

Venn Diagram

Also known as the Chapati Diagram



A Venn Diagram (or Chapati Diagram) is useful if you want a simple participatory visual method and have a number of items to be studied (institutions, individuals, diseases, social groups, natural resources, etc. and any combinations) in relation to a few variables, preferably two, which could include importance, prevalence and perceived proximity.

Process – This is important to do step-by-step to provide maximum clarity for you and participants

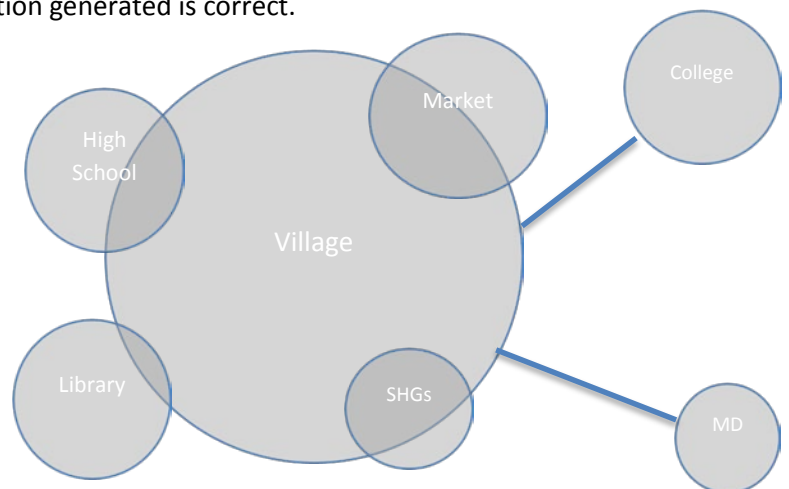
Objectives

- Understand local people's perceptions about local institutions, individuals, programs, the power structure, and decision-making processes.
- Analyze various institutions, individuals, and groups in and outside the locality and their influence on the local people.

A Venn Diagram shows the relative importance of various institutions in the village, relationships and linkages among them, weaknesses with respect to decision making processes, development of the village by institutions, duplication of efforts and gap identification between institutions, objectives, and felt needs of farmers, and concentration of power within the village.

1. After explaining the purpose of the exercise to participants (objectives), ask participants to list the various institutions, individuals, and groups they want to analyze – encourage them to then write and/or depict them on small cards. Have them place the cards on one of the aspects being studied (such as perceived importance of the institutions, in descending order).
2. Ask them to write the institutions and individuals on paper circles of different sizes (you should already have these ready), either in words or symbols. The bigger the circle, the higher that institutions or individual ranks on that aspect (note down or depict the institutions or individuals on the circles).
3. Represent the community by drawing a large circle on the ground. Ask participants to place the circle so those high on the second aspect are kept close together, while those low on the aspect are kept away from the circle representing the community: degree of overlap = degree of interaction.
4. Ask them to discuss and explain why they placed the cards in such a manner. Note down the points of discussion and explanation. Encourage them to make any changes to the diagram throughout the process.
5. Copy the output onto a sheet of paper. Record the name of the village, participants, date, legends, what the size of the circle represents and what the distance represents.
6. Triangulate the findings with other key information to ensure that the information generated is correct.

