

Advocacy

Key objective

To enable group members to voice their knowledge and experience and gain confidence in speaking out on issues of local importance

TOOLS required

Relevant pages from any Guide on any topic seen as locally relevant, Facilitation Skills Workbook, PILLARS Workbook

Personnel required

Trainer to share skills in facilitation and to give group facilitators and members confidence in discussion and in sharing knowledge. Consultant to lead partner staff and others through the PILLARS process workshops to gain skills in gathering knowledge and in writing.

Anticipated outcomes

- Increased confidence of group members in expressing their knowledge and ideas
- Groups equipped with skills that enable them to document and share their knowledge and ideas with others, including local decision-makers and leaders
- Increased awareness of needs and priorities of groups that are often marginalized because of their language, ethnicity, gender, educational background
- Increased awareness and ability of group to access their rights
- Democratic processes of decision-making and change encouraged at local level.

Suggested approaches

- Inform or involve local decision-makers and local leaders in production and use of printed materials addressing issues of local concern or interest.
- Facilitate PILLARS training workshops that equip local development and community workers to document and share their knowledge and experience.
- Use learning from specific PILLARS Guides to encourage groups to speak out on issues of concern such as HIV/AIDS or food security.

Case studies

- A guide on harmful traditional practices written in Wolaitigna was shared with local government – who were very positive about its wider use.
- The workshops with the Mabban people in refugee camps gave them confidence to plan for repatriation and to access help towards this process.