

Inhabit

GROUP EXERCISE FOR STRATEGIC
CLIMATE RESILIENCE



RESILIANCCE



**Group
Exercise
For Strategic
Climate
Resilience**

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What you will need

- ☀️ **A group of people who want to get organized**

- ☀️ **Facilitation**

Someone or some people to ask the questions, lead the conversation, and provoke others to elaborate their points.

- ☀️ **Projector, whiteboard, or butcher paper + markers, pens and paper**

- ☀️ **Someone or some people to write down or input answers**

- ☀️ **A space that can account for a large group and multiple small groups**

A park, a back yard, a house or apartment with multiple rooms, an auditorium, a couple classrooms, or a social space should all suffice.

Ideally, this exercise is practiced using a projector showing 2 screens: the slides, and a document to input answers. You could also use a whiteboard to write answers or butcher paper. It's important to show questions as well as answers because we will refer back to different earlier questions during phases of the exercise.

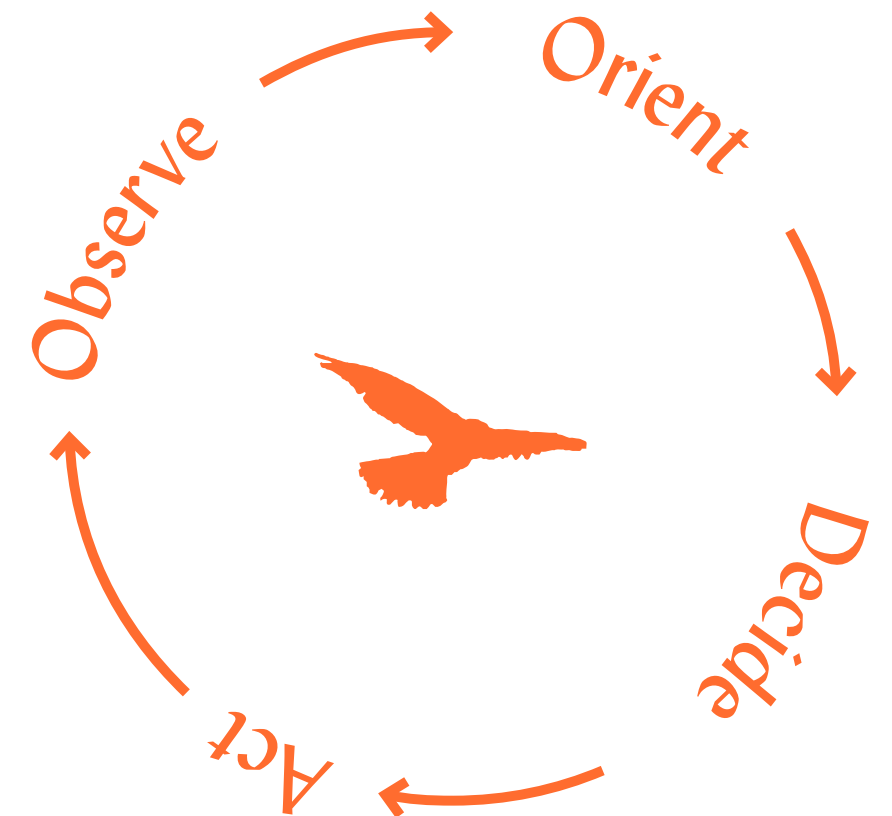


Glossary of terms

Strategic thought A thought process of achieving goals, or set of goals in an endeavor. We like to frame this as “goal driven thinking,” but a friend said “All thought is strategic.”

OODA Loop The cycle of: Observe-Orient-Decide-Act. A framework developed by John Boyd from systems theory and cognitive sciences to apply to combat operation processes. We are using this, not because we believe the world can be reduced to the dynamics of feedback loops in systems, but because it’s a useful cognitive frame to move and act within a terrain.

Adversaries We use this term because of how it appears in 4th and 5th generation warfare. The figure of the 4th gen warfare is increasingly non-state actors, and in 5th gen the terrain becomes increasingly virtual. and unlike the enemy, who is existentially foreign and must be annihilated, the adversary should be defeated, rerouted, or neutralized.



