University of Khartoum

Development Studies and Research Institute

The Role of Participatory Approach in Promoting Food Security:
Natabu&Bringi-Wau (South Sudan 2004-2010)

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for the M.Sc. Degree in Development Planning

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Dedication

I make a special dedication, to the Soul of my late Mother Tungo, who passed away when I was doing my Final Examination, She would have been proud of my academic achievement

May Her Soul Rest in Peace

The Lord Has Given, The Lord Has Taken, Holy is His Name
Acknowledgements

I would like first to express my gratitude and high indebtedness to my supervisor Dr. Khalid Ali El Amin for his valuable instructions, constructive comments, guidance and rich knowledge. The spirit of dedication to his work aided this research to be completed in its present form. May almighty God bless him in his mission.

I would like also to recognize the invaluable help and assistance of key staff of Women Training and Promotion Society (WOTAP) Natabu& Bringi, who enthusiastically shared their time, thoughts and pertinent information with me. Special thanks go particularly to Linda Ferdinand, Regina Bazilio, Arkangelo Moode, Dominic who coordinated and assisted me in meeting the resource persons for interview.

Most of all I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the respondents who took time out of their busy days to willingly participate in the study by sharing their experiences and insights. It is my hope that ultimately this study will contribute to benefit them and many more participatory approaches operating in similar circumstances.

I would like to register thanks to my family who encouraged me during my study and those who assisted me with data provision for this research.

Finally, I would like to extent my thanks to all my colleagues, and the DSRI library staff.
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Abstract

Taking the case of Natabu&Bringi, this study is to assess the impact of food security project in Western Bahr el Ghazal –Wau South Sudan. The main objective is to investigate how the participatory approach adopted has contributed to the improvement of socioeconomic life of the targeted population. Formulated in terms of questions, it tries to answer the following: why the participatory approach has been introduced and what objectives it was to achieve? What role local organizations and other bodies played in promoting participatory development at Natabu&Bringi? Has the participatory approach succeeded in achieving its objectives? and what were the major constraints that participatory approach faced at Natabu&Bringi?

The study has adopted multiple approaches to data collection including secondary sources: books, articles, and internet sources. Concepts and some cases of participatory approach were reviewed to provide a theoretical framework. The field visit to collect empirical primary data covered Bringi, Natabu, Baggari villages of Wau County (Province) the capital of Western Bahr el Ghazal State-South Sudan, by conducting informal interviews with resource persons who have knowledge, experience in the area and they are in a better position to provide valuable information required for the study. The researcher’s field observation was also useful in the writing up.

The research findings can be summarized as follows: i) that participatory approach has played a role in the empowerment of the local populations at the grass root level; ii) the participatory approach increased opportunity for the small group participation at local level in the project; iii) raising awareness of the importance of participation; The participatory approach that adopted at Natabu&Bringi as a mechanism to implement food security project, has achieved low level of participation, in spite of these, it faced some constraints such as: i) Low level of co-ordination; ii) Low level of participation; iii) Scarcity of financial capital; iv) Poor implementation; iv) Weak leadership skills; v) and some diseases that hinder participation of the targeted community.

In conclusion, Participation has contributed to the improvement of local people’s awareness at Natabu&Bringi, and it can achieve a major breakthrough success if properly adopted in any development programmes and projects at the grass-root level.

The study recommends that providing adult education for enlightening, access to financial capital sources, improvement of management skills, upgrading of local leaders should be addressed by exerting efforts from the local community, Government of Western Bahr el Ghazal State, local NGOs, Government of South Sudan (GOSS), Federal Government, to work together for fighting these constraints that hinder the process of participation at the grassroots of Natabu&Bringi.
Chapter One
Introductory Background

Introduction
Food security is the access by all at all times to enough food for an active healthy life, i.e. the availability of food and the ability to acquire it. Food insecurity is a continuously inadequate diet caused by instability to acquire food, it results in severe psychological paralysis, physical weakness, powerlessness, stress, anxiety, reduced production, poor school performance, reduced income. Participatory approach is an involvement of the targeted population by coming together to articulate their problems that affect them and to find a solution that can address their felt needs issues and priorities. The participatory approach (Bottom-up) in development programmes and projects: Participatory food security project plays a vital role because, it addresses people’s felt needs and aspirations at the grass-roots, and empowers local people and help them to exert their efforts for the success and sustainability of the project. Unlike top-down approach where the development programmes and projects are imposed from above without involvement of the targeted population, but due to some constraints, the project fails and can not continue.

Research problem and Questions
Taking Natabu & Bringi participatory food security project, this research tries to investigate the extent of success and constraints of the participatory approach in promoting food security at that remote villages. Formulated in terms of questions, this research examines the

impact of participatory food security at Natabu&Bringi. Why the participatory approach has been introduced and what objectives it was to achieve at Natabu&Bringi? What roles local organizations and other bodies played in promoting participatory development at Natabu&Bringi? Has the participatory approach succeeded in achieving its objectives? and what were the major constraints that participatory approach faced at Natabu&Bringi?

**Research Objectives:**
Taking Natabu&Bringi as a case study of participatory approach food security, the specific objectives of the research are as follows:
- To investigate the introduction of participatory approach in Natabu&Bringi food security.
- To examine the participatory food security in Natabu and how the participatory approach has been applied to it.
- To analyze the extent to which the participatory approach at Natabu has been successful.
- To find out the major constraints that hinders the process of participatory approach at Natabu&Bringi.

**Analytical Methodology**
The study has adopted multiple approaches to data collection including secondary sources: references, documents, internal files, reports, websites, and some cases of participatory approach to give an analytical theoretical framework for the study.

**Empirical Methodology**
The field visit to collect empirical primary data covered Bringi, Natabu, Baggari villages of Wau County (Province) the capital of Western Bahr el Ghazal State-South Sudan. The study took one month from June to July 2010 by conducting informal interviews with
sixteen(16) resource persons, members of Local Agriculture Committee, local leaders, women, local organization staffs who have knowledge, experience in the area and they are in a better position to provide valuable information required for the study. The researcher’s field observation was also useful in the writing up. Due to financial problem which was difficult to conduct a survey and also most of the community are illiterate and are unable to read and write, the study relies on qualitative data from the small resource persons at Natabu&Bringi for the study.

**Natabu&Bringi Background:**

Natabu&Bringi are the two remote villages in Wau town the capital of western Bahr el Ghazal state in the southern Sudan. Western Bahr el Ghazal state borders with Central Africa Republic to the West, Western Equatoria State to the South, Warap state to the East, Northern Bahr el Ghazal state to the North and South Darfur State to the North West. It lies predominantly on the Ironstone livelihood zone while the northern and Southern tips covered by western flood plains and green belt zones respectively. It comprises of three counties (Provinces): Wau the capital of the state, Raga and Jur River (counties) provinces. Wau lies between longitude 26°- 28°N and latitude 6°- 8°E alongside the Jur River. According to the census of 1973, the population was 52,752; 1983 its population was 58,008; 1993 was 84,000 and 2008 was 136,932 after a calculation in2009.³ Western Bahr el Ghazal three tribal groups are the fertit tribes (composed of more than 27 tribes about 59% the majority, Dinka about 17%, Jur about 7% all together are the main triangular inhabitant of Wau. Natabu&Bringi are villages of south locality at the levels of the Boma (locality), of Wau payam

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³ Sudanese National Sureys Corporation, December1946-corrected in Febrary 2006, Map of Sudan States, Topography Number1163, Sudanese Department of Surveys Khartoum Wau.
(District), and Wau County (Province). They are located in the southwest about fourteen (11) miles from Wau town the capital of Western Bahr el Ghazal state. It is a fertile land for agriculture with a population size of about 1007. The population consists mainly from the Balanda viri as the major tribe and other small groups of Zande and Sere tribes under one chief.4

**Research Limitations:**

Collecting data in the remote village of Natabu&Bringi in Western Bahr el Ghazal State in south Sudan is not an easy task particularly during the rain season. The researcher faced many difficulties during the field work. The most important limitations considered here are:

I. The village is about six(6) miles south-west of Wau town, where the researcher had to walk on foot to and from, sometimes under heavy rains, thunder, muddy road, among tall green trees and grass which involves frequent contacts with Cobras and Anakonda snakes along the narrow paths in the forest to meet farmers for interviews.

II. The villagers are scattered and the researcher has to endure all painful delaysments, postponements due to inconveniences which consumes a lot of time.

III. Lack of reference books and studies of participation system at Natabu&Bringi. Therefore, the researcher has largely depended on the interviews with Local Agriculture Committee executive members, local farmers and leaders of the targeted population.

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**Research Presentation:**

The suggested answers to the questions being raised for the research will be addressed in form of chapters as follows: Chapter one presents general introductory background, research problem&Questions, research objectives, analytical methodology, empirical methodology, Natabu&Bringi background, research limitations, and research presentation. Chapter Two examines general theoretical conceptual framework of participatory Development Approach and Food security. Chapter Three investigates the situations before the intervention of participatory food security, reasons for the intervention of food security, food security and the roles of NGOs. Chapter Four presents organizing the local people (development in practice) and Participatory development outcome (Results) with photos, Comparisons of the conditions before and after participatory development at Natabu&Bringi. Chapter Five presents the constraints that impede Participation of the targeted population at Natabu&Bringi.
Chapter Two:

Conceptual Framework of Participatory Development

Introduction:

This chapter examines theoretical conceptual framework of participatory development, and it is divided into five sections. Section one dwells on definitions, Section two surveys the concept of participation in development, Participatory development as a poverty reduction Strategy, Section three searches the approach of participation, Section four reviews on participatory development in the presence of endogenous community, Section five deals with community institution, food security, social constraints, administrative constraints, economic constraints, political and natural constraints.

Section one: Definitions

Definition of development: Wilbert More Defines development as a total transformation of a traditional or remodel society into the types of technology and associated with social organization that characterized the advanced stable nations of the western world. Professor Daddley sees defined development: as a multidimensional process which involves major changes in social structures, popular attitudes, national institutions, as well as accelerating economic growth, reduction of poverty and un-equality. Given these definitions, to conclude that the process of development can contain three main elements.²

² Paul D. DSCR/Hassan A.A., 1993, Rural Development Notes pp. 1-3, University of Khartoum, Faculty of Economics, Institute of Development Studies and Research Centre Khartoum.
Economic: By economic this we mean the development of the economic production based at any society, business investment, goods and materials required for cite. Social: The provision of a range of social amenities and services e.g. health, education, welfare...etc which care for the non-production needs of the society.\textsuperscript{6} Human: The development of people (through) themselves both individually and commonly to realize their full potentials to use their skills and talents to play constructive part in serving their society. Development has to do with the above three elements, we should not concentrate upon one and exclusion of the other, of course economic basic is critical for it must produce a resource required for livelihood. But, we must also think of people and ensure their active participation in the process of development.

Definition of rural Area: In USA, the definition that is given to the rural area is derived from the census department to differentiate rural from urban. According to the definition of USA, a community is considered to be a rural when the size of its population is below two thousand and five hundred (2,500). Any community whose population exceeds 2,500, is considered urban society. The USA definition does not consider occupation of the society that is below or above (2,500) but, rural community of agricultural activities.\textsuperscript{7} However, some Western countries have their different definitions to communities of rural based on their economic activities according to some economist. In the recent English definition, rural society in provincial or district headquarter is considered as an urban society. Any society living


\textsuperscript{7} Henry Kenyi, 2001, Lecture Notes of Rural Development, pp.1-5, University of Juba, College of Community Studies and Rural Development, Department of Rural Development, Khartoum.
outside this boundary is considered as rural whatsoever a case may be, especially, women, children…etc. Therefore, rural development is associated with socio-economics in the rural sector. It goes beyond agriculture and economic growth. Rural development is associated with social economic structure institutional relations in the rural sector. It must be seen as a process of integrated with social, economic objectives which must seek to transform rural society and provides a better and make secure livelihood for rural people.

