Creating a Chapati Diagram

A Chapati diagram can be a useful tool to map the relationships between groups, people or organizations. It is designed to graphically depict the project or initiatives’ context or ecosystem and the relationships among key partner and stakeholder groups. Below is a sample Chapati diagram and steps on how to create one.

- Individually or in a group, define a central figure (in the following example, the community the population of interest lives in).
- As the participant(s) draw(s) the diagram, the size of the circle can equal the importance or physical size of the institution: larger is more important and smaller is less important.
- The length of the lines between circles indicate actual distance as perceived by the participant(s).
- The thickness of the lines can indicate the importance of the institutions or frequency of contact. A thicker line means more important, and a thinner line means less important.
- The perceived distance in terms of miles can be written on the lines that connect the circle to the center.