



RCPLA
Network

Resource
Centres for
Participatory
Learning
& Action



**Coming Together to
Positively Affect**

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Encourage the allocation of resources to make information management a priority in project planning.

Focus on the generation and distribution of appropriate research and development approaches regarding policy change and institutional capacity building.

Encourage the creation and production of grassroots documentation.

Encourage the creation of language and non-text accessible documentation and communication to record the experience of local people.

Create a culture of sharing information.

Encourage a non-exploitative ethic on research and documentation.

Resource Centers for Participatory Learning & Action (RCPLA)

RCPLA is a global network established in 1997 with the mission to “Bring together a diverse, international network of development practitioners to strengthen impact on processes of social change. By sharing field experiences, facilitating capacity building and encouraging the use of participatory practices, RCPLA positively influences development initiatives while working towards qualitative social advancement, equity and justice”. The original goal of this collection of organizations is to bring together, organize, synthesize and distribute information on participatory approaches preferably in appropriate formats and local languages in order to contribute to the exchange of knowledge and ideas between members, and help promote effective participatory approaches at local, regional and international levels.

Why RCPLA

The network contributes to better practice for its members and others through inviting them to share their experiences and participate in different activities to make a difference. The main objectives of network are:

- Help maintain the integrity of PLA principles
- Encourage the allocation of resources to make information management a priority in project planning
- Focus on the generation and distribution of appropriate research and development approaches regarding policy change and institutional capacity building
- Encourage the creation and production of grassroots documentation
- Encourage the creation of language and non-text accessible documentation and communication to record the experience of local people
- Create a culture of sharing information
- Encourage a non-exploitative ethic on research and documentation

Who Can Join

Members from all over the world representing different types of institutions ranging from academic, research, and development committed to participatory practices are welcome to join the RCPLA Network. Special interest is given to attract large organizations that are the hub of various NGOs, as well as other networks that support and implement participatory approaches.

Membership Benefits

RCPLA provides members with multiple opportunities where by individual and institutional work is presented, knowledge and experiences sharing in international spheres. Activities are designed to disseminate participants’ participatory initiatives globally. At the same time they are structures in a way that fulfill participants’ needs and interest as well as develop their personnel skills and support their organization goals. Members decide on the participatory theme they want to focus on and build around the relevant activities. Therefore implemented activities success is guaranteed by member’s vital participation. RCPLA members gain access to recent participatory publications, training workshops, and scholarships.

To know more about RCPLA activities and the offered workshops and scholarships please contact rcpla@nefdev.org

How to Become a Member

The network is always looking for new members to help develop participatory practices around the world. Interested to become a member, please contact the Network Coordinator at rcpla@nefdev.org

Current Theme: Communication for Change (C4C)

Knowledge and information sharing among people is needed to achieve sustainable development. Communication for development is an approach that focuses on the capacity of local community members to manage the communication process and to plan and implement communication activities that suites their needs to realize the targeted change. C4C explores the use of community based form of communication as a vehicle to transmit information, transfer knowledge, educate, persuade, entertain, and influence values to enable decision-making processes that change attitude and behavior. It is an attempt to understand the context in which community media exists and the system in which it operates.

Recent Publication

Our World Our Voice Our Media: Community Experiences and Skills

This is a tool kit for development practitioners and others interested in communicating to bring about social, political or economic change. It attempts to articulate the role of democratizing the media in a contemporary context by exploring issues such as advocacy, media law, piracy, etc. The kit also provides a practical tool of how to utilize alternatives participatory forms of communications as a means to achieve the democratization of media spaces. Publication is available from the Near East Foundation in English, French and Arabic languages. Please contact rcpla@nefdev.org