Definition of Rural development by the World Bank (1975): defined rural development as a strategy to improve the special and economic life of a specific group of people in the rural area. It involves extending the benefits of development to the poorest among those who live a rural sector. The groups include the small scale farmers. Rural development aims to improve living standard of the masses of the low income population residing in rural areas and making a process of their development self-sustaining. Definition of Community: M. Scott Peck expresses and defines community in the following way: there can be no vulnerability without risk; there can be no community without vulnerability; there can be no peace, and ultimately no life, without community.\(^8\) A common definition of community emerged as a group of people with diverse characteristics who are linked by social ties, share common perspectives, and engage in joint action in geographical locations or settings. Definition of Participation: More broadly it is defined as fostering of a dialogue and mutual understanding between the local community and the project staff in all stages of the project or the programme; problem identification, project preparation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and the sharing of benefits and risks. Definition of Organization: Basically an organization in its

\(^8\) Ibid. p.5
simplest form and not necessarily a legal entity e.g. corporation is defined as a person or group of people organized to accomplish an overall common goal or set of goals. Business organization can range in size from one person to tens of thousands.  

**Section two: Concept of Participation**

In practically all cases, the widely-shared view is that the possibility of success of the poverty alleviation programmes (PAPs) is critically contingent on participatory local planning. In other words, participation is deemed to be the life-blood of contemporary poverty alleviation and rural development efforts. In case of Malawi, for example, this perception is strongly echoed in one of the government policy documents which states that the policy framework of poverty alleviation programme of 1994 emphasises the need for the participatory process in which the governments, the civil society and the private sector organize themselves to explore the grass-roots solutions to poverty. Participation as a concept has evolved over the years to describe widely differing situations. Participation refers to the role of members of the general public in influencing the activities of government in providing directly or indirectly for common needs. For others, participation is a confusing and an ill-defined normative concept of social organization that can only have meaning within a defined social context. While stressing the ambiguity of the concept recognizes that it is difficult to formulate a universal definition given the range of development paradigms and that as a dynamic process it can have more meanings in practice than covered by most conceptualizations.

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The concept of participatory development involves the objective of creating conceptual clarity on process of development and understanding on processes like Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA), group formation and group development, micro planning, participatory monitoring which make the community responsible for its own development. Training’s forming part of this important aspect have the objective of creating conceptual clarity on process of development, deeper understanding on each small process. This includes PRA, group formation or micro planning, which form part of the complete development process and the role, responsibilities and tasks of change agents in these different processes. Participatory development is not a recent phenomenon. Democratic forms of decision-making have existed in most cultures including religious communities and political dissident movements. Participatory principles were central to the international cooperative movement, many nationalist and socialist movements. In the 1950s and 1960s postcolonial and post revolutionary governments employed a wide range of measures at local and community level in attempts to mobilize their populations for national development.\(^{10}\)

There are many different manifestations of participatory development, it has been promoted as a way to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of formal development programs. This method usually involves external and local actors working together on a particular project, by involving those who benefit from the program in their development and having local and international groups work together, it is hoped that development projects would be made more sustainable

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and successful. Enabling mutual learning is another way that participatory development is conceptualized, the goal is to enhance communication, respect, listening and learning between development workers and those they serve in order to achieve more applicable. Some hope that participatory development will be able to cause a shift in power relations by valorizing voices that usually go unheard by political and development groups. This speaks to the idea that participatory development has the potential to increase a population’s ability to be self-determining. Those who promote this view of participatory development would like to see local communities making, rather than only contributing to, important decisions. Outcomes of Participatory development is one example of mutual learning, a form of research which acknowledges that illiterate, poor, marginalized people can represent their own lives and livelihoods to do their own analysis and come up with their solutions.¹¹

These activists hope that participatory development will lead to better civil engagement, where by people are able to determine the ways their own communities function. In these cases, international organizations can support and draw attention to the efforts of groups working for self-determination. In 1970s and 1980s development discourse, participation was regarded as an essential factor for the success of rural development projects and community development programmes. Accordingly participation meant peoples' voluntary collaborative contributions to development programmes implemented by the state and other outside agencies. This approach was regarded as a more efficient alternative than bureaucratic control, as achieving the desired results and as likely to lead to project sustainability and more equitable distribution of benefits.

¹¹ Ibid., pp. 157-183
Participatory Development as a Poverty Reduction Strategy

The basic needs approach to development in the 1970s is arguably the stimuli for present perceptions about the role of participation in poverty reduction. At the core of participatory development is the argument that previous development theories were Euro-centric, positivist and top-down, hence disempowering. Although participatory development has its critics, many now see it both as necessary for poverty reduction and in keeping with existing cultural norms of communal life, particularly in Africa. Thus, participation in development (however one defines development) has always had human element, whether self-centred or advocating equal sharing.

The later is always ideal and its essence is captured by the World Bank's conceptualization of participatory development as a process of where stakeholders equally determine (through influence and control) the direction and form of development initiatives and resources that affect their well-being. The refocusing of the agenda of development so that it embraces the primacy of development-the people as opposed to things follow realization of the failures of project led development. Dichotomous thesis on blueprint approaches' versus learning; normal professionalism' versus new professionalisms' has been instrumental in the institutionalization of participation in development. Since then participation has evolved, reflecting general changes in development thinking. The evolution presented here is hypothetical. In practice both old and new forms of participation are cohabiting, reflecting continuity as opposed to radical divergences. Thus, until the 1980s, participation entailed a north to south resource transfer paradigm for the provision of

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13 Ibid.p.1
welfare-relief, contributing labour to an external initiated project and enhancing communities' self-reliance. The introduction of structural economic reforms in 1980s shifted attention to decentralizing development to the grassroots institutions and organizations, the project still being the vehicle of development. The minimal state ideology characteristic of structural adjusting economies reduces participation to cost-sharing policies and the levying of user charges'. There is little doubt that one of the most momentous policy events within the development community at the beginning of the previous decade was the return of poverty on international development agenda. This is very much associated with the work of many years of the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which, on the part of the latter, culminated into the inauguration of in 1990. In a similar spirit, the world development report of the same year focused almost exclusively on the state of poverty in the world.

In the greater part of the developing world, the recent deepening of poverty levels cannot be understood in isolation from structural adjustment programmes. They have constituted an overarching policy framework for a vast majority of developing countries since the beginning of early 1980s, following their persistently disappointing economic performance. However, despite the zeal and commitment on the part of the adjusting countries, their economic situation has substantially deteriorated and in most instances, shows little or no prospects of recovery. Unemployment and the price of essential commodities have soared and expenditure on social services, especially health and education, have progressively declined. The debilitating impact of structural adjustment programmes led most adjusting countries to adopt special programmes known as the social dimensions
of adjustment which, spearheaded by the world Bank, intended to give structural adjustment programme policy reforms a human face.\textsuperscript{14} These programmes were meant to develop the institutional capacity of host governments in close partnership with civil society in an attempt to integrate meaningfully social and poverty concerns in the development process. The cumulative experiences with social dimensions adjustment (SDA) programmes have certainly paved the way for the subsequent adoption of poverty alleviation programmes Strategy (PAPS) as a development philosophy for most governments in developing countries. In fact poverty alleviation programmes have become more or less the dominant characteristic of contemporary development strategic.

\textbf{Section Three: Participatory Development Approach}

In contemporary development debates participatory local planning has assumed central importance, following the recognition that decentralized government is a necessary framework for sustainable rural development efforts and good local governance. The ultimate creation of functionally robust decentralized structures largely depends on how effectively participatory local planning is institutionalized. In other words, participatory local planning is seen as an essential precondition for successfully executing plans and programmes for poverty alleviation. Likewise, the underlying thrust of the African charter on popular participation is to champion a human-oriented view of development. It recognizes that African people have been greatly marginalized in the process of their own development. In the continental context, for instance, the African charter on popular participation was legislated in 1990 as the climax event during the United Nations Conference on popular participation held in Arusha,

\textsuperscript{14} Ibid.p.1
Tanzania from (12-16 February 1990). This charter realizes that nations cannot be built without the popular support and full participation of their people and that people’s involvement or participation results in democratization of the development process. The marginalizing of the participation of people in the formulation of public policies has been exacerbated by the persistent socio-economic crisis which Africa faced throughout the 1980s, with the consequential ever-growing concern and preoccupation by governments with short-term crisis management. Participatory local planning basically asks development planners, practitioners and researchers to give up what they have till now erroneously considered their fundamental prerogatives: to define problems and to solve them.

The need to reorient grassroots development strategy is largely based on the perception that, for a project to be sustainable, it must address those problems and aspirations which are identified by the poor themselves and it must have a management structure in which they have confidence. The appeal of participatory local planning can, therefore, be summed up as follows: no development programmes, however, grand, can succeed unless the local people are willing to accept it and make an effort to participate. This involvement of the local people throughout all the important junctures of the project cycle make it possible to utilize their knowledge about local conditions to solve local problems more efficiently and effectively. Development problems should not be defined by experts in isolation but should be based on dialogue with the affected parties. Participatory local planning has two different objectives: it either takes the form of

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16 Ibid.p.131
transformational or instrumental participation; the latter is a way of achieving certain specific targets. Participatory local planning thus becomes the driving force for determining people-based development processes and enlisting the willingness of the people in undertaking sacrifices and expanding their social energies on its execution. In this form participation largely serves as a means to achieve efficiency in project management strategy through which the state attempts to mobilize local resources, the former is perceived as an objective in and of itself. It takes the stand that people have a fundamental right to participate fully and effectively in decision making which affect their lives at all levels and at all times. Participation as a means or instrument to implement and improve on development projects and programmes planned and carried out by international or national state development agencies. Participation in this context is held to mean a tool, a mechanism or medium that facilitates the implementation of projects. Under this category, is the conception of participation as collaboration and mobilization of the local population (target population or the beneficiaries) to increase the receptivity or the project. The identification of the problem with which the project deals, the project design, plan and method of implementation are all fait complaint with the local population are expected or activated to positively interact.\(^\text{17}\) Knowledge, ideas, interest and the concern of the local populations are often ignored. As experience all over the third world has shown people did not react positively to nor did they collaborate in projects and programmes they know little about and failure has repeatedly been the result.

The objectives of such type of projects are intended to achieve and the needs they are perceived to meet are defined by politicians and

\(^{17}\text{Ibid.p.132}\)
bureaucrats which are not often in reality what people apathy has frequently been the outcome and in many cases even led to the alienation of the very people whom these development projects and programmes are pronounced to assist. No wonder then that most of the projects based on such conception have failed. Central state control and the authoritarian role played by bureaucrats in all projects stages do not allow for people's participation nor the encouragement of institution building necessary for self-reliance.

In this top-bottom approach in which participation is conceived to be the collaboration of the people, while the bureaucrats decide on their behalf, generate disinterest, dependence and people's inability to run their own affairs (in this case development projects and programmes) when the project period has ended and bureaucrats departed. Strong capable local organizations which could have been created, encouraged or strengthened, if effective real participation of the target population has been allowed for, from the start and at initial stages of the projects and programmes would have been maintained and failure avoided. The participation of the local population in projects and programmes is aspired as an objective or as a goal in itself and not merely as a means of realizing projects and programmes goals set and designed from outside the community.\(^\text{18}\)

In this conception participation is regarded as part of the development process and desired for its own sake. Development in its broader sense as a process of socio economic and political change, incorporate connotations of conceptions in which the exercise of participation by the local population is an important part of socio economic and political development. Active local population involvement in problem identification, project plan and design would have advantages that

\(^{18}\) Ibid., p. 132
contribute to the sustainability of the development projects. When the local population is involved in the initial stages of the project, proper knowledge intricacies of the local physical, social, economic and cultural environment would be made use of an incorporated into the project design. Information on local conditions, local values, customs, traditions and economic practices which could mainly be provided by and extracted from the local population is often vital for the success or failure of development projects.

Moreover, the extent to which community interests are incorporated and built into the project design determines the degree of people's enthusiasm and commitment to participate. Material and labor contributions made by local community members to the project as a result of their involvement and commitment all create the feeling among the target population, that the project is theirs and that they have to exert effort and deploy resources to maintain it when the project is completed and official departed. The neglect of local conditions and local population interests resulting from disregarding the local population has often led to the collapse of development projects and programmes. Development experts and officials have always assumed that the local people are ignorant and that the technical knowledge and expertise they possess enables them to design development projects without the need for local population help and assistance.\(^\text{19}\)

The sense of superiority associated with the power position technical experts and development officials occupy does not allow for communication, dialogue and exchange of ideas based on mutual respect; necessary prerequisites for effective local population participation in whatever way participation is viewed and conceived, as a means, an end in itself or both.

\(^{19}\) Ibid, p.133
Taken in this light, participation entails empowerment and the promotion of social justice, equity and democracy. When participation is purely instrumental, the participation of the beneficiaries of the proposed development intervention is construed as an operational barrier. Their non-participation is viewed, therefore, as a technical, educational, administrative or financial barrier needing to be corrected. When participation is viewed as transformational, the non-participation of the beneficiaries is a structural barrier. The problem of non-participation in this case becomes a social conflict that has to be resolved through compromise on conflicting policies or removal of departicipatory social structures or political reforms. The concept of empowerment espoused follows: when the person grows in the subjective sense of feeling able to do things hitherto out of reach, when a person develops the ability to do things which were not previously within the persons competence, and when doors of opportunity, which were hitherto closed, swing open to allow access to information, influence and opportunity. In the later era, the focus is on reformulating the traditional project cycle so that project identification, designing, implementation and evaluation are carried out together with the poor. Participatory development is advocated for as a means to ensure project efficiency.20

By the late 1990s, programme and policy led development began to receive favorable reviews in both development agencies and academia. The quantitative definition of poverty is "replaced" at this time by qualitative concerns, which aims at meeting the sustainable livelihoods of the poor. Participation becomes at this point onwards an end of the Poor's self-actualization. Aptly captures the feature of participation that is relevant to the present study when she says: Rather than being a

20 Ibid.p.133
choice at the level of inputs to discrete and well-defined development project, participation becomes a fundamental right and a basic need of individual and hence a society as a whole. Framed this way participation is explicitly married to forms of governance structures. This brings us to the success to the essence of participation, i.e. empowerment. Reducing poverty through participatory development entails empowering the poor. Like all qualitative concepts universalizing empowerment is not possible. Adopt as a working definition, conceptualization of empowerment as the ability to organize and influence change on the basis of access to local knowledge, political process, social, financial and natural resources. Access to local relevant assets is dependent on access to decision-making processes, which allows for policies, programmes and projects that are in accordance with the needs and aspirations of the poor. Entitlement to these assets is dependent above all on political capabilities' of the poor to influence power structures to formulate pro-poor policies. 21 Thus, the success of participatory development as a poverty reduction strategy rests upon good governance structures that allow for the Poor's participation in politics, which goes beyond simple vote casting. The tendency in developing countries is to acknowledge the primacy of politics in development at an international level and resent that the same evil forces are at play at domestic level. Developing countries campaign for equal participation in the international development, financial agencies and deny the poor at domestic level. The major challenge is to reform governance structures so that they are pro-participation, but what is needed first is an appreciation of how good governance can enhance participatory development for poverty reduction.

21 Ibid. p.133
Section four: Participatory in the Presence of Endogenous Community

New strategies based on the idea of decentralized or participatory development have gained increasing currency among international organizations (including the World Bank and the European Community) and bilateral aid institutions. Big donor agencies have embarked only recent upon participatory programmes that deserve their name because they are grounded in operational guidelines specially designed to enhance participation. The attitudes of optimism which accompanies these new strategies is partly based on the belief that rural communities can be an effective channel of development if genuine delegation of powers and responsibilities takes place on a sufficient scale (provided, of course, that such powers and responsibilities are within their reach).

This is essentially because communities are usually considered to have important informational advantages.22 They know better the prevailing local conditions (such as who is poor and deserves to be helped, or the characteristics of the local micro-environment), and they are better able to monitor the activities related to interventions and to mitigate incentives problems. This on the other hand, on the basis of evidence pertaining to Latin America and Asia, it is also recognized that communities suffer from the disadvantage of not being as accountable as higher level agencies to their members. More precisely, when the central resources is delegated to local organizations, village level elites tend to appropriate for themselves whatever portion of the resources that they need and to let the poor have the leftovers only.

So far, the economic concept of community based on three key characteristics (perfect information, continuous interactions and trust, all of which imply a small size of the group involved) has been made to work in the situation of pair wise encounters among individuals. Another possibility is that of strategic situations that involve numerous agents at the same time, that is collective-action games. Such game situations arise when local public goods must be produced or local public bads must be averted, e.g., the building of collective infrastructure or the management of common-property resources. The framework of human interactions is obviously different in collective action situations (that is, situations in which the production of public goods is contemplated) compared with pair wise interactions and this is why the underlying game forms also differ. The most important theoretical results here are that cooperation is likely to occur in small groups even in one-stage games.23

**Food security:**

Food security is essentially part of human security and as such demands a redefinition of the concept of food security. This conceptualization was absent during the cold war, when heightened ideological divisions between the western and eastern blocs in many instances sacrificed human security to achieve national security objectives. Food security commonly refers to access by all at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life, including availability and the ability to acquire it. This cannot be ensured by subsuming it under economic governance—it is a domain of in its own right. All four aspects of food security are matters for governances regime based on food as an indispensable part of the support system for human life. In this respect, food security encompasses more than the economies of

23 Ibid, p.74
food production, consumption, distribution and marketing. As such food security cannot be guaranteed through economic governance institutions alone or through policy reforms dealing merely with economic regulatory frameworks and instruments. In the domain of food security, governance is the broader context, linking the environment as well as the socio-economic and political aspects of society; this turn is linked to a global governance regime that has designed policies to respond to global food insecurity. The governance of food security involves many stakeholders—it encompasses both government and society. The significance of multi-stakeholder governance stems from its ability to combine the efforts of all concerned with food security. It includes government, farmers, and environmentalists.

Section Five: Community Institution

It can be defined as a group small enough to allow good circulation of information among its members who interact more or less continuously over infinite or indeterminate periods of time. Trust is typically assumed to arise in the context of small groups, presumably because pre-play communication, is obviously easier to achieve when people are few, allows individuals to reveal and signal their intended plans of action and to learn about others' intentions. Shared experiences or beliefs and inherited patterns of behavior may perform a similar role in small-scale settings. Moreover, communication in small groups tends to promote trust and to create a feeling of sameness or togetherness that establishes a collective identity. Such a feeling is associated with

strong emotions that make any violation of promises and deviant behaviour appears as acts of sheer betrayal of the group. Cooperation in small groups or communities is made possible by the assumed presence of a social ostracization mechanism called multilateral reputation or sanction mechanism by well-known to all students of village societies. "In the village community everyone is watching everyone. Gossip about one's misconduct is circulated by word of mouth faster than any means of communication. In such an environment a significant cost would be incurred to a person who would violate a contract with a fellow villager, since not only would he lose benefits from the present contract but the resulting bad reputation would deprive him of future opportunities to enter into contracts with other villagers as well.25

In game-theoretical terms, if everyone follows a strategy whereby he acts cooperatively and moreover punishes (say, by retaliating or boycotting) any agent who has behaved no-cooperatively vis a vis some member of the group in the past, this strategy of multilateral punishment is an equilibrium and expectations are self-enforcing: believing that all other participants have this strategy, any given individual has an incentive to follow the same at equilibrium every body cooperates. Grief calls collectivist or segregated these societies where everyone expects everyone else to respond to any malevolent act committed in any pairwise encounter within the community space. The observed cooperative equilibrium is thus spontaneous outcome of common cultural beliefs of the collectivist’ type. It reflects a reputation mechanism among self-interested individuals whereby an agent can establish ex ante that his most profitable course ex post is to

act cooperatively: in other words, the transactor can credibly commit to such behaviour. A noteworthy feature of such a social system is that participants are incited to follow the multilateral punishment despite the fact that agent's strategy does not call for punishing agents who violated the collective punishment procedure. The self-enforcing character of collective punishment obtains in so far as a cheater stands to lose nothing (he expects any way to be ostracized in the future) and is therefore inclined to free ride again in new interactions. Others thus do better by avoiding new deals with that individual and this way, the second-order public-good problem of sanctioning is solved.26

Greif has illustrated the multilateral reputation mechanism in the case of trading networks (with reference to the Maghribi traders of the south Mediterranean in the 11-12\textsuperscript{th} centuries) where agents have the choice between the privileged domains of application of this mechanism. In the literature, rural communities are indeed presented as rather effective device to provide decentralized insurance through reciprocal contingent voluntary transfers. Because written and legally binding contracts are not feasible (the arrangement is informal in this precise sense), an incentive compatibility or participation constraint must be respected ensure the self-enforceability of the risk-pooling mechanism. The presence of reputation effects in a context of continuous and personalized relationships precisely achieves that purpose: promises to help fellow villagers hit by adverse economic events will not be reneged ex post.

**Economic constrains:**
Dominant groups rely on different sources of power economic organization and so on but, at times these are likely to form an alliance to promote their shared interest. In some societies, it appears that the

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26 Ibid., p.329
dominant group and the state administration are inherent by weak and political instability in the third world seems to be everyday. A formidable catalogue of political irregularities can be constructed by a quick look through the overseas pages of the western press, stories about political assassination, military coups, political bribery and corruption rigged elections, the removal of opposition parties by dictatorial regimes or comparatively rapid turnover of governments are common. Classes have developed strong economic interest which class members identify as shared interests, it is likely that will use whatever resources they can to ensure that the state acts on their behalf, in this sense class interests lie behind and orchestrate political practices and conflicts.  
Mounting evidence of longer-term economic trajectories of post conflicts cases shows that countries that have experienced civil war never fully recover to the economic level they had before the war began. Both political and economic growth must be built. Years of war will have created a genuine need for economic development if this had not already been the case. Transforming a war economy will require legislation of property rights and the elimination of trafficking routes that provided arms, ammunitions and financing for the war and the creation of judiciary system to protect contracts and property rights. It is likely also to require a total reorientation of a production structure and economic policy that was based on defense to civilian industries and export production, while literature on civil war emphasizes: human reintegration, the integration of the country in physical, economic and administrative terms will also be necessary. Sustainability means both continuation of peace and an increasing capacity to survive without external assistance or at least to reach a  

27.Ibid.p.329
level of economic independence in which foreign loans and credits can be serviced effectively and domestic revenues are sufficient to keep the budget deficit at a manageable level. In the short run, sustainability requires generating popular confidence that the hardships will be only temporary. The World Bank in a report on post conflict transition concludes: Rebuilding social capital means a revitalization of civil society, revitalizing civil society entails the promotion of local associations, community participation, and a peer accountability. It reduces the level of individual fear enables the collective censure of violence, and promotes local security. For about 40% of the world’s population life’s basic necessities are easily obtained.28

For this group the worry of obtaining sufficient food, clothing, and shelter is of secondary importance. The remaining 60% suffer from inadequacies of food, clothing and shelter. Many must struggle constantly for survival. For some, life consists of an empty stomach, a piece of cloth or a cheap set of clothing, a small dirt-floored hut, for a shelter. Within all nations there are differences in economic wellbeing, economist treatment of land reform offered by Philip Raul from economic considerations, addresses broader organizational and structural issues associated with land reform.29 Raul clarifies the consequences of alternative structure of land tenure for productivity, emphasizing the distributional and factor endowment dynamics generally neglected except with respect to the single factor of physical capital. Indeed by elaborating the process of accretionary capital formation, in which underemployed resources are mobilized and utilized at the micro level, he improves our understanding of the role of capital in development of agricultural and also other sectors. He

29 Ibid.p.64
suggests the real possibility of periods of development without growth. Given this broadened perspective on land reforms, Raul points to the importance of non physical as well as physical forms of infrastructure, noting in particular the significance of human fixed capital formation. In countries where labour is relatively and land relatively scarce a condition common in underdeveloped countries-the objectives should be to maximize output and income per unit of land, not necessarily per unit of labour as most economists trained in western institutions and theories assume. This consideration has led a number of agricultural economists to find merit land reform on purely economic grounds apart from any social or political benefits to be derived from it. There are now a number of studies showing a consistent decline in yield per acre from large landholdings in many countries. This suggests that there may be few or no significant economies of scale in agriculture with respect to inputs of land under many conditions. The problems of inadequacy of local funds are real constraints to development and are a major factor hinders and leads to failure. The community’s source of funds mainly depends on individual contribution and also from the income of their selling products, also local taxes and fees which imposed on them affects and creates a heavy burden on community where majority are poor and the poor farmers become more vulnerable.

