Talanoa Dialogue Question No. 2: Where do we want to go?

Story brought from villages in South Asia (Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, and India):

When it comes to South Asia, poverty remains as one of the major challenges. And climate change is like rubbing salt in the wound, making it even harder for communities to live.

Most of the poor and vulnerable communities in South Asia still live in villages.

**Our vision is** to develop prosperous, climate resilient, low-emission villages with no poverty by adopting what we call the Eco-Village Development (EVD) concept. Similar to Talanoa, Eco-Village Development is also a participatory and inclusive process.

It has a, bottom-up, integrated, low-carbon development approach, which empowers communities including women to engage actively in the development and decision-making processes. In this process people are introduced to solutions which are simple, affordable and appropriate.

We’ve seen with our own eyes, how local solutions such as improved cookstoves, biogas, local solar and hydropower, organic farming and rainwater harvesting have strengthened livelihoods, giving these communities some hope and belief.

We have seen, how improved cookstoves, has reduced firewood use, air pollution and drudgery of women in rural villages.

We’ve also seen, how solar systems have replaced dirty fossil fuels such as kerosene and diesel in villages, ensuring energy security.

Our work in Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh and Nepal shows that there is a big potential for these local climate solutions to be scaled-up.

Just Imagine, the millions of rural lives we can improve and change while mitigating emissions at the same time. It is a win-win situation.

So, We urge that the Paris Agreement Work Programme ensures that local climate solutions are recognized in NDC guidelines, in transparency framework, and in the global stocktake, enabling efficient support through climate financing and technology mechanisms.

We encourage all parties and other actors to join in promoting local, village-based climate solutions.

In COP24, we expect countries to step up and make genuine and pure commitments to enhance their current NDCs by 2020.”

INFORSE submitted also input in the Talanoa Dialogue Platform, where-do-we-want-to-go?
https://unfccc.int/inputs-to-the-talanoa-dialogue-where-do-we-want-to-go#eq-3
https://cop23.unfccc.int/documents/65248 -See more at: www.inforse.org