



Integral Human Development (IHD) and the CRS Agriculture and Environment Strategy

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What does Catholic Relief Services do?

- CRS is the official overseas relief and development agency of the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB).
- CRS implements relief and development programs with local partners in 100 countries worldwide.
- Core areas in which CRS works include: agriculture, education, emergency, health, HIV, microfinance, peacebuilding, water/sanitation
- Annual budget of \$700 million with global staff of 5,000. Worldwide HQ in Baltimore.

The IHD Concept: both a Goal and a Process

Integral Human Development promotes the good of every person and the whole person; it is cultural, economic, political, social and spiritual.



IHD is a process that enables individuals and communities to protect and expand the choices they have to improve their lives, meet their basic human needs, free themselves from oppression and realize their full human potential.

Where does IHD come from?

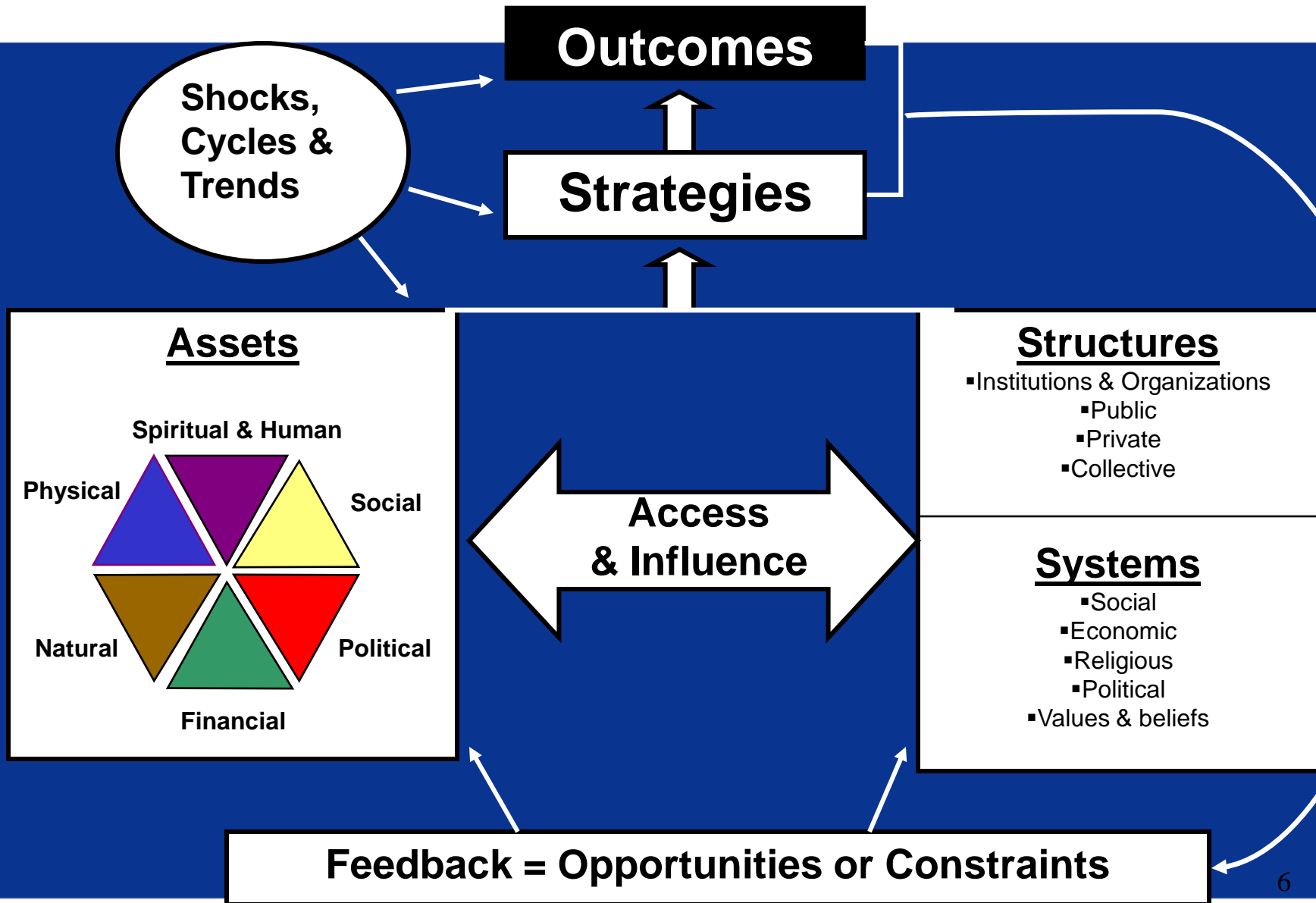
- IHD comes from Catholic Social Teaching and CRS Guiding Principles.
- It also builds on sustainable livelihoods and household livelihood security approaches used by DfID, CARE, Oxfam and others.
- It is a universal concept, and essential for sustainable development.

Why an IHD Framework?

- The ability of the poor to meet their basic needs is affected by factors at multiple levels.
- Analyzing the links between these factors is crucial to understand the lives of the poor.
- The IHD framework allows one to look holistically at the complexity of poverty, vulnerability and resilience.



Integral Human Development Framework



How does CRS use the IHD Framework?

- To design programs, projects and strategies that are holistic, building on the strengths (assets) of communities and empowering them to engage structures and systems.
- To identify sources of risk and vulnerability and design strategies to increase household and community resilience to threats to their livelihoods.

