

Review of: "Community-Led Development: Perspectives and Approaches of Four Member Organizations"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Overview

The study delves into the CLD model and its impact on communities worldwide especially in the developing world. The literature review does a good job in explaining the different CLD's different facets while identifying gaps. The findings provide insights into areas where the CLD model needs to be improved and better focused.

One of the main strengths of this study lies in the fact that the validity of the theoretical framework is tested through an examination of its impact on communities where CLD is practiced.

Study's Weaknesses and Limitations

CLD is grounded in the concept of inclusion and participation by the communities involved. The methodological design in this study examines CLD from organizational and practitioner perspectives. While these perspectives may shed light on practices, they are not inclusive. This is the main weakness in the study. It focuses on CLD yet it did not attempt in its methodological design to include the voices of communities and marginalized groups involved. In order to strengthen practice of CLD, all stakeholders especially community members need to be included in any analysis.

Furthermore, all 3 interviewees hail from the west. That in itself is problematic because even though these practitioners do play a role in the implementation of development programs, community needs are not a lived experience/reality for them. Although, their insights and the review of CARE's content helps to better understand needed improvements in the CLD model, the main stakeholders, community members, are absent in the conversation.

An observation regarding the structural organization of the article, the study's limitations and weaknesses should come at the end and not before the analysis.

Overall, the study is important because it examines needed improvements in the CLD model as communities worldwide attempt to better themselves socially, economically, and politically.