerment of women, health insurance and markets for livestock produce. Many of the cases started as small scale interventions by NGOs, donors or government pilots but now they are being scaled up to form part of national policy or replicated across their respective countries. Yet why do some work while others do not? What are the stumbling blocks and how can they be overcome? And

what lessons and principles are there for replicating and scaling up poverty reduction initiatives worldwide? This book tackles these questions and more, and presents a wealth of knowledge, evidence and ideas for all practitioners and researchers working to reduce poverty at the local level while aiming to achieve a global impact.

Finance as the key to unlocking community potential: savings, funds and the ACCA programme
By Diane Archer

Abstract:

This paper describes how the Asian Coalition for Community Action (ACCA) programme seeks to use finance to augment community-driven development processes in 19 nations and enable their scaling up to the city and national levels. The lack of accessible and flexible finance is a key stumbling block for the majority of community development processes in Asia. The paper begins by examining how this programme approaches the issue of finance in the wider context of community-driven upgrading, and elaborates the role that community networks can play in encouraging collective activities. It then explains how community finance leads to the establishment of community development funds (CDFs), financial platforms made up of contributions from different sources, including community savings, ACCA seed funds and contributions from local/national government or other actors. These both encourage collaboration and increase the scale of what can be done. The paper gives examples of how CDFs can operate at different levels: locally, between groups of communities with shared problems and goals; on a citywide scale (107 citywide funds are now in operation); or at a national level, as in the Philippines, Cambodia and Sri Lanka.

The role of social media as psychological first aid as a support to community resilience building: A Facebook study from 'Cyclone Yasi Update
By Mel Taylor, Garrett Wells, Gwyneth Howell, and Beverley Raphael

Abstract:

In this paper we review data collected from an online, social media-administered survey developed to explore public use of social media during a series of natural disasters, predominantly in Australia and New Zealand, during January to March 2011. These data are then explored using examples taken from the experiences of those involved in administering the most widely-used community-driven Facebook page during these disasters, which focused on tropical cyclone Yasi ('Cyclone Yasi Update'). The survey was completed by 1146 respondents who had used social media in relation to the recent natural disasters. Data indicated that the public relied on a mix of formal and informal information sources, often using social media to re-post or re-tweet links from government websites felt to be of use to communities, thus acting as filters and amplifiers of 'official' information. This paper discusses how social media, specifically their core strengths of timely information exchange and promotion of connectedness, were able to act as sources of psychological first aid in the early stages of disaster and assist in supporting aspects of community resilience.

NEWS FROM THE ANCHOR

Core Sector Indicators Relevant to CDD
OPCS has been rolling out the updated list of *Core Sector Indicators (CSIs)*, which have to be used by task teams when developing Results Frameworks for their projects. The use of CSIs will now be mandatory and the aggregate results from these will feed into the proposed Poverty Dashboards that are being set up in the President's Office. As CDD Projects are inherently multi-sectoral, we felt it would be useful to have in one place the list of the CSIs that may be relevant to CDD projects. This summary list is available from the below link - these are drawn from the larger list of CSIs that can be found here along with the guidance on their use. Hope this is useful for those developing new results frameworks.

New Guidelines for CDD Portfolio Update:
The CDD anchor has also been in the process of reviewing and updating the procedures for updating the CDD portfolio database (this can be found by typing 'cdddb' in your intranet browser). Taking inputs from the technical sub-group in the CDD CoP, we have come up with a new set of standard guidelines for portfolio monitoring that we will apply for the FY12 portfolio onwards. Most notably, we now intend to not include projects that just have some elements of a CDD approach (e.g. participatory planning) unless these are also backed by some form of community control of resources (e.g. block grants). We will also now disaggregate the "CDD Amount" based on the share that go to (a) block grants/sub-project investments, (b) training/institution building/enabling environment, and (c) project management. This will give us a better sense of the average project overhead costs and amounts going directly to communities. Further, we will now also record government, community, and other donor contributions (not just IDA and IBRD) since many of our large CDD programs are now only partly financed by Bank resources.
Find the list of CSIs Relevant to CDD, and the New Portfolio Review Guidelines here

NEWS FROM THE REGION

Mapping micro-projects in the Western Kenya CDD and Flood Mitigation Project
The $86 million Western Kenya Community Driven Development and Flood Mitigation (WKCDD) project objective is to empower local communities to engage in sustainable and job creating activities and reduce their vulnerability to flooding, as well as reduce incidence of poverty.

