

BLM 4.2 – Community Mapping Scenario (Men)

Men of the Village

Welcome to all of the men of the village! CHF will be working in your community to enable you to gain access to the resources you need to improve your standard of living. The first step is for you as a community to determine what resources you have and map out where they are located.

Below is a description of your village and the resources you use or have access to in your daily lives as men. Read the description and complete Tasks 1 and 2.

Village description:

There are ten families in the village, each family has a house. There are three families that you consider middle class; they have small houses but they have soil that is good for growing crops. There are five families that you consider very poor; they have small houses and soil that is very poor. There are two families that you consider rich; they have cows and a small fenced-in area beside the home where the cows are kept, in addition to a house and land with fertile soil.

There is a forest 4 kilometres away from your village. You have walked there to collect wood when building your house to provide good support beams.

There is a small market at the edge of the village, beside the road which runs to the larger town of Yendi, Ghana. The small village market has four stalls (shops). Some days you go to this small market to buy and sell items. You sell any extra vegetables from your garden or crops from your fields (such as rice). Sometimes you will buy items that are needed on the farm, such as rope or seeds.

BLM 4.2 Continued – Community Mapping Scenario (Men)

On a few rare occasions, you have taken the bus to the town of Yendi. There is a bus stop on the side of the road where you can catch the bus. The town of Yendi has doctors and a health clinic. There is a market with 50 shops. You once went to town to sell one of your cows when your son was very sick. With the money you made you were able to buy medicine from the doctor. Your son is now healthy. Stalls in the Yendi market sells farm supplies such as hoes, seeds and fertilizers.

As men your main priorities are looking after your crops and livestock. Your crop yield in recent years has been declining. This could be happening for several reasons; there has been less rain in recent years and more insect pests invading your fields. Without enough crops, your livestock are also suffering because you have less food for them and it is of poorer quality.

Task 1: Draw a map to show where these resources are located and what your village looks like. Use your imagination to draw the map!

Task 2: As men of the village, decide on one project you would like CHF to help you implement in your village that would improve your standard of living. Describe the project, the direct benefits and the indirect benefits for yourself and the community.