Figure 1.
One type
of Venn
Diagram



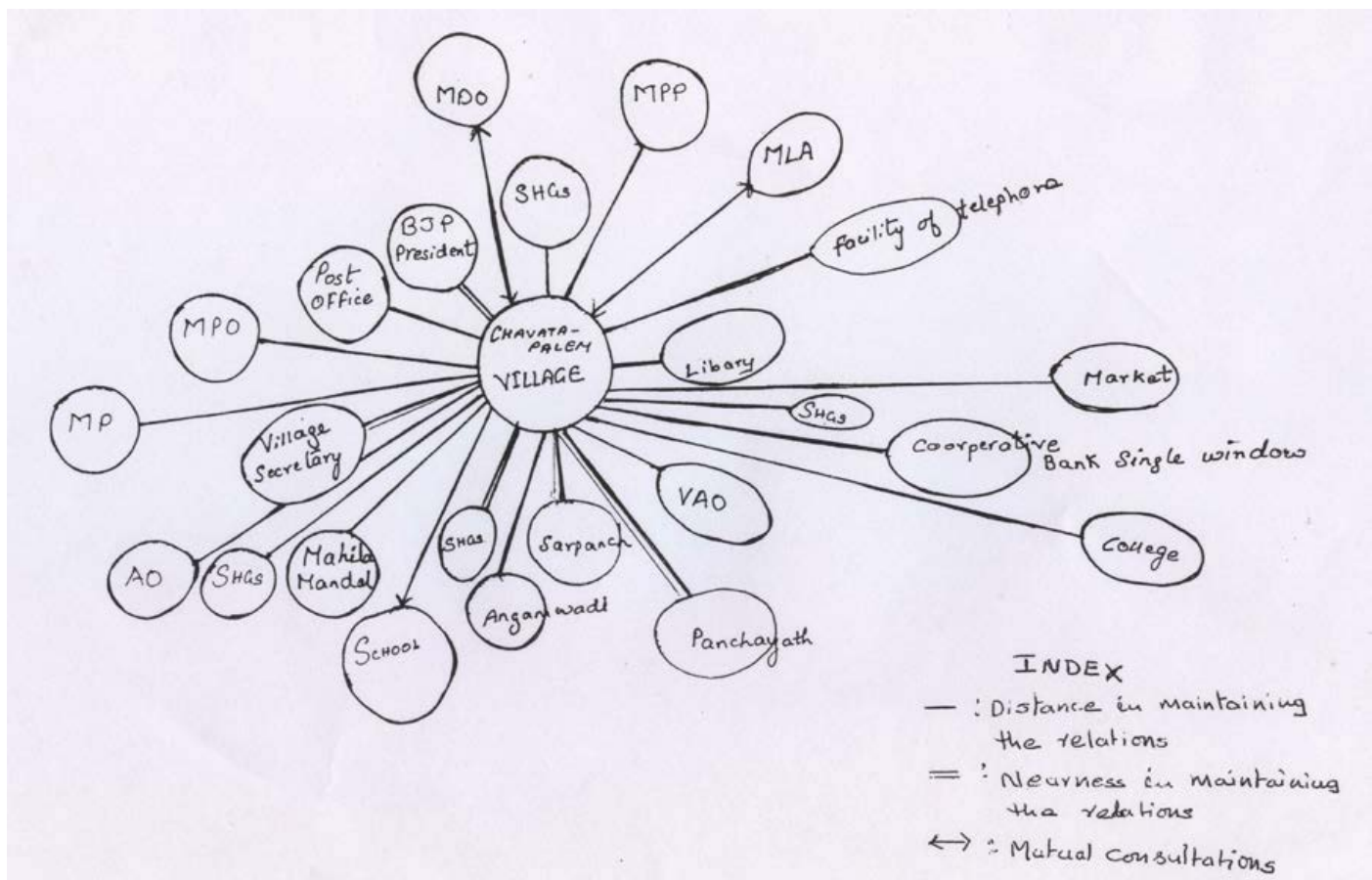
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Example of Chapati Diagram

Participants identified institutions and individuals that were assigned circles of different sizes based on their perceived importance, as larger circles mean more important the institution/individual. Participants drew double lines to indicate the nearness of their relations and accessibility, with the longer lines indicating lower accessibility. The two-sided arrows show mutual relationships.

Figure 2. Chapati diagram of Chavatapalem village



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be Shared



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Major Source: Material comes from a Distance Education program (PGDAEM) offered by MANAGE, India, used by permission by Dr. M.N. Reddy, October 2012.
<http://bit.ly/1yRvyXx>

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Available at www.meas-extension.org/tip-sheets

