



# Learning Villages:

# Rural Learning Communities for Sustainable Rural Transformation

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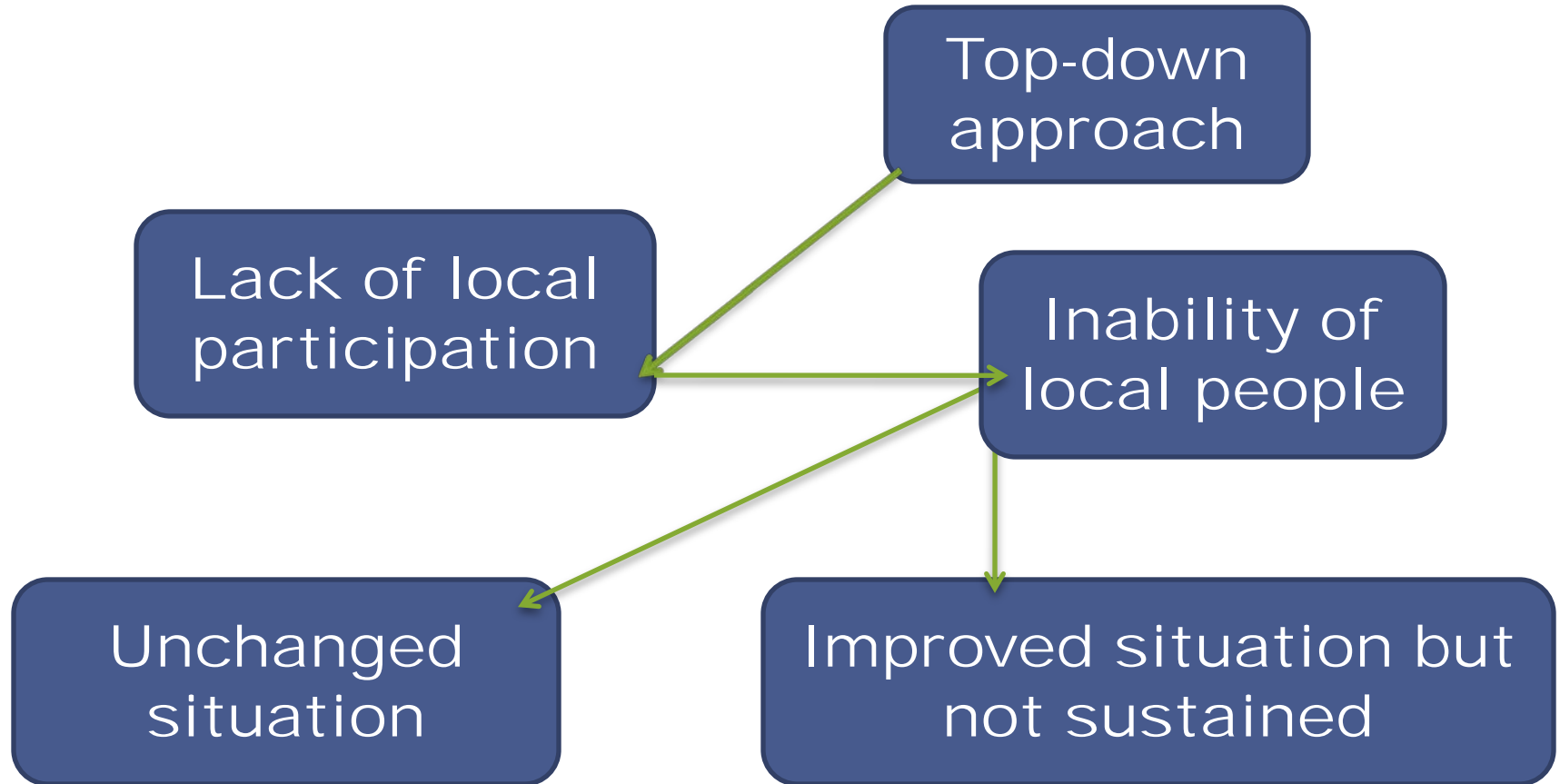
**If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who won't survive the week.**

