

## DW Mission

- to improve living conditions for the poor in less developed communities.
- to help communities and organisations strengthen their capacities to act on development problems and opportunities.

Focus: shelter, settlement planning, water and sanitation, <sup>public</sup> health, small enterprise and disaster mitigation, *policy dev. to advocacy; democratic dev. gender equity.*

Work with: communities, grassroots organisations, non-government organisations (NGOs), local <sup>national</sup> government and international institutions

## **DW's Approach**

**Committed to a long-term presence with core programmes in key locations, rather than making short-term forays into many communities.**

**Value indigenous knowledge and expertise. adapting traditional ways of working to new requirements and to available resources, close collaboration with local stakeholders**

**Emphasis on training.**

**highly decentralised programme decisions and directions are made on-site**

**a learning organisation, emphasis on the links between theory and action→research→action**

**up-to-date with current research and training, maintains close ties with academic and professional training institutions, ensuring that personnel are familiar with existing best practices and are able to share their**