Social constraints:
It is recognized that state’s role in development is necessary to be complemented by other civil society’s organization relevant actors i.e., the state has the overall responsibility in various areas but, it should encourage effective participation of major groups in activities to reinforce development objectives. At an every angle potential awaits development but no action is taken by the people either because they do not understand it or traditional leaders and community
representatives frequently fail to see any function to guide or impose their people in development. In every community some traditional social attitudes hinder the process of development such as excessive individualism and others owned large lands. Because of its employment and status effects, education is a major instrument for maintaining the status quo, allocating the information differentially among the population. At the same time, it is one of the cheapest and far reaching means through which a regime can redistribute economic, social, and political income information being a factor of production in all markets. However, education is less punitive to the already possesses. It entails fewer direct political costs than other developmental policies. However, extending education to new groups may have an outcome somewhat similar to that of enfranchisement, the education status value for those who possessed it exclusively may decline when their monopoly is broken and they face greater competition for employment, elected office, marriage dowries, or public recognition. Moreover, education is usually paid for out of taxes, and an increase in educational opportunity entails some increase in taxation, the effect of which are likely redistributive.

Still compared to other measures, redistribution through education is more relative than absolute, more indirect and long-run; its extension can be risked by elite with some equanimity. Further, because of education’s widespread popularity with the majority in most underdeveloped countries, it offers some short-run and possibly long-run political profits. Education of course, is an omnibus category, including diverse policies: primary and secondary education, university

30 Raup, 1969, Economies and Diseconomies of Large-Scale Agriculture, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, pp.1274-1283, USA.
and professional education, technical and vocational instruction, adult literacy, compensatory education for disadvantaged minorities (majorities), formal and informal instruction through mass media, community development programmes and so forth. What is taught and to whom is a matter affected by political change, but so are matters of the administration, financing, and standards of education and of how it relates to employment.\textsuperscript{31} Limited education and lack of knowledge: Many studies of economic growth in advanced communities confirm the importance of education in any community for knowing what is required for the benefits of the communities’ education and knowledge contributes to the productivities by raising the quality of the community population and has been the source of growth in many communities. The contribution of education to economic growth extended beyond manpower training, they include a level of literacy which permits reliable and effective communication between specialists and specialized development agencies on the hand and the agricultural& industrial workers engaged in the development process on the other. A strand of current doctrine has moved away somewhat from the highly aggregated approach in which all expenditure on education is considered to yield high social returns, impressed by agricultural stagnation or slow growth in the majority of underdeveloped countries, it has awarded the highest priority to agricultural and technical education. The main task is to link education with agricultural improvement: to make farmers literate will raise their productivity. Progress in primary education does not however, according to this doctrine, guarantee literate farmers.\textsuperscript{32} In Africa rural children, educated

\begin{footnotesize}
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\item 31 Ibid.p.329
\item 32 Ibid.p.132
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at rural primary schools, will seek jobs in towns, which are paid twice or three times as well as what they could hope to earn if they returned to their farmstead. But not enough town jobs are available. To attract them back to the country, the modernization of agriculture and the growth of rural schooling must be kept in step. There is a danger that the doctrine of the high priority attached to agricultural, vocational education is about to become vulgarized into the simplistic belief that more expenditure on this kind of schooling and a reform of the school curriculum are a sufficient, a basic, or at any rate a strategic, condition of development. The provision of vocational, agricultural and technical education is certainly not enough to accelerate development. Equally important is the provision of employment opportunities for technicians and agriculturalists, both in the private and in the public sector. The present fault lies not only, and perhaps not mainly with the type of training provided, but with the educational requirements of the public service. As long as the public sector rewards academic qualifications and penalizes technical, the wrong incentives will be perpetuated in the educational system.

**Administrative constraints:**

Administrative and political infrastructure can promote or facilitate exchange between regime and sectors and among sectors, in a number of ways. It helps each to determine more accurately prevailing prices or rate of exchange for resources; it can increase the convertibility of resources, one to another by raising the predictability of exchange or by accelerating the mobility with which resources are exchanged and used. What is required in the way of political and administrative infrastructure depends of course on the objectives of political actors, their resource needs, and the extent to which they can rely on nation's
natural infrastructure. What we commonly think of as political infrastructure—parties, interest groups, and elections for example—are more involved in the mobilization of resources and in a relatively voluntary manner, based on promises, bargaining or ideological appeals. Administrative infrastructure on the other hand: civil services, army police are more involved in the allocation of resources backed by the state. The distinctions are gross, but to make more specific distinctions would be arbitrary, many administrative activities mobilize resources and some political activities are distributive or coercive. Each regime combined administrative and political structures differently, one basically colonial administrative institutions, another establishing cooperatives and the third building parallel structures with the regime political party. Infrastructure that has been created for one purpose, such as a nationalist party to achieve independence, cannot always be transformed to serve another purpose such as mobilization of efforts for development goals.

The political landscape of the third world is littered with ineffective remnants of infrastructure of an earlier era, especially that which was effective in tapping the citizens’ resource legitimacy. Local government is the infrastructure which most consistently combines political and administrative activities, mobilizing and allocating resources with varying degrees of voluntarism or compulsion. The local power structure, usually based on landownership, is likely to dominate local government structures. The problem of land reform cannot be addressed effectively without taking this into accounts so that there is some substitute of power, be it farmers's organizations,

33 James Heaphey, 1966, The Organization of Egypt: Inadequacies of a Non-political Model for National-Building, pp.177-193, World Politics, USA.
central government agents, or some combination of the two.\textsuperscript{34} The factor most closely associated with success, in terms of raising the factor endowments of the rural population, is the degree to which the resource of authority was devolved to local levels of decision-making in administration of the reforms. One of the most dangerous issues in administration in underdeveloped countries is that known as corruption, it is likely to be more of an issue because of the greater relative cost of corruption in many circumstances and the greater impunity with which well endowed persons can employ public resources for private ends. One of the constraints of community participation is the shortage of trained manpower, one available staff’s constraints facing communities in all areas of operation at different levels. Rural areas have departments deprived of well trained technicians who are attracted by satisfactory services in advantaged regions. As a result, those left behind are of low competence especially at the field levels and they are either too young or too old to make use of their experiences. The potential attitudes of bureaucrats leave small room for local leadership to be involved in the programme activities. The executions of development programme by local agencies demand several conditions: easy communication between agencies both vertically and horizontally, adaptation by local agencies of the programme by local conditions, provision of means of execution at the right time, administration, co-ordination between the high administration, and the local administration, and active support of the public.\textsuperscript{35} These requirements sometimes become obstacles or constraints due to shortage of skilled personnel which hinders the process of development.

\textsuperscript{34} Ibid. pp. 177-193
\textsuperscript{35} Ibid. p. 177-193
Political Constraints:
Building an effective system of governance and democratic rule with efficient, accountable transparent governance systems is one of the great challenges facing development and post-crises societies today. The specialization looks at various programmes for achieving reform including ways of addressing corruption, conflict, inefficiency and arbitrary authority through the reform of institution. It plays particular attention to the World Bank agendas for reform and change and how these are incorporated into development polices in a range of countries and through the mechanisms of global governance. It looks too at the role of the private sector, middle classes and organized labour reform process. The major considers not only problems of how to achieve reform but, also the impact of governance and democratic reforms and processes upon various social interests, including marginalized and socially excluded groups Policy and Laws: It is still difficult to pass laws regulating the protection or even termination of the abuse of the non-renewable resources. Development policies by government have failed regarding poverty and insecurity despite decades of plans and action on this area. To integrate the environment and economics in decision making sustainability requires taking the wider responsibility of the impact of policy decisions. Policy decision making must focus on the sources of environmental damage rather than symptoms.
The orientation technological development in all countries must change and give more importance to environmental factors. In developing countries the technological innovation capacity needs to be greatly enhanced.\textsuperscript{36}\textsuperscript{36} The analyst can make a virtue of diversity by treating the political system as a constraint on the more specific problems that face each government in very much the same form: one such problem that

calls for additional study is the mobilization and integration into the political system of a large rural population. Like most of the less-developed countries, the Maghrebi nations find two-thirds or more of the populace removed from political life and unable to play a constructive role in economic life. In all three Maghrebi nations, agricultural production appears to be lagging behind population increases. There has been a continuing theoretical controversy on the relationship of specialization and control in complex organization. Very simply, the more the complex the tasks of an organization, the more must control be diffused throughout structure. Thus, we would expect that stricter hierarchal control would prevail in an organization having very specific purposes and relatively little specialization among its members. The army use to be an example of a simple organization, although the increasingly scientific character of warfare and the elusiveness of the goals of warfare with weapons of total destruction have created more complex pressures. A university is clearly an example of a complex organization, the relationship among its members, including students, faculty, and administrators, are ambiguous. University needs to reconcile the conflicting purposes of preserving established knowledge and maintaining academic standards, while also pursuing new inquiries and responding to new social problems.37 There is seldom a clear point of control and it is probably true that strict supervision would destroy the organization, rural mobilization involves more complex relationships among farmers and non-farmers as well as more specialization. The difficulties of creating a more productive and more efficient agriculture sector are not simply increasing investment and introducing more efficient methods.

37 Ibid., pp. 416-417
Rural mobilization raises new problems of linking farmers to new markets, new credit sources and new political and administrative authorities. The delicacy of this process is suggested by the total control retained by the cultivator well into the advanced stages of agricultural organization. Only individual cultivator can judge how weather, germination, growth and maturation affect his crops. New seeds, new fertilizers and new techniques may create opportunities for expanded production, but even highly commercialized agriculture defies strict, hierarchical supervision. Complex organizations tend therefore, to be guided more by internally generated tensions than by socially or political defined goals. They also tend to be less hierarchical and to depend on full participation of their members.

The process of rural mobilization comes much closer to the problem of operating organization than those of simple one. The members of a farming community or an agricultural co-operative have a degree of control over their action far in excess of that one might expect in a simple organization. As we have learned in the United States, Russia, and Algeria, the producers of food can disrupt the system simply by not delivering his output to the market. Because it is fairly easy to produce and conceal enough to care for one's family, political and social controls imposed from without are ineffectual. The history of agrarian movements is replete with evidence on the equalitarian nature of rural life.\textsuperscript{38} The microdynamics of political resources and exchange at the community level, how land ownership was converted into status and authority before the reform and how for example, education was used by former landlords after the reform to acquire these resource, admittedly in lesser measure. Gallin finds the landlords sector, which previously monopolized status and authority in Taiwan communities,

\textsuperscript{38} Ibid pp.416-417
shifting their resources out of political markets after the reform, leaving a vacuum and what he calls social disorganization. This is a good illustration of development without growth in the social and political spheres. However, Gallin describes the restructuring of social and political resources flows with the consequence that one finds a new kind of leadership emerging, one drawn from the community more on the basis of talent and public spiritedness than on the basis of elite class membership or economic wealth. While there are costs incurred by communities during a period of disorganization, leadership resources previously foregone on ascriptive grounds that can be mobilized to serve community needs. This contributes to augmented social and political productivity as a result of land reform, Political constraints that act as pitfalls for any development programmes and projects.

