Different approaches

There are numerous overlapping approaches to community development. Some focus on the processes, some on the outcomes/ objectives. They include:

* [**Community Engagement**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_Engagement); focuses on relationships at the core of facilitating "understanding and evaluation, involvement, exchange of information and opinions, about a concept, issue or project, with the aim of building social capital and enhancing social outcomes through decision-making” (p. 173).[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-5)
* [**Women Self-help Group**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-help); focusing on the contribution of women in settlement groups.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-6)
* **Community**[**capacity building**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capacity_building); focusing on helping communities obtain, strengthen, and maintain the ability to set and achieve their own development objectives.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-7)
* [**Large Group Capacitation**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Large_Group_Capacitation); an adult education and social psychology approach grounded in the activity of the individual and the social psychology of the large group focusing on large groups of unemployed or semi-employed participants, many of whom with Lower Levels of Literacy (LLLs).
* [**Social capital**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_capital)**formation**; focusing on benefits derived from the cooperation between individuals and groups.
* [**Nonviolent direct action**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Direct_Action); when a group of people take action to reveal an existing problem, highlight an alternative, or demonstrate a possible solution to a social issue which is not being addressed through traditional societal institutions (governments, religious organizations or established trade unions) to the satisfaction of the direct action participants.
* [**Economic development**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_development), focusing on the "development" of [developing countries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Developing_countries) as measured by their economies, although it includes the processes and policies by which a nation improves the economic, political, and social well-being of its people.
* [**Community economic development**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_economic_development) (CED); an alternative to conventional [economic development](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_development) which encourages using local resources in a way that enhances economic outcomes while improving social conditions. For example, CED involves strategies which aim to improve access to affordable housing, medical, and child care.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-8)
  + A [worker cooperative](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worker_cooperative) is a progressive CED strategy that operates as businesses both managed and owned by their employees. They are beneficial due to their potential to create jobs and providing a route for grassroots political action. Some challenges that the worker cooperative faces include the mending of the cooperative’s identity as both business and as a democratic humanitarian organization. They are limited in resources and scale.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-9)
* [**Sustainable development**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_development); which seeks to achieve, in a balanced manner, economic development, social development and environmental protection outcomes.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-10)
* [**Community-driven development**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-driven_development) (CDD), an [economic development](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_development) model which shifts overreliance on central governments to local communities.
* [**Asset-based community development**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asset-based_community_development) (ABCD); is a methodology that seeks to uncover and use the strengths within communities as a means for sustainable development.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-11)
* **Faith-based community development**; which utilizes faith-based organizations to bring about community development outcomes.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-12)
* [**Community-based participatory research**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-based_participatory_research) (CBPR); a partnership approach to [research](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Research) that equitably involves, for example, [community](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community) members, organizational representatives, and researchers in all aspects of the research process and in which all partners contribute expertise and share decision making and ownership, which aims to integrate this knowledge with community development outcomes.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-:0-13)[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-:1-14)
* [**Community organizing**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_organizing); an approach that generally assumes that social change necessarily involves conflict and social struggle in order to generate collective power for the powerless.
* [**Participatory planning**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Participatory_planning) including community-based planning (CBP); involving the entire community in the strategic and management processes of [urban planning](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urban_planning); or, community-level planning processes, urban or rural.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-REFALPHA-15)[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-McTague,_C._2013-16)
* **Town-making**; or machizukuri (まちづくり) refers to a Japanese concept which is "an umbrella term generally understood as citizen participation in the planning and management of a living environment".[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-Posio_2018-17) It can include redevelopment, revitalization, and post-disaster reconstruction, and usually emphasizes the importance of local citizen participation. In recent years, cooperation between local communities and contents tourism (such as video games, anime, and manga) has also become a key driver of machizukuri in some local communities, such as the tie-up between CAPCOM's Sengoku Basara and the city of Shiroishi.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-Yamamura_2018-18)
* [**Language revitalization**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Language_revitalization) focuses on the use of a language so that it serves the needs of a community. This may involve the creation of books, films and other media in the language. These actions help a small language community to preserve their language and culture.[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-19)
* Methodologies focusing on the educational component of community development, including the community-wide empowerment that increased educational opportunity creates.
* Methodologies addressing the issues and challenges of the [Digital divide](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_divide), making affordable training and access to computers and the Internet, addressing the marginalisation of local communities that cannot connect and participate in the global [Online community](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Online_community). In the United States, nonprofit organizations such as [*Per* Scholas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Per_Scholas) seek to “break the cycle of poverty by providing education, technology and economic opportunities to individuals, families and communities” as a path to development for the communities they serve.[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_development#cite_note-20)

There are a myriad of job titles for community development workers and their employers include public authorities and voluntary or non-governmental organisations, funded by the state and by independent grant making bodies. Since the nineteen seventies the prefix word 'community' has also been adopted by several other occupations from the police and health workers to planners and architects, who have been influenced by community development approaches.