

Changing Lives, Changing Societies
ICA's Experience in Nepal and in the World

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ICA Nepal

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Acronyms

ABCD	Asset Based Community Development
CNT	Centre for Neighbourhood Technology
CMPP	Cooperative Members Participation Programme
CSI	Civil Society Index
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DNA	Deoxyribo Nucleic Acid
DTAHA	Decentralised Transformative Approaches to HIV and AIDS
GFM	Group Facilitation Method
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HDP	Human Development Project
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
ICA	Institute of Cultural Affairs
INGO	International Non Governmental Organisation
IERD	International Exposition of Rural Development
ITHD	Institute of Training and Human Development
JHF	Jean Houston Foundation
LENS	Leadership Effectiveness and New Strategies
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
PELP	Participatory Leaders Training Programme (translated from Spanish)
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PSP	Participatory Strategic Planning
SA	Social Artistry
ToP	Technology of Participation
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VDC	Village Development Committee

Preface

Started in Chicago, USA in 1963, The Institute of Cultural Affairs was developed as a pioneering research organization as the initial laboratory for the development of human capacity building methods and approaches. It started its work taking the “5th City” community on Chicago’s West Side as an initial laboratory. From there, this work extended globally, with international offices and projects established starting in 1968.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs International is a global network of national member organizations located in various countries from all over the continents. It has played an active role in transforming the dilapidating economies particularly after the Second World War in Asia and Europe towards prosperity.

Though established quite late, ICA Nepal is emerged as one of the leading NGOs in Nepal. Since its inception, it has carried out massive development activities transforming thousands of lives in Nepal. ICA Nepal, since its inception has always been guided by the principles and philosophies of ICA International. This has led ICA Nepal to take many challenges enabling it to involve in diverse developmental activities.

This book summarizes the opinions and experiences of people involved in ICA through various developmental activities. It explains the role of ICAs in global development. It elucidates various activities developed and implemented by ICAs in transforming deprived communities all over the world. The book has covered the 50 years’ of global human development from the perspective of its own involvement. It covers issues such as how we can bring changes in the local area. The book has elucidated overarching role of facilitators in community development. It relies on the premises that human development activities are possible if they are dealt with human ingenuity and skill.

The book covers issues such as the role of leadership on individual, organizational and community transformation. It emphasizes on the need of empowered individuals on bringing changes in the society. The book has mentioned the role of facilitative skills on managing conflict to carrying out research in a participatory way. It has covered several examples of application of facilitative skills. The book has also included case examples of applications of participatory approaches in education, from basic to tertiary level.

The book is very much inspired by the logo of ICA itself, called a “wedge-blade”. It represents the work of The Institute of Cultural Affairs guiding all the aspiring ICAs globally. Two halves of the circle symbolizes history and the future, with the line at the centre representing where we stand now – the present. It drives us towards bright future with hope and expectation for better living.

Many authors and facilitators who have spent most part of their life in ICAs have contributed for this book too. This book is the result of their decades of experiences of working in the community from local to national level. The book is the testimony of experienced people belonging to ICAs covering almost a half century of experiences. The book could be a handbook of memoir of human soul who have spent almost whole of their life in bringing change in life and societies or as a guiding companion for the people who would like to work in the community by applying participatory tools and techniques at local to national level.