

By2020WeRiseUp: Exemplary strategy workshop

Goal:

The following is a methodic approach on how to work on and improve strategy without demanding any specific involvement or commitment from any individual. The aim of this workshop is to help a political group (of any size) to make actions more successful.

Three central questions will be raised:

- Who should the action address?
- What exactly is responsible in your region for preventing a just transition?
- How can we fight it more effectively with our actions?

These questions are theoretically dealt with, using interactive methods, and are finally linked to the real conditions.

Time:

Depending on the effort you want to put into the three questions, you can take from at least two hours to a whole day or two.

Preparation:

We recommend that you organize a room for the workshop. Furthermore, you should print out the two graphics “Social Barometer” and “Power vs. Vulnerability” (slides attached) in sufficient numbers and provide a stack of moderation cards as well as pens and paper for the participants. If you get access to one, a Flip Chart is handy. Finally, it can’t hurt to provide some brain food and (non-)caffeinated drinks – you won’t regret it! And don’t forget to take down your results!

Exercise 1 – Audiences:

- Who is your audience?
 - Who are you addressing with your call-out for protest?
 - What expectations do you have towards this group and which strategy are you using to approach them?

Try to answer these questions on the basis of the 'social barometer' (slide attached) and classify the relevant groups accordingly

Exercise 2 – Target Evaluation:

- Who/What is preventing the necessary social change in your region?
- How is that happening – rather which is the smallest gear wheel that, if blocked, would be especially effective (the more specific the more helpful)?
- Where are effective intersectional protests possible (i.e. cross-linking topics, not only related to the climate issue)?
- Try to classify these goals in the “Power vs. Vulnerability” coordinate system (slide attached).

Exercise 3 – Action Ideas:

- What action ideas do you have?
 - Which are especially effective strategies?
 - How many different action levels can we find all together? How can we strategically combine and improve them?
 - Gather all ideas on facilitation cards, divided into 3 levels of actions:
 - actions with no or low risk of repression
 - actions with risk of repression – on average low costs of repression, rarely any severe consequences (depending on country / region)
 - actions with risk of repression – high costs of repression and / or severe consequences (either under criminal respectively civil law and / or physical violations)

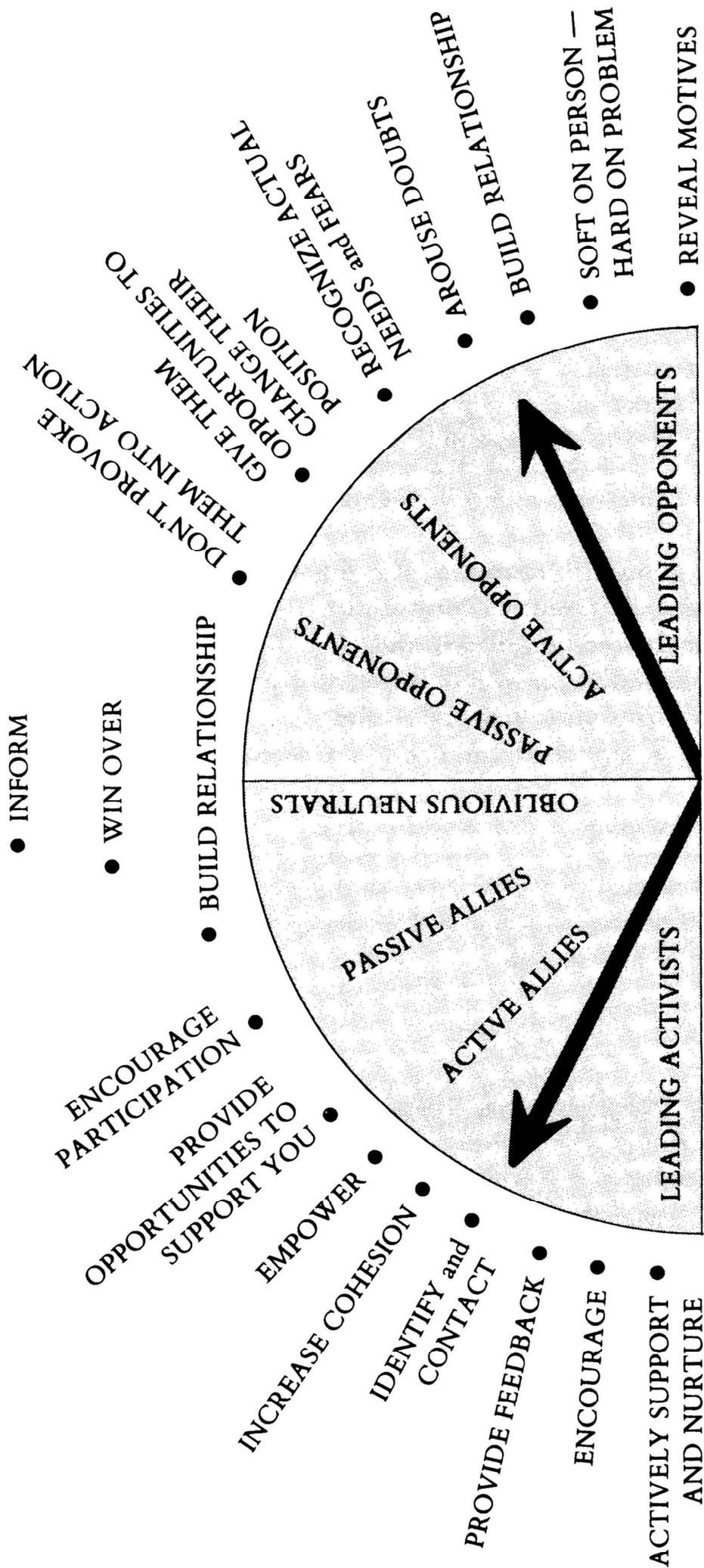
Exercise 4 – Symphony of Streamlines:

Now play through this methodic scenario yourself to find out for your individual upcoming action:

- in reference to Exercise 1 – Audiences:
 - Who can I reach out to even more and which mobilization tactic should I use?
 - Are there groups and milieus I have forgotten to contact so far?
- in reference to Exercise 2 – Target Evaluation:
 - What might be an essential sub-target within an existent action planning?
 - Can I come up with a new perspective and target, that links to an existent action and supports it (e.g. DeCOALonize Europe)
 - Try to be specific and find gear wheels that are highly vulnerable to attacks and as much disrupting the system as possible (of course that doesn't have to include a militant level of action!).
 - What targets can involve all / more struggles intersectionally?
 - Think of time-related and situational changes of vulnerability and effect (e.g. occupying a stadium is much more disrupting during international cup than at any other time)
- in reference to Exercise 3: Action Ideas
 - How can I evolve and improve any planned action strategy so that it becomes more effective?
 - How can I accommodate an already planned protest with new types of actions to create diversity and higher effect?
 - Can I come up with completely new ways of acting and protesting to be unpredictable and therefore more effective?

SOCIAL BAROMETER

- * WHERE DO OTHERS STAND ON YOUR ISSUE? Identify Individuals and Groups
- * WHAT ARE YOUR AIMS WITH EACH? ARE YOUR TACTICS CONSISTENT WITH THESE AIMS?



AIMS

AIMS