Find the article here >>

After five years, PNPM Mandiri becomes an integral part for the development of communities across Indonesia
Five years since it was launched in Palu, on April 30, 2007, the National Program for Community Empowerment (PNPM Mandiri) continues to fuel many dreams. PNPM Mandiri is at the heart of the Government of Indonesia's effort to reduce poverty. The program has expanded dramatically since 2007, but its largest components remain PNPM Rural, which began in 1998 as Kecamatan Development Program, and PNPM Urban, which began in 1999 as the Urban Poverty Program. Qualitative impact evaluation shows that PNPM Mandiri programs have enabled members of the community to eat better, to attend school for longer, to find jobs and set up businesses, to receive health care, and to participate in community and local political forums.
Learn more from the feature story here >>

PAST EVENTS

Myanmer National Community Driven Development Project on November 2
After an absence from the country of over two decades, the World Bank is re-engaging with Myanmar. Within this context, the Bank has prepared a National Community Driven Development Project as its first operation which will go to the Board on November 1, 2012. Financed by an $80 million IDA pre-arrears clearance grant, the project will support the government's shift to a "people-centered" approach to development by enabling poor rural communities to benefit from improved access to and use of basic infrastructure and services. Despite a mutual lack of understanding about policies and procedures, the project was prepared in only three months. For this BBL, the co-task team leaders will reflect on this intensive period of preparation, the engagement with government, and the prospects for community driven development within the broader reform agenda.
Please find the recorded video and the PPT here >>
Related feature story is available here >>

Chocolate for change: Cacao-based agroforestry to improve the prospects for people, profits and the planet on November 7
This pilot project has been successfully leading an initiative to engage at organization and household-level on cocoa-based agroforestry in response to the deteriorating socio-economic situation in one of the poorest areas of Nicaragua and of the Western Hemisphere. Additionally, the region experiences increased deforestation, degrading the environment, which in turn compounds problems associated with people's livelihood and their generalized well-being. Working with stakeholders on mixed agroforestry systems and inter-cropping has provided important insights in planning and planting strategies: (a) soil fertility improvement via low cost technological packages (biomass / organic fertilizer); (b) variegated crop production for both environmentally sound bio-diverse habitats and to accrue year-round benefits that offset economic risk due to seasonal fluctuations; invest in human capital (training) that empowers locals while assisting them to improve their livelihood; building women-led enterprises with the production of chocolate & the establishment of factories to manufacture it; build the capacity of the implementing agency and beneficiaries in the design and implementation of participatory monitoring and evaluation – using quantitative and qualitative methods (available online) with the objective to: learn to choose and learn from alternative production strategies; become more effective planners and decision-makers. This is a management tool useful for the Bank, implementing agency and the farmers; assess the impact of the Project overtime; obtain timely and effective information to improve Project planning and implementation. The project leads-on to networking opportunities in premium market channels such as Fair-trade and organic which promote knowledge and technology transfers.

Using ICT for Improved Transparency in Bank-financed Projects on November 13
The rapid spread of ICTs, combined with a global trend towards increased public transparency, offers unprecedented opportunities for task teams to make Bank-financed projects more transparent, accountable and effective. Whereas discussions on ICT and transparency often center on initiatives at the national/policy level, this BBL aimed to look at the topic from the sector and project level. What are the categories of information that projects should make accessible and to whom? How can different ICTs be used to make information available in a cost-efficient manner? What are some of good practice examples within the Bank? This BBL also serves as a last round of review for the How-to Note: "Using ICT to Improve Transparency in Bank-Financed Projects". This How-To Note aims to provide a concise overview of the topic, the pros and cons of different ICTs as well as guidance on how to implement ICT-based transparency initiatives.
Find out the event information and presentation materials here >>

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you have anything to share with the CoP (including papers, project news, interesting blogs, or upcoming events) please email me (jsingh1@worldbank.org) and Kaori Oshima (koshima@worldbank.org) and we'll incorporate these in the next "What's happening

in CDD" email.

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