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Celebrating success

Celebrating the new wall

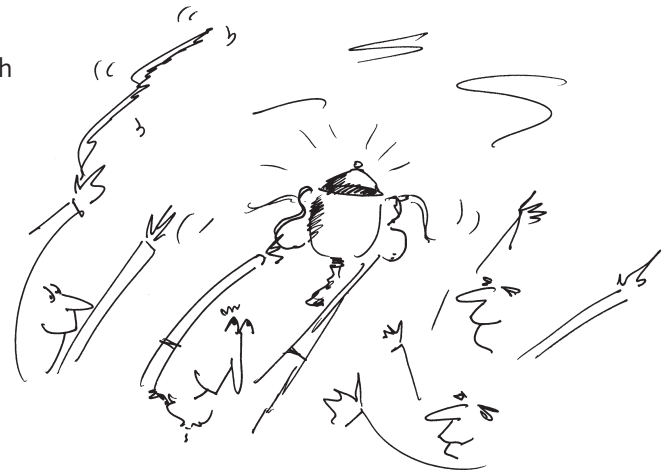
- *Nehemiah 6:15-16 tells us that the wall of Jerusalem was completed. What do these verses tell us about how successful the project was? Do people see the work of God in our projects?*
 - *Chapter 12 tells us about the dedication of the wall.*
- *How was it celebrated?*
 - *Why do we think Nehemiah dedicated the wall to God?*
 - *Do we dedicate our projects to God?*
 - *What creative ways can we think of to celebrate the success of projects we have completed?*

When the project is completed, it is worth considering how to celebrate its success. Give stakeholders and project staff an opportunity to look back and compare what things are like now with what they were like before. If a building was constructed as part of the project, consider inviting all the stakeholders and others to a formal opening ceremony. A thanksgiving service might be used to celebrate other types of projects.

Celebration is a way of recognising all that people have contributed to the project. Hopefully, beneficiaries will have been empowered by participating in the project from start to finish. Holding a celebration can inspire them to take on further community development projects in the future.

No project goes smoothly. Even very successful projects will have experienced problems along the way. It is important to reflect on these and learn from them in order to improve projects in the future. It is also important to share our learning with others, such as the community, local authorities, donors and other agencies. The way to share learning will vary, depending on whom it is being shared with. For example:

- hold a meeting to share learning with the community
- write a newspaper article to share learning with people in the local area
- write a case study of the project for a newsletter to share learning with other agencies
- present a paper at a conference.



Celebrating success with the supporters, coach, players, manager, sponsors...

