

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Community-Based Participatory Programme Planning in Rural Development: A Case Study of Agricultural Initiatives in Northern Nigeria

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Introduction

Northern Nigeria faces significant rural development challenges, deeply rooted in its socio-economic and environmental context. This region has higher poverty rates compared to the southern regions in Nigeria. According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), over 70% of the population in Northern Nigeria lives below the poverty line (NBS, 2019). The region experiences frequent food shortages due to poor agricultural practices, climate change, and insecurity. FAO (2017) reports that Northern Nigeria is particularly vulnerable to food insecurity, affecting millions of households.

Rural regions in Northern Nigeria experience deficient infrastructure, characterised by substandard road networks, restricted access to potable water, and inadequate healthcare and educational institutions (World Bank, 2018). The presence of insurgent groups such as Boko Haram has led to significant displacement and disruption of agricultural activities, exacerbating the region's socio-economic problems (UNDP, 2019). This area of the North in Nigeria prone to climate change impacts such as droughts and desertification, which adversely affect agricultural productivity and livelihoods (Olagunju, 2015).

Community-based participatory programme planning (CBPPP) plays a crucial role in addressing these challenges by

involving community members in the decision-making process, ensuring that development initiatives are designed to their specific needs and circumstances. By involving local communities in planning and implementation, CBPPP may aid a sense of ownership and commitment to the projects. This participatory approach may increase the likelihood of sustainable development outcomes and address the actual needs of the community. For example, participatory rural appraisal (PRA) techniques can help identify the most pressing issues and prioritize interventions (Cornwall & Pratt, 2003). Participatory approaches enable communities to develop and implement locally appropriate strategies for climate change adaptation, such as sustainable agricultural practices and water management techniques (Ensor & Berger, 2009).

Rural development in Northern Nigeria faces multifaceted challenges that necessitate effective and targeted strategies. The region's socio-economic conditions, environmental vulnerabilities, and conflict dynamics underscore the importance of well-designed rural development initiatives.

Northern Nigeria is plagued by high poverty rates, with over 70% of the population living below the poverty line (National Bureau of Statistics, 2019). Effective rural development strategies are seen to be crucial in lifting these communities out of poverty by

creating job opportunities, improving agricultural productivity, and providing access to essential services. Frequent food shortages in Northern Nigeria are exacerbated by poor agricultural practices and climate change. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that the region's food insecurity affects millions of households (FAO, 2017). Addressing this requires strategies that enhance agricultural techniques, ensure sustainable farming practices, and improve food distribution systems.

Insufficient infrastructure constitutes a major impediment to development in rural Northern Nigeria. Inadequate road infrastructure, restricted access to potable water, and insufficient healthcare and educational services hinder economic development and overall quality of life (World Bank, 2018). Effective rural development strategies must prioritize infrastructure improvements to facilitate access to markets, healthcare, and education. Insurgent groups like Boko Haram have caused widespread displacement and disruption, further complicating development efforts (United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], 2019). Strategies that address the root causes of conflict and promote stability are essential for sustainable rural development. These strategies can include community-based peacebuilding initiatives and socio-economic programs that reduce vulnerability to insurgency.

Northern Nigeria is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, including droughts and desertification. These environmental changes adversely affect agricultural productivity and livelihoods (Olagunju, 2015). Rural development strategies must incorporate climate adaptation measures such as water conservation, reforestation, and the promotion of climate-resilient crops to ensure environmental and economic resilience.

Research tailored to the specific conditions of Northern Nigeria is limited, making it difficult to generalize findings from other regions (Mansuri & Rao, 2012). Detailed case studies and context-specific research are necessary to understand the unique challenges and opportunities of implementing participatory approaches in this region. Despite the theoretical endorsement of participatory approaches, there is a scarcity of empirical studies that systematically evaluate the impact of CBPPP on rural development outcomes in Northern Nigeria. Most existing studies are descriptive and lack rigorous evaluation methodologies. This gap underscores the need for more robust research designs that can provide concrete evidence of the effectiveness of CBPPP. Comparative analyses are essential to understand the relative benefits and limitations of participatory approaches compared to top-down or externally driven development models (Cornwall & Pratt, 2003). These comparisons can inform best practices and guide the design of more effective development programs.

