



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

CEM EASE EXPERIENCES

By:

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Community Engagement Approach for the EASE Project



- Building upon the principles of collaboration, participation, and empowerment, our approach to community engagement has been instrumental in ensuring the success and sustainability of this transformative initiative.
- Here's how we've leveraged similar strategies used by Community Energy Malawi (CEM) to engage our community under the EASE project:



Tailored Needs Assessment:

- To understand the energy requirements and aspirations of our targeted communities.
 - Questionnaire development (Kobo)
 - Data collection
 - Data analysis
- This assessment guided our project planning and helped us tailor our solutions to meet the specific needs of the community.

Stakeholder Consultation and Collaboration:



- Actively engaged with local leaders, local structures (VDCs, ADCs), community organizations, schools, churches and individuals throughout the project implementation process.
- By fostering collaboration and partnership, we ensured that the EASE project was aligned with the priorities and aspirations of the community.



Capacity Building and Training:

- Extensive training programs to equip community members with the knowledge and skills necessary to harness the benefits of the EASE project.
- Technical training on infrastructure operation to capacity building in energy management.
- Training initiatives empowered community members to take ownership of their energy future.



Education and Awareness-Raising:

- We implemented targeted education and awareness-raising campaigns to inform the community about the benefits and opportunities associated with the EASE.
- Through community meetings, informational materials, and local media channels, we ensured that community members were well-informed and engaged throughout the project lifecycle.

Inclusive Decision-Making and Empowerment:



- Inclusive decision-making processes were at the heart of our community engagement approach. We facilitated opportunities for all community members, including women and marginalized groups, to actively participate in project planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- By empowering community members to shape their energy future, we fostered a sense of ownership and pride in the EASE project.



Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning:

- Throughout the project implementation, we established robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress and measure impact.
- Regular feedback loops with community members and stakeholders allowed us to continuously learn and adapt our engagement strategies to ensure effectiveness and relevance.

Sustainability and Long-Term Engagement:



- As we transitioned from project implementation to long-term sustainability, we remain committed to ongoing engagement with the community. By fostering partnerships with local structures/organizations and exploring opportunities for income generation and economic development, we ensured that the benefits of the EASE project would endure for years to come.



Conclusion

- Our community engagement approach has been integral to the success of the EASE project. By embracing principles of collaboration, participation, and empowerment, we have not only delivered energy access but also fostered resilience, inclusivity, and sustainable development within our community.

THANK YOU!

