



The Vientiane College Diploma - Module Overview

DIPCD104 Community Development

Overview of the module

This module provides an opportunity to explore the complex concepts and multiple perspectives of community development through readings and research on different aspects of community and grassroots development. You will develop an understanding of the concept of community-driven development and become better able to assess the top-down or community-driven nature of a project. You will gain more understanding about specific community development projects in your own country and be able to apply the vocabulary and concepts studied in discussion of these real life examples.

Key questions explored in the module

- What is community development or grassroots development? How is it different from top-down development?
- How can the community be involved in its own development?
- How does the level of community involvement differ and how can we gauge if a project is community-based or community-driven?
- What are the Sustainable Development Goals and how do they relate to the local community?
- What are ways that citizens can get involved in sustainable development on a grassroots level?
- How can we adapt development to take into account some of the environmental issues that can cause poverty?
- What are some examples of community-based development projects in Laos?

Skills

This module will help you improve your English skills with a special emphasis on:

- Reading skills: interpreting, analysing and paraphrasing key concepts
- Critical thinking skills: identifying and thinking from different perspectives; supporting opinions with evidence
- Listening skills: understanding main ideas and note-taking them
- Discussion skills: sharing ideas clearly, concisely and appropriately
- Grammar and vocabulary skills: extending the range and accuracy of language, especially in relation to cause and effect
- Project and presentation skills: preparing relevant and engaging content; considering audience and purpose; working effectively on a team

Performance Tasks

- A group presentation where you present a persuasive proposal for a community-driven development project and respond to questions from the audience.