This is a facilitated group exercise using the OODA Loop broken up into phases: 1. Observe, 2. Orient, 3. Decide and Act. It is meant to move fast during the first phases, and encourage more discussion during the later phase.





How to use this document

Each orange slide is meant to frame questions of a phase.

① OBSERVE

We're going to begin the exercise by observing what we have in common. This is the backbone to our shared power, and these are the tools that can be reshaped as weapons.




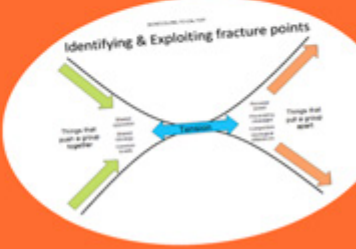
Large text should be read aloud by the facilitator.

③ DECIDE → ACT

We're going to design a project or experiment that uses the information we've all gathered from our observation and orientation phase in order to decide and act.

Break into smaller groups with pen and paper, preparing to take notes and report back. Create small groups determined by the size of your big group. E.g. if your group is 20 people, break into 4 small groups of 5

*Sometimes facilitators worry too much about connecting people who don't know each other. That's a good impulse, and we will gain in collective intelligence from outside perspectives, but for this exercise it's okay if people know each other in the small group, and even better if they have some experience working together as a team.



Small text should be seen as facilitator notes.

How to use this document

In each section a series of questions will be asked by the facilitator.

There are prompts below that the facilitator can either read or elaborate in their own words.


Time is an approximation, feel free to to push past if the group needs more time, or wrap up earlier if the question feels exhausted.

What practices do we share?

Shared practices are the tapestry of a world, of *how* we inhabit a place, how we use what is given. This could be making art or music, planting or propogating plants, or sports or fighting, etc.

5 minutes

OBSERVE WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON



Flow of Exercise

Facilitator begins by introducing the exercise, reading **WTF is this, again?** slide.

Group watches the Megacities: Urban Future, Emerging Complexity video together as a way to orient to scale and scope of questions.

Phase 1-2 is led in a large group format, with facilitator asking questions and the group answering them with a way to visually show answers to questions so everyone can see.

Phase 3 is broken into small groups, determined by the overall size of group. E.g. if your group is 20 people, break into 4 small groups of 5. if your group is smaller than 6 people decide what makes sense for you. The facilitator will ask a question, break out groups will have time to answer, and then the big group will reconvene to present answers. This will proceed 3 times in this phase.

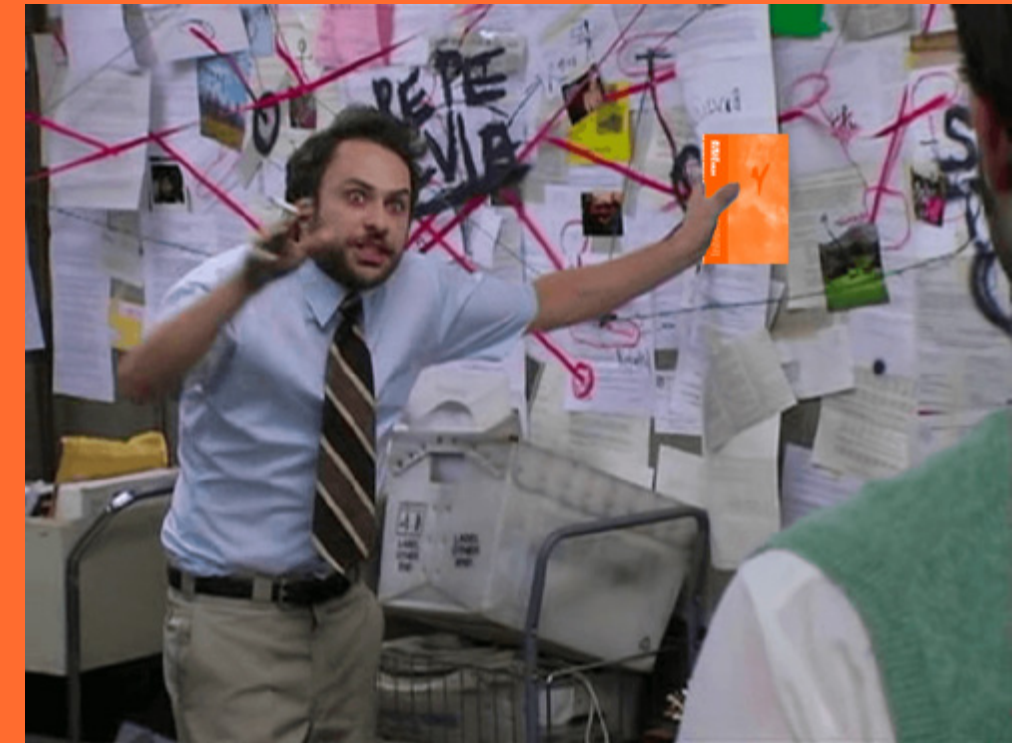
Once exercise is complete **there should be time allotted for reflection**

