

4

STRUCTURE AS A COLLECTIVE TO HAVE MORE POWER TO ACT

"Populations in situations of vulnerabilities are organising as collectives to promote their individual emancipation and capacity to act"

SHARED OBSERVATIONS AND WORKING ASSUMPTIONS

- To encourage individual emancipation, **the training processes are accompanied by strategies to structure populations in situations of vulnerabilities as collectives.**
- Structuring as collectives involves an articulation between individual support and collective support, and this in the long term : it is essential not to lose the follow-up of the motivation of the individuals even once the collective is constituted.
- The **trajectories of collectives** are very diverse, with stages that can become entangled and be carried out in a disorderly manner. These stages are: emergence, consolidation, resilience in the event of difficulties, empowerment, putting at the service of social change.
- Many collective trajectories are marked by decisive contributions in terms of individual emancipation with the acquisition of resources (competence, confidence, financing), which allow changes in the situation that benefit individuals, before being able to benefit everyone.
- Conducting actions and **"doing things together"** contributes to structuring as a collective.
- Increasing the **autonomy of collectives** is a process which can take several forms: economic autonomy, organisational autonomy, which refers to the collective's ability to function internally, and political autonomy, which refers to its capacity for outward-looking initiatives.
- Within the collectives, strategies are set up to reduce the discrimination and relationships of domination, and strengthen the power to act of the collective.
- The support of collectives on their capacity to rebound in case of difficulties (departure of members, political appropriation...) remains to be explored.

