



Animation Sheet

WORKSHOP

for the SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Activity sheet - Building a desire for joint action

Objectives:

- Understand the importance of building on participants' desire for change.
- Experiment with two methods for helping a group to define a shared desire for action.

Duration: 1h30 to 2h, depending on the number of participants

Equipment:

- photolanguage "Desires for action" adapted to the context (around ten illustrations), to be prepared before the training course. Depending on the number of participants, plan several sets of photolanguage, so that there is one photolanguage for every 4 or 5 participants.
- flipchart

Getting started:

1/ Introduce the goals: *"When you help a group to structure itself and build a participative dynamic, it is often necessary to support the group in building a desire for joint action. To do this, you can use different facilitation methods, adapted to the context. During this session, participants will try out two ways of building a vision or a desire for joint action, which they can then re-use with the groups they are working with."*

The facilitator explains that during this sequence, the participants will experiment with two tools that they can then use:

- A "let's dream a little" activity based on the idea of starting from the desire for change to build a shared vision.
- A photolanguage activity called "Desires for action".

The two teaching activities can be complementary, or used separately, depending on the time available and the group concerned.

2/ "Let's dream a little! - 40 minutes

This activity enables us to create a shared vision based on participants' individual desires for change. At this stage, we're not looking for realism or feasibility, but for creativity!

Instructions:

- Take 10 minutes, individually, to imagine a story with the following instructions:
- **"It is next year. This year, together with several people from your neighbourhood/village, you carried out an action that helped to improve the situation in your neighbourhood/village. Tell us how it happened."**

- *Your story doesn't have to be realistic - on the contrary, you can let your imagination run wild! Questions relating to the feasibility of the action will be taken into account at a later stage.*

Large group - 30 minutes

- After 10 minutes, the facilitator asks the participants to sit in a circle, in a large group, to discuss and reflect on these different stories... without judging whether they're realistic or feasible!

Elements for the debrief

Ask if any volunteers wish to share their story (not necessarily all participants).

Identify the target populations, the types of action envisaged, the problems that the participants were trying to solve and the players they were thinking of mobilising.

Identify common denominators.

Remain focused on creativity and not the feasibility of the proposed action.

Gradually, a few ideas for action may emerge that rally a number of participants.

To facilitate a decision-making session, you can use a vote with several sticks, for example (you can also use a collective decision-making technique that you are more familiar with): the facilitator writes the ideas for action on a flipchart. The participants then each have three votes (this can be adjusted according to the number of suggestions), and they each place one, two or three sticks next to the action that interests them. Participants can distribute their three votes over three different ideas, or use them to reinforce a single idea. This helps to highlight the suggestions that have the most support from the participants.

3/ "Desire for action" photolangage - 40 minutes

To carry out this activity, it is necessary to identify beforehand the possibilities for action adapted to the context, and to prepare a suitable photolangage. This photolangage will include around ten illustrations presenting different types of action that can contribute to social transformation:

- collective action to protect the environment,
- action to improve the living conditions in a neighbourhood,
- action to show solidarity with people in difficulty,
- action to promote gender equality,
- lobbying local authorities for change,
- information campaigns aimed at the general public about a difficult issue
- action to create social links between people who don't come into contact with each other very often
- other ideas...

To create this photolangage, you can look for images on the internet that illustrate these issues (for example, rubbish on the ground for environmental protection, a radio set for information campaigns, etc.). These are not necessarily images of past campaigns supported by your organisation.

Participants are divided into groups of 4 or 5 for 20 minutes. Each small group has a complete copy of the photolangage. The aim of the discussion in the small group, is to come up with one or two ideas for action to be discussed by the large group.

Large group - 20 minutes

Each small group presents its idea(s) for action (ideas may overlap). At this stage, it is very important to value all the ideas, especially those that are different from initiatives that have already been carried out in the past.

To facilitate a decision-making session, you can use a vote with several sticks, for example (or another decision-making technique with which you are more familiar).

In conclusion:

The facilitator explains that these two techniques ("Let's dream a little" and "Photolanguage: Desire for action!") can both be used to help a group define an idea for collective action. They can be used individually or consecutively if there is time, depending on what seems most relevant to the context.

To find out more:

F3E, *Change-oriented approaches. Facilitating a workshop "vision et paths of change"*, Paris, 2018.



Link to the article : [Building a desire for joint action - The workshop of social transformation](#)

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