Vulnerability ranking (3.3)

Description: The Vulnerability ranking helps to identify the vulnerable people within the community and to have more information on their living circumstances.

Goals of the session: Identifying the most vulnerable groups in the community and understanding their needs.

Target group: Community leaders, men, women, elders and youth (starting from 14 years old). No more than 5-8 participants per group.

Preparation time: 15 minutes.

Duration: 45–60 minutes.

Materials: Flipchart and markers.

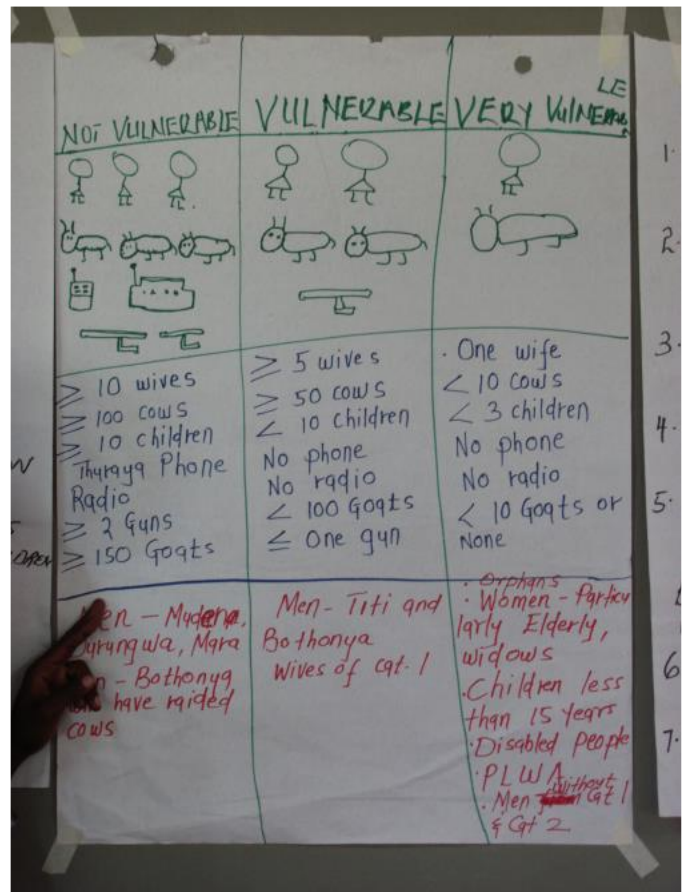Copyright: Freely usable.

Process

The leaders are asked to discuss what vulnerability means and what the difference is between vulnerability and wealth? The leaders discuss what the characteristics of vulnerability are and what kind of groups can be identified in the village when considering vulnerability. Often, leaders will identify 3-4 groups. On the flipchart, columns are drawn with the heading displaying each of these groups. Then the leaders have a brainstorm session on the characteristics of these different groups. What do their living conditions look like? What do they own? How do they make a living? Depending on the size of the village, the leaders can make a list of all households and then discuss to which group the households belong. The name is written in the right column. If the village is big, they can take 10 stones (each stone representing 10% of the population and then determine which percentage belong to which group.

Note: if vulnerability ranking turns out to be too difficult, wealth ranking can be done looking at assets owned by the community members and different means of livelihoods.

Reflection: discuss why certain groups are more vulnerable than others. What can be done to reduce their vulnerability? Do the different groups participate in development activities? If

not, why do they not participate? Can the more vulnerable households be involved in future development activities?

For more tools and information, go to our [Participatory Toolbox](.).