

**The Role of the Community – Based Organizations
(CBOs) in Promoting Peoples’ Participation in
Development Activities in White Nile State**

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DEDICATION

To the soul of my father,

My mother,

Sisters and brothers

Mohamed and Amel

And to all whom I love

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The full praise and thanks be to Allah Almighty "GOD" who has given me health, strength and patience to conduct this study.

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ABSTRACT

For some time community – based organizations have been identified and applied by development project as effective means in encouraging peoples’ participation to achieve sustainable development, in developing countries.

This study was conducted to investigate the role of the community-based organizations (CBOs) in promoting peoples’ participation in the on-going development activities in Guli area, White Nile State.

To achieve the objectives of this study the field survey schedule interview(questionnaire) , group discussion ,and observations were used to obtain the primary data.. The secondary data were collected from Plan–Sudan documents, books, theses and other relevant sources. Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) was used for data management and analysis.

The results obtained from the study indicated that the study area is characterized by weak infrastructure, lack of basic social services, high illiteracy rate and poverty. The study also revealed that the CBOs have contributed in encouraging the targeted groups to participate effectively in development activities introduced in the study area. However, as for women participation in development activities the result showed that such participation determined by many socio – cultural aspects.

The study also proposed some recommendations for CBOs and the concerned authorities including; more efforts should be directed to development and introduction of relevant income generating activities to improve the standard of living of the masses residing in the study area. More attention should be given to participation of education and training to raise and increase the awareness in the domains related to people development opportunities to maximize the benefits of development projects and activities provided by the government and the NGOs. To address the socio-cultural aspects which limit women participation in development activities to enable them to participate effectively in their community development. More considerations should be directed towards the strengthening of the capacity of the CBOs to enable them to take a better role in their community development.

خلاصة الأطروحة

تعتبر تـنـظـيـمـات المـجـتـمـع القـاعـديـة أـدـاة فـعـالـة فـي تـحـرـيـك قـطـاعـات المـجـتـمـع لـلـمـشـارـكـة فـي الأـنـشـطـة التـنـمـويـة لـتـحـقـيـق التـنـمـيـة المـسـتـدـامـة.

أجريت هذه الدراسة لمعرفة دور تنظيمات المجتمع القاعدية في تحريك المجتمع للمشاركة في الأنشطة التنموية في منطقة قلي بولاية النيل الأبيض.

لتحقيق أهداف هذه الدراسة استخدمت البيانات الأولية والثانوية. تم جمع المعلومات الأولية من خلال الاستبيان والمقابلة ، مجموعات النقاش والملاحظة. المعلومات الثانوية تم جمعها من وثائق منظمة بلان – سودان ، الرسائل الجامعية والمصادر الأخرى ذات الصلة.

استخدم الباحث برنامج الحزم الإحصائية للعلوم الإجتماعية (SPSS) لتحليل البيانات.

توصلت الدراسة إلى عدة نتائج تشمل ، في منطقة الدراسة و التي تتصف بضعف البنيات الأساسية ، شح الخدمات الإجتماعية الأساسية ، إرتفاع معدل الأمية وتفشي الفقر. فأن تنظيمات المجتمع القاعدية قد ساهمت في تحريك قطاعات المجتمع للمشاركة الفاعلة في الأنشطة التنموية بمنطقة الدراسة. أيضاً توصلت الدراسة إلى أن مشاركة المرأة في الأنشطة التنموية تحكمها العادات والتقاليد والمكونات الثقافية الأخرى.

توصلت الدراسة ايضاً إلى عدة توصيات تشمل ضرورة توجيه الجهود لتطوير وإنشاء أنشطة إقتصادية مدرة للدخل لتحسين المستوى المعيشي للمواطنين بمنطقة الدراسة. كما أوصت الدراسة أيضاً بضرورة العناية بالتعليم والتدريب اللازم لرفع وعي المواطنين بقضايا التنمية لزيادة فرص إستفادتهم من الأنشطة التنموية التي تقدمها الدول والمنظمات والطوعية.

أوصت الدراسة أيضاً بضرورة معالجة الظواهر الثقافية التي تحد من مشاركة المرأة في الأنشطة التنموية لتمكينها من المشاركة الفعالة في تنمية الجهود كما أوصت الدراسة كذلك ببذل مزيد من الجهود لتقوية وبناء قدرات المجتمع القاعدية لتمكينها من أداء الدور المنوط بها في تنمية مجتمعها.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION

<i>CBOs</i>	<i>Community – based organizations</i>
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organization
PU	Programme Unit.
UNDP	United Nation Development Programme
UNs	United Nations
VDCs	Village Development Committees
WHO	World Health Organization

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background information:

In many instances experience ensured that the top-down planning was proved to be ineffective rural development approach and may result in a non sustainable development practice. In contrast the bottom-up participatory development was advocated as an alternative to the conventional development planning because it encourages community participation to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of development programmes.

Based on many experiences in the developing countries showed that the beneficiaries can play an important role in their communities' development , not only that but they may do this role as individuals or through community groups. Working through community groups will legitimize the action of community people. Thus support can be provided to individuals by other members of the group and collective voice is often more effective than the individual.

Therefore, it is believed that community organizations which are closely connected to their community can understand community needs and problems more than the government and people from outside the community. Thus, community based organizations (CBOs) have been identified for some time as effective means to achieve sustainable

development in both economic and social sectors. That is mainly because they are able to promote the targeted groups (at the grassroots level) to participate in the process of their development through the establishment of relevant local institutions (i.e. village development committees, women development committees, youth development committees,... etc). It is also argued that promoting community participation is a fundamental issue to mobilize the targeted groups and enable them to participate effectively in their development process. Therefore, it is believed that properly designed community-based programmes will be highly effective in managing natural resources, providing basic needs and ensuring access to primary social services.

1.2. Problem statement:

In the White Nile State, people have organized themselves in many cooperatives for some time to meet their social, economic and emergency needs. Despite this fact many Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) including the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Health Organization (WHO), Plan Sudan and others have established some and new organizations (i.e. village development committees and women development committees) to enhance peoples' participation in the development activities introduced there. It is argued that these institutions have succeeded to mobilize and promote popular participation in the on-going development activities in

the state.

This study designed to investigate to what extent that the CBOs succeeded in mobilizing the targeted groups to participate effectively in the process of sustainable development in the study area (Guli area- White Nile State) with in the experience of Plan Sudan.

1.3. Research objectives:

The objectives of this study are:

1. To survey socio-economic characteristics in respondents participating in CBOs.
2. To examine to what extent that the CBOs succeeded in promoting peoples' participation in on-going development activities.
3. To investigate problems facing the CBOs in the study area.
4. To propose some recommendations that may help to improve the role of the CBOs for better achievements.

1.4. Research assumptions:

1. The CBOs have succeeded in mobilizing participation to

achieve sustainable development in the study area.

2. There are some social and economic aspects limited The CBOs performance

1.5. Research methodology:

1.5.1. Research methods and instruments of data collection:

The research methods adopted in this study include the descriptive historical and statistical methods. Both primary and secondary data were collected and used in this study. Primary data were collected by using interview schedule (questionnaire), group discussion and observations. Secondary data were obtained from official documents, reports, books, internet, theses and other relevant sources.

1.5.2. Sample selection: Include two stages

Stage one: selection of the sampled villages within the total number of the registered villages in Plan Sudan documents as beneficiaries from the programmes and activities. The available records show that the total number of these villages in Guli programme unit (the study area in the White Nile State which consists of three programme units: EdDuwiem, Alaga and Guli) amount to 50 villages (Map 1-1). Selection of 10% of the total villages was assumed to be reasonable because of the similarities of the socio-economic conditions and development activities introduced by Plan Sudan in the area. These villages are; shariga, Wessa, Um ukas, Taweela and Guli.

Stage two: Selection of respondents:

The available records indicated that the total number of the beneficiaries is 1226 households. Accordingly the simple random sample method was adopted to select 122 households but the data obtained from 103 households, as indicated in table (1-1) using tables of random numbers considering that the respondents are homogeneous in their socio-economic characteristics and involved in the same development activities introduced by the organization.

