

Terms of Reference

Power of Dialogue Special Interest Group

Unlocking the power of dialogue in participatory development work

1. Purpose:

The purpose of the UNLOCKING THE POWER OF DIALOGUE IN PARTICIPATORY DEVELOPMENT WORK (hitherto referred to as **POD**, short for Power of Dialogue) is to explore and promote training, coaching, and mentoring for practitioners in the dialogical method of participatory work at the personal, interpersonal, group, organisational, and inter-organisational levels.

2. Primary Role

The primary role of POD is to strengthen and sustain the dialogical approach to participatory development work as a citizen and professional CD practice, enabling the Institute to speak with authority on the role of dialogue in participatory development work nationally.

3. Powers

POD may make decisions within the scope of these Terms of Reference.

POD will respond to those people interested in learning about and promoting dialogue in participatory development work with a particular focus on those who are involved in training, coaching, and mentoring in the dialogical method. It will keep a register of those people.

POD will enable those people interested in the dialogical method to make contact with each other and facilitate common action.

POD within the resources available will facilitate an introduction to, as well as training, coaching and mentoring in the dialogical method of participatory development work. [This power implements that part of the constitutional function which states, “share and generate knowledge that supports participatory community development practices”.](#)

4. Membership

The minimum number of members of POD may be 3, with an open invitation for others.

A member or members of POD will be appointed to liaise with the Steering Committee. This will ensure that decisions made by the Steering Committee are communicated appropriately.

5. Operations

POD will determine how it will operate concerning meeting procedures, minutes taking and prioritising actions.

6. Co-Convenors

POD will have two convenors who work collaboratively to initiate and support the work.

7. Resources

- Human Resources: POD can seek and engage people with expertise.
- Financial Resources: POD will have the right to request financial assistance from the Steering Group to undertake the work endorsed by the Steering Committee.

7. Time Period

POD will be reviewed by the members of the Special Interest Group within 12 months of its establishment, and will review its membership annually.

Adopted by Steering Committee on: