Open-ended church and community mobilisation

Key principles for facilitators

For the purpose of this document ‘facilitators’ refers to those staff and volunteers who are responsible for the envisioning and mobilising of the church and the community. Normally there are 1-2 facilitators who work with each community.

The facilitators need to:

1. Invest time in building relationships with both the church and community leadership from the beginning of the project
2. Build the capacity of the core group
3. Address the values and attitudes of the church towards its community at an early stage
4. Give time for communities to reflect critically on their situation and to dream about the future, as this is a key factor in mobilising the community
5. Intentionally focus on creating a process that is sustainable beyond the facilitator’s involvement.
6. Encourage a distinctively Christian process, creating space for biblical reflection, prayer and celebration
7. Monitor the process closely and use changing contexts to strengthen, rather than undermine the process
8. Help the community set clear, realistic and flexible time-frames, mile-stones and rest periods to ensure the process maintains momentum
9. Ensure that key issues are addressed, such as HIV and AIDS

Click here for more details on each of these principles.

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