

RWEE GALS TOOL 2: VISION JOURNEY

Day 1: Vision Journey

Vision Journeys are the basic GALS strategic planning tool used at all levels. In this exercise participants were asked to choose an element of their vision that they thought was important and also achievable within a small number of years. This would be an example to help them use the tool. They could then use the same tool to plan for other things in their vision. The exercise was done individually, but they sat in group with other people with the same vision in order to share ideas and information. The Vision Journeys are drawn on the next double page of the Notebooks.

Basic Steps:

Step 1 Vision – draw the dream in a big red circle at the top right of the paper with rays like the sun. What will inspire them to get out of bed on a cold morning. And keep going when life gets difficult.

Step 2 current situation – a drawing in a smaller circle at the bottom left of what they have now in relation to that vision. Then join up the road.

Step 3: Opportunities and Challenges - At least 10 opportunities at the top side of the road – the things that will help them move up. They need to identify as many as possible so that they can move quickly. Then a risk analysis of challenges at the bottom side of the road. This should be as thorough as possible so that they can foresee and as far as possible avoid the challenges. If they end up with more challenges than opportunities, then they should think of more opportunities that will help them address the challenge. So things will balance.

Step 4: One year target. They have a dream, but the plan must be realistic if they will get there. Some visions may take more than a year. So they should put a new green circle, with a thick line, right next to the vision with their target achievement by the end of a year.

Step 5: Milestones and actions. Between the vision and target they divide the time into steps drawn as circles with space between – these can be three or four moments where they will have achieved something. The first step should be after 1 month to give a very short term goal. The other steps can be equal time eg 3 or 4 months. Or correspond to particular times of year like harvest. In each circle they draw what they aim to have – putting money amounts where relevant. In between each circle they draw the actions – looking also at their opportunities and challenges.

