

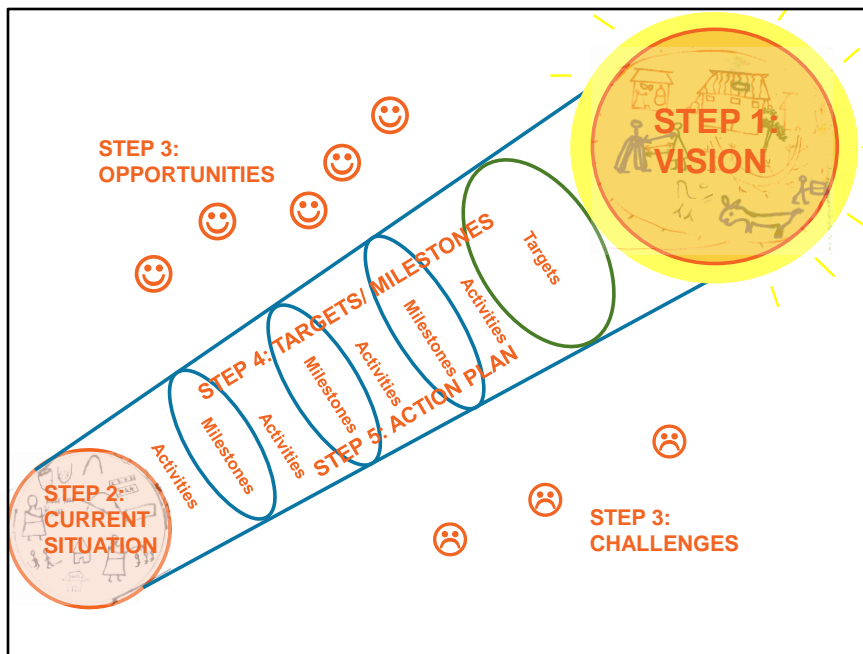


VISION ROAD JOURNEYS

Steps and how-to hints

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Step 1: Vision for the future. Usually it is long term (longer than a year), although it depends on participants. Color of circle: a bright color. A bright color for a bright future. It is like the sun that illuminates your journey. Position: top right. It represents the end goal of the journey.

Step 2: Current situation. Where are we now? What is the starting point of our journey? Color of circle: neutral color. Position: left bottom. It represents the beginning of the journey.

Create the road to connect current situation and vision.

Step 3: opportunities and challenges. Draw first opportunities and then challenges (to avoid getting discouraged) and include more opportunities than challenges (look more at the positive side). Usually, 10 opportunities and 5 challenges. Position: Opportunities above the road; challenges below.

Step 4: Target and Milestones. Refine plan. One year target (assuming that the vision is longer than a year) to make planning easier. What do you need to achieve in one year time in order to able to reach the vision? Color of target circle: a color that inspires hope. Milestones: break the year in smaller milestones. Participants decide number of milestones depending on what is relevant to them. They will use these milestones to monitor themselves before the end of the year. What do they want to achieve in each of these milestones in order to able to reach the target? Color of

milestones circles: neutral.

Step 5: Action plan. Draw activities that you need to do to achieve each milestone and the target.

For more information check hints in this PPT and “facilitation from the back” (in how to get started with GALS PPT)

HOW TO DO: SOME HINTS



Visions for the future (step 1)

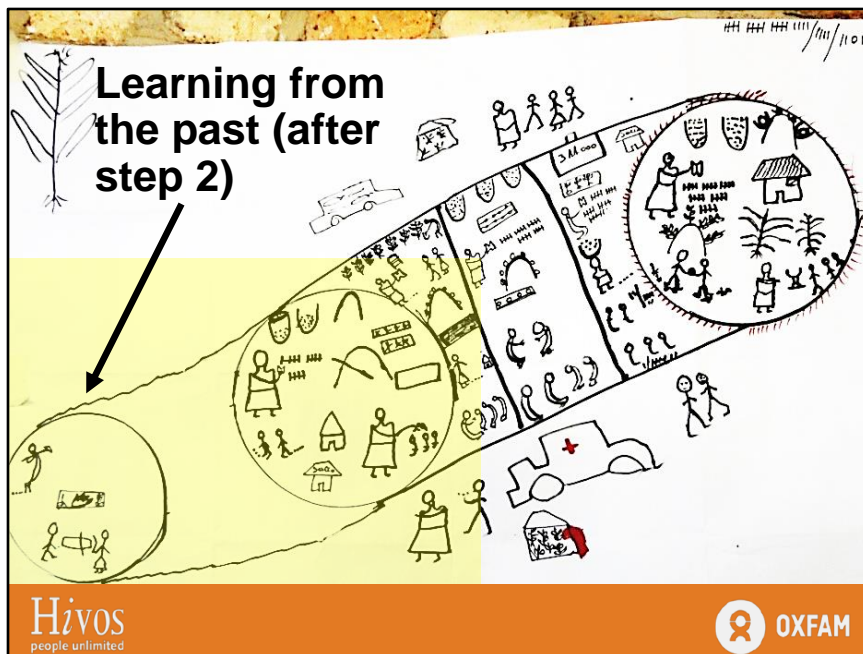


Participants decide about the timeline

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In step 1: let participants decide about the timeframe for their vision. For some it is new to set future goals, especially people who have been taught that they are inferior and not supposed to have their own aspirations in life. For people who live in extreme poverty and insecurity, a couple of months may be enough, while others need a longer term / 5 year vision. Things will get clear in the target.