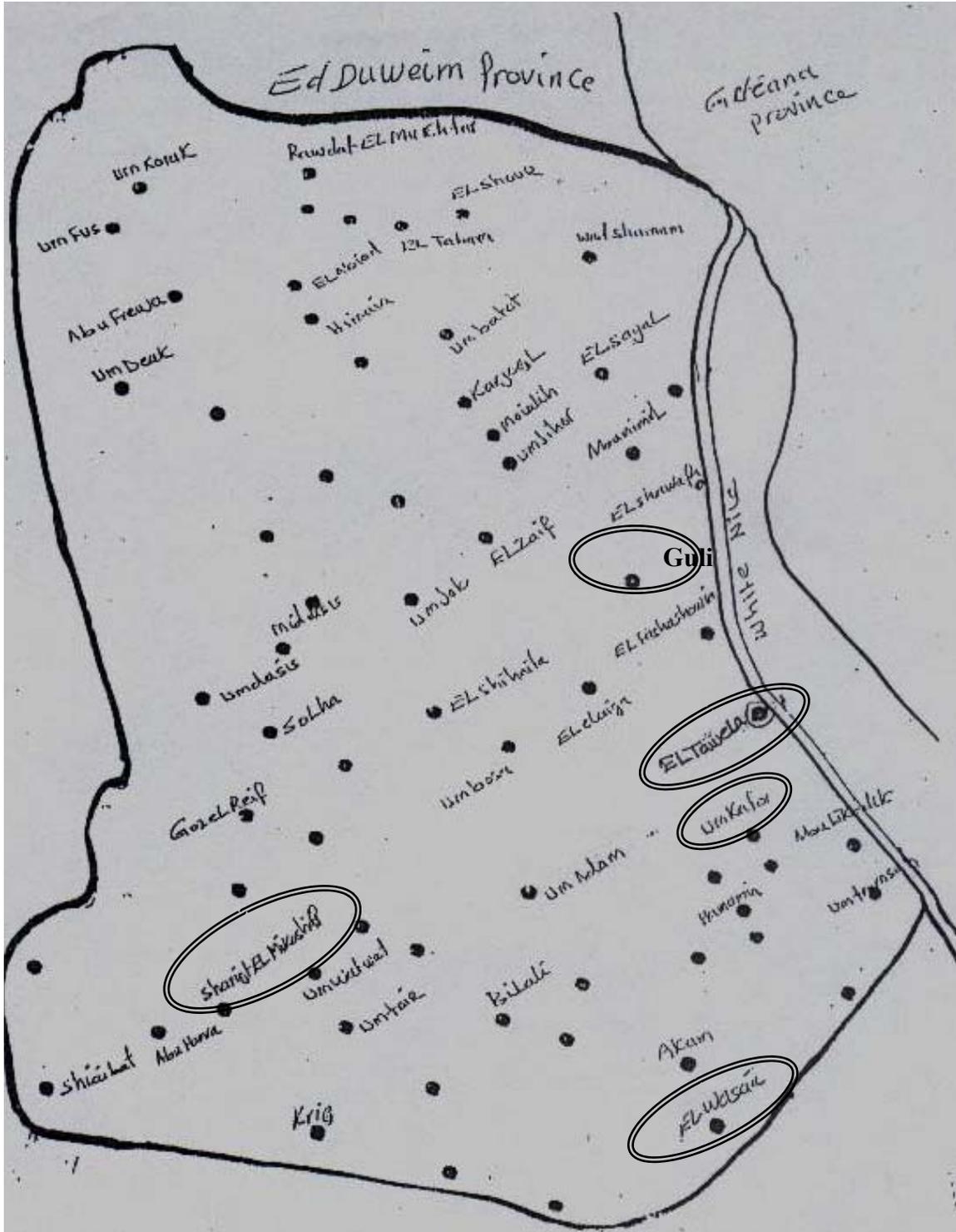
Table (1-1)

Sample size by selected villages

Village	Total number of households	Selected Respondents
Shariga	180	15
Wesaa	105	9
Um ukas	83	7
Taweela	238	20
Guli	620	52
Total	1226	103

1.5.3. Analysis techniques:

Descriptive statistics was used in this study using computer programme of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) for data management and analysis.



Map (1-1) Guli Programme Unit Target Area

1.6. Organization of the study:

This study consists of six chapters:

Chapter one; is an introductory chapter provides background information, problem statement, research objectives, research hypotheses, research methodology and instruments of data collection and organization of the study.

Chapter two presents the literature review. It covers concepts and definitions of development, rural development concepts and definitions of CBOs and participation.

Chapter three; provides information about the socio-economic setting of the study area.

Chapter four; provides information about Plan International including background information, domains, principles, approaches and its status today in the study area.

Chapter five; provides results and discussions.

Chapter six; conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Development, concepts and arguments:

Development is a multidimensional process leading to improvement of standard of living and total well being of human being and their environment.

In this respect Doornbos, P and Abdel Atti, H. (1981) defined development as the following

"Development is a complex phenomenon. It implies a qualitative concept, rendered fairly accurately by the idea of well-being. Economic growth is a phenomenon measurable in terms of increasing national income or per capita income, while the well-being of the population indicates a higher standard of living, a complex difficult to quantify which encompasses such various factors as the level of satisfaction of the needs of the population in terms of food and nutrition, housing, health, education, recreation, security, spiritual, satisfaction,... etc (In Doornbos, P. and Abdel Atti, H.1981: 20).

In the same context Todaro, M. (1985) defined development as:

"A multi-dimensional process involving the organization and reorganization of the entire economic and social systems. In addition to the improvement of income and outputs. It typically involves a radical change on institutional, social and administer-

ative structures, as well as popular, attitudes and sometimes even
customs and beliefs" (In: Mohamed, M. 2003: 9).

This definition focuses on three things including organization of
the socio-economic system, improvement of input and outputs and
changing on institutional structure to achieve development.

The accumulative experiences of executing development activities
and programmes reveals that development will not be achieved unless
beneficiaries (including poor and disadvantaged groups) be involved
effectively in development process to guarantee fairly distribution of
benefits considering the real needs, priorities and capabilities to gain
progress in all life aspects. To achieve this, development must concern
mainly with in quality and poverty alleviation. Thus Gazairy, I. and *et al.*,
(1992) comments:

"The new development paradigm centers around poor rural
people whose poverty must be alleviated if long term equitable
development is to be achieved". (Gazairy, I. and *et al.*, 1992 : 342).

2.2. Rural development:

Rural development is the hope and dream for many people that it
should improve the conditions of the rural life. Sometimes it means
social transformation to achieve some basic needs for the benefits of all
people, particularly the marginalized sectors including women, children

and poor people.

According to Lele, U. (1975) rural development is defined as "improving living standards of the mass of the low income population residing in rural areas and making the process of their development self-sustaining". (Lele, U. 1975 : 20).

This definition implies three important features:

1. Improving the living standards of the population that involves mobilization and allocation for resources.
2. Promoting popular participation to ensure that services will reach all the beneficiaries.
3. Building institutions at local and national levels and ensure the effective use of existing resources and mobilize financial and human resources for continued development of the rural people.

Moreover, as indicated by Chambers, R (1987) rural development

is

"... a strategy designed to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people – the rural poor. It involves extending the benefits of development to the poorest among those who seek a livelihood in the rural areas. The group includes small- scale farmers, tenant and landless” (Chambers, R.1987:147).

To achieve this goal rural development efforts should enable the

rural people to investigate , manage and exploit their available resources to attain their goals through effective participation in all development programmes and activities which executed by government NGOs, UNs, agencies or by people themselves.

In this respect Bhattacharya, S. (1983) believed that rural development must help all classes of rural society by approaching the community as a whole and must pay a particular attention to the weaker segments. This must be considered in national policies of development in the formulation of the local programmes and in the choice of methods for their implementation. Thus rural development aims at harmonizing the conflicting interests in society and to use the village community as a vital agency for reconstruction and social transformation and in doing so, promotes the community cohesion to serve the process of development.

To gain progress it is necessary to narrow the gap between the national and local levels to avoid the confusion of goals and priorities. In this respect Ross, J. (2000) stated that: "Rural development must be considered as an absolute priority in national level, because development can not be achieved when there is a large social gap, weak participation of consumers in the national market growth and a very large part of population excluded from the process of growth." (Ross, J. 2000).

2.2.1. Principles of rural development:

According to Adam, A. (2002) there are five principles to

implement rural development programmes including:

1. Access; to ensure that benefits of the programmes are not monopolized by elders and elites and reach to the needed people.
2. Independence; programmes must be designed to help and support, not to be dependent on.
3. Sustainability; contact the programmes planning and solution to the local socio-economic situation considering the abilities and aspirations of people.
4. Participation; always try to consult the local people seek out their ideas and involve them as much as possible in the programmes.
5. Effectiveness; a programme should be based on the effective use of local resources.

Applying these principles carefully will lead to successful execution of programmes and the expected or desirable goals will be achieved.

2.2.2. Some problems of the rural sector:

As indicated in the literature problems of the rural sector can be

summarized in seven main categories as follow:

1. Low technical know how is one major reason resulted in low productivity in rural area beside the poor technical skills.

2. Heavy reliance on uncontrollable resources which expose the products to high risk and lead to low productivity.
3. The unfair distribution of land due to the traditional rural structure results in the transformation of peasants into wage labors and share croppers. Ultimately this will lead to low productivity.
4. The isolation of rural area due to the poor communication will strength the domination of centers and thus low income to the produces.
5. Poor social services will decrease the possibilities for positive change, this may result in migration from rural to urban region and due to this man power will siphon and waste the time in searching for new job which will not be satisfied and economically sufficient.
6. Inadequate formal education, wide spread of literacy beside lack of non – formal education lead to migration to urban centers as a result of lack of job opportunities in the rural areas.
7. The absence of local organizations which enhance popular participation may lead to failure. People involvement in development process should improve their skills and raise the level of their awareness of their problems and contribution of solutions.

