

Theater / live performance



TYPE OF TOOL: **INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION IN PUBLIC**



Goals

- Sensitization; Awareness; Education



Targets

- General Public
- Communities
- Technical Partners
- Funders



Production Steps

A theater performance is a good way to communicate messages and raise awareness because it can show in a direct or even symbolic way some of the realities of life the populations are facing. First, define the goal, the target audiences, and the messages. There are three ways to approach doing theater: (1) Use a previously written piece that lends itself to the subject. (2) Do an original piece about the subject. (3) Do something improvisational based on the theme and messages to be transmitted. t

DESIGN

In order to be executed, theater requires two main things: A script and actors. The first option is to use an existing script. The second is to do an original script, requiring written text. The third, doing show based on improvisation, this will require writing down idea themes and suggestions for improvisation with characters. These should be written down on paper that can be drawn by actors or volunteers from the audience. The play should be written in a language that is simple and adaptable to the context, the audience, and the actors' capabilities. Also, one device that could be employed is providing different endings to the same story and then have the audience discuss their preferences, this great way to encourage inter-activity. With a written play, rehearsals will be necessary whether using professional or amateur actors. For doing Improvisation theater, a workshop could be organized for the actors who are the

key to this being well executed and thus need to have a good understanding of the subject in order to play their roles and help drawn in the audience. Whatever form is chosen, audience involvement and inter-activity is really important for transmitting the messages and for people taking ownership of them. The play could also include a post-presentation audience discussion. NB: This Communication Tool: Theater can also be used with children.

PRODUCTION

Plan the time for doing the rehearsals, select the appropriate place to hold them as well as the actors others who should be involved. The rehearsal space can be a theater space set up in a village square but this place should offer good visibility and have provide good sound. Keep set decorations to a minimum and costumes as simple as possible.

Key points:

Carefully integrate strong messages in the text, choose the actors; adapt the theme to the local context. Publicize the show through use of poAnnounce event in the media, by posters via the village chiefs and neighborhood.



Content

The text of the play and/or the improvisation themes; Play rehearsals; A place for rehearsals; The place where the play will be presented; Sets, costumes and accessories; Video capture to film the production.

MESSAGES

Strong, simple and understandable messages directed to target audiences. Examples of possible themes: reforestation of the mangrove; conservation of fish breeding areas; waste treatment.

IMAGES

See above "Experience Capitalization" .



Indicators

- Number of reactions after the presentation of the play.
- Inter-activity during the post-production audience discussion/ debate.
- Number of requests to do repeats of the play.



Experience Capitalization

As a "non-physical" cultural material communication tool, the theatrical piece must be capitalized as video, photos. This can also be the text of the play that can be shared. The video can be broadcast over the Internet, the social networks, the TV channels or projections (exhibitions, conferences, forums...).