**If you have food in your refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.**

**If you can read this message, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read anything at all.**

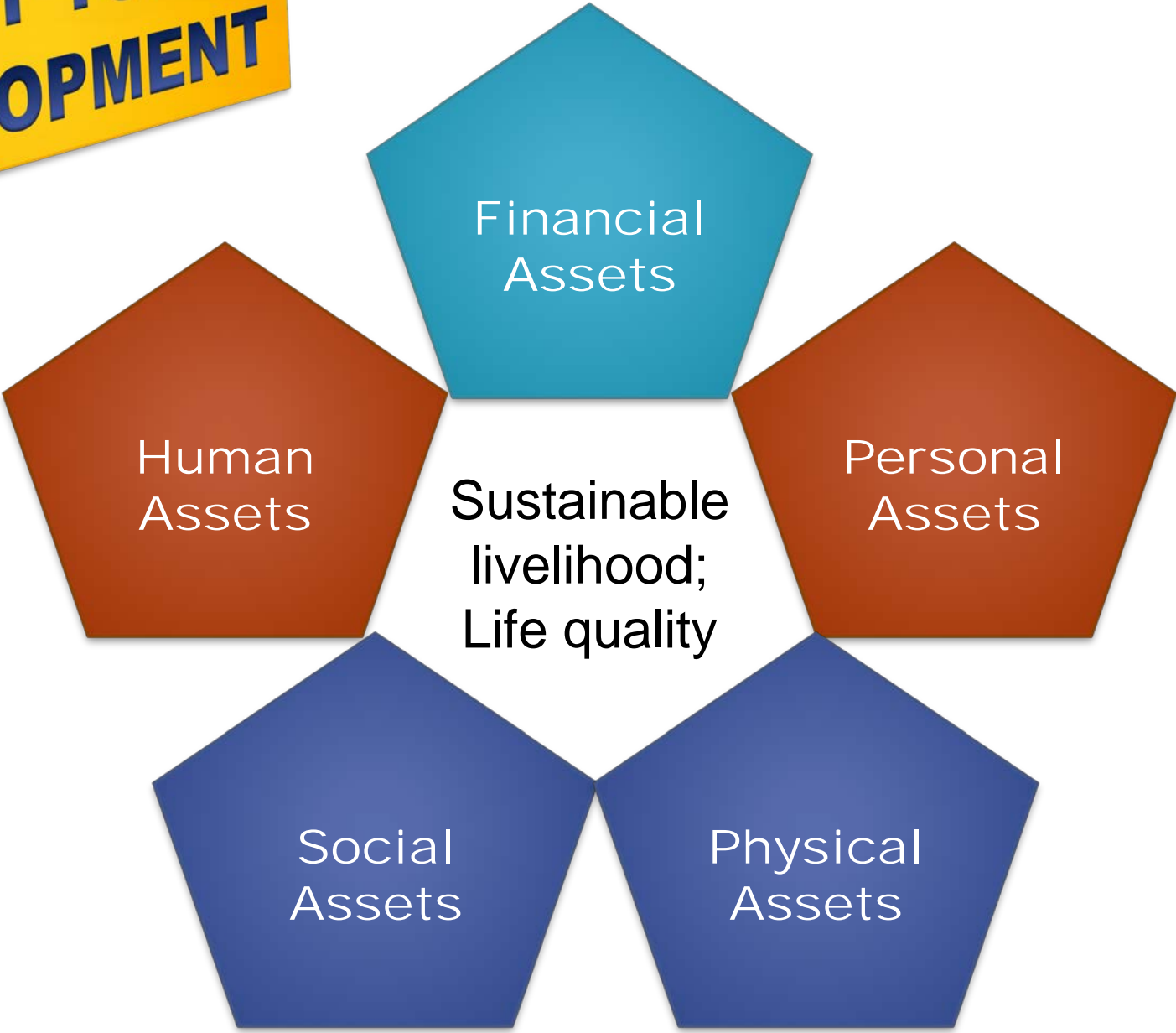
# Poverty Reduction

## – Previous Experience



***Poverty largely remains unchanged for the population who were poor!***

**KEY TO  
DEVELOPMENT**



**INDIVIDUAL EMPOWERMENT**

**Learning Villages  
and  
Rural Learning  
Communities**

