

# Participatory Methods and Capacity Building



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T4ID

# Agenda

Waters of  
Ayole

Key Concepts  
PR

Lincos

Red Cross:  
Building  
Capacities

Dangers and  
Challenges

# Waters of Ayole

- Early on, from the government extension worker's perspective, why were the pumps failing?
- From the citizens of Ayole's perspective, why were the pumps failing?
- How did the government extension workers change their approach with the village of Ayole?
- Did you see any long term effects in organization and development in the community?

# Participatory Research: Key Concepts

## Conventional

Knowledge for understanding

Rigid

Driven by funding

Who: Researcher

Focus on outcome

## Participatory

Knowledge for action

Flexible

Driven by local priorities

Who: Locals

Focus on process

# The Key Aspect of PR is the Location of Power

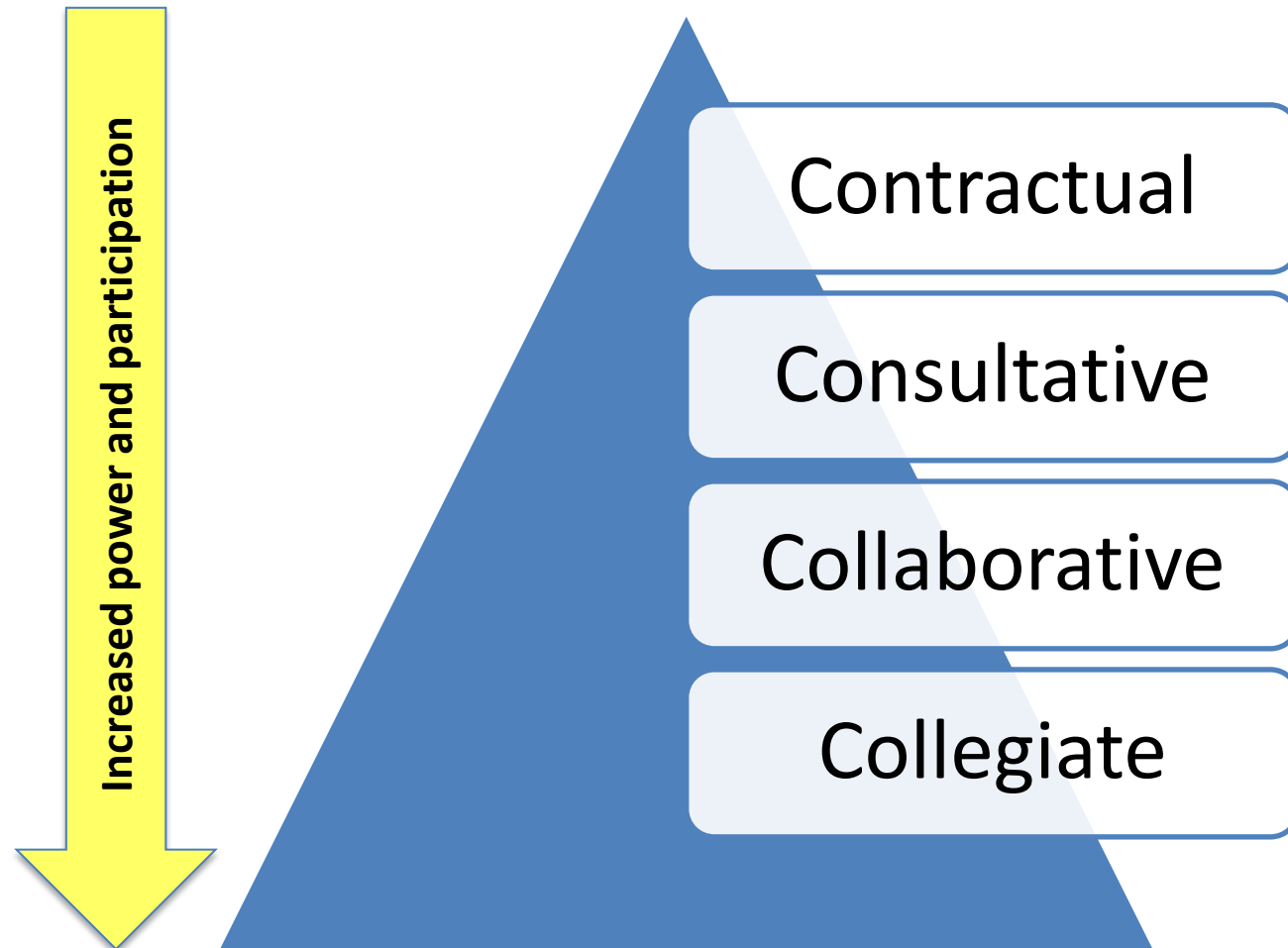
*“If all research involves participation, what makes research participatory?”*



**Who!**

“Who defines research problems and who generates analyses, represents, owns and acts on the information [...]” → Power/Control

# There are Several Degrees of Participation



# Apply to Case: LINCOS

- Why did it fail?
- Could participatory research have helped, and if so, how? Which degree of participation would be used?
- Despite this top-down approach, could capacity building have saved the project from being a complete failure, or was it doomed from the start?

# Building Capacities: Participatory Planning

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Bft-gKvt8>



# However, Some Dangers Must be Considered...

Rejection



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graph TD; A[Rejection] --> B[Rushing]; B --> C[Formalism]; C --> D[Routinisation];
```

Rushing

Formalism

Routinisation

# ...As Well as Some Challenges

Replacement of conventional methods?



Empowering the wrong people  
(conflicts of interest)

Sustainability?

Government: Facilitator or barrier?