**Natural constraints:**
Recent investments in study of climate change and its impact on a range of issues. From development to disaster preparedness and responses has been regarded as substantial first step forward by the global community to across and mitigate the consequences’ brought on by climate change. While climate is a form of conflict on its own, it has produced new complexities in ongoing armed conflicts, and in some cases, has spawned in new conflict altogether.\(^{39}\) Shortage of global water resources, the shifting of arable lands and increasingly deadly natural disasters among other examples are all contributing to the formation of new layers on going conflicts. Community’s need to secure overall environmental security of people is indispensable to the survival of people every where. It is also important to keep in mind that, cyclone, earthquakes, droughts, floods are not inherited rather,

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these natural occurrences become disasters. Poor people in poor countries rely greatly on highly variable natural resources and have few safety nets. Chronic to severe poverty and little access to credit and other infrastructure reduce their adaptive capacity. Climate change is likely to strongly affect the world’s poor livestock keepers and the ecosystems on which they depend in places reducing the productivity of rainfed crops and forages, reducing the availability of water, increasing the severity of water and distribution of human, animal and crop disease as households will be forced to adapt to changing circumstances by introducing new production technologies, embracing sustainable natural resources management practice and in some cases changing the way they make a living. Pre-harvest and post-harvest losses caused by pests have been estimated to be between 25-50%. Chemical control of agricultural pests has dominated the scene but its overuse has diverse effects on farm budget, human health and environment. It has been estimated that more than 90% of pesticides do not reach the target pests and that these chemicals contaminate land, water and air.\footnote{Ibid. p.20}

The elimination of natural enemies’ disturbance, the increased use of pesticides poses environment-toxicological problems. Nevertheless, agricultural pests problems combines biological control, host plant resistance and appropriate farming practices and minimized used of pesticides is the best option. Plant nutrient depletion is another serious environmental problems resulting in loss of soil fertility, particularly in developing countries. Fertilizers are indispensable for increasing food production, Fertilizers can be easily reached into drainage water and when such water is discharged into rivers or seas, the leached nutrients create widespread eutrophication (evacuation). Agriculture in
developing countries has the following impact characteristics: farms are small; they are threatened with degradation of resources and the environment. In most of developing countries landholdings do not usually exceed 1 hectare. Degradation of the environment and natural resources including deforestation, plant degradation, misuse of pesticides, chemical and the loss of genetic resources. Shifting cultivation is another cause of deforestation. Heavy application of pesticides, including insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides are inducing the building resistance to insect pests and the elimination of natural enemies at the same time, they pose toxicological problems for human being, the loss of genetic resources caused by extensive deforestation. Generally, the present technologies for agriculture in Asia, Pacific use the High Yield Varieties (HYV) of the green revolution. (HYV) requires high inputs farming which excluded small farmers, it is rich farmers who have been the main beneficiaries; furthermore, it reduces the output of protein-rich grains and pulse which contributes to balanced diet for the rural poor.41

In conclusion, this chapter examines on the definitions of development, rural development, participations, concept of participation, its strategy of poverty reduction, poverty reduction and participation as means and end in development projects and programmes, participation in the presence in the simple community and community institution followed by social, administrative, economic, political and natural constraints verifies theoretical conceptual part and the coming chapter will present the situation before the intervention of participatory food security project at Natabu&Bringi.

41 University of Readings and Ahfad University for Women, 1999, Sustainable development, pp.44-46, Khartoum.
Chapter Three

Situation before the Intervention of Food Security at Natabu&Bringi:

Introduction:
This chapter investigates the situation before intervention of food security at Natabu&Bringi. It is divided into sections, section one surveys situation before the intervention of food security project, section two examines reasons for the introduction of food security at Natabu&Bringi, section three investigates food security and the roles of NGOs in general.

Section One:
Situation before the Intervention of food security at Natabu&Bringi:

Relief manipulation has been more blatant in Wau than in juba for three Reasons:
Firstly, due to insecurity during the war, Wau was left without any substantial relief during the height of Bahr el Ghazal famine. Secondly, as a result the influx of displaced people flooded to Wau town and the food supply price rose dramatically. Thirdly, crisis in Wau is a political one, there were over 100,000 people in and around Wau town, and perhaps three quarters of them were displaced who had fled raiding and fighting in rural Bahr el Ghazal. The international agencies have been loath to recognize this: instead they have always sought a ray of optimism, envisaging some prospects of rehabilitation within the environs of Wau.42

At the same time, they have approached the situation with emergency mindset, with year-by-year proposals and programmes, the results has been a curious amalgam of a commitment to moving along the relief-to-development continuum and short-sighted incapacity to plan strategically. Since 1989, the government has presented the protracted crisis in the town as a problem of development and lack of self-reliance. From the same date, UN plans for the displaced envisaged their return home, there were no immediate prospects for this given the devastation in rural areas. By 1990, when the murahallin raids had subsided and rural Bahr el Ghazal was beginning to recover, the prospects of return looked much brighter. The SPLA was also beginning to tighten its siege. In 1991, as conditions worsened in the town, the government which had tolerated discussion of return when it was not a realistic option, now began to look for alternatives. It was saved by the split of the SPLA, which provided military opportunity for the army to retake and PDF (Popular Defence Force), relieved the military pressure on Wau, opening supply roads to the North and South, expanding the secure perimeter, and seizing large herds of cattle raids.

At the same time, the government came up with the strategy that would, in the UN's phrase put the displaced citizens back into the mainstream development process of the country. This was the creation of peace camps and agricultural schemes, the policy of establishing peace camps began in Wau in 1992. Displaced people in the town relocated to three newly-set up peace camps within the secure perimeter. The decision to do this was not taken in consultation with relief agencies or even the government-headed local relief committee.43

43 Ibid,p.1
A merchant-officer cartel in Wau has exercised tight control over all food supplies to the town and distributions. Unlike Juba, Wau is not an enclave: it can be fed by overland convoys from Kordofan and Darfur (by rail and road), and the loop of fertit villages to the west of the town also produce marketable surpluses. The army ensured that food was sold in Wau markets at a price equivalent to three times purchase price and transport costs. Such high prices normally have attracted more traders. An attempt to provide 8,800 tonnes of relief via Raga in 1987 only 131 tonnes reached Wau, the remainder stored in Raga army compound for security was stolen and Wau-Raga road making wet season deliveries impossible. The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) operation was meager compared to need, but still faced consistent obstructionities from authorities, this culminated on September 1991, when a land mine placed on Wau airport runway blew up an ICRC plane abruptly halting the airlift. The mine was planted in one of the most securely guarded parts of Wau, casting suspicious on the army as the culprit. Within days, the price of sorghum rose threefold. In March 1994, UNDP sent a mission to Wau to assess the prospects for such projects.

The mission reported that it is possible to resume normal economic activities within the region close to Wau particularly in crop production. The UNDP project proposal combines conventional aims such as improving self-sufficiency in food production with reference to participation and bottom-up methods of implementations.\textsuperscript{44}

Participants generally have a good understanding of community driven development activities, they have been implementing and are doing now on the ground.

\textsuperscript{44}Ibid.p.1
These development programmes include clean and save water provision, food security through setting up demonstration sites for farmers and vocational training resulting in self employment. The major lesson of twenty years study of food security is that it lies not to depend on food production alone-at household, region or country level, it depends to a greater extent on people's ability to command the resources to aquire the food they need-whether that be through production, farm employment, or remittances. It also depends on the degree to which there are effective local, national and even international institutions and political systems capable of monitoring and providing for scarcities. In terms of the share of income accruing to labour, sustainable agriculture in principle offers higher returns since external inputs are less and especially in marginal areas where industrial methods have not yet enterated, the type of intensification repented by sustainable agriculture will increase over all production significantly, and with more stability.

There may be many agreements in favour of developing subsistence production and local markets, these should undoubtedly be explored in the context of food security, income distribution, and environmental costs and benefits, but export agriculture should not be ruled out. It may indeed be a key to the development of more sustainable forms of agriculture if it provides a market for sustainable produced products which would not other wise exist. In fact export and food crop production tends to increase together in a farming system, becoming more productive as a whole, so there may be no contradiction. It has already seen that exported crops which often require greater use of agro-chemicals in their production and storage, changing this will deliver major benefits to those working the farms as well as to

45.Ibid.p.2
consumers. Agro-ecology of the South provides a growing season varying from 130-150 days/ per annum in the North to 280-300 days in the south west. Consequently, agricultural performance varies considerably from place to place and from year to year, ranging from the regular possibility of at least two consecutive harvests from the same area in the green belt. Agricultural production is, for the most part based on small, hand-cultivated units presently farmed by women-headed households belonging to larger community aggregations reflecting the polygamous nature of most communities. Animal traction is presently being introduced again on a small-scale, by a new generation of FAO and NGO-based extension agents in the area. The mission findings in 2008 confirm the upsurge in interest, noted in 2007 as the newly established NGOs revert to the previous practice of former programmes of giving away free ploughs, the withdrawal of which as full-cost recovery approaches for implements were introduced in the mid-late 1990s, caused the interest shown by farmers to drop away to nothing leaving piles of ploughs unsold.46 Deeper discussions in the oxen-ploughing areas in 2008 indicate that it is not just the absence of spare parts or the absence of seasonal credit to cover the cost of hiring laborers for the increased areas that causes ox-ploughing to be abandoned. The real cause be the decision of the farmers to sell their trained (and often freely-provided bulls), after three years or so work and supplementary feeding and now fat and supposedly slow as slaughter beats without having made provision for replacements, which raises serious questions regarding the structure of all the programmers and the usefulness of the intervention to farmers.47

46 Ibid.p.2
47 Ibid.p.2
Regarding cereals, in most small-holder systems farmers grow a wide range of sorghum landraces some of which appear with minor crops of maize, bulrush millet, finger millet, and upland rice according to location. In the Northern parts of Southern Sudan, other crops grown include groundnuts, which make a significant contribution to the household food economy replacing sorghum as the main staple in poor sorghum-growing years when the rains begin later than usual, and providing a regular staple and cash crop in the higher localities with sandier soils, Green grams, cowpeas, beans, seasame, pumpkins and tobacco add to the biodiversity of the northern farming areas.

In the south and central areas, although groundnuts and other crops are also in quantity, cassava is the most important contributor to the household food economy providing at least half of the carbohydrate ration. Minor crops of sweet potatoes, yams, coffee, mangoes, papayas and teak are also grown for home and some localized commercial use. Temperatures are highest at the end of the dry season when cloudness skies and dry air allow them to soar. The far south, however, with only a short dry season has uniformly high temperatures throughout the year. The populations of the above mentioned areas were depending on the relief food and as a result, poverty, vulnerability, physical weakness, isolation, diseases of nutritional deficiencies spread among children, adult, women and old people. Though, the areas are favourable and fertile for agricultural activities, the people practiced traditional methods of farming which did not give a yield enough to cover the local consumption needs of the people in the area. The farmers relied on rainfall by growing dura, Casava, semsim, potatoes in a mix-farming system with poor knowledge of extension, no clear demarcation, how to deal with insects, crop diseases, worms that

48 Ibid. p.3
destroy crops. Because of lack of essential extension information, the farmers use a rotation system more than 5 to 6 years then they shift. Natabu&Bringi males’ domination and control of information sources regarding marketing and investment, while females only render services to the males with little information about marketing. Vegetable production was considered as a male’s trade women were only producing traditional vegetables which was not enough and it was grown around their tukuls (household) for consumption only, Seed business was very difficult for the traditional farmers to differentiate between the production of field crops for either business or consumption i.e. seeds were consumed all, Hand tools distribution: No proper recognition for the indigenous Communities with regard to relief free distribution as far as tools were concerned Food distribution: The populations were not eligible for getting food items as those of IDPs (Internal Displaced People), although they were suffering due to food shortage especially during cultivation period. The targeted population has little idea of nafir (self-help) in their individual farms as a matter of helping each other to accomplish a certain service at the level of the household. They lack proper skills, knowledge of how to participate fully and effectively and in a sustainable way for their common good in a community as a whole. Mobilization and awareness creation: People lacked essential knowledge and proper methods of using scientific means on agricultural practices.\textsuperscript{49}Training: The populations were using traditional system and had no proper scientific skills and technology for the utilization of the available resources which resulted in low yielding.