# Definition

**A Learning Village is:**

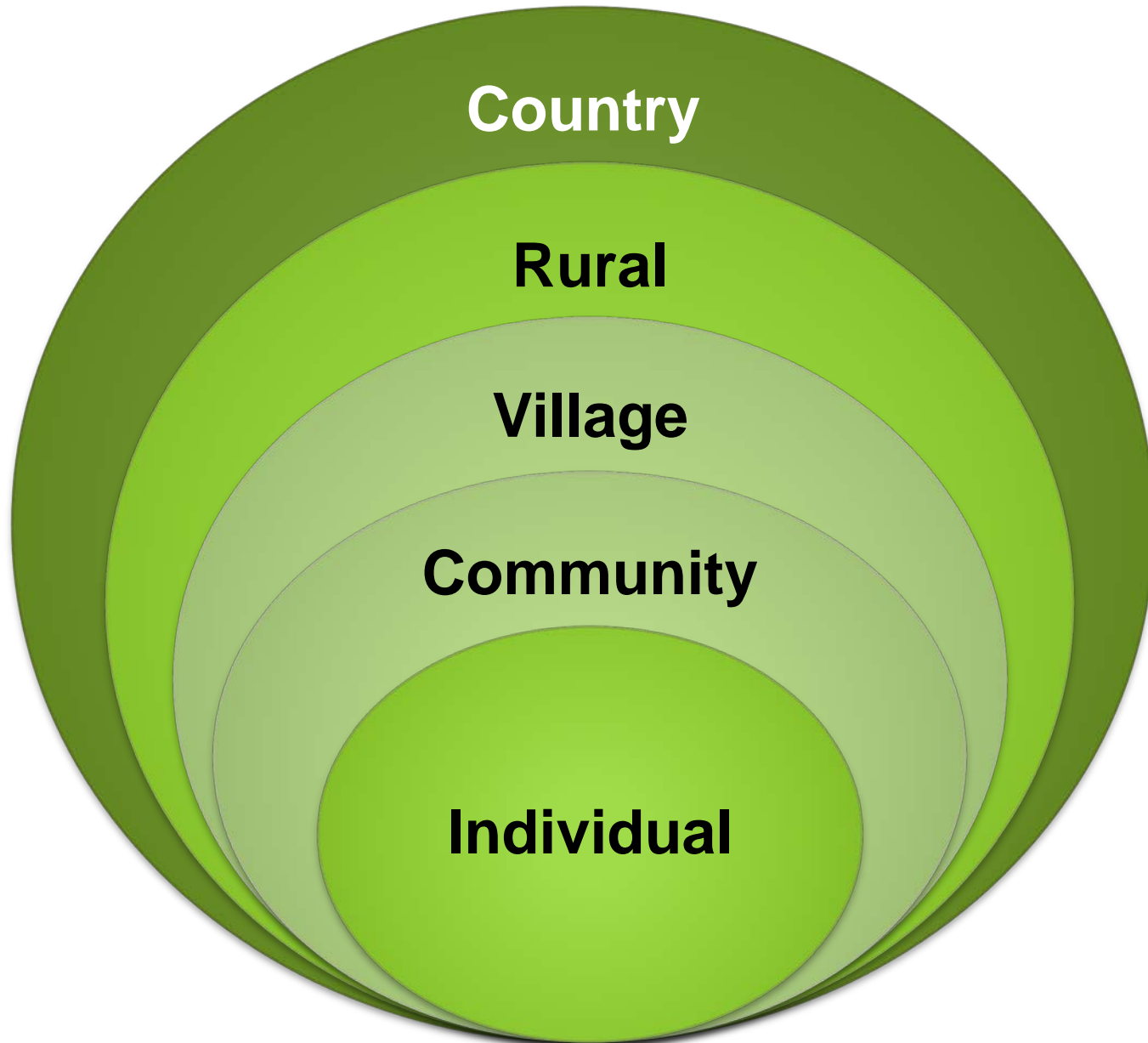
**A rural community where every rural resident, regardless of age, sexual identity, race, religion and social status, has a willingness and an opportunity to be continuously empowered through knowledge acquisition, skills development, and values and attitudes cultivation, as per each learner's immediate and long-term learning needs, for the betterment of individuals and their community.**

