

Future Mapping

**Mapping the Future by
creating a compelling vision
and a solid action plan.**



Created for the Geneva Facilitator's Network

Geneva

11 July 2007

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Step 1: 'Imagine' your Future Success



Create a compelling vision by 'Reviewing' the Future:

We are meeting on 11th July 2009. The Geneva Facilitator's Network is a recognised 'Centre of Excellence' for facilitation expertise.

A.

- Describe the achievements and successes of the GFN

RULES

Write down a series of short headings or phrases to describe in broad terms the areas in which you have been successful.

Think of your successes from the perceptions of all key stakeholders

- Individual GFN Members
- Related Organisations and agencies
- Community organisations and companies
- Other networks -
- Clients and users...

B. Cluster and reduce the list to about 5 key headings.

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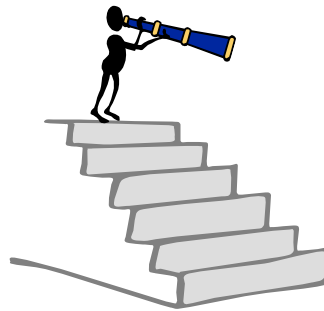
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A. Take each major heading and describe the key factors or achievements that were critical to its success.

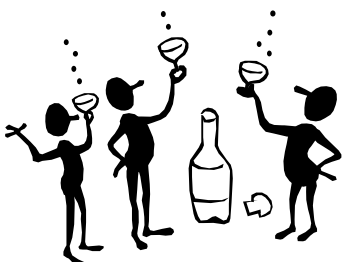
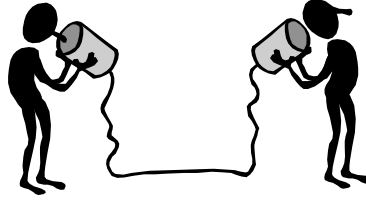
- RULE 1** ✓ Record all statements in the PRESENT OR PAST TENSE
- The GFN held a conference...
 - We run regular well attended training programmes
 - Membership has reached
- RULE 2** Each success must be one that you have influenced or witnessed
- RULE 3** All statements must be made in the positive.
- We have not missed any deadlines
 - ☺ WE HAVE MET ALL DEADLINES

B. Synthesise and consolidate the list

C. Organise the events in chronological or cause and effect order

Step 3: Evidence your statements

- **How do you know that the success is real?**
- **Make internal visions into moving pictures.**
- **Describe your success environment.**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What do you see?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What do you hear around you and from key stakeholders?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ How do people feel?

Step 4: Map the Milestones

Milestones are the key events, activities or turning points on which your achievements depended. If they had not happened in the way that they did, your success might not have occurred.

- Revisit your priority successes.
- Are some dependent on others? Is one a key change for others, chronologically or causally?
- List your major achievements on the left side of pieces of flip chart paper. Leave sufficient room in between each one to add activities and tasks.
- Draw a calendar from July 2009 back to today including each week in each month
- Map the milestone events and activities for each key success which took you to June 2009.

	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9
Key Success Area A																									
▪ Critical factor 1																									
▪ Critical factor 2																									
Critical factor 3																									

RULE 1 Milestones are spoken and written in the past tense.

RULE 2 Agree and write down when each milestone took place and where possible who was involved.

Step 5: Conduct a Reality Check

This is a solution focused, success centred activity to 'reframe' the usual feelings of doubt, fear and failure often related with identifying hurdles and obstacles which might prevent the achievements.



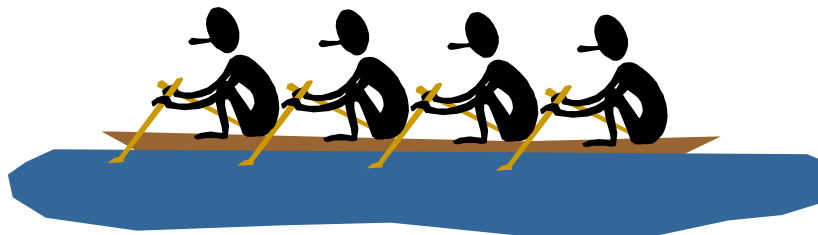
To ensure a successful outcome:

- Identify the obstacles that could have prevented you achieving each milestone.
- How did you mitigate or overcome each obstacle?
- What were the contingencies you identified?
- What new ideas or opportunities were suggested or discovered by these new ideas?

Step 6: Manage the Accomplishments

This step deals with preparing for action and managing it. It may have to be completed at a later date if specific data, figures, budget information etc. is required.

If the actual project can not be planned at this date because of a need for more data then plan how precisely you are going to plan the plan!



- 1. Identify a project manager**
- 2. Revisit the milestones and develop a more detailed timetable of events and actions.**
- 3. Identify individuals responsible for aspects of the work**
- 4. Allocate actions and tasks to people.**