

Strategies and Methods for strengthening Culture in Development Aid

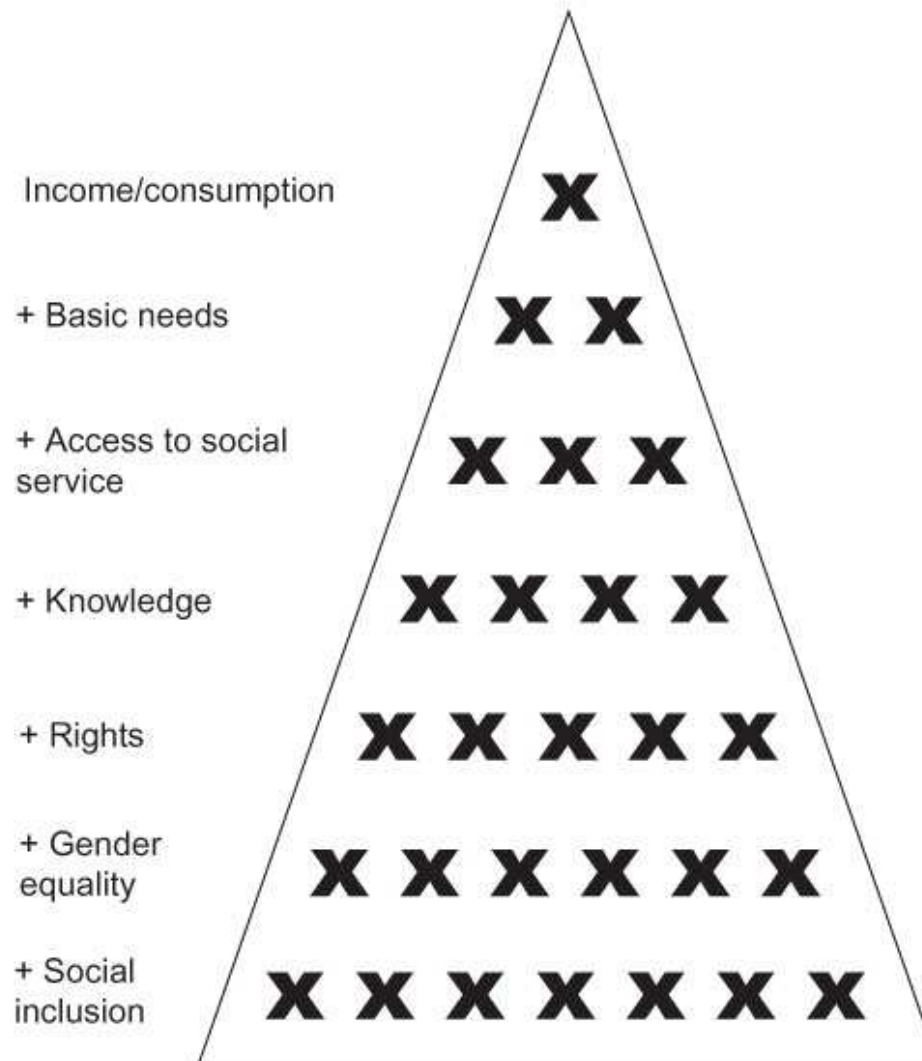
Morten Gøbel Poulsen,
Danish Center for Culture and Development DCCD

Understanding of Culture

Mexico Declaration (1982):

“The whole complex of distinctive spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features that characterises a social group – not only the arts and letters but also modes of life, fundamental rights of the human being, value systems and beliefs”

Poverty Pyramid



Conference „European Network: Culture and Development“. Vienna, 25.-27.01.2007

Vienna Institute for Development and Cooperation (www.vidc.at) & CulturCooperation e.V. (www.culture-and-development.info)

Cultural development

- How to define objectives for cultural development?
- Culture as a means to an end?
- Culture as a sector and an integrated part of development
- Culture as an obstacle for development – changing cultures?
- Cultural imperialism versus cultural relativism
- Rights based approach - international values and principles
- Protection, promotion or development of cultures?
- Cultural diversity as a strength or a threat?

Culture and Development – Milestones

- World Commission for Culture and Development – Our Creative Diversity 1995
- Sida strategy for support to culture 1995 (and 2000)
- Stockholm Conference in 1998
- UNESCO World Culture Report 1998 and 2000
- World Bank, “Culture and sustainable development 1999” and “Culture and Public Action 2004”
- Danida – “The Power of Culture”, 2000 and Strategy for Culture and Development, 2001
- UNDP: Human development report on Cultural liberty in 2004
- NORAD Culture strategy from 2005
- UNESCO convention on cultural diversity, 2005
- EU draft strategy for culture from 2006

Why support culture?

- Culture is not an “add-on”, it is the foundation of society – one of the key determinants for success or failure of development projects
- Culture contributes to development objectives
- Build on resources instead of problems in developing countries
- Opportunities for balanced partnerships and reciprocal capacity development

