

Activity 0.05 Active Citizens Vision (Social Enterprise)

Module: Introduction Module

Duration: 90 Minutes

Social Development Themes: Social Enterprise

Summary

Participants explore the vision of the learning programme and take ownership of it. Through the lens of a Social Enterprise Leader participants work in groups to reflect on and respond to a series of questions about the vision of the programme. They then represent key points using images and share with other groups.

Learning Outcomes:

Understand Active Citizens

Preparations and Materials:

Stack of newspapers and magazines, paper, pens, coloured marker pens, glue, blu-tack or sellotape. Spaces should be prepared for the gallery walk.

Write the vision of the programme on a flipchart paper and place it where it can be seen.

A world where people are empowered to engage peacefully and effectively with other cultures in the sustainable development of their communities.

Vision statement, British Council Active Citizens programme

Approach:

Explain to the group that the vision of the programme is based the following ideas:

- (1) Building trust and understanding locally and globally
- (2) Achieving sustainable and prosperous development

During this activity, facilitators may find it useful to uncover other terms which reflect the same spirit/meaning and are embedded in local language and customs. (5 minutes)

Split the group into smaller groups (around four or five participants).

1. Share with the group that we will now be exploring the vision of the programme. Ask the group what do they understand by the term vision?
2. We are going to reflect on the vision and think about the challenges and opportunities we might meet on our journey. We're also going to identify ways the social enterprise movement can contribute to the vision.
3. Identify which groups will focus on 'building trust and understanding' and which will focus on 'sustainable and prosperous development'.
4. Give each group a sheet of flipchart. The flipchart shows a road heading towards the horizon (the vision).
5. Participants should spend around 15 minutes discussing each of the questions on the sheet. The first question is what do the group understand by the term 'building trust and understanding' or 'sustainable and prosperous development'. They write their comments on the horizon (15 mins).

6. The second question asks participants to give examples from their own experience of the challenges that face their communities in achieving 'trust and understanding' or 'sustainable and prosperous development'. Ask the group to write them in the left-hand column. (15 mins)

7. Repeat steps for questions three – what are they proud of in their community that could help in building trust and understanding or sustainable and prosperous development. (15mins).

Debrief:

- What was learned during this exercise? What inspired the group?
- Were there any common themes emerging across the groups in terms of challenges and opportunities?
- Were there any differences of opinion or perspective?
- What did the group understand by the term social enterprise?
- Do the group see any relationship between trust and understanding, sustainable development, and social enterprise?
- Share that the vision of this programme should reflect the vision of this group and that of the communities in which we work.

Finish by reiterating the bigger purpose of the programme (the British Council purpose) and how they as leaders in the social enterprise movement will be contributing to sustainable and prosperous communities based on trust and understanding. The programme is aimed at enabling them to take their place as leaders and to help achieve the vision more effectively, consciously and in collaboration with others.