

Theater of The Oppressed: A Participatory Approach for Social Inclusion and Community Empowerment

Anyone can act

Theatre of the Oppressed is a scalable participatory methodology that strengthens community engagement through real-life scenarios and Forum Theatre. It enables rural communities to explore social challenges, test solutions, and build collective action, supporting more inclusive and gender-responsive development interventions across different sectors and livelihood systems.



Commodities

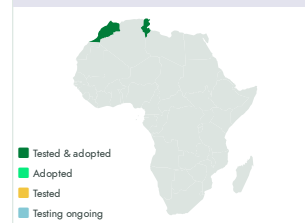
Sustainable Development Goals



Categories

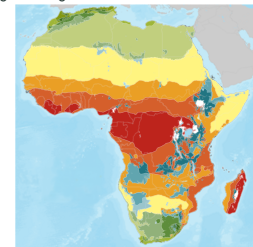
Gender-transformative potential, Practices, Gender-transformative potential

Tested/adopted in



Where it can be used

This technology can be used in the colored agro-ecological zones.



Target groups

Development institutions, Farmers, Governments, Banks and lenders

This technology is **pre-validated**.

9-9

Scaling readiness: idea maturity 9/9; level of use 9/9

Inclusion assessment

16

8

12

Climate impact

Problem

- **Limited community engagement:** Rural and marginalized communities, particularly women, may have limited opportunities to express their experiences, concerns, and needs.
- **Gender and social barriers:** Restrictive norms and discrimination can limit participation, access to opportunities, and women's empowerment.
- **Limited participatory approaches:** Conventional methods may provide limited space for dialogue, solution testing, and collective action.

Solution

- **Community engagement:** Engages rural communities, particularly women and marginalized groups, in expressing their experiences and needs.
- **Addressing gender and social barriers:** Uses real-life scenarios and Forum Theatre to explore inequality, discrimination, and restrictive social norms.
- **Participatory problem-solving:** Enables communities to discuss challenges, test solutions, and develop collective strategies for change.

Key points to design your program

Theatre of the Oppressed supports development programs through inclusive participation, dialogue, and collective problem-solving.

- **Inclusive engagement:** Enables rural communities, particularly women and marginalized groups, to express their experiences and participate.
- **Participatory problem-solving:** Uses Forum Theatre to discuss challenges and test solutions.
- **Flexible application:** Can be adapted across sectors, value chains, and livelihood systems.



Open source / open access

[See details >](#)



Theater of The Oppressed

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