



PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

SEPTEMBER -DECEMBER 2025 TRIMESTER

CAMPUS: ROYSAMBU

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COURSE CODE: CDC317

COURSE TITLE: PARTICIPATORY METHODOLOGIES

EXAM DATE: WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2025

TIME: 8:30AM-10:30AM

INSTRUCTIONS

- Write your **student number** on the answer booklet provided.
- Read all questions carefully before attempting.
- This paper consists of five questions.
- Answer Question 1 and any other two questions
- Question 1 carries 30 marks compulsory
- Question 2-5 carry 15 marks each
- ALL other PAC University examinations rules and regulations apply

SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 Marks) – Compulsory

- (a) Define participatory development and explain its importance in contemporary community development practice. (5 marks)
- (b) Differentiate between Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), giving suitable examples of their application in African contexts. (5 marks)
- (c) Explain FIVE roles of gender inclusion in participatory methodologies (5 marks)
- (d) Identify and describe any two qualities of an effective community development agent that enhance participatory processes. (5 marks)
- (e) Using examples from Kenya or another African country, discuss how participatory approaches can contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). (10 marks)

SECTION B SELECT ANY TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION TWO

- a) Using examples from an African country of your choice, critically assess how power relations and local politics influence the success or failure of participatory approaches in rural development projects. (10 marks)
- b) Suggest practical ways to mitigate these challenges. (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Drawing from your field experience or case studies, discuss five ways in which digital tools and social media can enhance participatory planning and decision-making in community development. (10 marks)
- b) Highlight three opportunities and two potential risks of these tools in marginalized communities. (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Discuss five ethical challenges faced by practitioners when conducting participatory research with vulnerable populations such as refugees, women, or persons with disabilities. (10 marks)
- b) Suggest five strategies to ensure ethical and inclusive participation of vulnerable populations such as refugees, women, or persons with disabilities. (5 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

With reference to participatory approaches applied in post-disaster or humanitarian contexts in Africa, evaluate five ways how community engagement contributes to recovery and resilience-building. Citing relevant examples.
(15 marks)