Transition Design Project Canvas
Projects in the Present, Informed by the Future

On this canvas, your group should formulate ideas for projects that are informed by your snapshots of the future. These projects should be conceived as a 'first step' in the transition toward the future you imagined. Your snapshots addressed particular facets of a more desirable future in which the fears and challenges in the present have been resolved. As you develop your projects, keep your snapshots nearby to ensure they are a step in realizing that future. This step is where the visioning informs tangible solutions that combine the transformative thinking about the future with the understanding of the present problem and the expertise of a particular stakeholder group. You may want to use post-its first to brainstorm and fill in the canvas once your ideas are resolved.

PROJECT 1

1. How does this project connect to and amplify the others?

2. Which of the present-day fears/concerns or hopes/aspirations does the project address?

3. What are the barriers and challenges to implmenting the project? What new resources, skills, technologies, policies or changes in infrastructure will it require?

4. What under-utilized social resources might be leveraged to aid in implementing the project?

5. How will it shift attitudes & beliefs connected to the problem that might lead to new social norms?

6. In what ways can it positively impact/resolve other complex problems? In what ways will it help restore local and regional social and environmental systems?

WHAT LEVEL OF SCALE IS THE PROJECT? HOUSEHOLD ◯ NEIGHBORHOOD ◯ CITY ◯ REGION ◯

PROJECT 2

1. How does this project connect to and amplify the others?

2. Which of the present-day fears/concerns or hopes/aspirations does the project address?

3. What are the barriers and challenges to implmenting the project? What new resources, skills, technologies, policies or changes in infrastructure will it require?

4. What under-utilized social resources might be leveraged to aid in implementing the project?

5. How will it shift attitudes & beliefs connected to the problem that might lead to new social norms?

6. In what ways can it positively impact/resolve other complex problems? In what ways will it help restore local and regional social and environmental systems?

WHAT LEVEL OF SCALE IS THE PROJECT? HOUSEHOLD ◯ NEIGHBORHOOD ◯ CITY ◯ REGION ◯

PROJECT 3

1. How does this project connect to and amplify the others?

2. Which of the present-day fears/concerns or hopes/aspirations does the project address?

3. What are the barriers and challenges to implmenting the project? What new resources, skills, technologies, policies or changes in infrastructure will it require?
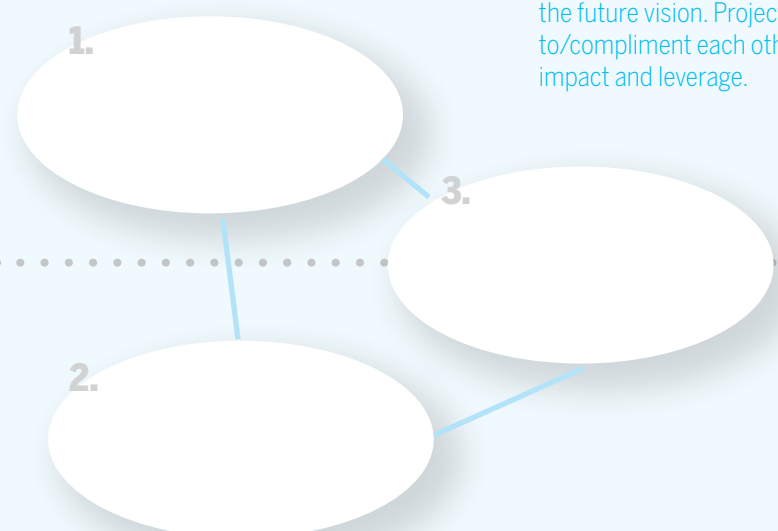
4. What under-utilized social resources might be leveraged to aid in implementing the project?

5. How will it shift attitudes & beliefs connected to the problem that might lead to new social norms?

6. In what ways can it positively impact/resolve other complex problems? In what ways will it help restore local and regional social and environmental systems?

WHAT LEVEL OF SCALE IS THE PROJECT? HOUSEHOLD ◯ NEIGHBORHOOD ◯ CITY ◯ REGION ◯

Projects become steps along a transition pathway

Present

1.

3.

2.

Projects in present are conceived as a 'step' in a transition pathway toward the future vision. Projects connect to/compliment each other for greater impact and leverage.

Speculate on what might follow if the projects were successful. What would a transition to something else look like? What do you think might be learned from the projects?
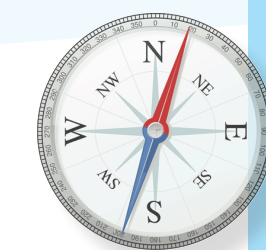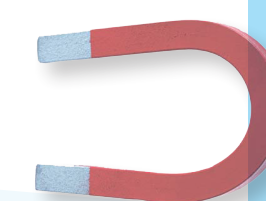
TRANSITION PATHWAYS

2033

What are the current attitudes, beliefs and assumptions about the problem in the present that your projects seek to challenge and change?

In what ways would attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms have had to shift at the halfway point on the transition pathway? Speculate/imagine...

2050 Future Snapshot

Synopsize your snapshot from the previous exercise.

What are the beliefs, assumptions and cultural norms in 2050 that have led to the resolution or improvement of the problem?