

# Project Checklist



Community-centered humanitarian technology is critical: Be sure your project incorporates these considerations!

## Create a multi-perspective team

Creating a diverse team with shared responsibilities enhances project success by integrating varied expertise and improving community engagement. Non-engineering members, such as social scientists or local leaders, may communicate more effectively with communities, resolve conflicts, and ensure continuity if a team lead steps away. Key expertise includes contextual and cultural knowledge to navigate socio-cultural expectations, local technical and infrastructural understanding for practical implementation, and process management skills to handle conflicts and maintain a community-centered approach.

## Partner with communities

Pre-existing relationships enhance project success by fostering trust and communication. In Tech4Good projects, personal connections provide entry points, but broader engagement is key. Sustainable impact relies on community adoption, requiring readiness assessments, maintenance agreements, piloting, and building on past initiatives.

## Boost local ownership

Fostering community ownership involves engaging members in design, construction, and logistics to build connection and responsibility. Voluntary participation and small community-agreed fees support sustainability, while integrating local knowledge and past experiences fosters trust and long-term engagement.

## Design for long-term sustainability

Designing for long-term sustainability requires assigning maintenance roles within the community and ensuring effective communication. Leveraging local committees, training teachers, and offering STEM workshops builds expertise. Data collection supports evaluation and future project baselines, while simple communication channels allow ongoing feedback. These strategies ensure solutions stay functional and adaptable.

## Actively involve the community at every step

- 1 Problem identification
- 2 Design choices
- 3 Implementation
- 4 Operation + maintenance

*Developed in collaboration with the Bursen Global Design Group at the University of Colorado Boulder.*

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