

Unit 13: Network and Capacity Building

The objective of this session is

- to understand the meaning of network
- To understand the meaning of capacity building
- To understand the linkage between network and capacity building
- To be able to integrate it into practice
- To use it for the purpose of social innovation

Networking

- Oxford dictionary defines networking as the action or process of interacting with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts
- It is also about suggesting or offering a new collaborative approach for a community – centric development

What is effective networking?

- Have enough time for existing network and relationships
- Stay in touch
- Understand that it is a give and take approach
- Holistic benefit versus vested interest

Benefits of networking

- Make your network your strength
- Seek ideas from your networks
- Get access to investment, resources and referrals
- Ability to exchange best practices
- Helps boost confidence

The approach of SIX (Social Innovation Exchange)

1. Legitimize
2. Trust
3. Anchor
4. Disrupt
5. Action
6. Empower

SIX approach networking principles

- People focused
- Trust building
- Anchor and reframe
- Productive disruption
- Practice action
- Connects as peers
- Empower

Roles of network

- Storytellers and translators
- Enablers
- Designers
- Facilitators
- Extractors

Capacity Building

- Capacity building as per United Nations is the process of developing and strengthening the skills instincts, abilities, processes and resources that organizations and communities need to survive, adapt, thrive in a fast-changing world
- For example: SDG 17 (revitalizing the Global partnership for sustainable development)

Networks accelerate capacity building

- Strong infrastructure of relationships
- Positive impact on individual organizational capacity
- Increased impact on the issue of shared concern

3 key areas of capacity building

- Individual
- Organizational
- Societal

Components of capacity building

- Commit for the long term
- Co – create solutions with stakeholders
- Strengthen the ecosystem
- Support both technical and adaptive capacities
- Ground capacity building in equity

Stages in capacity building

- Conduct training need assessment
- Engage stakeholders on capacity need development
- Assess capacity needs and assets

- Formulate a capacity development response
- Implement a capacity development response
- Evaluate capacity development

Objectives of capacity building

- Improving skills for carrying out key functions
- Solving problems
- Defining and achieving objectives

4 types of capacity

- Emotional capacity
- Intellectual capacity
- Physical capacity
- Time capacity

Capacity building and social innovation

- Getting the fundamentals right
- Understanding the theories, concepts and frameworks of Social Innovation
- Integrating the approach daily
- Commitment to sustainability and community oriented

Key Takeaways

- Networking and capacity building go hand in hand
- Integral elements for fostering social innovation
- Helps in creating and exploring opportunities

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