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### IDENTIFYING ONE OR MANY NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

A first step is to establish a clear idea of what you want to accomplish and identifying the need you'll be addressing. It's about seeing what the community needs and not inventing a need!

Implicating those concerned to better identify their needs:  
It's very important to involve community members concerned by your project from the very beginning, during the process of identifying needs or problems, and in every step of the project going forward. That way the project will meet the members' needs and boost citizen involvement.

This method allows you to:

- Target the real needs of the community
- Facilitate citizen engagement and ownership of the project by the participants
- Have a higher participation rate

#### Sources:

Voir fiche Comment créer un projet? – Sources



### 2

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What you can do:

- Discuss with other community members the difficulties they have been through in the region and what they would like to change. Make sure to establish clear goals for the different discussions you would like to have.

Method examples:

Evening events (photo-language methodology, predefined questions, world cafés...), studies or surveys at home, questioning organizations in the community, round tables, rallye (taking a picture of the need or problem and explaining it), advocating (have a question written on a poster in a public place and discuss it with people passing by), temporary murals, etc.

- Talk with other concerned citizens and ask them what they think of the problem or the need identified
  - Make a list of those needs and desired changes you have mentioned during the discussions
  - Regroup the needs according to their themes or subject
- Be creative and listen to the ideas and suggestions coming from your partners!
- Using artistic tools (drawing, painting, theatre, songs...) can be an interesting way to make your activities more entertaining, get people thinking and build relationships.

#### Sources:

Voir fiche Comment créer un projet? – Sources



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### IDENTIFYING ONE OR MANY NEEDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Every need is important, but it's impossible to address all of them at the same time. That's why you need to select and prioritize a single need. Make sure your participants and partners are motivated, interested and invested in the identified needs as you carry out your project.

This method allows you to:

- Encourage community members' involvement and participants' engagement with the project
- Identify the priorities collectively
- Agree on the creation of a collective project that will benefit the whole community

What you can do:

- Regularly bring partners and participants together to work on the project.
- List the identified needs in order of priority, individually or collectively.
- Keep the most frequently mentioned needs in order of priority.
- Choose the priority project by a show of hands or using paper ballots. Subsequently, make sure everyone agrees on the chosen project.
- Don't forget to choose needs according to how important they are to participants and their motivation level

#### Sources:

Voir fiche Comment créer un projet? – Sources