These problems seem to be common in the rural sector but may vary in depth and level of significance from region to region according to environmental conditions, levels of technology used and the relation between the local and national levels.

2.3. Some definitions and arguments related to community development:

Community may be defined as a unit consisting of persons in social interaction within a geographic area and having one or more additional common ties. This definition considered three components of the community: place, group of people in interaction and common ties or relations.

Hilali, K. (2002) defined rural community as "The community that comprises people that are strongly related to each other and have weak relations without-side communities". (Hilali, K. 2001: 11) .

Accordingly community development is the attempt that considers community progress and positive change. In this respect Bhattacharya, S. (1983) stated that:

"Community development is the movement designed to promote better living of the whole community". (Bhattacharya, S. 1983 : 67).

Moreover, Sofier and Wenocur (1999) considered community organization as "an effective means of bringing people together to address problematic social and economic conditions. Thus as purposeful

collective efforts, organizing requires sound analytical, political and interactional skills. The important aspect of those skills involves a continuous pattern of systematic planning, reflecting again and building a group that can achieve the desirable aim" (Sofier & Wenocur, 1990).

This argument centers around organizing people efforts and improving their skills to enhance their continuous work in development to achieve sustainability through the establishment of community – based organizations (CBOs) which usually considered as a means to achieve

development through the following:

1. Promote activities at the grassroots level which enable participants to become self-reliant and self-sustaining.
2. Ensure that the resources provided reach the participants.
3. Minimize bureaucratic and administrative costs and ensure that local and national government interventions are facilitating and catalyzing progress.
4. Assign to the responsibilities for project formulation and operations to the district level and overall planning, supervisory and coordinating functions to the regional and central governments.
5. Ensure coordination of inputs and actions from different agencies of the government and the international community.

It is recognized that the leaders of the rural community are

influencing the development process specially the decision-making process. That is mainly because local leaders are the directors to their communities. In the traditional regions, all the people obey their leader's orders and no one try to avoid what they do and / or want.

As it was published in the internet (1996) under the main title of community – based solid waste management and water supply project, the author divided local leaders into three types:

1. Traditional leaders; derive their authority from hereditary rights and from their status in the local culture.
2. Formal leaders; are appointed by the government or elected as local representatives of the government.
3. Informal leaders; are influential members of a community of the basis of their personal status or of their activities in community – based organizations such as political parties, churches (mosques in Muslim's region), youth and women organizations, neighborhood committees.....etc.

It is worth mentioning that in rural areas the traditional rules still govern the rural people. They depend on leaders views and ideas.

Accordingly, the FAO (1999) mentioned that the main feature of community-based system that their legitimacy is drawn from the nation state in which they are located.

Moreover, the FAO (1999) reported that the indigenous rules offer

some potential advantages in the management of natural resources. However, some major short-comings of indigenous rules should not be ignored.

The advantages of the indigenous rule are as indicated by FAO (1999) as follows:

1. They are based on social status and relationships and they are more effective and cost effective control of local regulation through peer pressure.
2. They are locally designed, hence adapted to local contexts and familiar to local dwellers.
3. Being based more on social criteria than space, they are more inclusive than formal regulations.
4. Applications of rules operate through the internalization of well-known principles rooted in indigenous values.

The shortcomings of the indigenous rule are:

1. They often neglect the interests of certain minorities and other socially weaker groups, e.g. herders and women.
2. Being based on oral tradition and collective memory and seldom with transcription of proceedings, they may be challenged with time or as power structures and alliances evolve.
3. Indigenous rules often lack effectiveness when it comes to

solving conflicts between stakeholders who do not share the same values.

4. They depend a lot on the preference of the traditional leaders who can sometimes not represent the interests of their constituencies.
5. They are embedded on indigenous knowledge which is not always conducive to sustainable use of resources to depend more on irrational and divine factors than the scientific factors.

Generally development agents must be aware of rural traditions and believes and try to exploit the advantages of these rules to maximize the benefits and with the promotion of education and awareness the shortcoming will disappear.

Moreover, according to De Sand, K. (2000) rural organization often serve as an instrument which enable people to come together to discuss what they have in common. They can raise and deliberate problems they face in their villages. They make common plans with common objectives. The organization often functions as the voice of the group. It represents the group and serves an equally essential role in providing information from government to rural people. It represents the group and serves as link to the world outside. Also it serves in providing information from government to rural people.

Moreover, DeSand, K. (2000) summarized the lessons obtained

from IFAD experience in Brazil and other countries in the following:

1. Concerns leadership is one important lesson-rural organizations with strong and charismatic leaders tend to be more successful.
2. The second lesson concerns the permanence of rural organizations. IFAD has found that rural organizations, both formal and informal tend to have natural life spans-farmer contact groups created to transfer technology, related training will cease to associate one training programmes end.

Accordingly he proposed the following recommendations to

enhance effective planning of development projects:

1. Start with carefully examining the existing forms of rural organization in project area to involve as an information source.
2. Find out whether organizations represent the people they claim to serve and they include the disadvantaged groups and poor.
3. Study the context of rural institutions socio-economic, environment and build on it.
4. Involve group members directly in their development process.
5. In selecting organization as a partner, examines its role and function.
6. Determine whether the presence of elites in a particular organization represents advantage or disadvantage.

7. Take pains to make roles, rights, and responsibilities perfectly clear to all.
8. Ensure that members of the community (men and women) are the ones who decide on the goals and structure of their groups.
9. Pay attention to the cooperative advantages of local government authorities and NGOs.

2.4. Community participation:

2.4.1. Definition:

Generally community participation means involve all people to share in achieving their desirable progress. In this respect Gazairy, I. and *et al.* (1992). Comment:

"Participation is the fulfillment of basic human needs, since people want to be part of the processes that shape their lives" (Gazairy, I. *et al.* 1992 : 342).

Thus they considered participation as a social phenomenon determined and mentioned the economic and social relationship between individual and group in the community.

2.4.2. Types of participation:

The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED, 1998) mentioned seven types of participation in development:

1. Manipulative participation (co-option):

Community participation is simply pretence; people's representative on official boards is not elected and has no power.

2. Passive participation (compliance):

Communities participate by being told what has been decided or already happened involving unilateral announcements by an administration or project management without listening to people's responses. The information belongs only to external professionals.

3. Participation for material incentives:

Communities participate by contributing resources such as labor, in return or material incentives (e.g. food, cash). It is very common to see this called participation, yet people have no stake in prolonging practices when the incentives end.

4. Participation by consultation:

Communities participate by being consulted or by answering questions define problems and information – gathering processes, and so control analysis. Such a consultative process does not concede any share in decision-making and professionals are under no obligation to take on board people's views.

5. Functional participation (cooperation):

Communities' participation is seen by external agencies as a means to achieve project goals. People participate by forming groups to meet

predetermined project objectives; they may be involved in decision making, but only after major decisions have already been made by external agents.

6. Interactive participation:

People participate in joint analysis, development of action plans and formation or strengthening of local institutions. Participation is seen as a right not just the means to achieve project goals. The process involves interdisciplinary methodologies that seek multiple perspectives and make use of systematic and structured learning processes. As groups take control over local decisions and determine how available resources are used, so they have a stake in maintaining structures or practices.

7. Self-mobilization (collective action):

People participate by taking initiatives independently of external institutions to change systems. They develop contacts with external institutions for resources and technical advice they need, but retain control over how resources are used. Self-mobilization can spread if governments and NGOs provide an enabling framework of support. Such self-initiated mobilization may or may not challenge existing distribution of wealth and power (In: Cately, A. and *et al.*, 2002: 55).

2.4.3. People's participation:

People's participation for sometimes been recognized as central to rural development strategy being considered both an essential means as

well as an end in it self. It is believed that participation of the rural poor through their own and relevant established institutions and organizations reinforce the favorable effects of equity, growth policies and enabled the targeted groups to participate effectively in the process of the development.

It is argued that people's participation is not only about achieving the more efficient and more equitable distribution of resources and benefits. It is also about the sharing of knowledge and the transformation of the process of learning it self in the services of people's self development.

According to FAO (1992).

"People's participation and human resources are vital to sustainable agriculture and rural development. Activities under this heading include projects and programmes related to environmental education, training and extension, farming systems development, institutions building the promotion of people's participation, support to group actions, cooperative and NGOs including the development support communication projects and the plan action on women in development".

(FAO, 1992).

