

Digni's Theory of Change

Situation

People, living in poverty or 'left behind in development' may experience:

- inequality, lack of power, social exclusion, discrimination, and corruption
- human rights violations and abuse
- conflicts and migration
- poor health, lack of services, stigma, and pandemics
- lack of access to qualitative and inclusive education
- gender based violence and/or gender discrimination
- ethnic and/or religious discrimination
- environmental degradation, climate change, and/or low agricultural productivity
- low level of income and affordable credit

Ways of Thinking

Empowered individuals and communities by:

a) Increased Resources

Economic, Environmental, Education, Health, Organisations, Leaders, Social Networks, Laws and Policies, Norms and Traditions

b) Power to act

Individual: "power within"
Collective: "power with"
"power to"
"power over"

Assumptions

Local organisations in their cooperation are not only able to facilitate improvement of resources, but also strengthen individuals' and communities' power and capability to act and change their situation. Both dimensions of resources and power need to be met in order for empowerment to have taken place.

Change Agents

Working in Strategic Partnerships

Digni

Contributes with:

- Quality control
- Accountability of funding
- Aggregation of results and documentation

Members

Contribute with:

- Long term partnerships
- Contextual analysis
- Human resources
- Thematic capacity

Partners

Contribute with:

- Long experience
- Contextual analysis
- Documented results
- Deep contextual analysis

Communities

Facilitated by local partner:

- Community sets priorities
- Participatory problem and stakeholder analysis
- Capacity Development

Approaches

Human Rights Based and Asset Based Approaches, Gender Mainstreaming, Religious Literacy and Sensitivity, Do-No-Harm, Community Dialog, Grassroots mobilization, Disaster Risk Management, and Resilience.

Values

Human Rights, Gender Equality, Justice, Participation, Non-discrimination, Accountability, Conflict sensitivity, Environmental responsibility, Sustainability, Freedom of Religion

- Capacity development
- Networks and sharing of experience
- Coordination and facilitation
- Religious literacy
- Advocacy and voicing concerns

Assumptions

Digni has the necessary relevant capacity, resources and networks, risk analysis and management, as well as qualitative, accountable, transparent systems for quality control of member's and their partner's development projects.

Tested by Norad in evaluations and follow up; Digni's self-assessment and documentation of performance; and feedback from members and partners.

- Commitment to 'people left behind in development'
- Intercultural capacity
- Global faith networks
- Funds/support from Norwegian grassroots
- Shared faith/values with local partner
- Religious literacy
- Follow-up of projects and partners
- Some have local country offices

Assumptions

Members have the necessary relevant capacity, resources and networks, risk analysis and management, as well as qualitative, accountable, transparent systems for cooperation with partners in development projects.

Tested by Digni's organisational assessments of members, spot checks and follow-up activities.

- Language skills
- Organisational infrastructure
- Presence among 'people left behind in development'
- Relationship to member
- Relationship to community
- Links to key stakeholders
- Key thematic capacity
- Religious literacy

Assumptions

Local partners have qualitative, accountable project management and financial systems; risk analysis and management; relevant capacity and resources; power to influence key stakeholders such as local government and power elites and link them to communities for sustainable change.

Tested by Digni's organisational assessments of members, spot checks and follow-up activities.

- Organisation and Leadership training
- Linking communities to key stakeholders
- Engaging local government
- Mobilisation of local resources
- Local ownership to development
- Risk analysis
- Exit strategy for sustainability

Assumptions

Empowered individuals and communities who have strengthened their organisations have led to improvements in health, education, environment, peaceful relations, and income – which are vital for a life in dignity.

Tested by external project evaluations; end of project final reports; Digni's and member's visits to project communities.

The Change

Just, Inclusive and Sustainable Development



Assessment and documentation of change

Arenas for Learning

- Digni Network Meetings
- Capacity development – digital and physical
- Project visits
- Partner to partner exchange visits
- Member to member sharing and cooperation
- Link to research and knowledge institutions
- Organisational assessments
- Risk analysis and monitoring
- Thematic and project evaluations
- Project Empowerment Assessments
- Final Project Reports

Learning and adjustment for increased change