

Visions and Pathways 2040: Workshop Outlines

Two workshop outlines have been developed to support you and/or your organisation to further explore the ideas and challenges presented in the Visions and Pathways 2040 Project. They provide ideas of activities that can be used to expand your vision of what a low-carbon future could be; consider how prepared you are to handle, respond or make use of changes that happen; and imagine (plan) your role in pathways for getting there.

These workshop outlines take as a starting assumption the findings of the VP2040 project - that 80% emissions reductions are possible and achievable, in a number of ways.

Workshop 1: Exploratory Scenarios

The Exploratory workshop draws on the four exploratory scenarios developed as part of the project. It helps your organisation think more imaginatively about what could happen in a low-carbon future city, and define the kind of low-carbon city that your organisation is aspiring to.

You can also use the 2 action pathways as your provocations if you prefer, but if planning to run both workshops we recommend introducing the four APs first. This will help to 'diverge' thinking about possibilities, before more 'convergence' in the second workshop.

Workshop 2: Action Pathways

The Action workshop draws on the two Action Pathways. It helps your organisation discuss and reveal tensions in vision, values and the kind of low-carbon future you are aspiring to. It provides a space to consider what you are currently creating, and what other strategies and actions might be worth consideration.

Each Workshop outline has a number of suggested activities and facilitator notes. These are a starting point for planning and running participative engagement processes within your organisations and with partners. The following partners and participants in the VP2040 project are also available to work with you to design and run processes more specifically tailored to your needs:

Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab
University of Melbourne
Prof. Chris Ryan (cryan@unimelb.edu.au),
Darren Sharp (darren@socialsurplus.com.au)
and/or Jose Ramos (jose@actionforesight.net)



Workshop 1: Exploratory Scenarios

	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Activity</i>
Welcome and Introduction		Play VP2040 Action Pathways video
Activity 1: Imagine different Visions and Pathways Est. 40 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting participants into frame of mind to ‘believe’ that emissions reduction possible • There are different ways to do this—present ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand out scenario summaries—one to each table (up to 8 people) Small group discussions—read and discuss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What do we like about this scenario? – What do we dislike? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report back to group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Summary explanation, likes and dislikes
Activity 2: Trends and Responses Est. 40 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deeper engagement in implications of the scenario • How do the different scenarios affect implications of already visible trends and changes • Do we have power/influence? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we see signals of this scenario emerging? • Select a trend from Table 1 (or pick from ‘hat’). Discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How might this play out in this scenario? – How would we deal with this? Would we need to respond and are we ready? • Report back to group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1-2 top discussion points of each question
Activity 3: Plausibility & Desirability Est. 40 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we/can we believe this? 	Staying with the same scenario: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What feels possible / plausible? • Is this what we want? Are there 2-3 elements of this future that we would really want to see? • Report back to group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1-2 top discussion points of each question
Activity 4: Our Vision & Intent Est. 40 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combining elements of what we want to see into what we aim for and do 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each table to identify 1-2 elements that have been identified (from any table) as being desirable • What does this organisation do (currently) that make this outcome more or less likely? • What <i>could</i> this organisation do to facilitate or accelerate development of that outcome?

Facilitator Notes

- Allocation of people to scenarios can be random—people select table and scenario is allocated to table, or ‘engineered’—people are allocated to scenarios that they may be more or less comfortable working on
- Suggest each group work in depth with the same scenario for the whole session.

Table 1: Suggested Trends that can be used to provoke/shape discussions in Activity 2

<i>Technology and infrastructure</i>	<i>Economic and Political</i>	<i>Social, Cultural and Behavioural</i>	<i>Environment and Resources</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robotics and automation of blue and white collar jobs • Autonomous vehicles introduction • Electric vehicles expansion • 3D/4D printing for small businesses and homes • Micro-grids for electricity • Battery storage cost breakthroughs • Electrification of most public transport • Algae growth and bio-capture • Ageing critical infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New finance mechanisms - green bonds, peer to peer lending • Standard carbon dashboards for cities and organisations, promoting greater competition to be the lowest carbon • Expanding green superannuation funds • (Re)insurance markets and liabilities for urban climate impacts • Divestment movement • Energy market reform to better allow for distributed, renewable energy • New finance mechanisms - green bonds, peer to peer lending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wealth inequality fragmenting cities • Celebration of champions of sustainable economy • Growth of alternative housing models - shared kitchens and other facilities • Well-being (and not wealth) movement • Greater consumer consciousness of energy use • Demise of expertise and rise of myths, fake news • Rebound effects negating efficiency improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing heat island effects • Increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events • Cradle to cradle resource use become standard • End of fossil fuel subsidies • Peak metals • Fracturing of private open spaces • Period of water shortage periods • Loss of Barrier Reef

Workshop 2: Action Pathways

The *Action Pathways* workshop builds on the new scope and sense of possibility opened up by the *Exploratory* workshop. It helps your organisation define a more active role in achieving a more sustainable future, drawing on the two action pathways outlined in the VP2040 final report. As with the *Exploratory* workshop, the *Action Pathways* workshop opens up ideas about the scale and array of actions available to your organisation, and should expand thinking on what possible pathways could look like. This workshop helps your organisation place itself within larger, more transformative action pathways. It is intended to inform and strengthen commitment to action and the development of strategy and implementation plans.



	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Activity</i>
Welcome and Introduction		Play VP2040 Action Pathways video
Activity 1: Imagine different Visions and Pathways Est. 40 mins	Revealing and discussing values and political preferences that affect scenario 'preference'	Hand out scenario summaries - one to each table (up to 8 people) Small group discussions - read and discuss What do we like about this scenario? What do we dislike? Report back to group Summary explanation, likes and dislikes
Activity 2: One Action Pathway – Our Role Est. 40 mins	Considering our role in making this scenario happen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we see parts of this scenario emerging? • What are we currently doing that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Supporting – Impeding – <i>Identify specific strategies, programs, actions etc</i> • Report back to group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1-2 top discussion points of each question

	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Activity</i>
Activity 3: Repeat for other Action Pathway	Each group considers role of organisation deeply for each pathway	
Activity 4: Backcasting: What did we do that made this happen? Est. 40 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Action Pathways are intended to provoke discussion of other possible mobilisation action • This activity aims to open up discussion of the role you could play in making these happen 	<p>These Action Pathways are possibilities. They require ‘action’ if they are to become realities. What part can we play in that?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select one of the Action Pathways <i>[facilitator aim to ensure that both APs have a couple of groups working on them]</i> • Pick an element of an Action Pathway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What did we do to help make this happen? – When did we do it? – What impediments did we overcome? • Repeat until time is up • Report back to group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2-3 top organisational policy changes or action ideas revealed, including potential impediments faced and overcome
Activity 5: Consolidation & Focus Est. 40 mins	Identify work / action areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each table writes their top 2-3 policy changes or action ideas (for their/your organisation) and places on a wall • Voting—each participant has 3 coloured stickers—where would you like to see further work to progress new pathways for accelerated action?

Facilitator Notes

- Depending on time available, you may choose to just have each small group focus on one action pathway for the whole session (drop out Activity 3).
- In Activity 4, participants could place ideas in a timeline of activities mapping out a loose pathway for organisational action.
- Having a clear pathway for what happens with the participant input is critical to ongoing engagement.