Moreover, the process of people's participation starts with the identification and description of problems need and opportunities. This takes specific tools and a grasp of context to be carried out effectively. It continues through grass-roots involvement in the conception, planning

and implementation of solution which also demands particular skills and information. And it carries on through monitoring and evaluation, which lays the ground work for the next phase of project identification and planning. It is an on-going process of mobilization and self-organization that reshapes the community itself.

The report of UNDP and the Government of Sudan on Interagency

Needs Assessment Mission in Khartoum (1987) stated that:

"It is essential to devise means of consulting the participants, beneficiaries of the programmes at every stage during the planning, identification, formulation implementation, supervision and monitoring and evaluation of the projects. Throughout precautions will be required to ensure that the benefits which occur do in fact go directly to the intended beneficiaries and are not "siphoned off" by other" (UNDP & Government of Sudan, 1987).

Thus this argument emphasized working through community leaders, identifying natural potential leaders, encouraging and promoting the formation of village committees and in particular devising instruments of ensuring that women and youth participate in and benefit from the developmental activities.

It is important to involve the beneficiaries in all development stages to achieve sustainability. In this respect the international workshop in Tanzania (1994) on Review and Assessment of Rural Development

Programmes in Africa reported that:

"Unless there is full participation of the rural people in the whole process of rural development there will not be any sustainable development. Participation should be coupled with democratization of the rural masses and transfer of power to the grassroots level. Fear of transparency and other self-interest on the part of government officials account for constraints against full scale people's participation. The beneficiaries of programmes should be involved in the decision – making process." (Workshop of Review and Assessment of Rural Development Programmes, 1994).

2.2.4. Promoting and encouraging participation:

According to Gazairy, I. and *et al.*, (1992) promoting participation can be seen broadly as creating directing and monitoring with popular support organizations designed to meet the requirements and the needs of the poor. Therefore, the poor must be involved in identifying their needs and satisfying their requirements through local institutions and organizations like farmers groups, women groups ... etc.

Moreover, Swanson, B. (1984) formed some recommendations on how to get broader participation in development programmes by the following:

1. People are much more willing to participate in activities which meet their "felt needs". A quick needs assessment can

determine farmers needs and priorities. Again the needs of all people should be taken into consideration, not just those who are accessible and co-operative.

2. If farmers are encouraged to express their needs and provide some input into the structure of a programme, they should not then be ignored. The price of wide spread participation may be additional burdens on the extension worker, but if he or she wishes sustain farmers involvement, then the farmers ideas should be taken into account.
3. People are more likely to participate if actual benefits are directly tied to participation.
4. Farmers, especially those with low incomes, are more likely to participate and remain involved in a development effort if the benefits are material, direct and immediate. People invest their participation in activities they believe will benefit them.
5. Extension worker should not expect that the participation of a small group of "progressive" farmers will ultimately lead to broader participation (Swanson, B. 1984: 67).

Moreover, according to Gazairy, I. and *et al.*, (1992) it is assumed that the relief of poverty is an economic proposition and welfare responsibility. One of the major problems in rural sector now is that the rural poor operate at a much lower level than their production potential,

given the technology available and the possibility of introducing new technologies suited to their need.

To close the gap between actual and potential requires not only land and other inputs, but qualitative factors especially education must be considered.

It is believed that through education and training poor will be aware of their social entitlements and economic opportunities. These demand access to political and social power which will be achieved by poor themselves by forming grassroots organizations.

In this respect the African Charter issued in Arusha, Tanzania (1990) emphasized that, to achieve development the African governments must adopt strategies, approaches and programmes considering the interests and aspirations of people and which incorporate rather than alienate African values and economic, social cultural, political and environmental realities. This is an essential prerequisite for actions as indicated by The International Conference in Africa (1990) such as:

- Extending more economic power to the people through the equitable distribution of income, support for their productive capacity through enhanced access to productive inputs, such as land, credit, technology.. etc. and in such a manner as to reflect the central role played by women in the economy.
- Promoting mass literacy and skills training in particular and

development of human resources in general.

- Greater participation and consensus–building in the formulation and implementation of economic and social policies at all levels, including the identification and elimination of knows and bureaucratic procedures that pose obstacles to people's participation.
- Increasing employment opportunities for the rural and urban poor, expanding opportunities for them to contribute to the generation of output and enhanced productivity levels and creating better marketing conditions for the benefit of the producers.
- Strengthening communication capacities for rural development, mass literacy, etc.
- Small-scale indigenous entrepreneurship and producers cooperatives, as forms of productive participatory development, should be promoted and actions should be taken to increase their productivity.
- Intensifying the efforts to achieve sub regional and regional economic cooperation and integration and increased intra – Africa trade. (International Conference in Africa, 1990 : 2).

CHAPTER THREE

THE AREA OF STUDY

The area of study:

This chapter presents the socio- economic setting of the White Nile State.

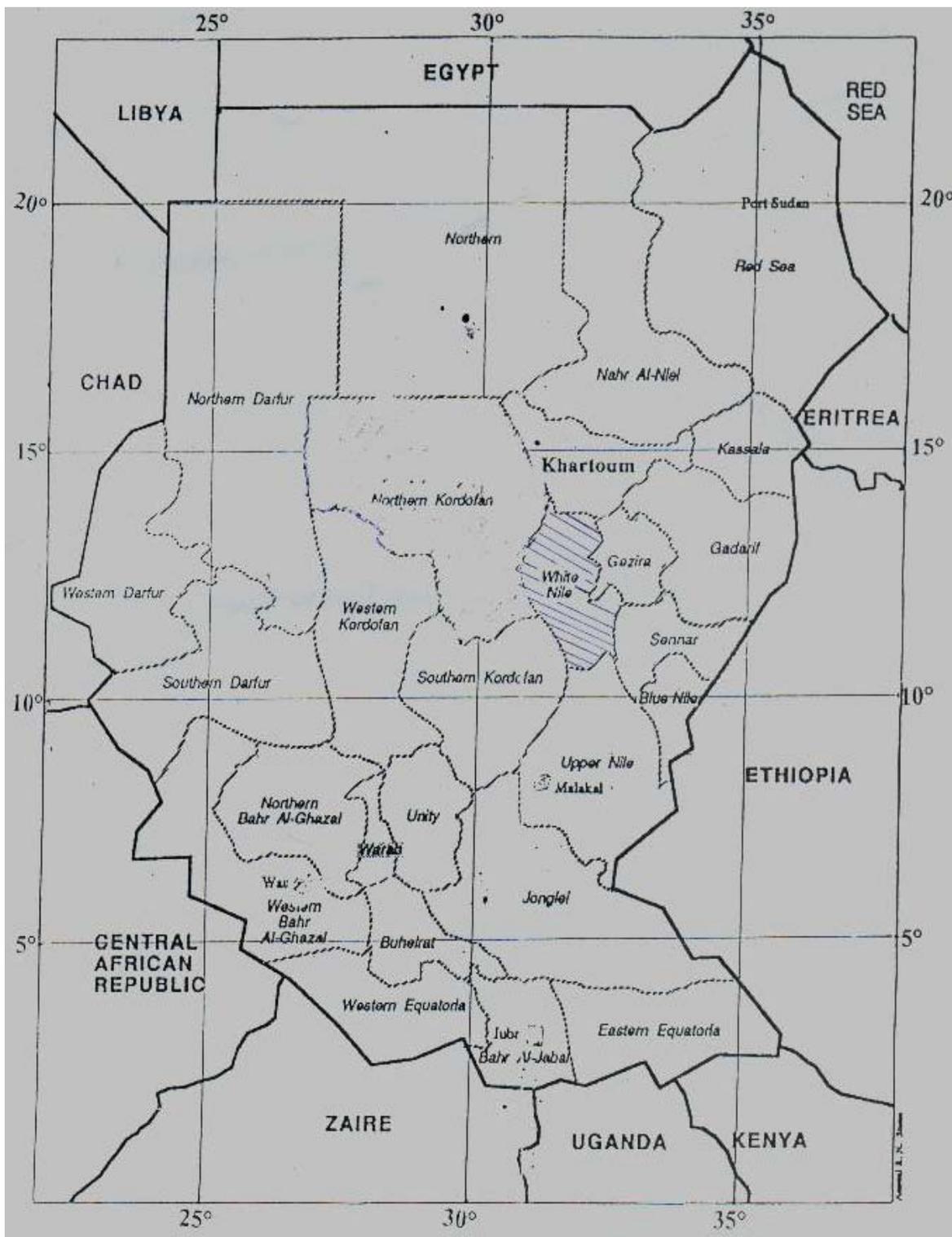
3.1. Location:

The white Nile state is located south west of Khartoum state between the Latitudes 11° 55' and 15°15' North and the longitudes 31°40' and 33° 15' East. It is bordered by the Northern and the Western Kordofan states from the west, Gezira and Blue Nile state from the East, Khartoum from the North and the upper Nile state from the south (Map 3-1). The state is divided by the White Nile River into eastern and western parts.

