

CE Forum Webinar

CE in Area-Based Approaches

December 5, 2023, 11:05AM

1h 33m 0s

The [Community Engagement Forum](#), with the [CCCM Area-Based Approach Working Group](#), offered a webinar on Community Engagement in Area-Based Approaches for CCCM and other actors with real cases from Afghanistan and Burkina Faso. This is a summary of the event with links and materials available.

Supporting women's shops – by and for the community – in Afghanistan

Jahanzeb Daudzai from Enabled Children Initiative, previously with [NRC Afghanistan](#) shared his experience working in Eastern Afghanistan, Nangarhar province, in 2016. The project was implemented with 2500 Returnees (75%) and IDPs (25%) families in the settlement of Sheikh Mesri, established in 2005, and more villages were growing around the area. The village is 14km away from the province capital, Jalalabad city.



The NRC CCCM Teams also established a Women's Committee: thanks to the relationship built with the committee and with some flexible funding available, NRC worked with the members of the committee to implement a community-led project. As a first step, the team facilitated a problem identification session to discuss how the funding could support women in the community. The key issues raised by the women included:

- The long distance and unsafe journey to markets in the city, presenting a challenge to women in accessing these markets.
- Women's economic exclusion in general (in terms of both livelihoods and access to markets).
- The lack of safe 'women's spaces' in the community, especially for women who did not have a friendship with, or relation to, the wives of community leaders (who would often host informal gatherings of women).

Based on the workshops, the community and NRC worked together to design a project to establish women's shops. Assessments and consultations on the proposed project took place with the community, local leaders, and neighbourhood committees that were community representation structures supported by the CCCM teams to promote community engagement in site management and service delivery and were composed of 6 members, 2 of which were representatives of the host communities.



The Mixed Community Committees in Burkina Faso

The Agora project is a joint initiative implemented by [ACTED](#) and [IMPACT](#) in the city of Fada N'Gourma in the east region of Burkina Faso two years ago. IDPs were displaced by conflict-related insecurity, going to urban centres looking for safe places and economic opportunities. With the large scale of IDPs (70.920) going to the city, there was a need to review the Fada N'Gourma's

Community Development Plan initially created by the authorities for the 72.200 host community population.

After an area-based assessment, participatory prioritization sessions were held with the community and authorities to validate the findings and define and plan together which and where the intervention would be placed. Authorities played an essential role in the identification of community leaders. Mixed Community Committees were set, including people from IDP and Host communities, male and female representatives, and people with disabilities. The project was explained in general assemblies to understand who would like to be part of the community representative group, and a vote was made in later days. Following this process, capacity was built on the committee's roles and responsibilities, and the link between them and the authorities and humanitarian organizations grew with time and strengthened capacities. Other challenges were related to the size of the city and managing the community expectations.

The ABA WG presented the progress on the revision and pilot training on CCMM in ABA; today, the package comprises 10 sessions covering theoretical and practical topics in assessing, implementing, and handing over responsibilities in ABA modalities in humanitarian responses.

Check the [Community Engagement Forum Channel](#) on YouTube for the complete webinar recording, go to the [#CE-and-Area-Based-Approaches](#) at the Community Engagement



Forum for more CE & ABA resources, or access the case studies in full on the following links:

- [The Case Study by NRC Afghanistan](#) on community-led projects.
- [The Case Study by ACTED and IMPACT Burkina Faso](#) on working with displaced and host communities. This case study is available [in English](#) and [in French](#) and it is linked to this [SOP](#) developed by the Burkina Faso CCCM/GSAT Cluster, standardizing procedures to set up a Community mixed committee with representatives from the host communities and the displaced population (this document is available only in French).

If you want to share a Case Study, feel free to use this [template](#) and share your experience with the Community Engagement Forum (kristin.vestrheim@nrc.no) and the Area-Based Approach Working Group (elvalentini@iomint.onmicrosoft.com).