

## Chapter VI

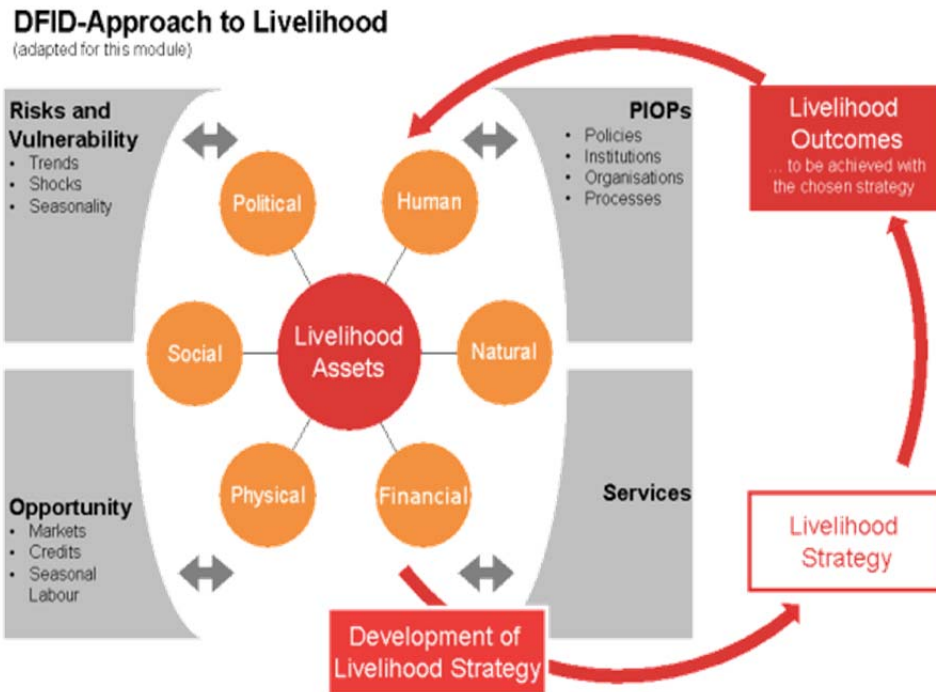
# Epilouge

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The sustainable livelihood as a proposition is difficult to assimilate in given space and time. The parameters are sustainable livelihood are yet to define so that a score of standard indicators can be developed to measure both structural and functional aspects of livelihood. However, for the case of the study four components of sustainable livelihood vz Livelihood security ( $Y_1$ ), Food intake value /g /day/head ( $Y_2$ ), Health status ( $Y_3$ ), Wage ( $Y_4$ ) have been purposefully derived to focus on the most vulnerable aspects of livelihood study. In perceiving livelihood security, risk and decency factors have also been considered to provide the structural support to livelihood security.

The variables like  $X_6$  (Cropping Intensity),  $X_{10}$  (Income),  $X_{15}$  (yield),  $X_{11}$ (Spacing), functional education have come up. Inspect on the sustainable livelihood and merit a reciprocal attention while designing a plan for sustainable livelihood.

**Theorizing and Modeling on sustainable livelihood**



*Main elements of the DFID SL framework and core principles of application*

Based on above understanding, DFID differentiates between three groups of components in the livelihood framework: (1) the asset portfolio forming the core element of livelihood, (2) the Vulnerability Context and Policy, Institutions and Processes, and (3) the loop linking livelihood strategies and livelihood outcomes.

The Vulnerability Context of livelihoods refers to shocks, trends and seasonality with their potential impact on people's livelihoods, while Policies, Institutions and Processes on the other side comprise the context of the political and institutional factors and forces in government and the private and the civil sectors that affect livelihoods.

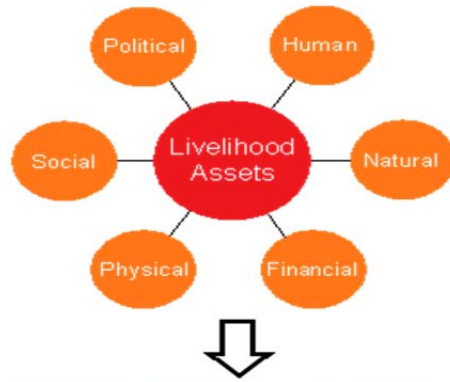
The figure below offers a graphical representation of the DFID SL framework, slightly adapted for the purpose of this module. DFID stresses the illustrative purpose of the framework, as providing a structure and focus for thinking. It emphasizes the necessity to adapt the framework flexibly to the requirements of the actual situation under analysis and underlines the need to respect and follow the guiding principles in application. Poverty-focused development activities should be people-centred, flexible, responsive and participatory. They should be conceived as multi-level approaches and be conducted in partnership with both the public and private sectors. Finally, they should strike a balance between key dimensions of sustainability and recognise the dynamic nature of livelihood strategies. For a detailed discussion, please consult SL approaches must be underpinned by a commitment to poverty eradication. Although they can, in theory, be applied to the work with any stakeholder group, an implicit principle for DFID is that activities should be designed to maximise livelihood benefits for the poor.

