

Leopold Leadership Program  
All Cohort Reunion

21<sup>st</sup> June 2010

## Strategic Thinking: Introduction

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## Reasons for the Strategic Thinking Sessions

1. Responds to Fellows feedback from questionnaires
2. Provides a means for strengthening the Leopold Network
3. Creates a unique opportunity for innovative thinking
4. Harnesses the collective wisdom of the group
5. Communicates useful tools for collaborative leadership

## What's the Purpose of the 3 sessions?

To enable ACR Participants to:

- Work through a **stepwise strategic thinking** and **creative problem-solving** process
- Identify **new and innovative** opportunities for action
- Learn some **collaborative tools and approaches** that are applicable to your own professional situation

## OVERVIEW

**21<sup>st</sup> June 9:00 – 11:45**  
'Celebrating the Past....Looking to the Future'

**22<sup>nd</sup> June 9:45 – 11:45**  
'Brainstorming Ideas for Solution'

**23<sup>rd</sup> June 8:45 – 12:00**  
'Action Planning for the Future'

## Ground rules and Guidelines...

**Use the occasion** – participate in the whole process, get to know everyone here, take advantage of the opportunity!

**Openness and frank speaking** – No attribution to the individual and information disclosed about individual research projects should not be revealed outside this venue

**Welcome questions and comments** – may need to 'park' some of them to keep process on track

**Timing & deadlines** – Tight deadlines throughout the day - **Never enough time!** Do your best **within** time constraints.

## In Your Teams

**Steps**

- Do some quick introductions
  - Name
  - Organization
  - Question: What musical instrument would you most like to play?
- Define roles within group for today's session
  - Facilitator
  - Timekeeper
  - Spokesperson

**Timing: 10 minutes**

**Strategic Thinking Part 1** 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010

**Celebrating the Past....Looking to the Future**

Martin Bloxham  
Barefoot Partnership, UK

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**Guidelines**

Time keeping will be crucial: Each activity will have a set time period – we will let you know when you have to move on to the next task

When in groups  
–use flip charts and brainstorm ideas

Only two worksheets over 3 days!  
–All outputs will be photographed by Leopold Staff

Have Fun!

**Celebrating the Past....Looking to the Future**

**Purpose:**  
*To establish the groups and identify some really interesting opportunities for the group to consider further*

**3 Steps**

- Celebrating the past: Group story telling
- Best hopes for the environment
- Looking to the future: Opportunities

**1. Celebrating the Past: Story Telling**

**Steps**

- To inform story telling in your groups, individually identify:
  - What **personal events** have shaped your current environmental thinking?
  - What **environmental events** have affected you?
  - What are some powerful examples of **how networks have made a difference for you**?
- Write up to 3 post-it notes per question
- Put the Post It notes on the flipchart
- With the Post It notes, tell your story in your group (2 mins each)

**Timing: 25 minutes**

**1. Story Telling – My Example**

- What personal events have shaped your current environmental thinking?
  - When I was 11, I got a small water quality monitoring kit as a Christmas present. I was out testing the local stream before everyone was out of bed. This single event stuck with me into my adult life and as a consequence, I became an environmental chemist.
- What environmental events have affected you?
  - Driving through Sub Saharan Africa on a UN mission and seeing all trees cut down for firewood for 100km around large cities. Why? Because people are too poor to use other types of energy and there is a lack of enforced legislation
- What are some powerful examples of how networks have made a difference for you?
  - The Transition Town network in the UK has been inspirational to me

**2. What are your best hopes for the environment?**

**Steps**

In groups:

- Based on the stories you've heard, **what you think are best hopes for the environment over the next decade?**
- Identify two that you consider most important

**Timing: 20 minutes**

- Share with the whole group - 2 minutes per group

### 3. Looking to the Future

**Question:**

‘With what you’ve heard from the stories and the best hopes for the environment over the next decade, what do you think would be some really interesting opportunities for your individual group to consider further?’

### 3. Looking to the Future

**Steps**

- Brainstorm a list of opportunities
  - Remember the ‘golden rules of brainstorming’

### The “golden rules” of brainstorming

**Do’s**

- Accept every idea
- Encourage unconventional ideas
- Expand on each other’s ideas

**Don’ts**

- Don’t evaluate
- Don’t clarify or seek clarification
- Avoid linking names to ideas

### 3. Looking to the Future

**Steps**

- Brainstorm a list of opportunities
  - Remember the ‘golden rules of brainstorming’
- Select the most promising opportunity
- Identify up to 3 great outcomes for this opportunity

**Timing: 35 minutes**

- Each group has 2 minutes to share its ideas with the whole group