

Practicing the Design of Process

Good questions that will help you collaboratively prepare for a meeting / strategic process.

1. Need, Purpose and Calling Question

- a) What is the need and who needs this process / project?
- b) What bigger purpose for the common good are you trying to fulfill?
- c) What is the calling question to invite stakeholders together for your process / project?

A Statement of Purpose defines, with absolute clarity and deep conviction, the purpose of the community. An effective statement of purpose will be a clear, commonly understood statement of that which identifies and binds the community together as worthy of pursuit. When properly done, it can usually be expressed in a single sentence. Participants will say about the purpose: If we could achieve that, my life and the people we serve would have would have meaning.

- Dee Hock

If you consider any process has a long term and an immediate next step, please choose what is most needed to be designed now (the next meeting, the strategic architecture, etc.)

- a) Who will be your core / design team after this team dissolves? *Building your team -- don't work alone if possible....*
- b) Who are your best partners?

2. Harvest

- a) What do you want to harvest and for whom?
 - tangible - in our hands - creating actions?
 - intangible - in our hearts - strengthening relationships between people?
- b) If appropriate, what would be a good metaphor for your process?

For example, the metaphor of a village, or taking a journey down a river, or a hub and spoke.

Art of Harvesting is the wise companion to the Art of Hosting Meaningful Conversations. If we imagine our meaningful conversations as the planting of seeds, then harvesting is the collecting and sharing of the fruits that we have grown through those conversations. Harvesting helps us bring closure to the processes we host and also invites our next level of understanding and wiser individual and collective actions. - Monica Nissen

3. Invitation

The most important part of the meeting's preparation And remember:

How I am invited will determine how I show up..... &" If it about us don't do it without us"

- a) Who needs to be in the room for the system to be well represented?
- b) How will we invite people so they know they are really needed and are prepared to participate when they arrive?

4. The first meeting / the "assembly" – stakeholders meeting around a common good purpose

- a) What does your design flow 1.0 look like? Please draw it up...
 - What will you do to make the meeting more creative and powerful?
 - What methodologies would best serve your purpose?

5. Harvesting : Who will host the harvest? How will the harvest help create wiser action? How will you build in wiser action?

6. Wiser Actions

- a) What are **my** next couple of wiser steps as a caller of the project?
Example: Find my core group, practice hosting myself some more, etc...
- b) What are **the** next couple of wiser steps as for the project?
Example: Building strong partnerships, find some seed funding, etc...

Have fun, Use what you know and have learned. Please do not get stuck in the details or differences of opinion....

If you need help remember that: " It is kind to ask for help – a person who cannot ask for help cannot be trusted"