Administratively the state is divided into four governorates namely, Kosti Governorate, Elgittainah, EdDueim and Elgabalain Governorate. Each Governorate is divided into numbers of administrative units which consists of numbers of cities and villages.

3.2. Area and Human Population:

The area of the White Nile State is 38.468 Km and the population is 1.227.024 (Ministry of Agriculture- the White Nile State, 2004)



Map (3-1) White Nile State Location

3.3. Climate:

The state is characterized by two seasons, dry winter extend from November to February and rainy season in summer from March to October.

3.4. Economic activity:

Agriculture is the main economic activity in the state, followed by animal breeding beside many other activities including trade and industries.

Agriculture is practiced by the majority of people in the state, the main crops grown are food crops (i-e sorghum; wheat and millet) which are widely grown in rainy and irrigated sectors and represents the main stock for urban and rural areas inside and outside the state in addition to the cash crops which include cotton as main cash crops beside sunflower, sesame, watermelon, muskmelon, sugar cane, fruits and vegetables.

There are three sectors in agricultural systems include

1. Irrigated sector which includes the large and small pump schemes.
2. Rainy sector consists of traditional and mechanized rain fed.
3. Grouf-cultivation practiced on the river banks lands after the flood season.

There are many problems facing and limiting the agriculture (i-e lack of finance, poor, management and the marketing constraints)

The White Nile State has a large population of livestock. It has 8.3%, 4.3%, 5.4% and 2.9% of the national herd of cattle, sheep, goats

and camels respectively. These figures corresponded to a total of 7.8 millions head during 1999/ 2000 of which 3.1 millions are cattle, 2.5 millions are sheep, 2.0 millions are goats and 2.0 millions are camels. The highest population of goats amount to 74.5% and camels about

42% found in EdDuiem Governorate.

Generally the state is considered as one of the industrial states for the presence of many factories like Kenana and Assalya Sugar Companies, Rabak cement factory in addition to sweets, cheese, salty fish, soap and oils industries which scattered along the state mainly in and /or around Kosti, Rabac and EdDuiems cities.

Moreover the population of the White Nile State have been engaged in many other activities including private and public sectors and commerce in addition to internal migration and handicrafts.

3.5. Social Services:

3.5.1. Education

Education services in the White Nile State have started at early time. It was encouraged through many efforts of early adopters of innovations who contributed in the establishment of many institutions (i- e Bakht Elrida Institute in EdDuiem).

Recently the number of schools has widely increased, but the education sector still suffers from lack of basic needs such as suitable building and furniture, lack of trained and skilled teachers and far distance school in many villages beside the low awareness of many people on the benefit of education.

It is worth mentioning that nomads have gained opportunities in education, they have mobile schools reach to twenty schools for primary education with one or two teachers for each school.

3.5.2. Health Services:

The health services are provided to the people in the state through many health institutions. These institutions are established by the government of the state and NGOs. UNs agencies (i-e WHO) and some international NGOs i-e Plan Sudan support these institutions and provide many services related to the health domain. These services include provision of drugs, training of workers and beneficiaries. The health institutions in the state include 23 hospitals in rural and urban areas, 66 health centers and 71 units for primary health care in addition to the health training school for mid wives, medical assistance and nurse schools. Moreover, there is a faculty of medicine in Kosti beside a faculty of medical laboratories, of the university of EL imam ELmehadi.

3.5.3. Water Resources:

The White Nile River is the main source of water in the state. The river reaches the highest level of flow at the end of October and decreased to reach the lowest level of flow at the end of April. This in addition to water reservoirs, surface wells, water yard, ground water beside the nets of water in the cities and progressive villages.

CHAPTER FOUR

PLAN INTERNATIONAL

4.1. Background information:

Plan is an international non- governmental organization that works in the field of humanitarian and child focused development. It was founded in Spain during the Spanish civil war in 1937 and currently working in 43 developing countries under direct supervision and management of its international headquarter office based in the United Kingdom. It provides its assistance with out religious, political or government affiliation.

The mission of Plan international is working to achieve improvement in the quality of life of deprived children and their families in developing countries through a process that considers people culture and adds meaning and value to their life by assisting deprived children, their families and their communities to meet their basic needs which include health services, education services, water ...etc and to increase their ability to participate in and benefit from their societies, building relationships to increase understanding and unity among people and fostering the rights and interest of the world children (Leaflet, 2000).

Plan International is funded mainly by individual sponsors from many countries around the world including Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Norway, Sweden, UK, USA, Brazil, Thailand, Finland, and Spain.

Therefore, it provides direct assistance to more than million deprived children and their communities in 43 developing countries including

Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and others.

4.2. Plan Sudan:

As indicated in the Leaflet (2000) Plan International has stated its work in Sudan since 1977. Now it provides assistance to more than 30000 deprived children, their families and communities in 154 villages in rural and poor urban through six main offices (Programme units), two in Kassala State, three in the White Nile State and one in Northern

Kordofan State distributed as the following:

- Kassala Programme unit, Kassala, Kassala State.
- River Atbara Programme unit, Khashm El girba, Kassala State.
- EdDuiem Programme unit, EdDuiem, White Nile State.
- Alaga Programme unit, EdDuiem White Nile State.
- Guli Programme unit, Kosti, White Nile State.
- Northern Kordofan Programme unit, El Obied, Northern Kordofan State.

It is worth mentioning that Plan Sudan operates under the umbrella of Plan International South and East Africa which locates in Southern Africa and provides support to the programme in Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda and others. This is beside the individual

sponsorship and some social institutions (including clubs and learning institutions) which formed 90% of Plan budget.

Currently Plan Sudan operates in collaboration with the local communities and local government to serve the development process at the local level. However, it exposes support from the national and international institutions for determined projects.

4.3. Plan's domains:

As indicated in Plan International Domain Guidelines and Principles Check List (1997) Plan domains include the following:

1. Growing up healthy:

Plan seeks to ensure the survival protection and healthy development of children and adults, especially women of child bearing age promoting and strengthening responsive, sustainable community – managed primary health – related behavior and attitudes.

2. Learning:

Plan seeks to ensure that children, youth and adults acquire basic learning and life skills in order to help them realize their full potential and contribute to the development of their societies.

3. Habitat:

Plan seeks to ensure that children live in secure, safe and healthy habitats, it does so by promoting and strengthening the organizational,

technical and resource capacity of children, families and communities to focus and act upon children's, habitat needs.

4. Livelihood:

Plan seeks to increase food security and family disposable income, which will enable families to improve their children's welfare – plan is doing so through enlarging productive opportunities and the access and control over resources.

5. Building relationship:

To create a world-wide community of sponsors and children sharing a common agenda for child centered development through sustained and long term commitment by sponsors to support child centered development and through fulfilling relationships between children and sponsors.

4.4. Plan's principles:

They include the following:

1. Child centeredness:

Generally Plan is working to:

- Improve the quality of life and advance the rights of children.
- Strengthening the capacity of families and communities to provide their children with stability, protection and security.

- Reinforce the informed participation of children in decision that affects their lives in culturally appropriate ways and according to their capabilities.
- Assess the impact of its programmes and children in affiliated communities with a particular focus on foster children and their siblings.
- Address the needs of the children in a particular area by affiliating all eligible families.

2. Institutional learning:

Drawing up internal and external sources, Plan is promoting learning for itself, its partners and the development communities in order to achieve its mission.

3. Integration:

In Plan's programme interventions, the domains are interrelated, resulting in coherent programme strategies to improve the quality of children's life.

4. Gender equity:

Plan is actively working towards the eradication of gender – based inequities in opportunities and the access and control over resources.

5. Environmental sustainability:

Plan is promoting equitable and sustainable access to and use of natural resources by the people with whom it work, based on an understanding of their relationship with the environment.

6. Environment and sustainability:

Plan is seeking to strengthen the long-term capability of all community members to manage matters that affect the well-being of their children. This includes organizational, technical financial and managerial capacities and the ability to influence the priorities and quality of services of local institutions and organizations and strengthening the local term capacities of those institutions and organizations.

7. Cooperation:

Plan is working through communities and with community organizations, government bodies, NGOs and others (Plan International Domain Guidelines and Principles Checklist, 1997).

4.5. Plan Sudan objectives and aims:

As indicated in the country strategy plan (1999 – 2003) the main objectives of Plan International (Sudan) are:

1. To increase agricultural production, raise disposable household income of plan families through improving and diversifying sustainable agricultural production by access to extension and other related services.

2. To raise disposable household income of Plan families through increasing access to financial services (i.e. agricultural credit, improved seeds and handicraft) for the poor and encouraging their use.
3. Provision of employment opportunities for all families in Plan communities (through income generating activities).
4. All families in Plan communities have access to an effective efficient community – based primary health care system.
5. All families in Plan communities have access to safe drinking water all years around.
6. All families in Plan communities use basic sanitary facilities (latrines, solid water and liquid waste disposal system)
7. Most of plan children in Plan communities attended primary school.
8. Provision of the minimum requirements of schools to all schools in Plan communities according to the school quality index.
9. All foster children in Plan community demonstrate increase awareness sensitivity and understanding of their foster parent's countries.
10. All foster children and foster parents in Plan communities perceive that their development expectations have been met.

