



IDDS Communities Worksheet

Community Visits

The main criteria we want to assess when visiting and selecting a community is: **interest in working with IDDS and IDIN, safety, capacity to host large foreign groups, and potential for continuity.** Ways that we can measure this are by using the basic tools we learned in IDDS: **Ask, Observe, and Try.**

ASK

Before asking any questions, remember to schedule a time to introduce yourself to the official authorities of the community. Explain what IDDS is, why you are visiting, and why you are interested in this particular community. It is usually helpful if you have a letter, brochure, or flyer with pictures you can share to help show what IDDS is and does.

- Name of community:
- Distance from summit venue (approx. how many hours drive?):
- Community Contact Name (this may or may not be the local authority, but should be someone available to serve as the main contact for IDDS):
- Contact Information:
- Estimated population size:
- Types of labor in the community:

- Types of markets in the community:

- Number and type of community groups and NGOs in the town:

1 year

9 mo

6 mo

3 mo

1 mo

During

1 mo
after

- Key projects they have been working on:
- Key problems they see or design challenges they mention:
- Water, Electricity, and Telecom status:
- Modes of transportation:
- Health facilities available:
- Safety and security concerns:
- Homestay options (where can participants and organizers stay while they visit):
- Eating options (veg and non-veg):
- Languages spoken:

OBSERVE

After you have had a conversation with the community official(s), it may be helpful to go on a walking tour around the community. Observe with all your senses. Take note of:

- who is giving you the tour
- where houses are located and what space would be like for homestays



- where the nearest water source is located
- where the nearest health facility is located
- what workshop spaces are available
- what community spaces are available
- what are most men doing during that time of day
- what are most women doing during that time of day
- what are most youth doing during that time of day
- what type of products are they selling in the market
- what is the average price for different products
- what types of technology do you see and who is using it

If you have time, it may be helpful to hold a small town meeting in the morning or afternoon with a diverse set of stakeholders. Together, you can assess resources, needs, and community interest during IDDS by doing a skills builder together and having a discussion afterwards.

TRY

- Follow someone in the community (a farmer, a shopkeeper, a teacher, etc.) and observe with all of your senses and record your impressions. Shadow the person and notice how they interact with existing technologies and products. Try to do this with at least two people – one male and one female.
- Try out some of the processes yourself. Use the existing methods or technologies and note what is easy and what is challenging about the process. Look to see if there are any technologies that do similar tasks, as well as devices that were designed specifically to address the problem.

NOTES

Use this space to note all of your observations, ideas, and general impressions.