This study will investigate the effectiveness of community-based participatory programme planning in enhancing agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria. It will evaluate the key factors that contribute to or hinder its success, and evaluate the impact that the programmes have on the socio-economic status of the rural communities.

This study will provide policymakers with empirical evidence on the effectiveness of CBPPP, enabling them to make informed decisions regarding rural development policies. This evidence can highlight the benefits of participatory approaches and justify their inclusion in national development strategies. Insights from the study can inform the design of training programs for local development practitioners. These programs can enhance the skills

and knowledge needed to implement and manage participatory projects effectively.

By highlighting successful participatory approaches, the study encourages the adoption of practices that ensure long-term sustainability. Rural communities can benefit from initiatives that are tailored to their specific needs and that leverage local knowledge and resources. The study fills a gap in the literature on the effectiveness of CBPPP in rural Northern Nigeria. It provides a comprehensive analysis that can serve as a benchmark for future research and a reference point for scholars studying similar contexts. This study looks at how involved the community is in planning agricultural programs in Northern Nigeria. It also looks at how setting up community-based engagement programs affects the long-term viability and effectiveness of agricultural development efforts in Northern Nigeria. Finally, this study will show the challenges and restrictions that come up when trying to implement community-based participatory program planning for rural agricultural development. This study is divided into five sections; introduction, literature review, methodology, discussion of findings, conclusion and recommendation.

2. Literature Review

When evaluating the effectiveness of community-based participatory program planning in rural development, particularly in the context of agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria, it's crucial to address several conceptual issues and employ relevant theories. One of the primary conceptual issues is the level and nature of community engagement. Effective participatory planning requires active involvement of local stakeholders in decision-making processes. However, disparities in power dynamics and socio-economic status can hinder genuine participation (Mansuri & Rao, 2013). The cultural context of rural communities in Northern Nigeria plays a significant role in shaping agricultural practices and community development initiatives. Understanding local customs, beliefs, and social structures is critical for designing effective programs (Uphoff, 1992). Evaluating the long-term sustainability of agricultural initiatives is another conceptual challenge. Many programs may show short-term success, but their ability to sustain benefits over time is often questionable (Pretty, 1995).

Theoretical Review

This study adopted the participatory development theory and social capital theory. The former posits that the importance of involving community members in the development process. According to Cornwall and Jewkes (1995), participation is not merely a means to an end but a transformative process that empowers communities. It emphasizes the active involvement of local communities in the development process, asserting that such participation is not only a means to achieve better outcomes but is also essential for empowerment and social transformation. It recognizes the value of local knowledge, cultures, and practices. Direct engagement with community members allows for the incorporation of their insights and experiences, making initiatives more relevant and effective (Cornwall & Jewkes, 1995). A core principle of participatory development is the empowerment of marginalized communities. By involving local stakeholders in planning and implementation, the process helps build their capacity and confidence, enabling them to influence decisions that affect their lives (Mansuri & Rao, 2013). This approach challenges traditional top-down development models, advocating for collaborative decision-making and local ownership of initiatives. In

the context of Northern Nigeria, participatory development can enhance local ownership of agricultural initiatives, leading to more sustainable outcomes.

While social capital theory emphasizes that social networks, relationships, and trust among community members significantly influence collective action and development outcomes (Putnam, 1995). It further posits that social networks, relationships, and the norms of reciprocity and trustworthiness inherent in a community significantly influence collective action and development outcomes. This theory emphasizes that the social connections and interactions among individuals can yield various benefits, including improved cooperation, enhanced information exchange, and greater community resilience. In rural areas of Northern Nigeria, where social cohesion is essential for effective collaboration, building social capital can enhance the effectiveness of community-based agricultural initiatives. Programs that foster trust and facilitate networks among farmers are likely to yield better results. In development studies, social capital is often linked to improved governance, economic performance, and social cohesion. The theory highlights the importance of social networks. The connections individuals have within their community can create pathways for sharing resources, knowledge, and support (Bourdieu, 1986). These networks can facilitate access to opportunities and information, which are crucial for individual and collective development. This is particularly relevant in rural contexts, where cooperation is essential for addressing common challenges like agricultural development. For instance, in rural areas of Northern Nigeria, fostering social capital through community-based participatory approaches can enhance the effectiveness of agricultural initiatives by building trust among farmers and facilitating collaboration (Uphoff, 1992).

