The Global Community Development Partnership (GCDP) Program 2017
Pilot Tour and International Forum
Building Community Capacity: Creating Innovation through Global Collaboration

❖ Program Mission and Agenda

With contributions from many scholars and practitioners, community development has evolved as a lasting practice and emerging profession. In practical application, various communities have accomplished tremendous work in a wide range of topics including senior wellbeing, youth development, urban revitalization, local economic growth, health education, social work, and agriculture production and innovation. With these outstanding achievements, however, many of these communities are confronted with the inevitable impacts of globalization and advancing technologies. This causes community members to question: “How can we adapt ourselves to the changes occurring while remaining resilient, independent, and sustainable?” These questions prompt the GCDP initiative to respond to such challenges and work to find solutions.

Partnering with the Arizona State University Partnership for Community Development, Fen Chia University in Taiwan, and Bell Care Learning Lab in Arizona, The Global Development Partnership initiative (GCDP) has a mission to build lasting relationships and encourage innovations that will counter social challenges through global partnerships. The main purpose of this initiative is to provide a global platform to incubate creative ideas, reciprocal networking, exchange of resources, and facilitate international partnerships to increase community capacity building. The program includes pilot tours, forums and conferences which aim to foster a safe environment for participants to engage in meaningful dialogue and stimulate community solutions. Taiwan has a pivotal role in Southeast Asia and is influential in its role in the democratic process and economic growth. The diverse country has the potential to be an international hub and incubator for community innovation and solutions, fostering sustainable development. The ultimate goal of the GCDP initiative is to establish a community-based collaboration model using global resources. GCDP hopes to nurture an international community partnership with grassroots spirit, local wisdom and global perspectives.
Program at a Glance

July 25 – Aug 3, 2017  Community Tours (Taiwan)
Visiting 10 different sites of various community innovation cases to explore issues and concerns that local communities focus upon and are challenged by. Participating in local workshops, joining in conversation with community members, and building grassroots networks will foster a sharing/exchange platform toward potential inter-community collaboration. The thematic trips include tribal community eco-tourism, local cultural heritage, urban regeneration show case through community art, agriculture innovation, and small town revitalization through youth engagement.

July 31, 2017  International Forum (Taiwan)
The forum aims to bring diverse voices to the table and provide community members the opportunity to share their stories, successes and challenges encountered within their community. It includes thematic speeches and discussion panels. The notion is to foster a safe environment for participants to engage in creative and meaningful dialogue that stimulates solutions or potential international collaborative projects toward sustainable community development.

Oct (TBA), 2017  PCD Seminar (USA)
Sharing the community innovation cases and forum experience in Taiwan and mobilizing US organizations and community members to participate in the GCDP international collaboration initiative gearing toward reciprocal network and innovate solutions in a multi-sector partnership.