Dragon Dreaming

Is a structured project development approach that aims to realize visions and change in the service of earth on the basis of dreams and by building fellowship.

Information
Ideation
Consultation
Co-Decision

<25 people
25-50 people
50-100 people
> 100 people
> 1000 people

Preparation:
Several weeks for planning,
Implementation:
1-2 days
Follow-up:
Internal to the group who need to implement and monitor

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At least one persons for organization and facilitation of the process

The Method: What is it, when to use it and what outcome to expect

Dragon Dreaming aims to develop and implement project ideas relying on the participation of the community and relies on three principles: Personal growth, community building and service to the Earth. The individual idea (dream) of a single person is shared and developed into a collective dream through a vivid discussion. It is then concretized step by step in order to be implemented with the engagement of the group.

It is particularly suitable for projects with a community-building objective, such as sustainability or urban development projects.

NGOs or decision makers obtain an action plan with concrete ideas and Citizens or community members can meet new people who support implementation of change..

The Process: How to conduct it in an in-person setting or online using a PC/laptop with video option

The method follows four phases:

1. Dreaming: The initiator explains the idea (dream). Participants then name their dreams relating to initial one and write them on post-its until all dreams are collected. In an online set up, use a virtual whiteboard or alike tools.

2. Planning: All post-its are mixed and each participant is given the same amount of post-its. Each participant defines concrete goals based on the received post-its. In a plenary session, the goals are clustered and prioritized.

3. Doing: Following the prioritized list, participants discuss and define for each goal: The tasks and the schedule necessary for the implementation, the responsibilities among participants, an estimate of the budget and indicators to monitor the progress. Digital project management tools like Kanban or Trello might support the process.

4. Celebrating: The celebration can be organized as you want it to be. It is a central stage in the process and should not be neglected!

Blended participation

- Implementation is possible in-person, online or hybrid. A dedicated moderator and/or spokesperson for the virtual attendees is highly suggested. Another option is to collect the ideas in an online-setting and to organize the following discussion face-to-face.

Digital communication

- Useful for informing the public about the status quo prior to the process as well as results.
- Mural or Miro Board are useful tools to document the process, idea collection and results.

Good to know

- Traditionally run as a face-to-face process
- Collective intelligence, non-violent communication, openness to new and different perspectives, as well as reflexivity are the basis of this method
- Assessing prior to the event who within the community would like to actively take part, can support the process tremendously
- The Celebration stage may incorporate:
  - Collective reflection on the process, recognizing the group's achievements,
  - Collecting feedback on successes & failures,
  - Sharing further dreams for the start or continuation of the process
- Read further:
  - https://dragondreaming.org/
  - http://www.dragondreaminginstitute.org