Community-Based Participatory Programme Planning

Community-Based Participatory Programme Planning (CBPPP) is a collaborative approach that actively involves community members in all stages of the program development process, from identifying issues to implementing and evaluating solutions. This approach is particularly relevant in the context of agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria, where local knowledge and community dynamics play a critical role in sustainable development.

CBPPP emphasizes the involvement of various stakeholders, including farmers, local leaders, NGOs, and government agencies. By engaging these groups, the program can better reflect the community's needs and priorities. For example, in Northern Nigeria, involving farmers in discussions about agricultural practices ensures that the chosen strategies are culturally appropriate and practically applicable.

One of the primary advantages of CBPPP is its reliance on local knowledge and expertise. Community members possess insights into local ecosystems, traditional farming practices, and market conditions that external experts may overlook. This can lead to more effective agricultural interventions tailored to the specific context of the community. For instance, integrating indigenous agricultural techniques with modern practices can enhance sustainability and productivity.

It fosters empowerment by giving community members a voice in decision-making processes. This builds their capacity to not only participate in planning but also in managing and evaluating programs. Empowered communities are more likely to

take ownership of initiatives, leading to better outcomes. In Northern Nigeria, training local farmers in participatory planning methods can enhance their skills and confidence, making them more adept at advocating for their needs.

CBPPP incorporates feedback loops, allowing for ongoing assessment and adjustment of programs based on community input and changing circumstances. This adaptability is crucial in agriculture, where environmental conditions and market dynamics can shift rapidly. For example, if a newly implemented crop variety is not performing well, community feedback can guide adjustments to the program.

Review of Previous Studies on Community-Based Participatory Programme Planning in Rural Development

Community-based participatory program planning (CBPPP) has become widely recognized as an important strategy for rural development. The strategy stresses community people's active participation in the discovery, planning, execution, and assessment of development initiatives, ensuring that programs are adapted to local needs and goals. Numerous studies have looked at the usefulness of CBPPP in improving rural development outcomes, with a particular emphasis on its potential to promote sustainable development, community ownership, and social equality.

CBPPP's key concept is that community members are best positioned to assess their problems and suggest appropriate solutions. Studies have repeatedly shown that incorporating community people in planning processes increases a sense of ownership, which improves the sustainability of development plans.

According to a review by Mansuri and Rao (2013), including communities in decision-making enhances the chance of project success substantially. The study emphasizes the value of local knowledge and rural people's ability to participate significantly in development planning.

Rural community empowerment is a crucial result of the CBPPP. Nikkhah and Redzuan (2010) found that participatory planning increases community members' ability to participate in decision-making processes, increasing self-reliance. Their research in Iran found that when rural people are empowered via participation, they gain the confidence to take on leadership positions in the administration of development initiatives, contributing to long-term rural resilience.

CBPPP helps to guarantee that development activities are appropriate for the unique context of rural areas. Chambers (1997) found that typical top-down methods for rural development frequently result in initiatives that are misaligned with local demands, resulting in inefficiencies and failures. In contrast, participatory planning fosters the inclusion of local perspectives, ensuring that the final plans are appropriate for the community's socioeconomic realities and cultural values. This strategy has been found to increase the overall efficacy of development programs.

While CBPPP has several advantages, some studies have identified issues with its implementation. For example, Cleaver (2001) stated that power inequalities within communities might hinder meaningful engagement since underprivileged groups may not have the same impact as more powerful individuals. This may result in the exclusion of women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups from the planning process. Furthermore, Cooke

and Kothari (2001) found that participatory methods might be co-opted by foreign development organizations or local elites, decreasing their efficacy in attaining truly inclusive rural development.

Several case studies have demonstrated the favorable effects of CBPPP on rural development results. For example, Mohan and Stokke's (2000) study of participatory rural development initiatives in Africa and Asia found that when communities actively participate in the planning and execution of development programs, livelihoods, infrastructure, and access to essential services improve significantly.

