

What

1.1 What am I doing here

- How did this come to my attention –
- Why should I spend time on this –
- Which of my values are threatened or to be served –
- What do I have at stake here –
- What competencies do I have to bring to this idea – *I am looking for...*

1.2 - Why is anyone else interested

- What do others have at stake –
- What do they see as the problems / possible benefits –
- Who is concerned –
- Are people genuinely concerned or do they have ulterior motives –

1.3 - What is being assumed?

- What do people believe will happen with the status quo?
- Do they regard these consequences as desirable?
- What do they believe about one another?

1.4 What does it mean?

- What are the key terms / What do they mean in terms of observable things (e.g., behavior)
- Do some of the key terms have multiple meanings?
- Are there different terms to express the same concept?

Why

2.1 - What values are purported to be served or threatened

- What is alleged to be good about it? intrinsic good (inside) v. instrumental good (things lead to it)
- Do we agree that the things identified as good are good?

2.2 – Does the proposal or practice lead to or contain what it is purported to ?

(evaluate the strength of the cases made)

- What is the evidence that the idea (when implemented) has the effects on values claimed?
- What other reasons can be offered in support of what is claimed?
- What is our evaluation of the strength of the evidence and other reasons cited?
 - empirical evidence -
 - anecdotal evidence -
 - personal experience -

2.3 – Is the idea appropriate to this Context?

- What are our areas of interest, responsibility, and competence?
 - interest –
 - responsibility –
 - competence –
- How does the idea relate to those areas?
- Is the idea sufficiently appropriate to these areas to continue inquiry into it?

3. Workability

3.1 – What is required to make the idea work?

- money –
- time –
- equipment, supplies, materials –
- space –
- people –
- curiosity –
- other -

3.2 - How will these requirements be met?

- How / from where will the resources be acquired?
- How will other conditions be met?

3.3 – How are we to know what is happening?

- How are we to know the idea has been implemented?
- How are we to know if the idea has had its intended effects?
- How are we to know if the idea has unintended effects?

4. Compatibility

4.1 - What are the implications for other values?

- Will resources have to be diverted from other sources?
- How will people's activities, functions, status, interpersonal relationships be changed? What effects?
- How are community (bystanders) likely to perceive the idea? What effect of their perceptions?

- Who is likely to be threatened by the idea?
- How do we address those who are threatened?

5. Alternatives

5.1 – What other ideas are available to serve the same values?

- Are there ideas that are more effective?
- Are there ideas that are more efficient?
- Are there ideas which support the same values with fewer or less intense value conflicts?

5.2 – Would we be better off if the resources were used to serve other values in the system?

- Where else in the system are these significant values to be served?
- Are there ideas available as to how these values might be served?
- Would the resources required for our idea be appropriate / adequate to implement these ideas serving alternative values?

6. Hierarchy – How important is it?

6.1 How valuable is this idea relative to its alternatives which serve the same values

- What is the cutoff to void this idea?

6.2 How valuable are the values served by this idea relative to other system values which may be served by the same resources?

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7. Commitment

7.1 – What now

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