**Workshop 3 – Template 1**

**Short Needs Statement**

In our community, parents are actively seeking out opportunities for their children to engage in recreational opportunities, so as to better enable their children to build crucial interpersonal skills and develop a positive self-image.

In our community, we lack the necessary recreational space to enable activities to be safely organised for the 275 children under the age of 16 who live locally.

Engaging in sports activities, music, dance and art are extremely important for the development of healthier lifestyles in children. Creativity and good interpersonal skills are linked with improved outcomes at school, lower levels of aggression and improved working opportunities later in life.

Strand Nua Development Group is proposing to build a community centre in Strand Nua village. This centre will enable local schools to deliver sports activities such as basketball and indoor soccer, provide an opportunity to establish a youth club, provide local music and dance instructors with a space from which to run classes on a weekly basis and provide other recreational pursuits of interest to children. In addition, the facility will cater to the needs of other groups in our community including Mother and Toddler groups, active retirement groups and the newly formed drama society. The centre will also offer facilities for sports clubs in the wider locality.

We need to address the lack of recreational space in our community as a matter of urgency, if a whole cohort of children are not to miss out on fully developing essential life skills. Healthier children can make for healthier adults who in turn will become the community leaders of the future.

**Write your Needs Assessment in the space provided.**