This is corroborated by a study conducted by the World Bank, which showed that the use of participatory methods may result in a fairer allocation of resources and higher levels of satisfaction among those who benefit from projects. Numerous elements have been found through research to support CBPPP's effectiveness in rural development. The necessity of solid institutional backing and strong local leadership is paramount. Research conducted by Uphoff (1999) and other scholars has underscored the significance of capacity-building programs that furnish communities with the requisite tools and competencies to enable substantial engagement. Furthermore, to ensure the viability of participatory programs, government agencies and development partners must provide sufficient financing and demonstrate a sustained commitment.

According to recent studies, CBPPP's future depends on fusing cutting-edge technology with time-tested participatory techniques. The use of digital platforms to improve community involvement in rural development planning has been studied by Hailu et al. (2018). These tools improve the openness and inclusivity of planning procedures by facilitating real-time contact between community members and development organizations. CBPPP empowers rural communities, increases the relevance of development projects, and cultivates a feeling of ownership by

centering the development process on community members. Nonetheless, the analyzed research highlighted issues including power disparities and elite appropriation.

3. Methodology

With an emphasis on agricultural projects in Northern Nigeria, this study will use a descriptive survey approach to assess the efficacy of community-based participatory program planning in rural development. since the design makes it possible to gather quantitative data via questionnaires by evaluating the opinions, attitudes, and experiences of community members on the agricultural initiatives and program implemented. Respondents (community residents, program implementers, and local leaders) will be chosen at random from the designated communities using a straightforward random sample approach. There will be 250 respondents in the sample. 150 people of the community, 50 organizers and implementers of the program, and 50 local leaders are included in this. The sample size is chosen to allow for data saturation and is thought to be enough for producing trustworthy results.

A structured questionnaire will be the main tool used to collect data. The survey will comprise closed-ended and Likert-scale questions designed to assess the following: the degree of community involvement in participatory planning; the impact of this involvement on the sustainability of agricultural initiatives; and the challenges and limitations related to the implementation of participatory planning. The internal consistency of the Likert-scale items will be evaluated using Cronbach's alpha coefficient to assess the instrument's reliability.

4. Findings and Discussion

Findings

Table 1: The level of community involvement in participatory programme planning processes within agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria.

Descriptive Statistics					
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Question_1	250	1.00	4.00	3.2062	.87724
Question_2	250	1.00	4.00	3.0206	.95720
Question_3	250	1.00	4.00	3.3505	.85442
Question_4	250	1.00	4.00	3.3093	.85830
Question_5	250	1.00	4.00	3.1134	.91146
Valid N (listwise)	250				

Source: Author's compilation. using SPSS 20.0 Version (2024)

In table 1, question 1 above shows the responses from respondents on if the local community is actively involved in the decision-making process for agricultural programs. The mean score of 3.2062 exceeds the normal average score of 2.5. Question 2 indicates that the agricultural projects include the perspectives and input of community people during the planning phase, as seen by an average score of 3.0206, surpassing the usual mean score of 2.5. Question 3 demonstrates adequate representation of all community

groups (farmers, women, adolescents) in the program planning process, as evidenced by an average score of 3.3505, exceeding the normal average score of 2.5. Conversely, Question 4 indicates that the community is consistently informed on the advancements and results of the agricultural projects, as seen by a mean score of 3.3039, surpassing the usual average score of 2.5. Question 5 demonstrates that the participatory planning process accurately represents the genuine needs and objectives of the local community, as evidenced by a mean score of 3.1144, exceeding the typical average score of 2.5.

Table 2: The impact of community-based participatory programme planning on the sustainability and success of agricultural development initiatives in Northern Nigeria.

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Question_6	250	1.00	4.00	2.9897	1.07524
Question_7	250	1.00	4.00	3.0722	1.04331
Question_8	250	1.00	4.00	2.9278	1.07284
Question_9	250	1.00	4.00	2.8351	1.23895
Question_10	250	1.00	4.00	3.1237	.84481
Valid N (listwise)	250				

Source: Author's compilation. using SPSS 20.0 Version (2024)

Table 2, question 6, demonstrates that community engagement in program development has positively influenced the sustained effectiveness of agricultural programs, as seen by a mean score of 2.9897, above the average mean score of 2.5. Question 7 indicates that the sustainability of agricultural projects is greater in communities that employ participatory planning, as evidenced by a mean score of 3.0722, above the average mean score of 2.5. Question 8 demonstrates that the local community is dedicated to

sustaining agricultural initiatives, as evidenced by their participation in the planning process, reflected in a mean score of 2.9278, surpassing the average mean score of 2.5. Question 9 demonstrates that participatory program planning has enhanced the overall productivity of agricultural projects in this region, as evidenced by a mean score of 2.8351, surpassing the usual mean score of 2.5. Question 10 ultimately demonstrates that the efficacy of agricultural initiatives may be ascribed to the cooperative endeavours of community members and program planners. The mean score of 3.1237 exceeds the normal mean score of 2.5.