Section Two: Reasons for the Introduction of Participatory food Security at Natabu&Bringi

As in the southern parts of the western flood plains, this is predominantly a long cycle sorghum growing zone, with cassava in Raga and Wau counties. The May-July dry spell negatively affected growth of long term sorghum which started recovering in August when the normal rains resumed. Extended or additional planting was done, despite resumption of normal rains, groundnuts did not recover significantly, causing farmers to increase simsim planting particularly in Raga County. As of early November in Wau County, only 60% of sorghum planted had reached a stage where it would yield successfully. The remaining 40% was at risk of poor performance or failing if there were no rains during the remaining part of November. The harvest is nearly concluded, there are no updates on whether the 40% of the crop succeeded. Several counties (provinces) in the south western region of Bahr el Ghazal are facing shortage with thousands of people suffering from severe malnutrition. WFP had provided food assistance to 230,000 people in the whole of Bahr el Ghazal in June 2004. Some households ran out of food two months before the hunger season mainly due to previous year poor harvest, in combination with significant reduction in the availability of fish, wildfoods and milk. According to the growing numbers of people returning empty-handed after the peace accord in 9/1/2005 had exacerbated the situation.50

Most of the 87,000 who had returned all flooded to Bahr el Ghazal region particularly Wau and Aweil.

The increasing food insecurity particularly among the poor households, became evident when wild foods and fish were exhausted and sorghum became increasingly scarce in local markets, at the same time food aid requirements from January through May were not adequately met as a result of funding shortfalls-less than 60% of the necessary food aid had been provided in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Wau. The food security situation in Bahr el Ghazal is one of the most worrying in southern Sudan. The funds were not enough to tackle all the needs in southern Sudan and as a result, returnees and poor households in Bahr el Ghazal were having difficulty in accessing sufficient food, and malnutrition levels had starting climbing in the light of poor agricultural production in 2004. According to the report from both FAO/WFP crop and food supply assessment mission Western Bahr el Ghazal of February 2004, the situation of food security was generally stable and the dietary diversity in the state was adequate however, there were high numbers of spontaneous returnees of internal displaced people (IDPs) from Khartoum and neighboring countries with many settling in Wau. There are also IDPs coming from south Darfur due to misseriya conflict and the insecurity has forced a lot of people to flood into Wau town, and this has caused food insecurity in the state. The vulnerable households continue to cope through wild fruits collection, consumption of termites, game meat, honey and fish.51 Wau town has been a Government of Sudan enclave for the past 19 years, the town remains extremely isolated. In case of insecurity or and food gap, people from nearby villages seek refuge in the IDP camps, located in the surroundings of the town. Surveys have been conducted in Wau town and in the surrounding IDP camps in February in 2003. The results revealed high rates of malnutrition, especially in camps. In

51 Ibid.p.4
addition, the number of admissions to therapeutic feeding centre tripled between February-May 2003. The deterioration of the situation was attributed to new arrival of populations, especially, from Warap and Gogrial who were experiencing high food insecurity due to the early hunger gap period of May 2003. The situation is far worst than in 2000 and 2001 when prevalence of malnutrition in Wau town and IDP camps were lower. The signing of the comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) in Sudan has created a new opportunity for displaced people, and refugees from neighbouring countries. Approaches to food security must now be reoriented based on the agro-ecological diversity in Sudan and particularly South Sudan, WFP is in a unique position to catalyse an approach to food security that meets immediate needs and contributes to long term recovery, in collaboration with the Government of National Unity (GNU) and the Government of South Sudan (GOSS).

Aggregate food production in Sudan has increased in the past decade. At sub-regional levels, however, many areas remain food insecure. Major research must be undertaken to identify optimum levels of food production and barriers to access to food at sub-regional levels as a first step towards linking deficit areas with area of surplus. Initiatives must also be undertaken to facilitate increased integration between sub-regions; sub-regional linkages could ensure more efficient delivery of food in the short term as well as recovery and economic growth in the long term. Food insecurity may also result in severe social, psychological, and behavioral consequences. Food-insecure individuals may manifest feelings of alienation, powerlessness, stress, and anxiety, and they may experience reduced productivity, reduced work and school performance, and reduced income earnings. Household

\[52\text{ Ibid, p.4}\]
dynamics may become disrupted because of a preoccupation with obtaining food, which may lead to anger, pessimism, and irritability. Adverse consequences for children include: higher levels of aggressive or destructive behavior, hyperactivity, anxiety, difficulty with social interactions (e.g., more withdrawn or socially disruptive), increased passivity, poorer overall school performance, increased school absences, and a greater need for mental health care services (e.g., for depression or suicidal behaviors). To understand the magnitude of food insecurity, hunger, and malnutrition, one must consider both the continued rapid growth in world population and the number of individuals below the poverty line. Natabu&Bringi are the remote villages of Wau County (Province) the Capital of Western Bahr el Ghazal state. Wau is considered the most densely populated and expensive town, it relies heavily on the railway that transport food from the north, When the train stopped due to war, people depended on the convoy that transported food from the north through Raga during the dry season and in the rain seasons people depended mainly on relief food brought by planes. Natabu and Bringi are the fertile areas for agriculture and its population practice agriculture and most of the people depend on humanitarian relief food. Efforts to improve the households’ food security are hampered by high rate of illiteracy and poverty. However, children have no privilege to education due to inadequate capacity of the family income; on the other hand, patriarchal norms and gender subordination dominate the Natabu&Bringi community, where women are inferior to men. Moreover, women are the most exploited workers, but have less access to benefits and resources. WOTAP intervened through involvement by a

direct meeting, discussion and positive expression with the community and by explaining her objectives, and the community started to raise their problems, articulate their needs and priorities. After long discussions with the community, they selected members from themselves and formed a body that can represent them and it also acts as the bridge between the community and the agency to facilitate and enhance the process of communication, co-ordination, co-operation in the affairs that affect them. Vegetable production and seeds business was chosen to address the insecurity of food in the area. This initiative opened the way for WOTAP, other agencies and the community to exchange views, ideas, and information to run the identified participatory approach.

Section Three: Food Security and the roles of NGOs in General:
In 1996, leaders came together at the world food submit in Rome to address the rising level of malnutrition throughout the world. They feared that if no action were taken, the amount of hungry people in the world in 2010 would reach 680 million, and set a commitment to halve the amount of undernourished people by 2015. Yet ten years after the submit, the World Food Programmed reported the amount of hungry people has surpassed the 2010 estimate of 680 million and is already at 842 million. NGOs and other activists seeking the access to food face the surreal challenge that while there is a right to food contained in the international Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural(ESC) Rights, this right imposes a negative obligation upon the state to respect the right to food, not a positive obligation to provide nutrition for its citizens. This has caused NGOs to increasingly focus on ESC rights, in addition to traditional political and civil (PC) rights, and

54 Chris Bailey, 2007, Food Security and the Role of NGOs, Opit, p.1
campaign for the right to nutrition, has examined food security as a
matter of social reproduction in an age of neo-liberalism, Food was
exempt from the original GATT in 1947. After World War II, the
United States and European countries developed policies to ensure
food self-sufficiency by subsidizing agriculture and regulating price
floors. The US opposed the formation of a World Food Body under the
auspices of the UN and instead pursued bilateral aid projects giving
surplus food to developing countries. The countries developed the
common agricultural policy that furthered government subsidiaries in
1960s. Over production in the US and EU flooded the world market
with surplus food, undercutting producers in developing countries.
Reforms in the early 1990s led to a WTO agreement on agriculture that
favored trade over producers, and the concept of food security was re-
conceived as the right of countries export food. Small and medium
farmers were impacted in the developed countries from the removal of
price floors and many went out of business or sold to the large
agribusiness conglomerates.  

These agreements further weakened the ability of developing country
farmers to produce food because of competition from imported
subsidized staples. Many instead began to produce tropical fruits for
export to developed country markets. The developing world has also
been confronted with the marketization of seeds. Many seeds
providers have developed transgenic seeds that require farmers to buy
new seeds every year instead of being able to replant using the seeds
produced by their produce. Seeds are covered under intellectual
property agreements that aim to prevent biopiracy. Small farmers have
been forced into poverty and unable to produce necessary food for
themselves or their neighbors, this has sparked a rural-Urban migration

55.Ibid.p.1
to cities, leading to the development of slums and escalating poverty and hunger. Many have also migrated abroad, often clandestinely, to Europe and North America where they form an underclass at the bottom of the economy. Ironically, many now work on the farms that produce the subsidized agriculture that is destroying the production of food in their home countries. NGOs have responded to food scarcity by taking increasingly rights-based and approaches. Michael Windfuhr of the Food first Information and Action Network has described how his organization, other NGOs and community based Organizations(CBOs) are focusing on ESC rights, this focus developed after the 1996 World Food Submit. NGOs now attempt to intervene to protect small farmers from eviction, indigenous people from losing traditional lands, fishing and segment of the population from discriminatory food supply schemes. They are developing the concept of nutritional rights, as opposed to the right of to adequate food, to put pressure on governments to take responsibility for supplying funding for nutrition in national budgets.56

The rights-based approach also allows NGOs to pressure businesses and international organizations to help secure nutrition rights. Participatory approach in an Ethiopian case study how one NGO, Action Aid, is promoting sustainable and community solutions to food production. In the town of Dalocha, the NGOs used local community groups to plan for famine relief. Fearful of people becoming dependent on handouts, particularly the poorest without livelihoods, the NGO instead organized loans to members of the community so they could obtain blankets and grain. The poorest relied on other members of the community to assist them, in the studied case, the villagers were

56. Ibid, p.1
able to increase food production and 70% of the loans had been repaid to the NGO, with those unable to pay given extensions.\textsuperscript{57}

To end, this chapter has revealed the general situation before the intervention, reasons for the introduction of participatory food security at Natabu\&Bringi, food security\& roles of NGOs. The coming chapter will present the organizing of the local people\& Participatory Development outcome.

\textsuperscript{57} Ibid. p.1
Chapter four
Organizing the Local People & Participatory Development
Outcome at Natabu & Bringi

Introduction:
This chapter presents Organizing the Local People & Participatory Development Outcome at Natabu & Bringi. It is divided into four Sections. Section one involves development in practice at Natabu & Bringi, its formation, structures, function, effectiveness, roles. Section two highlights on the roles of bodies & NGOs involved. Section Three views the outcomes of participatory development. Section Four reveals the Comparison of condition before and after Participatory Development.

Section One: Development in Practice at Natabu & Bringi
WOTAP approached the community through involvement and the community has to identify and articulate their felt needs. In response to this, the community participated and decided to come together by organizing themselves into local agriculture committee which can address problems that affect them as the first an organized bottom-up form in agricultural activities with the purpose of organizing themselves for the improvement of their lives, with the objectives to protect livelihoods in crisis situations and enhance resilience to shocks, and promote the resources within the community and outside the community for the welfare of their lives. The first meeting was held on 17/1/2004 with the aim of coming together to form a local agriculture committee, but the attendance was very poor because most of community members did not received the information, and others were scattered in social occasions and ceremonies of the New Year.  

58 Informal interview with Alexsandro Joseph, chairperson of Local agricultural committee, Natabu & Bringi, June 2010.
Another meeting was held on 24/1/2004, with the intention to circulate the information to all community members of Natabu&Bringi for their effective involvement in the formation of local agriculture which was scheduled to 7/2/2004. The community formed the body known as Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) of Natabu&Bringi on Saturday 7/2/2004 by electing members from among them who are honest and keen to serve them, to provide a link between the community and the authority concerned. The main objectives of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) are: formation of a body for farmers’s services at Natabu&Bringi, horizontal and vertical extension in the field of agriculture, provision of necessary production inputs for agricultural work, improvement of seeds, storage and marketing. Structure of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) composed of thirteen (13) people:

Chairperson
Deputy/Chairperson
Secretary
Deputy/Secretary
Treasury
Deputy/Treasury
Secretary for Information
Deputy secretary for information
Secretary for social Relation
Deputy secretary for social Relation
Secretary for services
Deputy Secretary for Services
Plus five (3) members

59 Informal Interview with Miskin Micael, Secretary for Local Agricultural Committee at Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
Local agricultural Committee with strong power entrusted to them by the community is responsible to perform its duties by delegating powers to its executive members as follows: Chairperson is responsible to protect, head, lead meetings, discussion and to supervise members of the executive committee. Deputy chairs in case of his absence due to sickness or any genuine reason. Secretary arranges meetings, fixes agenda, takes minutes, keeps records of meetings and workshops discussions and is answerable to the chairperson. The deputy takes over in case of absence. The information officer is responsible for dissemination of information to the members of the executive committee and the community about meetings, group discussions, workshops, field demonstrations, field visit, and lectures. His deputy acts in case of his absence.

