Using the Traction framework for intention setting

Example questions for place-based partnerships

April 2022

Using the Traction framework for intention setting: example Questions for place-based partnerships

Example questions are in bold italics, with blue text as guidance to what is being sought through the questions and potential language that might be used, prompts are offered in the bullet points.

Ice-breaker questions: Setting the scene, opportunities for engagement and Partnership on climate action

- ***When and how do you remember getting involved in climate action at the local level?***
- ***What do you think are some highlights of climate action at the local level so far?***
- ***What would you say are the most important goals and visions of climate action at the local level?***

This is important not only as an icebreaker but in setting the scene for those engaged in the discussions and to open space for discussing what people find important

Enabler 1: Policy and leadership contributing to visioning, goals, targets and outcomes

This refers to our policies, legislation and leadership help to set goals, targets and outcomes for us to adapt to climate change. This enabler offers opportunity to explore
- *To what extent is climate adaptation is embedded across a broad range of policy areas such as health and wellbeing, social welfare, food, transport, environment and infrastructure and at a range of scales?*
- *To what extent is there policy coherence so that our adaptation actions do not undermine or conflict with other policies but rather reinforce and offer synergies to increase our adaptive capacity to climate change?*

Example Questions
1.1: *focusing on linking national frameworks and local realities*

Using examples such as the Climate Change Act, the climate change plan, or the Sustainable Development Goals. Can you describe how you see the opportunity in contributing towards both national policies and local issues and policies in the locality or region?

Prompts:
- *What are your priorities for being involved in this work?*
- *How might a Partnership work on adaptation to align with other important priorities in the locality or region? [This may not be needed depending on how Question 1.1 is answered]*
- *Suggestions to take this forward for specific priorities identified as important.*
- *What do you see as enablers or barriers to this?*

Seeking to explore: Coherence – horizontally and vertically, and processes to encourage integration.

1.2: *In tackling climate issues in the locality or region, what do you think is most important to enable climate action at a range of scales/levels?*

Prompts:

- *Local features that might contribute to enabling or limiting local action?*
- *Recommendations?*
- *Individual and organisational champions that might drive work forward?*

Seeking to explore champions and leadership and connecting with local realities

Enabler 2: Defining and developing pathways from the present towards envisioned outcomes *combined with* Enabler 3: Synthesis and utilisation of knowledge

Enabler 2: Governance processes and capacity to respond, including financing combined with Enabler 3: Synthesis and use of knowledge

Our governance processes and structures help to define and develop adaptation pathways. This enabler offers opportunity to explore

- *To what extent are our adaptation pathways, both by formal enforcement by state agencies in line with policy frameworks, and informal means through civil society networks, advocacy and community mechanisms, supporting our journey towards a climate-resilient society?*
- *To what extent have we secured financial resources and also have the capacity, knowledge and experience that enable us to make informed decisions, based on by local realities?*

Our adaptation actions need to be supported by the best knowledge and evidence available at the time of taking action, with those of us who have the responsibility for developing plans and policies having a good understanding of the knowledge and evidence behind climate change adaptation and its relation to other policies and aspects of daily life. This enabler offers opportunity to explore

- *To what extent are we building our adaptation action based upon what is important for peoples and places, as well as scientific evidence and data?*

Example Questions

3.1: *Data collection can inform the process of adaptation planning. From your perspective what do you feel would be most important in collecting and using the information?*

Prompts:

- *What would be important to consider in going forwards?*
- *How might knowledge be collected?*
- *How might information be used?*
- *What do you feel would be important successes and challenges in this process?*

Seeking to explore: integrating different types of knowledge

3.2: *To what extent do you feel that the local actors understand the impact of climate risks to different groups and priorities in the locality or region? Please share examples.*

Prompts:

- *Is there a shared understanding by local actors of the challenges?*
- *Any specific recommendations to be considered?*
- *What would be important to consider in looking forward in tackling climate action?*
- *What is important in enhancing local responsiveness and effectiveness of decision-making, policy influencing and action for adaptation?*

Seeking to explore: building a shared understanding in tackling climate risks and making this information accessible to society – this question triggered significant concern towards how the public had access to information on the climate challenge.