Table 3: The challenges and limitations faced in implementing community-based participatory programme planning in rural agricultural development in Northern Nigeria.

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Question_11	250	1.00	4.00	2.7732	1.02576
Question_12	250	1.00	4.00	2.6082	1.08548
Question_13	250	1.00	4.00	3.0928	.63052
Question_14	250	1.00	4.00	3.0928	.63052
Question_15	250	1.00	4.00	2.9588	.72050
Valid N (listwise)	250				

Source: Author's compilation. using SPSS 20.0 Version (2024)

Table 3, question 11, indicates that the cultural disparities between the planners and the local community provide considerable barriers to participatory planning, as evidenced by a mean score of 2.7732, surpassing the normal mean score of 2.5. Question 12 indicates that budgetary constraints hinder the comprehensive execution of community-based participatory planning processes, as evidenced by a mean score of 2.6082, surpassing the usual mean score of 2.5. Question 13 illustrates that, fundamentally, logistical challenges, including distance and infrastructure, impede successful community engagement in the planning process. The average score of 3.0928 exceeds the normal average score of 2.5. Question 14 further indicates a deficiency in training and understanding among community members about the implementation of participatory planning, as seen by a mean score of 3.0928, which exceeds the usual average score of 2.5. Question 15 on Table 3 indicates that the duration necessary for community involvement in planning frequently postpones the execution of agricultural plans, as evidenced by a mean score of 2.9588, surpassing the normal average score of 2.5.

Table 4

The results and corresponding statistics are displayed in Tables 1 to 3. The application of Cronbach's Alpha to assess data

reliability facilitated the utilisation of descriptive statistics displayed in Tables 1 to 3, employing mean scores and standard deviations, alongside the One-Sample t-test results to evaluate all formulated null hypotheses. The Cronbach's Alpha coefficient for this set of 15 questions is around 0.511 (51.1%), indicating a satisfactory outcome. This signifies a considerable degree of internal consistency.

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.511	15

Source: Author's compilation. using SPSS 20.0 Version (2024)

Test of Hypotheses

The hypotheses were tested using One-Sample T test.

Test of Hypothesis One

H₀₁: There is no significant involvement of the community in participatory programme planning processes within agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria.

Table 5: One-Sample T Test for Hypothesis One

	Test Value = 0					
	T	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Question_1	35.996	250	.000	3.20619	3.0294	3.3830
Question_2	31.080	250	.000	3.02062	2.8277	3.2135

Question_3	38.621	250	.000	3.35052	3.1783	3.5227
Question_4	37.973	250	.000	3.30928	3.1363	3.4823
Question_5	28.588	250	.000	3.02062	2.8109	3.2304

Source: Author's compilation. using SPSS 20.0 Version (2024)

Table 5 demonstrates that all significance levels are at 1%, as indicated by the .000 significance levels, resulting in the rejection of the first null hypothesis. This indicates substantial community engagement in participatory program planning within agricultural programs in Northern Nigeria.

Test of Hypothesis Two

H₀₂: Community-based participatory programme planning has no significant impact on the sustainability and success of agricultural development initiatives in Northern Nigeria.

Table 6: One-Sample T Test for Hypothesis Two

	Test Value = 0					
	T	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Question_6	27.385	250	.000	2.98969	2.7730	3.2064
Question_7	29.001	250	.000	3.07216	2.8619	3.2824
Question_8	26.878	250	.000	2.92784	2.7116	3.1441
Question_9	22.537	250	.000	2.83505	2.5853	3.0848
Question_10	36.416	250	.000	3.12371	2.9534	3.2940

Source: Author's compilation. using SPSS 20.0 Version (2024)

The findings from Table 6 demonstrate that all significant levels are at 1% or lower, as evidenced by the significance levels of .000. Consequently, the second null hypothesis is rejected, signifying that the community-based participatory program planning significantly influences the sustainability and success of agricultural development initiatives in Northern Nigeria.

