



**TRAINING PTY LTD**

CREATING SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

# INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP



## CONTENT OVERVIEW

The workshop equips participants with essential knowledge and skills to drive sustainable development. It empowers them with a deeper understanding of community development principles and practices, as well as practical tools to address community challenges and plan for change. This workshop is ideal for fostering a common language and understanding amongst community development teams. It covers key concepts, frameworks, and applications, with a focus on the South African context.



### Workshop Outcomes

- Define community development
- Apply sustainable development principles
- Use key development theories and frameworks
- Develop community-based planning skills
- Understand legal compliance and social responsibility



### Target Audience

- Community leaders
- Teams and management responsible for community development
- Community members



### Course Structure

- 3 days in person workshop
- 15-20 participants per group



### Certification

- Certificate of participation upon completion



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THEME  
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## Defining Community Development

This theme lays the foundation for the Introduction to Community Development workshop. It explores the concept of "community", examining the different types of communities that exist, including communities of geography, interest, and identity. The concept of "development" is defined as the process of ongoing positive change. With these two concepts in place, "community development" is defined, and the diverse range of projects that fall under this umbrella are examined. By the end of this theme, participants have a deeper understanding of community development and its varied applications.

This theme delves into the concept of sustainable development, its importance, and its relationship with community development. The three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental – are examined, along with their intersections. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their relevance in the South African context are also explored. By the end of this theme, participants understand the principles of sustainable development and its application in community development initiatives.

THEME  
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## Understanding Sustainable Development

THEME  
3

## Key Development Theories, Principles & Frameworks

This theme introduces participants to the key theories, principles and frameworks that underpin community development practice. Modernisation and dependency theory, as well as alternative development theories, are explored. The principles guiding community development work are examined, including a people-centred approach, inclusivity, a strengths-based approach, local ownership, a holistic approach, sustainability, and a pro-poor approach. By the end of this theme, participants are equipped to apply key development principles and frameworks in their community development work.

This theme introduces participants to the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA), a framework for understanding and addressing poverty and vulnerability. The SLA's core components, including livelihood assets, vulnerability context, and transformative processes, are examined. The application of SLA in community development practice is also explored. By the end of this theme, participants are able to apply the SLA framework in their community development work. Additionally, participants will be able to identify potential challenges and opportunities for implementing SLA in their own contexts.

THEME  
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## Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA)

THEME  
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## Role Players in Community Development

This theme examines the various role-players involved in community development, including government, non-profit organisations, the private sector, academia, and local communities. The roles, responsibilities, and relationships between these stakeholders are explored. The concept of partnerships and collaboration in community development is also examined. By the end of this theme, participants understand the importance of effective stakeholder engagement in community development initiatives. Furthermore, participants will be equipped with practical strategies for building and maintaining effective partnerships with diverse stakeholders.



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## The Community Development Process

This theme takes participants through the community development process, from entering a community and understanding local authorities to conducting needs assessments, planning for change, mobilising resources, implementing projects, and monitoring and evaluating progress. A project management approach to community development projects is applied, ensuring that participants understand how to plan, execute and manage projects effectively. By the end of this theme, participants gain a comprehensive understanding of the community development process and how to apply it in practice.

This theme delves into Community-Based Planning (CBP), a participatory approach to planning and development. The participation ladder, a framework for understanding different levels of community participation, is examined, and strategies for working towards interactive participation and local ownership are discussed. Key activities in the CBP process, including situation analysis, problem identification, and action planning, are explored. By the end of this theme, participants have a better understanding of how to design and facilitate participatory planning processes that empower local communities to take ownership of their development.

THEME  
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## Community-Based Planning (CBP)

THEME  
8

## Social Responsibility & Legal Compliance Frameworks

This final theme examines the concept of social responsibility, as well as the legal and compliance frameworks that govern community development practice in South Africa. Relevant laws, policies, and regulations, including those relevant to non-profit organisations and the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) Act, are explored. Legislation related to training and development, such as the Skills Development Act and the Employment Equity Act, is also examined, highlighting the implications for community development practitioners. By the end of this theme, participants gain a comprehensive understanding of the legal and compliance requirements for community development practice in South Africa, as well as the principles and practices of social responsibility.

### TESTIMONIAL

"This workshop has really opened our eyes and changed our mindset! We always wait for outsiders to bring change instead of taking ownership of our own development journey. As a community and community leaders, we can start to create the change we want to see. The workshop helped us with the correct language and a common understanding of community development."

### TESTIMONIAL

"I attended the Intro to Community Development workshop and found it very helpful. It gave me insight, knowledge and new perspectives on how I look at community development. Our community has a lot to offer, but we don't always know where to start or take advantage of opportunities. This workshop gave us a plan and tools to make a difference."



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