



MODULE

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMPETENCE

Unit 4 | Activity 1

Collaboration, knowledge sharing, and sustainable practices workshop



90min



- Pen and blank paper
- Access to internet

DESCRIPTION

This activity will help you practice collaboration, knowledge sharing, and sustainable practices within the community while aligning with the principles of Goal 17 of the SDGs.

THE ACTIVITY

Community Gathering: Organize a community event or gathering involving smallholder farmers, local experts, and other stakeholders interested in sustainability.

Introduction to SDGs and Goal 17: Start by introducing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and specifically highlight Goal 17. Explain the concept of multi-stakeholder partnerships and its potential for driving positive change.

Sustainable Practices Showcase: Invite participants to showcase their own sustainable farming practices, innovations, and initiatives. This could include organic farming methods, water conservation techniques, waste reduction strategies, or community engagement projects.

Interactive Sessions: Organize interactive sessions where each participant shares their sustainable practices. Allow time for questions and discussions to deepen understanding.

Knowledge Exchange: Encourage participants to share insights, challenges, and lessons learned from their practices. Discuss how these practices align with the principles of the SDGs and Goal 17.

Collaborative Problem-Solving: Identify common challenges faced by the community. Engage participants in brainstorming solutions and potential collaborative projects that could address these challenges.

Partnership Opportunities: Explore opportunities for partnership and collaboration among the participants. For instance, farmers could team up with local businesses, schools, or community organizations to promote sustainability.

Action Planning: Based on the discussions, encourage participants to identify at least one actionable step they can take to enhance their sustainable practices. This could involve adopting a new technique, expanding an existing project, or collaborating with a fellow participant.

Setting Up a Local Network: Consider establishing a local network or group focused on sustainability. This group could meet regularly to share updates, challenges, and successes, and to continue exploring collaborative initiatives.

Feedback and Reflection: Conclude the event with a feedback session. Ask participants to reflect on what they've learned and how they plan to apply it in their farming practices.

THE THEORY

In the realm of smallholder farming, the journey toward a more sustainable food industry holds immense promise. It's a journey marked not just by individual effort, but by the power of collective action and collaboration. By embracing this mindset and aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), smallholder farmers have the potential to wield a transformative influence on society and the food industry.

Shared Vision for Sustainability: The SDGs lay the foundation for a shared vision—extending beyond borders and sectors—to eliminate poverty, hunger, and environmental challenges. These ambitious goals act as a roadmap, guiding us toward a future where well-being is harmonized with nature.

Goal 17: Strengthening Partnerships: At the heart of this transformation lies Goal 17—the linchpin that emphasizes "means of implementation." This goal underscores the significance of forging partnerships and collaborations that transcend traditional boundaries.

Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships: The essence of Goal 17 lies in multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize knowledge, expertise, technology, and financial resources. By joining hands with governments, civil society, and the private sector, smallholder farmers become drivers of change, contributing their unique insights and experiences.

Fostering Knowledge Sharing: Collaboration is a bridge to shared wisdom. Engaging with diverse stakeholders opens the door to an exchange of knowledge that goes beyond farm boundaries. Farmers learn from experts, and experts learn from farmers—a mutually enriching cycle.

Amplifying Influence: The collective voice of smallholder farmers resonates far beyond the fields. Through partnerships, farmers amplify their influence on policy-making and the societal narrative surrounding sustainable practices. This influence becomes a catalyst for wider adoption.

Practical Impact: Collaboration breeds tangible change. Through partnerships, smallholder farmers can implement sustainable practices that ripple through supply chains. By adopting innovative techniques, conserving resources, and supporting local communities, farmers pave the way for a more responsible food industry.

Bridging the Gap: Goal 17 bridges the gap between public and private sectors, propelling us toward a future where sustainable practices become the norm rather than the exception. Public-private partnerships forge a new path for innovation and sustainability.

Local Action, Global Change: The impact of smallholder farmers isn't confined to their local communities; it has the potential to reverberate globally. By embodying sustainable values and practices, farmers inspire change on a wider scale, contributing to a healthier planet and a thriving food industry.

In the spirit of collaboration and shared vision, smallholder farmers stand as crucial protagonists in the journey towards a sustainable food industry. By leveraging the power of partnerships and embracing the ideals of the SDGs, farmers not only secure their livelihoods but also chart a course toward a future where food nourishes both people and the planet. The path is clear—collective action and partnerships hold the key to unlocking lasting and positive change.

By engaging in this activity, smallholder farmers can put the principles of Goal 17 and the SDGs into practice while fostering a sense of community and collaboration. The event becomes a platform for learning, sharing, and initiating meaningful changes that lead to a more sustainable and interconnected farming community. Benefitting them to help them gain insight into:

Knowledge Sharing: The activity promotes sharing of sustainable practices and insights within the community.

Collaboration: Participants collaborate on identifying challenges and solutions, fostering a sense of community and shared responsibility.

Local Impact: By implementing the knowledge gained from the activity, participants can directly contribute to a more sustainable local food system.

Awareness: The event raises awareness about the SDGs and Goal 17, encouraging participants to consider the global context of their actions.

Developed by our organizations