Test of Hypothesis Three

H₀₃: There are no significant challenges or limitations faced in implementing community-based participatory programme planning in rural agricultural development in Northern Nigeria.

Table 7: One-Sample T Test for Hypothesis Three

	Test Value = 0					
	T	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Question_11	26.627	250	.000	2.77320	2.5665	2.9799
Question_12	23.665	250	.000	2.60825	2.3895	2.8270
Question_13	48.310	250	.000	3.09278	2.9657	3.2199
Question_14	48.310	250	.000	3.09278	2.9657	3.2199
Question_15	40.445	250	.000	2.95876	2.8136	3.1040

Source: Author's compilation. using SPSS 20.0 Version (2024)

The results from Table 7 reveal that all significant levels are within 1%, as seen by the significance levels of .000; thus, the third null hypothesis is rejected meaning that there are significant challenges or limitations faced in implementing community-based participatory programme planning in rural agricultural development in Northern Nigeria.

Discussion of Findings

The analysis of the study results provides important insights into the involvement, impact, and challenges associated with community-based participatory programme planning in agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria. The analysis of the study results provides important insights into the involvement, impact, and challenges associated with community-based

participatory programme planning in agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria.

Hypothesis One:

The outcomes of the one-sample t-test for hypothesis one (Table 5) demonstrate that all significance levels are within 1%, as evidenced by the p-values of .000 for all questions. The statistical significance results in the rejection of the null hypothesis. Therefore, there is significant involvement of the community in participatory programme planning processes. This suggests that the communities are actively engaged in shaping agricultural initiatives, playing a key role in decision-making processes that affect the success of such programs.

Hypothesis Two:

The results from hypothesis two (Table 6) show that all p-values are .000, once again indicating statistical significance at the 1% level. As a result, the null hypothesis is rejected. The findings indicate that community-based participatory programme planning has a significant impact on the sustainability and success of agricultural development initiatives in Northern Nigeria. This highlights the effectiveness of involving community members in decision-making, leading to more sustainable and successful agricultural outcomes.

Hypothesis Three:

For hypothesis three (Table 7), the significant levels across all questions are .000, rejecting the null hypothesis. This implies that there are significant challenges and limitations faced in implementing community-based participatory programme planning. These challenges may include lack of resources, inadequate capacity building, or other socio-economic factors that hinder the effective participation of community members in planning processes.

5. Conclusion

The findings from the analysis of the three hypotheses underscore the importance of community involvement in participatory programme planning in Northern Nigeria. Communities are not only significantly involved but also contribute positively to the sustainability and success of agricultural initiatives. However, challenges still persist in the implementation of participatory approaches, which must be addressed to maximize the impact of these programs. Addressing these limitations could further enhance the effectiveness of agricultural initiatives and foster greater development in rural areas. In sum, the study affirms the value of community-based participatory programme planning while also recognizing the need for strategies to mitigate the challenges that arise during its implementation.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study on the effectiveness of community-based participatory programme planning in agricultural initiatives in Northern Nigeria, the following recommendations are made:

- While the study shows significant community involvement, there is still a need to further strengthen the engagement process. Capacity-building initiatives must be established to furnish community members with the requisite skills and information for effective participation in decision-making.
- This will ensure that all stakeholders, particularly those in rural areas, can contribute meaningfully to the planning and implementation of agricultural initiatives.
- One of the key challenges identified in the study is the limitation of resources for successful participation. It is recommended that the government, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders provide financial and logistical support to ensure that community-based participatory planning can be carried out effectively. Adequate funding will empower communities and improve the sustainability of agricultural programs.
- Strengthening the collaboration between government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and rural

communities is essential for the success of participatory planning initiatives. This will help in identifying gaps, understanding the needs of the community, and making adjustments as needed to improve the effectiveness of the programs. These partnerships can provide the technical, financial, and administrative support needed to overcome implementation challenges. Encouraging dialogue between these groups can also foster a shared understanding of the community's needs and priorities.

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