The treasurer keeps funds of the body and also a store keeper. She maintains clear record of financial expenditure and financial dealings contributions from members, donations and any justified means of fund of the body. The deputy acts in case of absence due to sickness or a genuine reason. Secretary for social relations is responsible for social contacts within and outside the community and representing the body in social occasions his deputy acts in case of his absence due to a genuine reason. Secretary for services is responsible for catering & rendering food, drinks during meetings, workshops, handing over of office, demonstrations. The deputy takes over in case of absence due to a genuine reason. The five members assist the body in performing the duty assigned to them by the community for execution of plans, programmes.  

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60 Informal interview with Michael Izen Secretary for Information of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
All the executive members are answerable to the chairperson and the executive body is answerable to the community. Duration of the executive committee is two years i.e. the first executive members of local agriculture committee who were elected on Saturday 7/2/2004 handed over the office assignment to the newly elected executives members of local agriculture Committee on Saturday 30/9/2006 to serve the community. The first period from February 2004 up to September 2006, was a period of beginning which followed by some difficulties in handling and running the office task entrusted to them, especially in communication with the agency stuff who usually speak in Arabic and English language during meetings, field visit, workshop and demonstration for the community.

There was a double heavy responsibility for both sides at individual level and community level, but later on they were able to cope up gradually. The executive members of local agriculture Committee at Natabu&Bringi meets every Saturday on weekly basis and reports monthly about the process of work to the community (known as general assembly). In case of any emergency, they meet urgently and inform the community about it and the community has a final say. As a participatory system, the first elected executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) at Natabu&Bringi ended their office assignment and handed over to the second newly elected executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) on Saturday 30/9/2006. From 30/9/2006, the second executive of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) served with the same programme and system of work. There was an improvement in their performance in handling the office affairs and the community in a better shape than

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61 Informal interview with Tereza Ugali Treasurer of Local Agriculture Committee Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
the first one due to lesson learned and also former members advised the newly elected executive Committee. As a result, the community was encouraged by the result of tangible performance especially in agriculture which gave an impetus for the newly elected executive members to shoulder and work with full cooperation among themselves as teamwork. This period witnessed an improvement in regular meetings attendance, workshops, group discussions, demonstration, and field visit which resulted in increase of farm sizes, increase in the number of the beneficiaries males and females. The second elected executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) handled their tasks with high spirit until their two years period was completed and then they handed over the office assignment to the third newly elected executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) on Saturday 27/9/2008, which followed by comprehensive reports about the process of office assignment delivered by the outgoing executive members to the community. The third newly elected members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) a Natabu & Bringi took over the office assignment on Saturday 27/9/2008 from the second executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC).

From that date, the newly elected executive members proved their potentials in handling responsibility that is assigned to them by the community of Natabu & Bringi. Their work reflected the increase in the performance resulted in major breakthrough in the achievements in the field of agriculture, where output increased, farm sizes increased dramatically, and number of beneficiaries increased due to advices from their colleagues in the former executive committee. The current executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) still active

62 Informal interview with Michael Izen Secretary for Information of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu & Bringi, June 2010.
and will handover the office assignment to the forth newly elected executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) on Saturday 25/9/2010. The community which is the highest power known as (general assembly) decides and the executive members of Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) executes and implements plans and programmes and is answerable to the community. Though the community is not an advance one, it manages to bring a lawyer to draft their constitution that relies on local norms, arbitrary laws for any misbehavior, corruption or an anti-social behavior of members for protection of the community interest. The Local Agriculture Committee(LAC) is registered in the ministry of social affairs of Western Bahr el Ghazal State-Wau under the name: Kabinda (KABINDA) Association for Farmers Services at Natabu&Bringi known in local language as (KBINDA) means (OURS), the capital letters stands for the locations of (Bringi, Natabu, Baggari, Khor Ukanda) that will expand in the near future. As community that depends on agriculture, they decided to initiate vegetable (Cassava, Tomatoes, Soya, groundnut, pineapple, Banana) production and seeds business project at Natabu &Bringi. This Local Agriculture Committee (LAC) or kabinda association for farmer services at Natabu&Bringi acts as machinery and a bridge that link the community and other bodies.63

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63 Informal interview with Mary Ukele secretary for services of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010
Section Two: Roles of the Local Bodies & NGOs involved in Food Security at Natabu&Bringi

Local agricultural committee (LAC) at Natabu&Bringi is a local body formed at the village level to facilitate in the project implementations and later on to ensure sustainability of the project. In collaboration with the village community, it plays the role of identification and selection of direct target beneficiaries, draw plan activities at the village level, mobilization and awareness raising to the community, monitoring and follow up of the project implementation followed by reporting. In collaboration with Women Training and Promotion Society (WOTAP) and other agencies, the local agriculture committee involved in the implementation of participatory vegetable production and seed project in Natabu&Bringi, Women Training and Promotion (WOTAP) which is a female initiated organization that plays a role in community mobilization and sensitization. It adopts their effective participation in the development through different sessions-rallies, campaigns, lectures and focus group discussion, access to theoretical and practical trainings, field visit demonstration and exchange visits. Access to agricultural inputs is provided during the agricultural seasons plus provided technical advices from time to time at Natabu&Bringi.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) it is an emergency and rehabilitation by nature and it plays a great role in providing technical support and training programmes.64

It also provides agricultural inputs, funds for the project implementation, monitoring and follow up of the project progress. World Food Programme (WFP) naturally is a relief rehabilitation programme which plays role in providing periodically

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64 Informal interview with Tereza Ugali Treasurer of Local Agriculture Committee Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
food items, funds for operational cost, monitors and follows up of the project implementation and reporting at Natabu&Bringi. Ministry of social affairs of Western Bahr el Ghazal state Wau is a government institution by nature and it provides qualified staff for the project implementation, training and technical services, advices, coordination and advocacy. Number of beneficiaries, farm sizes at Bringi& Natabu vegetable production locations as follows: The total number of beneficiaries, at Natabu&Bringi in 2004/2005, were 150, and garden size increased to 7 fedans. In 2005/2006, the total number of beneficiaries increased to 295, Also the garden sizes increased to 11fedans. In 2006/2007, the total number of beneficiaries were 349 while the farm size increased to 25 fedans. In 2007/2008, the total number of beneficiaries, increased by 808 and the farm size increased to 32 fedans. In 2008/2009, the total number of beneficiaries were 304 and the farm sizes increased to 37fedans.

Section Three: Outcome of Participation at Nata&Bringi.

Participation practice that adopted at Natabu&Bringi is a major breakthrough and a positive step towards better future of the poor farmers who suffered a lot before the introduction of this approach as the first in its kind in the area. The community has acquired some knowledge of how to work together by utilizing the available resources, skills that they possess at local level. Besides development activities, participation has provided the community in achieving success by registering the body (local agricultural committee) as farmer’s association in the ministry of social affairs Western Bahr el Ghazal State Wau. Informal interview with Alexsandro Joseph, chairperson of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010

Local Agriculture Commitee (LAC) has succeeded to buy a big Water pump (Lister), one tractor, Motor bikes

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65 Informal interview with Alexsandro Joseph, chairperson of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010
as a means of transport for marketing their crops and has built a store with size 4x6m. Natabu&Bringi farmers have gained skills, knowledges, techniques of cultivation, tillage, leveling, donkey-plough, machine plough, planting of different varieties of vegetables such as (Tomatoes cassava, pineapple, soya, groundnuts, banana and other crops as dura, maize and semsem). Local Agriculture Commitee (LAC) also managed to resolve conflict between the cattle keeper and the farming community. Awareness creation among the grass root community, empowerment of the community especially women Skills and knowledge gained on agricultural techniques, Attitudes of the community changed and more commitment attained, Farm sizes increased, different varieties cultivated, vegetables consumed, seeded secured and income generated, parents are able to pay school fees for their children, also household buy new clothes, cooking utensils, medicines, furniture and can save part of their incomes due to improvement in their condition. Other communities are encouraged by this practice and they want to joint and adopt the method in order to improve their standard of living for a better one.66

Section Four: Comparison between the Conditions of the Targeted Community before and after Participation at Natabu&Bringi

Vegetable production activity at Natabu&Bringi before participation was considered as a male’s trade, women were only producing traditional vegetable around their homes for household consumption, after participation now women are producing vegetable in large scale in their own farms for the commercial purposes, Wau market is largely depending on vegetable consumption from the two locations of

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66 Informal Interview with Miskin Micael, Secretary for Local Agricultural Committee at Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
Natabu&Bringi. Seed business before participation at Natabu&Bringi was very difficult for the traditional farmers to differentiate between the production of field crops for either business or consumption, after participation the concept of seeds production as a business existing within the community, special farms for seed growing is established, profits are generating and the seed is secured. Hand tools and tools distribution at Natabu&Bringi was not properly recognized by the indigenous community in regard to relief and free distribution, after participation the community of Natabu&Bringi are benefiting from free distribution of seeds and tools specially, the returnees. Food distribution before participation at Natabu&Bringi the indigenous community were not eligible for getting food items as those of IDPs (internally displaced peoples) although they were suffering from food shortage during cultivation period, after participation the community are receiving food ration for hunger gap solutions, the food item provided to the community is compensating for hours spent in the communal work, hence motivating more community participation at the grass root level. Before participation, the poor indigenous community of Natabu&Bringi lacked proper knowledge about scientific methods of agricultural practices, after participation, families are consuming nutritive vegetables due to awareness created during the food security project period of vegetable production, the communities are more aware of what they are learning, traditional agricultural attitudes are gradually replaced by the an appropriate and advance agricultural attitudes. Training activity before participation at Natabu&Bringi based on traditional agricultural system which leads to low yielding, after participation, gaining of new skills and knowledges

67 Informal interview with Ugali Treasurer&Storekeeper of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
on agricultural business, application of new technologies and proper utilization of available resources by the above mentioned local community. Before Natabu&Bringi farmers depended fully on rainfall from May up to November i.e. From November to April, where there is no rain they use water pump to irrigate their vegetables throughout the year known as non-stop of vegetables production and as a result, there is a plentiful of vegetables for consumption and marketing to Wau town.68

In conclusion, this chapter has revealed development in practice, the roles played by bodies &NGOs, the outcomes of participatory development and comparisons of conditions before and after participatory development, the coming chapter will investigate the local constraints that impede participation of the targeted community of Natabu&Bringi.

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68 Informal interview with Alexsandro Joseph, Chairperson of Local Agricultural Committee Natabu&Bringi June 2010; Informal interview with Michael Izen Secretary for Information of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
Casava Plantation at Natabu&Bringi
Vegetable Plantation (Banana, Onion) at Natabu & Bringi
Groundnut Plantation at Natabu & Bringi
Soya Plantation at Natabu&Bringi
Water Pumps for Irrigation Bought by Local Agriculture Committee at Nata&Bringi
Donkey Plough Bought by Local Agriculture Committee at Natabu & Bringi
Training of Farmers for Measurement of farms distances at Natabu&Bringi
Motor cycles for Transportation Bought by Local Agriculture Committee at Natabu & Bringi
Tractor Bought by Local Agriculture Committee at Natabu&Bringi
Store Built by Local Agriculture Committee at Natabu & Bringi
Chapter Five:

Constraints that Faced Participation of the Targeted Community at Natabu&Bringi

Introduction:
This chapter examines the constraints that face participatory development at Natabu&Bringi. Though, Social, economic, administrative, political and natural constraints are witnessed at international, regional, national, and local organizations, that impede proper delivery of service to the needy, Natabu&Bringi community presents the local constraints for study. The chapter is divided into five sections. Section one highlights social constraints, section two views on administrative constraints, section three reveals economic constraints, section four views on natural constraints and section five presents political constraints.

