

# Session II: Idea workshop for the Partner Jump



Session II is designed to help you with your Partner Jump to recount your vision for a better world, and to find a form of expression that convinces, inspires, clarifies and motivates.

## **1) Pair work: Protest? Yes, but for better alternatives!**

“You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.” - R. Buckminster Fuller, Architect, Designer. A "new model" here stands for alternative behaviour patterns, solutions or a new way of how something is organized or produced.

**Talk to the person sitting next to you about the quote from the architect R. Buckminster Fuller:**

- What does he mean by that?
- Do you agree with it?
- Can you think of any examples illustrating his point?

## **2) Group Puzzle: In search of the "new model"**

The exercise is organized as a group puzzle. You should therefore be in groups of at least three, with six being even better – in the end you should divide into three groups overall. If you are more than 18 people, split into six groups.

### Part 1: Analysing examples

The goal of each group is that each person understands the example so well that s/he can explain it to others afterwards.

#### **Group 1: Gandhi's Salt March**

Material, group 1:

Newspaper article in the Vienna Newspaper on 11.03.2002: Gandhi begins the "salt march" (in German)

[http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/archiv/189791\\_Gandhi-beginnt-den-Salzmarsch.html](http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/archiv/189791_Gandhi-beginnt-den-Salzmarsch.html)

Podcast from the program “100 Seconds of Knowledge” from SRF on 13.3.2008: Salt March (in German)

<http://www.srf.ch/player/radio/100-sekunden-wissen/audio/salzmarsch?id=2abb9dc6-759c-4cc4-99ad-95ed78f6acdc>

Discussion questions, group 1:

- Which "new model" was brought to life by Gandhi in the salt march? What did he want to improve, and how did he show what he wanted?

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- Gandhi and his followers and supporters did not defend themselves against attack. Their actions were peaceful, their "civil disobedience" was to do something that they were not allowed to do, but without hurting anyone or even insulting them. What is the power of such a protest? If you were in their shoes, and you found something unfair to criticize, how would you do it without insulting the person who acts unjustly, or wanting to be avenged?

### **Group 2: Earth Hour**

Material, group 2:

Online Article by Philip Banse, German Radio, from 25.03.2011: Lights out, Planet breathes (in German) [http://www.deutschlandfunk.de/licht-aus-planet-atmet-auf.697.de.html?dram:article\\_id=78005](http://www.deutschlandfunk.de/licht-aus-planet-atmet-auf.697.de.html?dram:article_id=78005)

Trailer for Earth Hour 2014 from WWF:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfwJZmocGK8>

Discussion questions, group 2:

- Which "new model" is brought to life in Earth Hour? What improvements do people want to see, and how do they show what they want?
- Earth Hour is criticized because it hardly has a relevant effect on the energy consumption of humankind, if the lights are turned off for only an hour, once a year. Where do you see the meaning of this symbolic action? Where do you see the limits of symbolic actions? Do you have ideas, such as Earth Hour, in which the effect of symbolic actions can be (better) used so that the world changes, more concretely and practically?

### **Group 3: Park(ing) Day**

Material, group 3:

Online article by Katrin Wiersch, [nordbayern.de](http://www.nordbayern.de) from 16/09/2014: Parking Day: Nuremberg's parking lots will be car-free zones (in German)

<http://www.nordbayern.de/region/nuernberg/parking-day-nurnbergs-parkplatze-werden-autofreie-zone-1.3890188>

Video from Sebastian Plantholt, N24, from 19.09.201: A bad day for motorists (in German)

<http://www.n24.de/n24/Mediathek/videos/d/5432530/ein-schlechter-tag-fuer-autofahrer.html>

Discussion questions, group 3:

- Which "new model" was brought to life in the Park(ing) Day? What improvements do people want to see, and how do they show what they want?
- What tips does the organizer in the newspaper article give, to avoid conflicts and accidents? Why do you think this is important? What could the consequences be if a symbolic action is not as well thought out and organized?

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## Part 2: Exchange and development of your own ideas

Now the groups are reassembled: One to two people from groups 1, 2 and 3 each form a new group of three to six people - so that in each group there is at least one "expert" or an expert in each of the sample actions.

### **Step 1:** The experts get everyone on the same page

- What is a Salt March?
- What is Earth Hour?
- What is Park(ing) Day?
- What vision is being symbolically implemented by these actions?
- What was good about the actions? What should you consider so that a symbolic action is to have a large and positive effect?

### **Step 2:** The expert teams begin their work

The aim of the second round is to develop ideas for your Partner Jump. Even the Big Jump is a symbolic action: people bathe/swim together at the same time for water protection. And yet it is a bit like the Park(ing) Day: Just like how each parking space is configured differently, each team in the Big Jump Challenge can create its action differently.

- Think about why: What are your priorities? What moves you about water protection the most? Maybe you have already developed ideas in Session I that can be used here - so take your time without rushing, to look over your "Gallery of good ideas".
- Do a once-over at your results from the letter-writing tool or keep your stakeholder dialogue in mind: What issues have yet to be resolved at your lake or river?
- Reflect also on your partner team: Is there a common theme? Does your partner team have a problem, which you both want to bring attention to at your Partner Jump?
- What vision can be developed from this? Where are the concrete starting points for an improvement? Take time to eventually take yourselves again on a small mental journey into the future (see Session I).
- How could a symbolic action look, so that your idea of what should happen can organically be retold and is inviting for others to join? Can you think of something for a better future - at least symbolically – that today can already become a reality?

If you need inspiration: check out [Big Jump organization and PR](#), where you can find tools for the development of a slogan, a human banner and flash mob. These ideas could be taken into consideration - but maybe you can also think of something much better!

### **Step 3:** Presentation of ideas

Each team puts forth their ideas for a Partner Jump. Then everyone discusses this together.

- What ideas are feasible?
- What would you like to do?
- Who has more suggestions for improvement?

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- What ideas can be combined?

### **Step 4:** Selecting and deciding

It would be especially great of course, if you organize an exchange at this point with your partner team. You can combine your suggestions and send them to each other. Then you can discuss all proposals in teams again - your own group's ideas and also those of your partner team. And don't forget then to clarify together with your partner team, who implements which ideas. So that way of course you will also improve your Collaboration Score!

Most important however, is that you come to a decision on which idea(s) you want to prepare and implement. It would be best if you already agree on some ideas in the discussion. If you can't progress further and decide, then agree to two or three favorites and take a vote.

**Important: At the end you should have an idea of how you want to make your Partner Jump. Send your idea to the Big Jump Challenge team.** Your ideas will be presented on your results page in order so that the Big Jump Challenge Partners and other Jump teams can give you tips for putting your plan into action! A few tips and tasks for your next action button can be found under Big Jump Organization and PR (link above).

*This tool was developed by Sabrina Schulz of the Big Jump Challenge team. It may be used for non-commercial educational purposes. Any alteration or other use requires prior authorization, all rights reserved with GETIDOS.*