### **Analyzing the assets of a livelihood system**

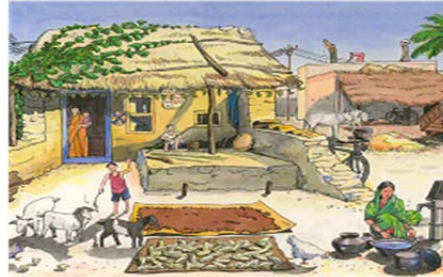
#### Human capital

Human capital represents the skills, knowledge, capacity to work and good health that together enable people to pursue different livelihood strategies and achieve their livelihood outcomes. (Human capital is important in its own right; health, knowledge and skills help create sustainable livelihoods. Human capital is also necessary to be able to make use of the other five types of assets.)

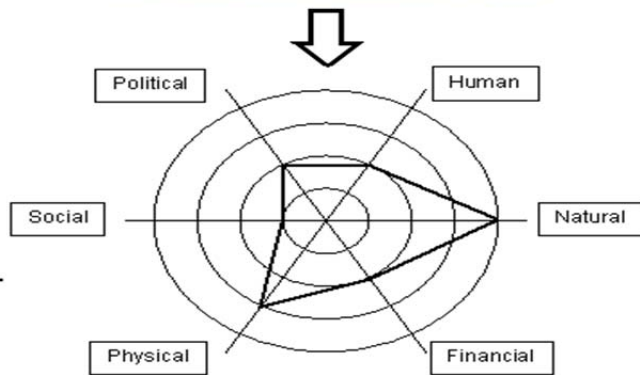
**Diagnosing six crucial types of assets**



**... in a real context of local livelihoods**



**... for identifying strength and weakness of a given asset portfolio.**



**Asset portfolio of a social unit, e. g. a household**

*Social capital*

Social capital is defined as the social resources upon which people draw in pursuit of their livelihood objectives. These social resources are developed through (1) interactions that increase people's ability to work together, (2) membership of more formalized groups governed by accepted rules and norms, (3) relationships of trust that facilitate co-operation, reduce transaction costs and can provide informal safety nets.

*Natural capital*

Natural capital is the term used for the natural resource stocks (e.g., land, water, forests, clean air, and coastal resources) upon which people rely. The benefits of these stocks can be direct and and/or indirect, and they are tightly linked with property and user regimes.

*Physical capital*

Physical capital comprises the basic infrastructure and physical goods that support livelihoods. Infrastructure consists of changes made to the physical environment that help people to meet their basic needs and to be more productive.

*Financial capital*

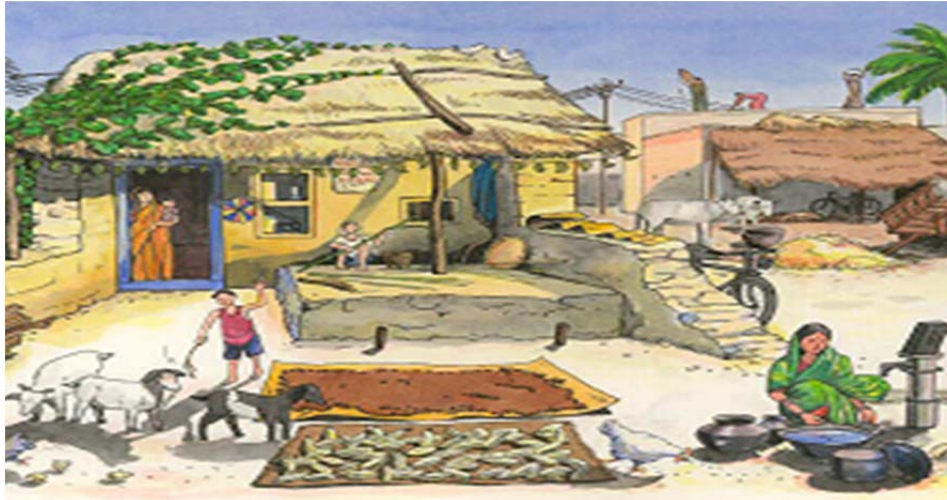
Financial capital is defined as the financial resources that people use to achieve their livelihood outcomes. These are resources in the form of available stocks and regular inflows of money (for example, livestock and the related flow of income).

*Political capital*

Political capital is the power and capacity to influence political decision-making through formal and informal participation and/or access to political processes. It therefore includes the ability to represent oneself or others, the

freedom and capacity to become collectively organized to claim rights and to negotiate access to resources and services. It also extends to the right to hold government and service providers accountable for quality and access.