11. To increase the capacity of Plan communities to provide and manage their resource in sustainable way (In: Mohamed, M. 2003).

4.6. Means and approaches:

As indicated in Mohamed, M. (2003) Plan International (Sudan programme) is based on a triple partnership composed of the communities, the government and Plan. Each part has specific responsibilities to fulfill but the ultimate goal is directed towards enabling the communities to be in control over their development process and vestige in future.

Development through participatory approach is adopted to achieve the objectives in sustainable manner. The participatory approach aims to encourage the people's participation. Thus it is expected to enable the community to depend on themselves in the long-run through forming effective institutions. Moreover, this approach encourages cooperation and collaboration and responds to the real needs of the communities.

4.7. Plan organizational structure:

The country structure of Plan in Sudan composes of many offices at different levels. Each office responsible of some functions including; the Country Office (CO) is established at the top of the structure, located in Khartoum and managed by a Sudanese staff. It consists of a Country Director (CD), Internal Auditor (IA), Operation Support Manager

(OSM), Programme Support Manager (PSM) and Sponsorship and Grounds Support Manager (SGSM). They perform an important role in providing services to Plan communities and set the overall direction, policies and strategies of the organization. This level followed by the state level which headed by the programme unit manager (PUM) who is responsible to manage and supervise all activities at the state level (PU) and represent Plan Sudan in the area with assistance of technical staff consists of community development coordinators (CDCs), programme secretary and volunteers to implement the programme activities.

Village development committees (VDCs) which were established at the village level and consist of 10 – 17 members. However, there are other subordinate technical committees (i.e. agricultural committees and women committees).

4.8. The status of the organization in Guli programme unit (GPU) today:

Guli programme unit started in 1999. It has been working to provide many services and inputs to enhance progress. It adopted the participatory approach to achieve the desirable objectives.

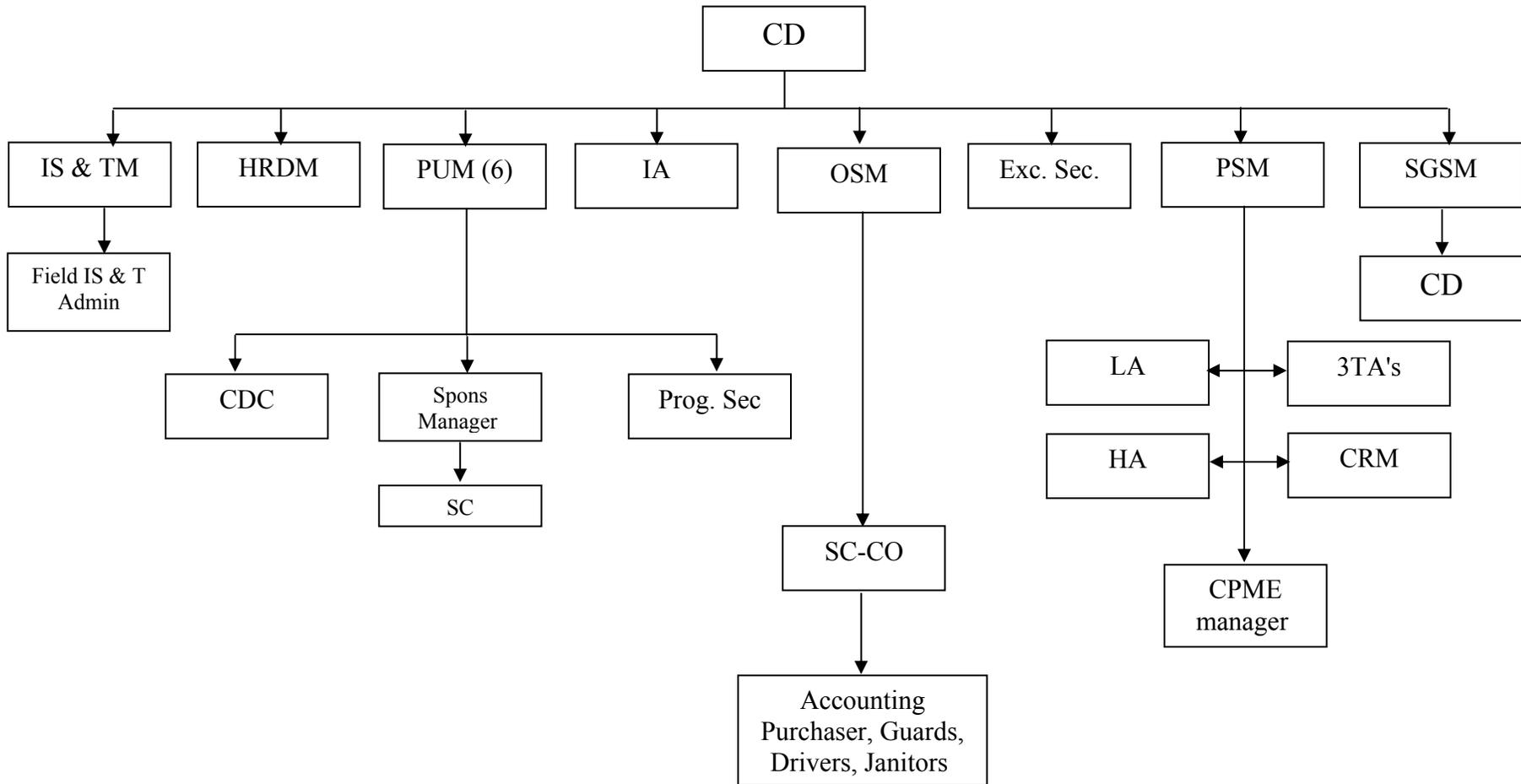
According to determined criteria the programme targeted 50 villages out of the total number. The services provided by Plan Sudan in the area include; water, health, education, training, environmental

sanitation as well as income generating activities. In doing so, the organization emphasized the important of raising people awareness.

4.9. Implementation:

The implementation of the activities depends on the cooperation and coordination between local community, local government and Plan Sudan. Finance is divided between them by determined contribution for each side.

Plan International Sudan Structure – 2004



CHAPTER FIVE

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents and discusses the empirical result of the study. It consists of two sections. Section one shows the main characteristics of the respondents while section two deals with the role of the CBOs in the study area in promoting popular participation in the on- going development activities.

5.1. Socio-economic characteristics of the respondents:

5.1.1. Sex distribution:

Table (5-1) shows the distribution of the respondents by sex. It indicates that the male headed households representing 68% of the respondents. This result may reflect the low level of migration in men side due to the positive socio- economic condition which may be resulted from the development activities provided by the organization.

Table 5-1

Frequency Distribution of Respondents by sex

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	70	68.0
Female	33	32.0
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work ((2004)

5.1.2. Age structure:

Table (5-2) shows the distribution of the respondent according to their age. It reveals that about 64.1% of the respondent are economically active and fall in the age group between (19-48) years old.

About 35.9% of the respondent fall in the age group range between (49-78) years old. This indicates that the old respondent are given the chance and/or mobilized to participate in the development activities. Despite this fact, it is believed that the youth participation facilitate the execution of development programs and activities.

Table 5-2

Frequency distribution of respondents by age group

Age	Frequency	Percent
19-28	8	7.8
29-38	30	29.1
39-48	28	27.2
49-58	20	19.4
59-68	13	12.6
69-78	4	3.9
Total	103	100.0

Source: Field work (2004)

1.5.3. Educational level:

Tables (5-3) shows that most of the respondents are educated at different levels of education including khalwa, primary, intermediate, secondary, and university education representing 6.8%, 33.0%, 9.7%, 20.4% and 1.0% respectively and 1.9% of the respondents comment that they are able to read and write with out attending any formal education. Just 27.2% of the respondents are illiterate. It is recognized that Guli area has adopted the formal education from early time.

Table 5-3

Frequency distribution of respondents by educational level

Educational level	Frequency	Percentage
Illiteracy	28	27.2
Khalwa	7	6.8
Read and write	2	1.9
Primary	34	33.0
Intermediate	10	9.7
Secondary	21	20.4
University	1	1.0
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work (2004)

5.1.4. Marital status:

Table (5-4) below shows that 3.9% of the respondents are single, 87.3% are married while the widowed and divorced represent 4.9% and 3.9% respectively. The high percentage of those married may reflect the early age of marriage due to the traditional values which force people for marriage.

Table 5-4

Frequency distribution of respondents by marital status

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage
Single	4	3.9
Married	90	87.3
Divorced	4	3.9
Widowed	5	4.9
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work (2004)

5.1.5. Major Occupation:

As indicated in table (5-5) the majority of respondents are framers representing 48.5% while merchants, official and others represent 2.9%, 10.7% and 16.5% respectively. However the house wives and old men who have no occupation and depend on others represent 21.4% of the respondents. This result reveals the fact that agriculture is the main economic activity and it depends on the family labor.