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Tools used in a Livelihood Assessment

- Community mapping
- Mobility mapping
- Institutional assessment
- Well-being ranking
- Trend analysis
- Seasonal calendar
- Life cycle analysis
- Focus group discussions
- Semi-structured household interviews
- Problem Identification and Pairwise ranking
- Community Action Plan

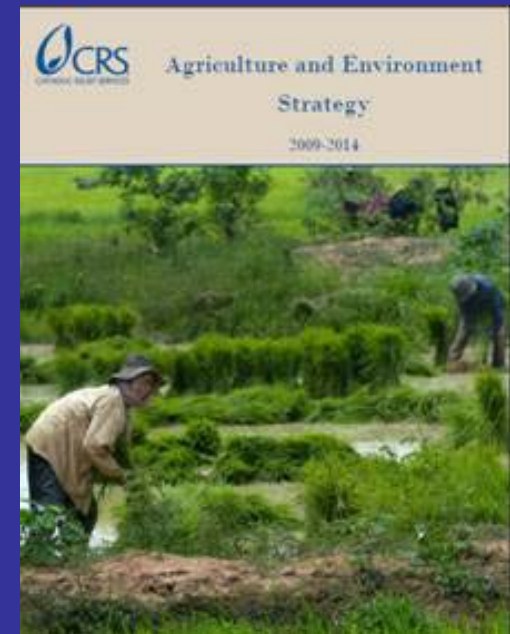


The New CRS Agriculture & Environment Strategy and IHD

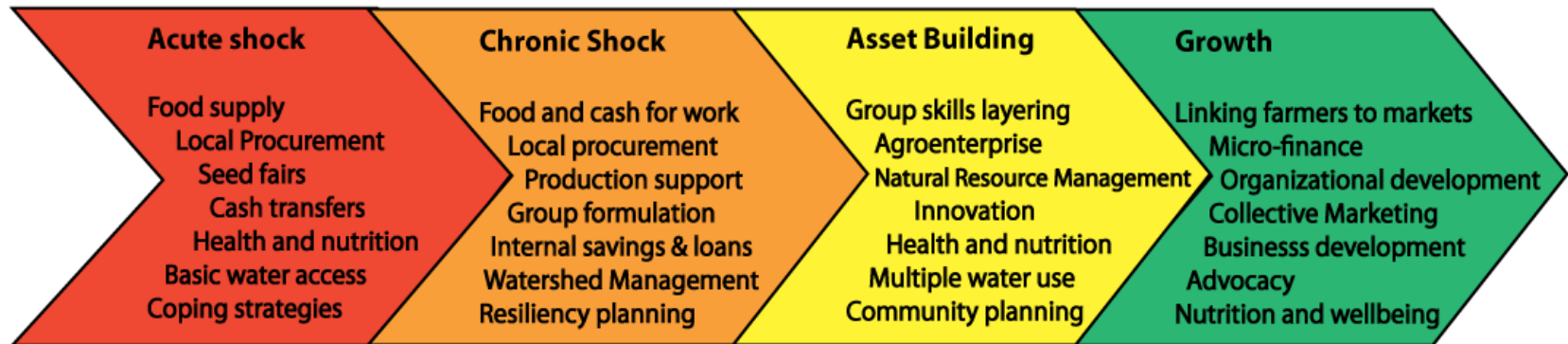
CRS has just released a new global Agriculture and Environment strategy with four interrelated pillars:

- Agriculture for emergency response
- Agriculture for health
- Agriculture for environment
- Agriculture for income

→ ***Agriculture serves as the anchor, linking to other sectors such as water, nutrition and microfinance where there is synergy for greater impact.***



Four Interrelated Pillars to Serve a Continuum of Needs from Relief to Development



Pillar 1: Agriculture for Emergency Response

→ *Support vulnerable communities to prepare for and respond to disasters, manage their own recovery and strengthen their resilience to future disasters.*

- Seed systems and seed security
- Seed vouchers and fairs
- Response to plant diseases (cassava)



Pillar 2: Agriculture for Health

→ *Assist vulnerable people to obtain improved nutrition and clean water.*

- HIV and AIDS, Food Security and Nutrition
- Ecological arborloos
- Baby friendly farms



Pillar 3: Agriculture for the Environment

→ *Build the capacity of local communities to adapt to environmental change by promoting skills and technologies that improve competitiveness within integrated watershed management systems.*

- Protect productivity of natural resource base
- Climate change adaptation
- Watershed management and agriculture



Pillar 4: Agriculture for Income

→ *Support local partners to empower local communities with the skills, technologies and organizational structures to improve their market performance and incomes.*

- Agroenterprise and group savings/lending
- Value chain financing
- Scaling up agroenterprise value chains
- Public-private sector alliances



Cross-Cutting: Agriculture and Learning

→ *Building learning alliances with research institutions and applying the power of ICT to improve communication and information flow.*

- Agroenterprise Learning Alliance
- CGIAR – civil society partnerships
- GIS and global emergency response
- ICT for M&E and Learning



Other Cross-Cutting themes: Gender, Advocacy

Conclusion

CRS has learned from experience that holistic, market-based approaches are the most effective way to lift poor people out of poverty sustainably.

Women play a crucial role in agricultural productivity, household health and nutrition and poverty reduction.

Greater attention to environmental stewardship will help rural communities to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.



Thank you!