**Analyzing strategy development and decision-making in a livelihood**

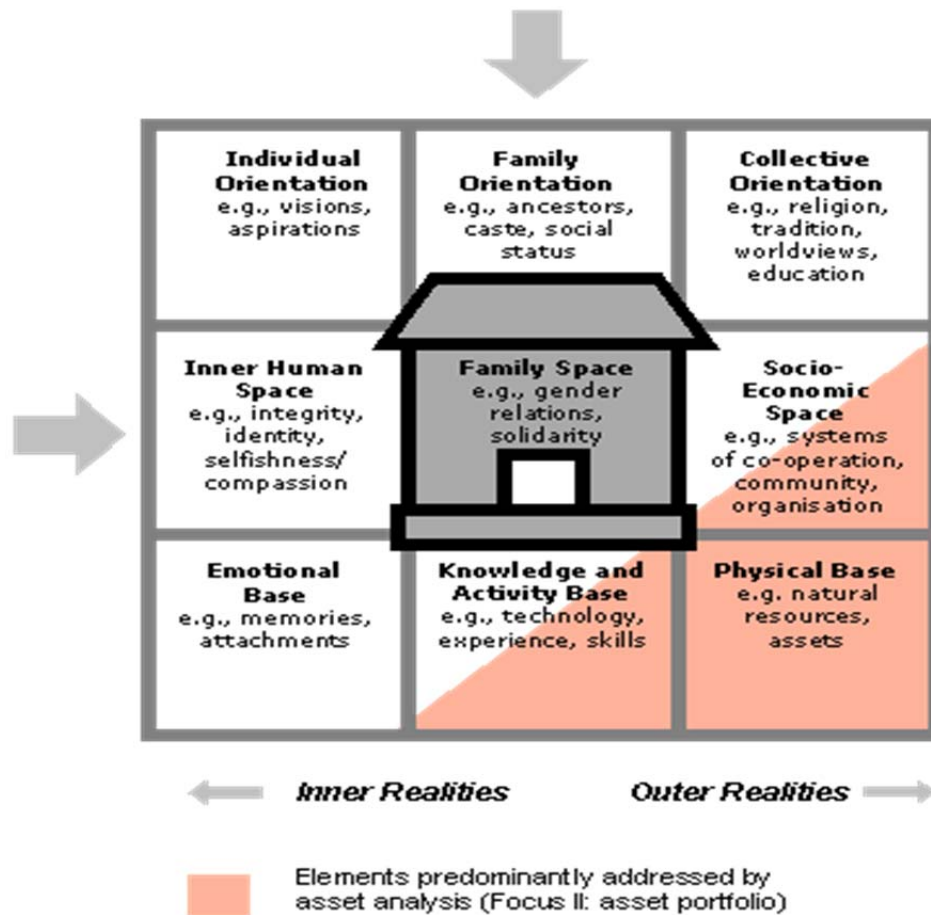


Livelihood strategies reflect the **range and combinations** of activities and **choices** that people make in order to achieve livelihood outcomes and goals. Livelihood strategies evolve from implicit and/or explicit **decision-making**, which is informed by inner and outer realities of livelihood.

Livelihood strategies are **diverse** and in a constant process of change and adaptation. The RLS Mandala offers a **framework** for **structuring** the exploration of decision-making in a livelihood system and for tracing material and non-material livelihood outcomes towards which people aim.

Understanding people's livelihood strategies means to explore the role of factors and forces determining the use of their resources, for example, the

role of gender-relations, of collective or family based value-orientations and of individual ambitions.



*Livelihood strategies*

Livelihoods are diverse and change over time. Livelihood strategies comprise the range and combination of activities and choices that people undertake and make in order to achieve their livelihood outcomes and objectives.

*Livelihood outcomes*

Livelihood outcomes are the achievements of livelihood strategies. DFID's SL framework lists five 'categories' of livelihood outcomes: (1) more income, (2) increased well-being, (3) reduced vulnerability, (4) improved food security, (5) more sustainable use of the natural resource base.

Yet, above all, through livelihood strategies people strive to give meaning to their lives, both individually and within the social unit to which individuals may belong. Livelihood ceases to be sustainable when it loses meaning.

Meaning has its vital roots in the inner realities of a livelihood system, in personal experience and orientations, in emotions and people's perceptions of themselves. These elements of inner reality of livelihood manifest themselves in the development of livelihood strategies and the outcomes aspired at.

**Future Journey**

Across the World the agricultural productivity is going down and this change is going to be more unpredictable in the face of global warming and climate change. The livelihood security is at stake for the poor and marginal poor especially poor and population having list of land most of the rich. Livelihood analysis included different layer, only a few of them have been included in the study. The livelihood analysis included a whole range of method as well. So, the future scope of research can be enlisted as follows.

1. More number of variables can be included to make this analytical study more diverse and effective.



2. Livelihood has spatial distribution with economic and cultural variables. So, the future study should incorporate more geographical distribution and more number of communities as well.
3. Gender issues and sustainable livelihood are interwoven with each other. So, this research opens new chapters and needs to study how the gender issues are intertwined with the livelihood aspect.
4. The mathematical modeling of livelihood parameters would help a great way in prediction. The software can be developed to accommodate high value data and get it processed for generating analog information in this area.