



CARE's Glossary of Development Terms

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Benefit-Harm Analysis: is a *tool* that helps programmers identify opportunities to help people exercise their rights, while lessening unintended negative impacts on people's rights.

Constituency Building: helps people better understand their role in the social, economic and political structures that sustain poverty and injustice; builds solidarity among them; and equips and supports them in their efforts to create a more just and equitable world. Constituency building helps increase public awareness of CARE, raise funds and advocate for pro-poor policies.

Enabling Environment: is the structural environment composed of public, private, civic and social institutions that foster—or inhibit—just and equitable societies. Just and equitable societies include such conditions as: good governance; strong civil society participation (freedom of expression, association and movement); sound legal, regulatory and political environment; pro-poor policies; and freedom from conflict. Promoting a sound and fair Enabling Environment is about supporting efforts to create a sound and fair institutional environment. It is about promoting efforts to ensure that Government recognizes and respects human rights; is open to political participation; promotes fair economic growth and trade; and provides a sound legal and regulatory framework. It is about promoting a political environment where civil society can safely engage and contribute to the political process and the development of the enabling environment. It is about promoting policies that encourage growth while ensuring that private sector and other economic forces operate in a socially responsible manner.

Empowerment: is the capability of people to engage with, influence and hold accountable the people and institutions that affect their lives. It is about a person feeling that he or she can create change. Empowerment is one of our six programming principles.

Facilitation: is an approach to development that helps various actors, civil society organizations and government institutions to work together toward a common goal. Components of facilitation are promoting dialogue, resolving conflicts, identifying common goals, creating win-win situations, etc.

Gender Equity and Diversity: Gender equity is when women and men enjoy equal status, opportunities and rights. Diversity is the inclusion of people and perspectives without regard to race, gender, religion, age or ethnicity. Gender equity and diversity provide a *lens* for our work to ensure we address discrimination and marginalization.

Household Livelihood Security (HLS): is adequate and sustainable access to income and resources to meet basic needs, such as food, potable water, health care, education and housing, as well as the time for participation in community life. It is CARE's programming *framework*, that is, a way to view and understand the world in which we work.

Human Conditions: are the necessary material conditions for a good and healthy life, including secure and adequate income and assets, enough food and clean water at all times, secure health care, educational opportunities, physical security, shelter, etc. Human Conditions is about supporting people's efforts to improve their lives. It is about people being able to work and make a living, as well as having for improving their standard of living. It is about having access to basic services: health care, education, and clean water. It is about people becoming livelihood-secure so that they can manage risks and cope with uncertainty. Essentially, improving human conditions is about people having opportunities and capabilities to improve their well-being and live a dignified life, while at the same time contributing to a secure future for generations to come.

Immediate Causes of Poverty: are directly related to life and death situations, such as famine, disease, conflict, natural disasters, etc.

Intermediate Causes of Poverty: are related to improving human conditions. They generally focus on: lack of access to basic services, lack of skills, lack of productivity, etc. *The intermediate level is where the majority of current development interventions are targeted.*

Partnership: is a relationship of trust and mutual accountability. Partnerships are based on shared vision, values, objectives, risks, benefits, joint contribution of resources, shared control and learning. It is one of our six programming principles.

Policy Advocacy: is a deliberate process of influencing those who make and implement policy decisions. It is a programming tool that CARE uses to complement other programming efforts.

Poverty Alleviation: is a term associated with anti-poverty campaigns that have focused on addressing the symptoms of poverty and not its underlying causes.

Poverty Reduction: is a term associated with the "needs-based" international development era. The focus is on *reducing* poverty, and not on eliminating it.

Poverty Eradication: is an approach to international development that focuses on addressing the structural causes of poverty, not merely the symptoms. It aims to empower the poor so they can determine how best to eradicate poverty.

Power: is the ability to know, articulate, pursue and achieve one's interest, even when others are opposed because of their own interests. It can be *multidimensional*, that is, interactive across economic, political, psychological and legal domains.

Rights-Based Approaches (RBA): deliberately and explicitly focus on people achieving the minimum conditions for living with dignity; that is, achieving their human rights.

These rights are validated by international law. RBA empowers people to claim and exercise their rights and fulfill their responsibilities.

Social Advocacy: seeks to change people's attitudes, beliefs and behaviors and thereby create an environment in which work on in policy advocacy, good governance, civil society building, gender equity and diversity can be more effective.

Social/Citizen Empowerment: is a process of learning and action that strengthens people's self-esteem, analytical and organizational skills, and political consciousness so they can gain a sense of their rights and join together to develop more democratic societies.

Social Justice: is the ability for each of us to develop and exercise our capabilities and express our experience, and to participate in determining our actions and the conditions of our actions. Where some groups are privileged and other oppressed, social justice requires explicitly acknowledging and attending to those group differences.

Social Positions: are people's positions in society and their ability to live in dignity. To improve social positions, one must focus on eliminating the barriers that underpin exclusion, inequality and powerlessness. Social Positions is about supporting people's efforts to improve their position and social status in their own society. It is about supporting people's efforts to live in dignity, rather than being viewed and treated as second or third class citizens in their own societies. In essence, it is about supporting people's efforts to use their voice and organizational capacity to weave the fabric for an inclusive and pro-poor society and not merely a pro-poor political environment.

Underlying Causes of Poverty: are combinations of political, social, economic and environmental factors that are at the heart of underdevelopment. They can exist at the national level and are often at the global level. They can include such things as corruption, unfair trade practices, environmental degradation, and marginalization based on gender, class or ethnicity.