Table 5-5

Classification of Respondents by Occupation

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
House wives and old	22	21.4
Farmers	50	48.5
Merchant	3	2.9
Official	11	10.7
Others	17	16.5
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work (2004)

5.1.6. Family Size:

Table (5-6) shows that the family size of the respondents ranged between 3-11 members.

The average family size is found to be 7 persons of the total respondents. The table also indicated that most of the respondents in the sample fall in the family size range between 5-8 persons and constituted 44.7% while those in the family size range between 3-5 persons represent 18.4 and those family sizes between 8-11 persons represent 36.9%.

Table 5-6

Frequency Distribution of Respondents by Family Size

Family size	Frequency	Percentage
3-5	19	18.4
5-8	46	44.7
8-11	38	36.9
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work (2004)

5.1.7. Annual Income:

Table (5-7) indicates that most of respondents fall in the income category of less than 180.000 Sudanese dinars level representing 57.3%, people who are involved in this category are very poor and this is clearly observed in their shelter and their life aspects. They rely on seasonal occupation (often traditional rain fed agriculture). Their income is very limited and not satisfying their daily basic needs. As it is said by many people in the study area the sufficient amount of money for the daily needs is 500 Sudanese Dinars, but no doubt that they neglect some important issues including, health, education and other services.

The level of 180.000 – 450.000 SD represents the middle range with 35.9% of the respondents, while the richer people who gained more than 450.000 SD represents the minority of the respondents with 6.8%.

Table 5-7

Frequency Distribution of Respondents by annual income

Annual income/ (000SD)	Frequency	Percentage
< 180	59	57.3
180 – 450	37	35.9
> 450	7	6.8
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work (2004)

5.2. Effects of the CBOs in the development process in the study area:

5.2.1 Types of CBOs in the study area

The field work data indicated that there are three development committees in the study area, namely are the popular committee which existed as a government means represents an intermediately instrument between the people and the local government, the village development committee and teacher – parents councils which initiated by Plan Sudan to facilitate the implementation of the programme in the area.

Village development committees were formed to encourage popular participation in on-going development activities. Teachers– parents' council was developed to promote the education process at the village level; their mission is to provide good conditions to sustain the education process in the study area.

The strategies of Plan Sudan consider peoples' participation as a fundamental issue in executing development activities and programmes. Therefore, participatory approach is very effective in rural development programmes. People will take the chance to carry on their development process, identifying the suitable type of participation for them according to their ability and interest.

5.2.2. Membership of committees:

As shown in table (5-8) 26.2% of the respondents are members in the committees mentioned above. It was observed that some beneficiaries are involved in more than one committee which indicates that the approach adopted by the organization has succeeded to mobilize the targeted group to join the development activities introduced there. Thus guarantee its sustainability.

Table 5-8

Frequency distribution of respondents by members of committee

Members of committees	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	27	26.2
No	76	73.8
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work (2004)

5.2.3. Participation in voluntary work:

Table (5-9) shows that 74.8% of the respondents participated in voluntary work including schools and mosques building, rehabilitation of agricultural projects and health services, well digging and other popular and/or individual work. It is believed that the participation is an old value in rural areas. It represents in Nafir (voluntary communal labor) and Fazza as traditional values indicate the occurrence of cooperative values in rural areas of the Sudan. Those who are not participated in voluntary work are mainly women in some areas and disadvantaged groups.

Table 5-9

Frequency distribution of respondents by their participation
in voluntary work

Participation in voluntary work	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	77	74.8
No	26	25.2
Total	103	100.0

Source: field work (2004)

5.2.4. Modes of participation:

The participation in the development activities in the study area usually takes three aspects including labor, opinion and cash or in kind. These types may occur separately or together to perform a given activity.

Table (5-10) shows the percentages of the respondents participation in each type. It indicates that the respondents are active in supporting their development activities for the benefit of their communities.

Table 5-10

Classification of respondent by their modes of participation

Modes of participation	Frequency	Percentage
Labor	10	9.7
Cash or in kind	4	3.9
Opinion	4	3.9
Labor + cash or in kind	15	14.6
Labor + opinion	8	7.8
Cash or in kind + opinion	8	7.8
Labor + cash or in kind + opinion	28	27.2
Total	77	74.8

Source: field work (2004)

5.2.5. Reasons of participation:

It is observed that the reasons of participation in development activities in the study area are often social and rarely personal representing 64.1% and 2.9% of the respondents respectively. However, 7.8% of the respondents comment that they have social and personal causes as shown in table (5-11).

Table 5-11

Frequency distribution of respondents by reasons of participation

Reasons of participation	Frequency	Percentage
Personal	3	2.9
Social	66	64.1
Personal + social	8	7.8
Total	77	74.8

Source: field work (2004)

5.2.6. Leadership:

Each rural community has influential power used to lead and shape its ideas and solidarity. They are always local leaders; people trust on them and believe that they will go on with their guide and help.

It is observed that the body who encourages people to participate in on-going development activities in the study area is the village development committee; this was agreed by 39.8% of the respondents followed by the community leaders. This is shown in table (5.12).

Table 5-12

Frequency distribution of respondents by leadership

Leadership	Frequency	Percentage
Committees	41	39.8
Leaders	13	12.6
Committees + leaders	10	9.7
Others	10	12.7
Total	74	74.8

Source: field work (2004)

5.2.7. Forms of participation for development:

5.2.7.1. Participation in popular committees:

Popular committees were established in all villages as a local government to serve people and assist them to achieve progress in all their life aspects, but unfortunately they failed to achieve the desirable objectives and goals for different and complicated reasons influenced by social and economic factors. In some communities people thought that the members of the popular committees are not interested in achieving the benefits for all, and they are focusing their efforts in achieving their self benefits, so few people participate in executing activities with popular committees.

Sometimes popular committees act to achieve progress but they neglect the participation of the local community except when they need their financial support particularly in the implementation phase. This is clearly shown in table (5-13) which indicates that the highest

percentage of participation is in the implementation phase amount to 34.9% of the respondents compared with other phases. People who used to participate in all development stages are often leaders and members of committees and not the masses who suppose to participate through these relevant community institutions.

Table 5-13

Classification of respondents by their participation with popular committees.

Development stage	Degrees of participation							
	Rarely		Sometimes		Always		Total	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Project identification	3	2.9	8	7.8	22	21.4	33	32.1
Planning	3	2.9	6	5.8	22	21.4	31	30.1
Decision-making	1	1.0	5	4.9	22	21.4	28	27.3
Implementation	-	-	6	5.8	30	29.1	36	34.9
Monitoring	2	1.9	1	1.0	19	18.4	22	21.3
Evaluation	2	1.9	1	1.0	19	18.4	22	21.3

Source: field work (2004)

5.2.7.2. Participation in village development committees (VDCs):

VDCs are community – based organizations (CBOs) at the grassroots level initiated by Plan Sudan, Guli programme unit to contact and link the organization with the local community (as an intermediary instrument) to serve development process in the area, their role is to organize people's efforts and collect them to gain

progress by exploiting Plan's support and investigating popular participation.

As indicated before Plan Sudan has adopted participatory approach to give the targeted group the chance to achieve their development with self felt need. Thus VDCs must encourage and foster the beneficiaries to participate in all development stages.

The experiment shows and ensures that people who used to participate in all development stages are always leaders and members of committees as it was mentioned previously.

Table (5-14) shows the degrees of peoples' participation in development activities. It indicates that the degree of participation in VDCs is more than in popular committees, because people have been involved in many benefits from the organization including provision of social services (i.e. water, education and health services). Some also involved in income generating activities which contribute in poverty reduction.

It is observed that the more educated and awared people participate more than the others.

Table 5-14

Frequency distribution of respondents by degree of participation in VDCs.

Development stage	Degrees of participation							
	Rarely		Sometimes		Always		Total	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Project identification	6	5.8	8	7.8	32	31.1	46	44.7
Planning	5	4.9	7	6.8	30	29.1	42	40.8
Decision-making	6	5.8	7	6.8	25	24.3	38	36.9
Implementation	2	1.9	14	13.9	48	46.6	64	62.4
Monitoring	6	5.8	1	1.0	25	24.3	32	31.1
Evaluation	7	6.8	1	1.0	22	21.4	30	29.2

Source: field work (2004)

5.2.8. Women participation:

It is observed that considerable women in the study area have the aspiration to participate in development activities but they have not taken their opportunity yet. Educated women participated more in attending meetings and their suggestions are into consideration by the project/ activities organizers.

5.2.9. Training:

From the interviews with the respondents and group discussion, it was found that the members of committees have received administrative courses to improve their skills in development activities administration and supervision. Technical training for selective

persons from the local community to increase their awareness and improve their performance was also introduced by the organization.