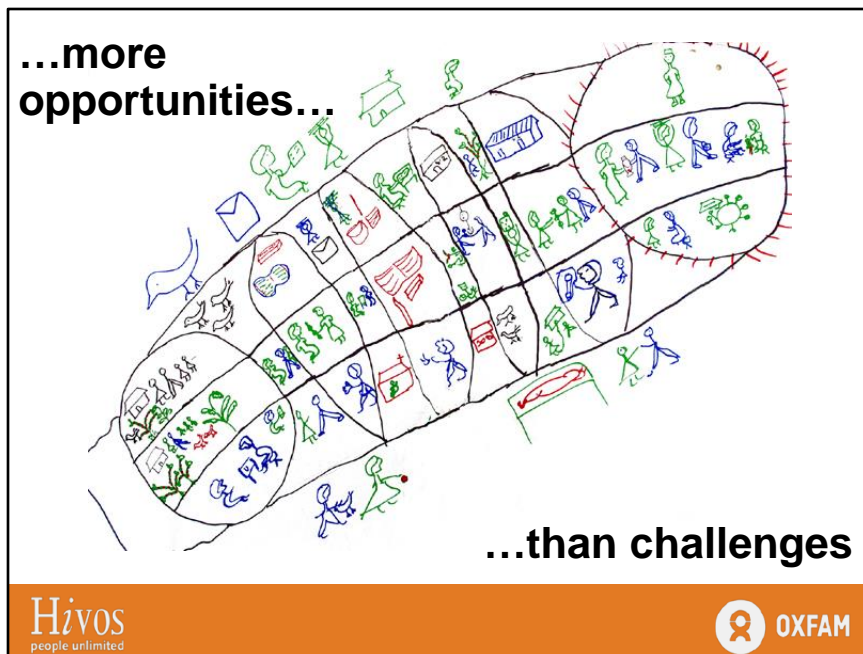


Example of an individual Vision Road Journey from Rwanda.

Top right: the date. This is very important to emphasise as it will make it easier for people to build on their previous exercises in their diaries

Top left: the symbol of the participant (maize)

In step 2: when drawing the current situation, you can also ask people to think back where they came from. Draw another circle below the current situation and draw the past situation there. This helps to learn from the past when planning for the future. In many contexts however people do not want to dwell on the past because it is painful and negative. In this example there are no opportunities and challenges in the past.



Example of an individual Multilane Highway tool, a more advanced road journey that comes later in the process.

In step 3:

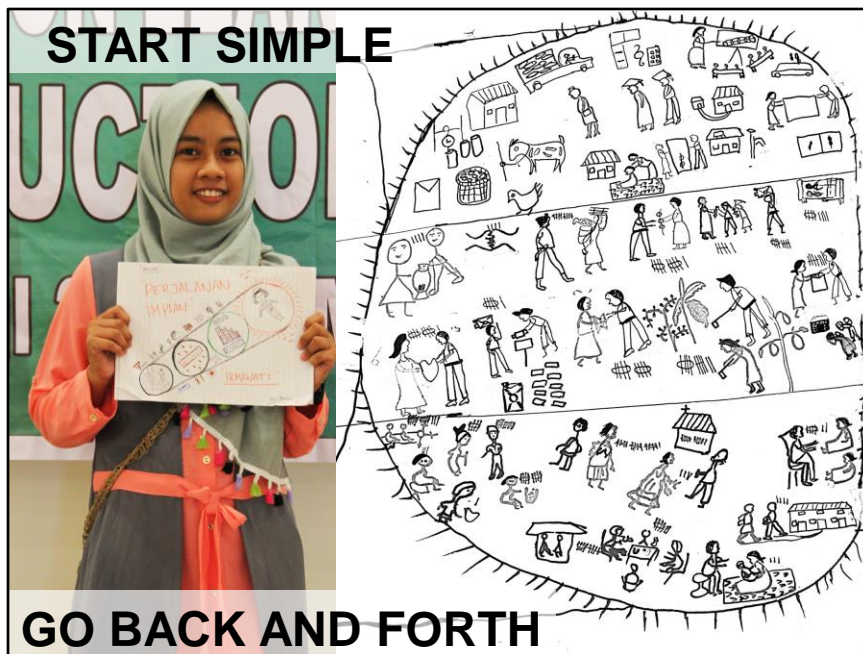
- people who live in marginalised contexts and who's positions are vulnerable, sometimes find it very hard to think of opportunities. Often they do not regard the opportunities they have as such. What helps them is to ask for more opportunities than challenges in step 3. For example: draw at least 10 opportunities and 5 challenges. The number depends on the situation.
- people often ask how to separate "current situation" from "opportunities and challenges". There is usually some overlap in the drawings. This is no problem, as long as the issues are there. It may help to emphasise that step 2 is about the situation NOW and step 3 is about WHAT THEY EXPECT to happen in their journey.



In step 4 it is important not to impose the “project calendar” (often the quarters of the annual calendar). Farmers often follow the growing season. After harvest, they have money, which often means achieving a milestone.

In step 4 and 5 people often mix up between milestones and activities. This is not a problem as long as it works for them. Always be appreciative.

In step 5 there is often a need for the facilitator to ask probing and appreciative questions to help participants come up with actions that are realistic, time bound and practical. Help from outside may not come, participants often need to be triggered to start taking responsibility for the changes they want to make through their own actions.



In step 1:

- start simple. In the beginning participants may not have much aspirations yet. They can add later in the process.

In all steps:

- Participants will go back and forth in the different steps. When they draw milestone, they often change the vision or the target as well. When they draw challenges, they may change the current situation, etc. Allow “buffer time” for that.