Section One: Social constraints
The patriarchal system that were existing among the community has dominated the male’s thinking. That males are always the first and females are left behind, i.e. females roles are meant for marriage, bearing children, taking care of the household members, domestic work as the first priority and girls should never leave the house for any development activities outside. This practice still exists in the community of Natabu&Bringi; where female play a limited role in due to strict system observed by males in the community. According to the cultural values of Natabu&Bringi community, the young or the youth are not the one to talk and express themselves during discussion of hot issues before the elders.69 Traditionally, age group are categorized for

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69 Informal interview with Mary Ukele secretary for services of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010
participation, people below eighteen years and unmarried are considered young and they don’t participate and have no role to play in decision making, they are considered as imature. Group above eighteen and those who are married (aged from 18-30 years) are considered youth and they cannot decide for big issues or have right to intervene for any affairs. Group from 50-60 years are considered mature and elders that have right to participate in any matters and they can impose any idea without any opposition. These groups do not come together regularly due to gap of ideas and age, this affects the process of participation of all the community members in any action, Natabu&Bringi people are mostly engaged in social ceremonies, festivals. In December they do prepare for Christmas and immediately after it from January up to March, mostly for celebrations of weeding, marriages, offering traditional sacrifices for God and the spirit of their ancestors by making wine (white staff bear), also sacrifices for the twins offerings are made by offering new crops where people are busy eating, drinking and enjoying themselves. Other members also go to visit their relatives in the town and spend the dry season holiday. All these activities are done during the dry season, this paralyze involvement of all members of community to participate effectively, illiteracy is one of the major factor that limits the effectiveness of targeted population.  

Section two: Administrative constraints:

Administrative is the machinery that executes any plan of developmental projects and programs. Natabu&Bringi are in the remote area where its target population is engaged in tradition agricultural activities. Most of the populations are illiterate with poor

70 Informal interview with Paulino Uchin Secretary for Social Relation of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
knowledge of administrative skills, knowledge, practices to participate effectively in decision making. The targeted population consider administrative as work that involves movement and getting in contact with NGOs staff, visitors and the community members. As a result, most of the community members excuse themselves for any meeting, workshop, and demonstration which make the process of participation ineffective in planning, decision-making in their affairs. Any thing relate to administrative affairs, is considered by the targeted population as a complex and difficult which required a high qualified sensitive technical personnel to shoulder it and they easily withdraw by absenting themselves, most of the decisions are taken by few people on behalf of the majority of the target population. The targeted population at Natabu&Bringi suffers from a severe problem of administrative inexperience due to lack of managerial skills and training for handling task of how to organize themselves. All this reflected in the lack of trained, knowledgeable manpower in the community and as a result, their speed of participation is very slow and time consuming things are not done immediately, it takes time for consultation for the final say and endorsement by the community.

Section Three: Economic Constraints

Regarding Natabu&Bringi, the community lacks access to sufficient economic means because, it is a simple community that depends wholly on agriculture, the small income that they obtain only from sales of their crops products.\footnote{Informal interview with Mary Ukele secretary for services of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010} The targeted population lack a proper knowledge, skills, techniques to utilizes the available resources in a wise way, but they have only little and indigenous knowledge about these a sufficient resources as a result, members always struggle to
over come deleterious situation by involving deeply in activities that they can earn their income, by cutting of woods, making charcoal, hunting wild animals, fishing, hunting honey especially during the dry season and most of the targeted population do not participate only few take part. An increasing number of women in the markets of urban areas in all regions are associated with influx of war displaced groups and the spread of poverty. According to the 1993 census over 90% of rural women in the different regions are in the workforce with higher percentages for western and southern. Although responsible for most agricultural work, women have limited access to factors of production such as land, credit, extension services and markets. Women have limited access to education sector, including fewer opportunities for life long learning, on-formal education and technical, vocational skills training. Women are largely engaged in the domestic household works, they are not effective to participate in the development activities regarding the targeted population. Among the displaced populations of Natabu&Bringi, women are often bread winners of the families, however, the lack of concrete livelihood opportunities is driving them to either accept underpaid and exploitative sensitivity. And as a result of these activity of males dominance over the access of resources, majority of women category are excluded from participation and in taking decision making.72

72 Informal interview with Alexsandro Joseph, chairperson of Local agricultural committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010;
Section Four: Natural Constraints

Usually the problem of natural factors are heat for instance: sun rays, sun shine which make unbearable situation by causing dust, hot weather that usually accompanied by dryness of water wells and causes water scarcity, diarrhea disease. From February up to April is a very hot period where meningitis is common and eye ache spread all over, this makes the targeted population not to leave their houses for any activities, it causes an obstacle for the community members to participate effectively. Also during the rain season from May to October, heavy rain interrupts meetings, gatherings and causes disease like malaria, dysentery worm diseases (bilharzias) are common among the targeted population which make some of them unable to participate effectively. By culture this period is considered a very critical time where resources are scarce, gathering, weeding, marriages cannot take place. People are physically weak, due to diseases, malnutrition and vulnerable without strength. They meet only temporarily in the case of death burial and funeral rites and they disperse, this affects participation of the targeted population. The pressure of the population at Natabu&Bringi community on their local resources by utilizing these available resources: cutting of fire woods, woods for construction of their houses, cutting trees, grass for cultivation, over cultivation and people compete over these resources for their survival has created problems of environmental degradation such as deforestation, soil erosion which will pose a serious threat to the future generation of Natabu&Bringi and it will affect participation severely.

73 Informal interview with Alexsandro Joseph, Chairperson of Local Agricultural Committee Natabu&Bringi June 2010; Michael Izen Secretary for Information of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
and as a result, some of the population migrate unintentionally which indirectly paralyze effective participation of the targeted population.

**Section Five: Political Constraints**

As Sudan has been at conflict for 21 years which ended like sprinkle of an eye in 2005 with the signing of Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), where South Sudan is now heading towards the transformation of means of destruction into means of production for better future. The ideology and philosophy of the participatory to development needs time ahead for full changing of the target group mentality from relief to rehabilitation and development. The targeted population of Natabu&Bringi have little idea of politics, political parties, and political organizations. They see the chief, sub-chief, notables and his advisers as the only political figures who have direct and indirect link with the government. Though, the chief and his group do not directly intervene in decision but indirectly involve in the process of participation. Local court sessions, local assignment assigned by the chief to some members of the targeted population such as settling of disputes among farmers create an obstacle for effective participation and constructive roles in decision making among the community members. The elites (local tradres, local blacksmiths, local rainmakers, traditional doctors) have strong ties with the chief. Any official visit to the area by government agent or any outsider into the area, all community members are to be in small adhoc committee where everybody is put in motion from the highest to the lowest to prepare and arrange for the success of visit celebration.74

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74 Informal interview with Paulino Uchin Secretary for Social Relation of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010; Mary Ukele, Secretary for Services for Local Agriculture Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
The chief assigns the targeted population to construct road that leads to the town by cleaning, cutting grass, cutting trees, digging wells, building small tukuls for visitors’ accommodation into the area of Natabu&Bringi. These assignments given by the chief is considered by the community a major priority where other activities are postponed and all community members are involved, this affects effective participation in meetings, workshops, group discussions, demonstration by some members who can play constructive roles in decision making. All chiefs are paid by government in the Local Area Council and they are the right eye of the government with full power at local level, they are responsible to execute any policy from above willingly or unwillingly without hesitation. The concept of individualism of the population at Natabu&Bringi i.e. every body wants to depend on his/her own even if at level of the household they work for the group but, they still highly favored privacy. The south has just emerged from the long civil war that devastated the region economically, socially, culturally and politically, it needs time to change the culture of war into a culture of peace. Also the spirit of self-help still needs time for the people in the area, because they were accustomed to relief assistance during the war, the people are still new in practicing democratic that involve participation with freedom of expression to voice their problems in a democratic system.75

In conclusion, the chapter has presented how social, cultural, administrative, the political and natural constraints (problems) which

75 Informal interview with Paulino Uchin Secretary for Social Relation of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010; Mary Ukele, Secretary for Services for Local Agriculture Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.
create and hinder obstacles for Participatory development at Natabu&Bringi and any area in the future.
Conclusions and Recommendations:

Participatory approach as a mechanism has been introduced to implement development programmes and project (food security) to the small groups at grass root level with the intention to improve socioeconomic conditions of the targeted population at Natabu&Bringi. The local organizations and other bodies played some roles by providing knowledge, skills, technical advices, training, agricultural inputs, food, by supporting food security of targeted community at Natabu&Bringi.

The participatory approach has succeeded in creating a little improvement in the socioeconomic condition of the targeted population at Natabu&Bringi, creation of awareness, spirit of self-help, self employed, self-reliance and management system which acts a benchmark for planning, identification, selection, implementation, monitoring and evaluation where the local population became enlightened and oriented of how to handle and manage their local affairs.

To conclude, the participatory approach adopted to implement food security at Natabu&Bringi has achieved a little improvement in the socioeconomic conditions of the targeted population due to a number of constraints: socially, in term of low level of co-ordination, low level of participation; economically, scarcity of financial capital; administratively poor implementation;

Politically, weak leadership; naturally, environmental degradation diseases, heat, rains. All the mentioned constraints hindered the participation of the community of Natabu&Bringi.
Based on the information obtained from participatory food security at Natabu&Bringi, for development to fulfill its goals and objectives, the study suggests the following recommendations:-

Firstly, Comprehensive creation of awareness in form of adult education to fight illiteracy, enlighten, empower the population of Natabu&Bringi about negative social attitudes that hinder participatory approach. Coordination must be focused on linkages between all organizations, institution that involve in development at all levels. Secondly, Mobilization of local resources for better economic utilization for the welfare of Natabu&Bringi. Thirdly, Training on managerial skills, knowledge for managing their local projects and programmes at Natabu&Bringi. Fourthly, Local leaders with their traditional knowledge, skills, and experiences are to be respected, trained for better leadership at Natabu&Bringi.

Fifthly, Environmental degradation is to be addressed by all i.e. the community, Government, NGOs by using appropriate technology that is friendly and not destructive to the environment at Natabu&Bringi.
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Lists of Interviewees

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Alexsandro Joseph, Chairperson of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Miskin Michael, Secretary for Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Teresa Ugali, Treasurer & Storekeeper of Local agricultural committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Paulino Uchin, Secretary for Social Relation of Local agricultural committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Mary Ukele, Secretary for Services of Local Agriculture Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Michael Izen, Secretary for Information of Local Agricultural Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Teresa Ugali, Treasurer & Storekeeper of Local agricultural committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

William Fedrick, Secretary for Activities of Local Agriculture Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Pilista Pancrasio, Member of Local Agriculture Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Mary Daniel, Member of Local Agriculture Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.

Helena Nichola, Member of Local Agriculture Committee, Natabu&Bringi, June 2010.


Appendex

Topic Guides to the Field Visit to Natabu&Bringi

1. Participatory approach which involves:
   - History in the area
   - Practice before or not/organized, un organized/what forms, for what purposes in what priorities?

2. Local Agricultural Committee in terms of: (for the project?)
   - Total involvement of the people
   - Elected body: its structure, durations, functions, roles, effectiveness and accountability.
   - How it is formed/ elections/appointment/ how elected? Frequency of elections?
   - Its composition
   - How it takes decisions? / What factors influence decision/ represents to grassroots

3. Forms of participation?
   - Initiation of the programme by the agency
   - Ready made defined objectives or people participated? if yes, how did they participate?
   - Articulation of the felt needs on behalf of the community how/ formal or informal?
   - Selection of few people
   - Manipulation of resources/how?
4. **Achievements of Participation:**
   - Agriculture (food production, increase in income, increase in cash crops, increase in farm sizes, food varieties, diversification).
   - Knowledge (Capacity building, empowerment, innovation).

5. **Constraints of Participation:**
   - Social problems (culture, traditions, negative attitudes)
   - Economical problems (funds, materials, humans)
   - Natural problems (climate, rainfall, disease, pest, flood, earthquake)
   - Administrative problems: (representation of NGO officials? taking decisions on behalf of the grassroots? Mismanagement (corruption), shortage of trained manpower, shortage of skilful labourers.
   - Political problems (conflict, confrontation, group interests competition).