5.2.10. Source of finance (from the local community):

As shown in table (5-15), 22.5% of the respondents comment that they have sundog of money. They mentioned many types including; cooperative, revolved, sundog of development and sundog for determined or specific purposes. The fact is that they have no fixed source of money to enhance the execution of the development activities; they used to collect money for the community members to support their activities execution. The management of the temporary sundog depends on development committees or selective members from the local community.

Table 5-15

Frequency distribution of respondent by types of sundogs

Types of sundogs	Frequency	Percentage
Cooperative	8	7.8
Revolved	1	1.0
For specific purpose	12	11.7
Development sundog	2	1.9
I don't know	24	23.3
Total	47	45.6

Source: field work (2004)

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. Conclusions:

This study was conducted to investigate the role of the community – based organizations (CBOs) in promoting popular participation in on-going development activities in Guli area, White Nile State.

It is believed that community organizations which are closely connected to their community can understand community needs and problems more than the government and people from outside the community. Thus, community – based organizations have been identified for some time as effective means to achieve sustainable development in both economic and social sectors. That is mainly because they are able to promote the targeted groups (at the grassroots level) to participate in the process of their development through the establishment of relevant local institutions (i.e. village development committees, women development, youth development, education committees and other).

In the White Nile State, people have organized themselves in many collaborations (i.e. Nafir^{*}, native administration and others) for some time to meet their social, economic and emergency needs. Despite this fact many NGOs including IFAD, WHO, Plan Sudan and others has established some and new organizations (i.e. village development committees, women development, agricultural development committees and others) to enhance popular participation in the development activities introduced there. It is argued that these

* Nafir: is reciprocal communal labour.

institutions have succeeded to mobilize and promote popular participation in the on-going development activities in the state.

The CBOs in the study area include both popular committees which rely on government support and the contribution of the local community, and village development committees which are initiated by Plan Sudan and other NGOs to serve development process in the targeted area.

To meet the objectives of the study both primary and secondary data were gathered and used. The instruments of primary data collection include questionnaire, interviews, group discussion and observation. Secondary data were obtained from the documents of the organization in addition to theses, books, journals, internet and other relevant sources.

The main findings drawn from the study are:

1. The study area is characterized by weak infrastructure, lack of basic social services and use of traditional production techniques resulted in low productivity, high illiteracy rate and poverty.
2. The CBOs have contributed in encouraging the targeted groups to participate effectively in the development activities introduced in the study area.
3. Women participation in development activities is limited and determined by many socio-cultural aspects and home responsibilities.

6.2. Recommendations:

Based on the study findings the following recommendations

were proposed:

1. More efforts should be directed to development and introduction of relevant income generating activities to improve the standard of living of the masses residing in the study area.
2. More attention should be given to promotion of education and training to raise and increase the awareness in the domains related to people development opportunities to maximize the benefits of development projects and activities provided by the government and NGOs.
3. To address the socio-cultural aspects which limit women participation in development activities to enable them to participate effectively in their community development This is to be achieved by development and introduction of activities suitable to their capabilities, needs and aspirations.
4. More consideration should be directed towards strengthening the capacity of the CBOs to enable them to take a better role in community development.

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الملحق

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

إستبيان عم دور منظمات المجتمع القاعدية في تحريك المجتمع للمشاركة في

الأنشطة التنموية بمنطقة قلي ، ولاية النيل الأبيض

المعلومات الواردة في هذا الإستبيان سرية ولا تستخدم إلا لأغراض
البحث العلمي

المعلومات الأساسية:

البيانات الشخصية:

1/ الإسم: 2/ القرية: 3/ القبيلة:

4/ النوع (أ) ذكر () (ب) أنثي ()

5/ العمر:

6/ المستوي التعليمي:

أمي	يقرأ ويكتب	خلوة	إبتدائي	متوسط	ثانوي	جامعي فما فوق

7/ الحالة الإجتماعية

عازب	متزوج	مطلق	أرمل

8/ المهنة:

مزارع	أعمال حرة	تاجر	مربي ماشية	موظف	أخري (حدد)

9/ عدد أفراد الأسرة:

أقل من 5	5 – 8	أكثر من 8

10/ الدخل السنوي للأسرة بالجنيه

أقل من 1.800.000	1.800.000 – 4.500.000	أكثر 4.500.000

11/ هل أنت عضو في إحدى منظمات المجتمع التالية

الجهة	الإدارة الأهلية	لجنة التنمية	اللجنة الشعبية	أخري (حدد)
الصفة				

12/ هل تشارك في أي عمل جماعي طوعي يقام في القرية

نعم	لا

إذا كانت الإجابة بنعم أذكر نوع العمل:

13/ حدد نوع مشاركتك

أعمال يدوية	دعم مالي	رأي	أخري (حدد)

14/ ما هي الدوافع والأسباب لهذه المشاركة :

شخصية	إجتماعية	أخري (حدد)

15/ من الذي يدعو المواطنين للمشاركة:

موظفي الحكومة	اللجان	المنظمات	القادة المحليين	أخري (حدد)

16/ هل توجد جمعيات منظمة للمشاركة في أنشطة التنمية والخدمات العامة في قريبتكم:

نعم	لا

17/ إذا كانت الإجابة بنعم أذكر هذه المنظمات:

(أ) (ب)

18/ هل تشارك مع هذه المنظمات في خدمة عملية التنمية؟

نعم	لا

19/ إذا كانت الإجابة بنعم. في أي من المستويات التالية:

لا أشرك	قلما أشرك	أحياناً	دائماً	نوع المشاركة	
				تحديد المشروع أو النشاط	أ.
				التخطيط	ب.
				إتخاذ القرار	ج.
				المشاركة في التنفيذ	د.
				المتابعة	هـ.
				التقييم	و.
				كل ما سبق	ز.

20/ هل استفدت بصورة شخصية من هذه الأنشطة ؟

لا	نعم

21/ إذا كانت الإجابة بنعم هل الإستفادة:

اقتصادي	اجتماعية	أخري (حدد)

22/ هل تشارك المرأة في الأعمال الجماهيرية

لا تشارك	نادراً	أحياناً	دائماً

23/ هل تلقيت تدريب من أي نوع:

لا	نعم

24/ إذا كانت الإجابة بنعم. حدد:

نوع التدريب	فترته	مكانه	الجهة المنفذة

ثانياً الجزء الخاص بمنظمات المجتمع القاعدية التي أنشأتها (بلان السودان)

1/ ما هو العمل الذي قدمته المنظمة (بلان)

2/ هل شاركت في أي من المستويات التالية:

لا أشرك	قلما أشرك	أحياناً	دائماً	نوع المشاركة	
				أ. تحديد المشروع أو النشاط	
				ب. التخطيط	
				ج. إتخاذ القرار	
				د. المشاركة في التنفيذ	
				هـ. المتابعة	
				و. التقييم	
				ز. كل ما سبق	

3/ هل أنت عضو في لجنة القرية:

لا	نعم

4/ إذا كنت عضواً في لجنة التنمية من الذي إختارك لهذه اللجنة:

القادة المحليين	موظفي الحكومة	إدارة المنظمة (بلان)	المجتمع المحلي

5/ هل تقوم هذه المنظمات (اللجان) بعمل مفيد

لا أدري	لا	نعم

6/ إذا كانت الإجابة بـ نعم حـ دد:

.....

.....

.....

7/ من الذي يقترح ويخطط المشروع الذي ينفذ في القرية

القادة المحليين	لجنة التنمية	إدارة المنظمة	المجتمع المحلي

8/ من الذي يقوم باتخاذ القرارات الخاصة بنوع المشروع والمستفيدين

القادة المحليين	لجنة التنمية	إدارة المنظمة	المجتمع المحلي

9/ من الذي يقوم بتنفيذ العمل

النفير لكل السكان	إيجار عمالة	أخري (حدد)

10/ من الذي يقوم بالمتابعة والتقييم:

القادة المحليين	لجنة التنمية	إدارة المنظمة	المجتمع المحلي

11/ ما هي الوسائل (مصادر) التمويل الساسية لتنفيذ الأنشطة التي تنفذها المنظمات أو اللجان القاعدية:

التمويل الذاتي	المؤسسات الحكومية	إدارة المنظمة	أخري (حدد)

12/ هل يوجد صندوق مال بالقرية

نعم	لا	لا أدري

13/ إذا كانت الإجابة بنعم هل هو:

مال دوار	صندوق تكافل	أخري

14/ من الذي يدير هذا الصندوق

القادة المحليين	لجنة التنمية	إدارة المنظمة	المجتمع المحلي

15/ هل يؤدي الصندوق دوره بالصورة المطلوبة

نعم	لا	لا أدري

16/ إذا كانت الإجابة بلا لماذا:

.....

17/ ماذا تقترح لتفعيل عمل الصندوق:

.....

