



SEED'S TIP OF THE MONTH:

Visioning: We'll See It When We Believe It

What have you been dreaming lately? How are you thinking? Are you allowing the possibility of your highest potential to emerge? How do you go about eliciting big dreams in diverse groups? Once you discover a shared vision, do you look for ways to expand it with more perspectives?

Most of what gets created in our world exists in large part because of vision. There are unlimited ways to tap the well. It doesn't matter how. The main thing is to allow ourselves to dream, talk about our dreams, and team up with others to flesh out possibilities. Then find words to describe what success looks like. Describe it over and over, infect people with our excitement; get them talking about the vision and owning it, too.

You can see how this evolves, right? Already, as we embody the assumption that our vision has been realized (know it within, at a spiritual level -- *feel* it achieved), there is no question about whether the vision is possible. It is now just a matter of when, and what we might do to hasten it.

As Dee Hock is known for saying:

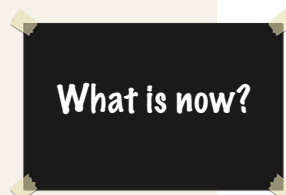
*"It is no failure to fall short of realizing all that we might dream.
The failure is to fall short of dreaming all that we might realize."*



STRETCH: Here's one of many ways to *stretch* our sense of possibilities:

Convene the team around two sheets of poster paper, and imagine that we're standing in an art museum, looking at two paintings.

One is a painting of "what is," now. To create this picture, draw or paste images that capture the good/bad, opportunities/limits that currently exist. Feel free to include short phrases.



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The other painting is “what can be.” On this poster draw or paste images and phrases of what the world will look like when we have been wildly successful, say in five years. Be sure to make visible everything we are for, our values and our big dreams.



What can be?

Feel free to use this online sketch pad to draw out your plans.
<https://sketch.io/sketchpad/>



ENLIVEN: Now step back; take in the fullness of both posters.

What is good right now?

Invite the team to reflect:



What are our strengths? What do we do well, like nobody else? If we did not exist, what hole would remain that nobody else could fill? How might we enliven our work with more of what we already do best, as we make our vision operational?

ENNOBLE: Focusing on the poster of our five-year dream, let's take a moment to hear from each person, in turn: What excites me most about what we want to create together?

Then discuss who is involved. Take a moment to imagine way beyond current collaborators: Who else might share our excitement and contribute to an even more expansive vision? How can we entice them to dream with us?



What can be?

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DISCOVER: We are already glimpsing our vision made real. In fact, we are modeling the possibilities in the way we have discovered it as a team. Are we not?

In next month's tip we will offer suggestions to ground this vision even more.

This is a good time to pause and let things percolate.



Is there an action item each person in the room can take from this visioning session, and report back on in our next meeting?

Maybe there are ways you can modify your home or work environment, or electronic triggers you can set up to keep the vision visible and the good feelings about it stirred on a continuous basis.

The key is to establish habits—as individuals and as a team—of staying in touch with the feeling of your vision already existing in all its glory. For as many have said, “your change of feeling is a change of destiny.”

To close, invite each to share “one word” about our new potential.

We'd love to hear how this works for you: tips@seedimpact.org.