

## DEFINING A PROJECT - TECHNIQUE

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### The “POWER IN OUR HANDS” Method<sup>1</sup>

This method assumes that the process of questioning for the project definition itself can contribute to empowerment (giving the power to the community). Some questions can be asked with an approach that really involves the community and helps showing them that the power to change things is in their hands. It differs to the “WE CAN DO IT” method concentrating also in the different problems that can be presented as well as the relations from the different sides that are important in the community (organisations, government).

1

**Analysis of the parts:** Who is to be empowered in the community? What is the role of government, organisations, community groups?

2

**Let's dream:** What do the people in the community want to be changed?

3

**Let's celebrate our wins and see what is working:** What positive changes are happening and how has the community done that?

4

**Let's find what is not working that well:** What negative changes are happening in the community and what problems need to be fixed?

5

**Exploring what we want - using the experience:** How can the community have more positive results? How can negative changes be avoided? Who can the community help to make that happening?

6

**Let's analyse what needs to change:** With different members, organisations, ideas, how can we find a way to have the same objectives. What needs to be changed so everyone in the community is taken into account?

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from: <http://www.lindaswebs.org.uk/> and with support of Barb Briggs and Dennis Argall