3.3 *What is the space for local action to contribute towards and be embedded within a local strategy?*

Seeking to explore: knowledge sharing, potential for consensual decision-making

3.4: (prompt on funding – follow up to question 3.3 if not raised by participants themselves): *Describe the opportunities and landscape for financing of adaptation action?*

Prompt:
- *What steps might be taken – and what steps do you think need to be taken – to provide the kind of financing and resourcing for adaptation action?*

Seeking to explore: financing, resourcing

3.5: Governance and functioning of the partnership

This was recognized as really important to explore, governance reflection emerged through almost all elements of the discussions – but special space identified to capture this where not sufficiently described

What do you feel would be most important in any partnership work for climate action?

Prompts:
- *Important mechanisms to support Group structure, meetings, participants groups*
- *Important mechanisms and concerns to reflect Group culture*
- *Any specific recommendations to be considered?*

Seeking to explore: understanding governance in relation to the various Enabler areas discussed (in most part this question was related to other issues discussed in advance of this question)

Enabler 4: Collaboration, coordination and inclusion of civil society and the voices of communities

Effective adaptation action involves not only working across policy areas but bringing different parts of society together to work collaboratively on climate change responses. This enabler offers opportunity to explore
- *To what extent are our communities and civil society involved in decision-making processes in a way that is fair and inclusive?*

Example Questions
4.1: *Do you think it is important to understand different local groups and organizations perspectives to tackling the climate change challenge for the locality or region? Why? Please give examples*

Prompts:
- *In terms of engagement and collaboration, what are the benefits for local people themselves in being involved in this work?*
- *What recommendations and suggestions do you have to address this?*

4.2: What do you think would be important to *allow space for community groups and other local actors or organizations to be engaged in climate action? Please share examples.*

Prompts:

- *Which local actors or organizations could be engaged?*
- *What do you think might be barriers to engaging local actors & organisations?*
- *How might the local actors help to maximize their collaboration and community/organisational voices in general?*
- *Any specific recommendations to be considered?*

Seeking to explore: multi-stakeholder governance for engagement / two-way deliberation and evaluation

Enabler 5: Consideration of ethics and justice

The people and places that are most vulnerable to climate change impacts must be given full consideration when planning our adaptation responses, fully embedding considerations of fairness. This enabler offers the opportunity to explore:

- *To what extent are some groups and communities disproportionately impacted by the changing climate or may have limited means to participate in addressing climate action? What is our understanding and response to gender and inter-sectional equity?*
- *To what extent are communities impacted by issues of vulnerability, inequality and disadvantage a part of collaboration and engaged in our framing of what is fair and just priorities for climate action?*
- *To what extent are the voices of those most impacted by the changing climate a part of solution-building?*
- *To what extent have we explored underlying power dynamics that compound disadvantage; and creating space for reflective learning?*

Example Questions

5.1: *What do you feel is important in tackling equity and fairness in climate action? Please share examples*

Prompts:

- *Do you think that local actors have a consistent understanding on equity and fairness?*
- *What are important issues surrounding equity and fairness in the context of the diversity, culture and history of the locality or region?*
- *What do you see as enablers or barriers to this area of work?*

Seeking to explore: equity, fairness, justice internally and externally

5.2: Thinking to the future, what do you think would be the most important aspects to consider in inclusion of equity and justice climate action here?

Prompt:

- *How might your own or others experience of perspective influence answers to this?*

Seeking to explore: priorities for equity, fairness and justice in looking forwards with the partnership?

Creating space to identify more important priorities in looking forwards

Example Questions
6.1: *Of all the different recommendations discussed, what do you think is most important and why?*

Prompts:
- *Short term: What do you think local actors should focus on in the short and medium to tackle climate action at the local level?*
- *Where would you like the region and actors to be tackling climate action in 2 years?*
- *What are your suggestions to get there?*