**A rural learning community:**

**Comprises a group of rural people who share common learning needs and are actively engaged in learning together and from each other.**

**A Framework  
to  
Promote, Facilitate and Maintain  
Rural Learning Communities  
&  
Learning Villages  
for Lifelong Learning**

# Philosophical Position





# Some Notes

- **Two-way interaction;**
- **Individuals as centrality of learning and change agents;**
- **Learning community as a mechanism to drive change**
  - ◆ **Differ from “community in which learning occurs;**
  - ◆ **Featured by shared goals, learner-centred approach, trainer as a facilitator, self-help;**
- **Collaboration and partnership between stakeholders.**

# Actions and Outcomes

## Areas of Focus

**For Individuals  
and  
Families**

**For Communities  
and  
Villages**

**For  
Nations**

**Establishing & Maintaining  
a Learning Village/  
Learning Community**

**Learning Communities  
in Action – Features of  
Rural Learning Communities**

**Benefits of  
Rural Learning Communities**



## Areas of Focus

- Basic education
- Vision & goals
- Leadership
- Governance
- Partnerships Collaboration
- Infrastructure Resources
- Funding

Establishing & Maintaining  
A Learning Village/  
Learning Community

# Example: Basic Education

Citizens have the foundation knowledge and skills for lifelong learning through strong and effective basic education available to all citizens.

Supplementary non-formal literacy and numeracy development programs are in place.

**Individuals proactively seek to strengthen their own basic education and that of their family & local community**

**Organize and facilitate appropriate adult literacy development activities**

**Policies & funding exist to facilitate universal basic education including 100% adult literacy**



# Learning Communities in Action

## – Features of Rural Learning Communities

- **Empowering learners**
- **Individuals contribute to their learning**
- **Dynamic learning communities**
- **Learning for all**
- **Sector comprehensive**
- **Appropriate pedagogy and technology**
- **Innovation and creativity**
- **Linking community infrastructure and social capital**
- **Capacity building**

# **Example:**

## **Appropriate Pedagogy and Technology**

Individuals undertake learning within learning communities through a variety of pedagogy and using a range of technology and have access to ICT.

Villages and rural communities proactively engage in processes to bring about improved facilities for learning and improved communications infrastructure.

Government budget priorities emphasize the development of infrastructure for adult education and training at village and community level. Budget meets increasing demand.

Sustainable



Social



Economic



Benefits

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Social</b>      | <b>bond, connection, network</b>  |
| <b>Economic</b>    | <b>quality of life</b>  |
| <b>Sustainable</b> | <b>sustainable local community<br/>sustainable activity<br/>environment</b> |

# Example: Social Benefits

- Individuals develop their social and communication skills, and establish and strengthen relationships.
- This leads to opportunities for collaboration and social engagement that can go outside of the learning community.
- It helps to build “community” and a sense of belonging.
- Socially engaged communities are caring and supporting communities.
- Participants feel welcomed and supported.
- Activities and courses are socially rewarding and enjoyable.
- A nation that is socially engaged and socially linked has a general sense of contentment and fulfillment.
- Citizens that are empowered take on responsibility and make a greater contribution to national development and general well-being.



# Follow-up Activities

**Advocacy; network building;  
resource mobilization**

**Capacity building of local  
governance and women groups  
representatives**

**Identification of indicators and  
establishment of a framework for  
monitoring**

A vibrant field of cosmos flowers in shades of purple and white, set against a clear, bright blue sky. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some in sharp focus and others blurred in the background, creating a sense of depth and a cheerful atmosphere.

**Have a nice day!**

**Thank you!**