

MAPPING YOUR COMMUNITY

Read the overview below and make notes on potential things you would want to know when mapping a community.

There are many ways to do a community profile. It is best to write down everything you find out and to update it regularly – this should not just be a once-off assignment. A good community profile will help you to make sure you address the correct issues in your area.

A Transect Walk is a tool for describing and showing the environment and distribution of resources, stakeholders and opportunities, as well as risk factors along a given transect.



To start a transect diagram, get a map of your community (try printing a screenshot of your area or draw a basic diagram). On this, you'll make note of various things:

- Who are the **people in your community** and the **challenges** they experience;
- Practical **needs and problems** – issues like housing, water, electricity, roads, transport, health services, education, social grants, child care and facilities.
- What does the **physical environment** look like
- **Access** to government services
- Community life – what else is happening in the community , what are common **trends**
- **Resources and opportunities** for growth
- **Risk areas**