The exercise will take approximately 2 hours, but could easily take more time, or be broken up across a day. Prepare a break between sections, and a way to bring people back together.



WTF is this, again?

This is a group exercise meant to help us think strategically. Most of us are used to critical thought—deconstructing ideas, or exposing the flaws of someone’s ideology, or political project through examining it under an ethical frame. Contemporary political milieus owe much of this to their ties to liberal arts. Whether we learn what’s right and wrong through philosophy, our family ties, or experience shaped by the street, the ethics we develop strengthen our critical eyes. Thought is an act—an exercise—and like other exercises, if we only condition certain muscles, others will atrophy. Our adversaries train all their muscles.



What does the future have in store?

Watch [this video](#) together if you'd like. While not only about climate change, it's a video about megacities and complexity that shows how the Pentagon strategically considers risk and adversaries as populations grow even more dense, where ecological disaster operates alongside terrorism. This is a helpful orientation to the scale and scope of the exercise, and demonstrates how our adversaries were thinking about these problems in 2016.



① OBSERVE

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What practices do we share?

5 minutes

Shared practices are the tapestry of a world, of *how* we inhabit a place, how we use what is given. This could be making art or music, planting or propogating plants, or sports or fighting, etc.

OBSERVE

WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON

What resources do you have that we all could use?

5 minutes

Resources here mean anything that can increase our collective strength and sense of what's achievable. Start by listing material resources, then when that wanes, list skillsets and expertise. Consider the frame of this exercise while you list resources, because you will be using them later.

OBSERVE

WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON

We are in a *Mostly Rural*
or *Mostly Urban* setting
during an unfolding
ec☹ological crisis,
c☹mpounded by a gl☹bal
pandemic, ec☺nomic
breakdown, and p☺litical
rep☺larizations and
realignments

☀ chose one based on where you are.
If your terrain is different, feel free
to replace.

What are key attributes to the current situation?

5 minutes

This could be social unrest like we saw in 2020, or supply chain failures because of the pandemic's impact on the global economy, etc.

What can we predict about our future based on our current situation?

5 minutes

Using what we already know, we can speculate the likely futures.
Hint: this will likely be dystopian, which will tell us something about the present.

What are the concrete problems we are facing?

5 minutes

How has climate change already posed problems for you? Try to be specific on your context. For example, if you farm or work with livestock animals you may be facing problems due to more rain or drought, supply chain problems, or lack of labor. How does that relate to on-going crises? Have you noticed cost of living increasing? A lack of housing possibilities? A difficulty finding work due to remote office or vaccine requirement? Technology learning curves or hardware as prerequisite to Jobs. How are wildfires, hurricanes, drought, longer wet seasons already impacting your life?

Who are our adversaries?

5 minutes

As we mentioned adversaries are different from enemies. The enemy is an ethical-political category, and confronts you as an existential threat. The adversary causes adversity and poses a different question. Adversaries can be neutralized, rerouted, disengaged, or exploited. The adversarial relation is competition for power. Its best to start listing them as local and intimate as possible, then move to higher levels.

What will our adversaries likely do to gain an advantage?

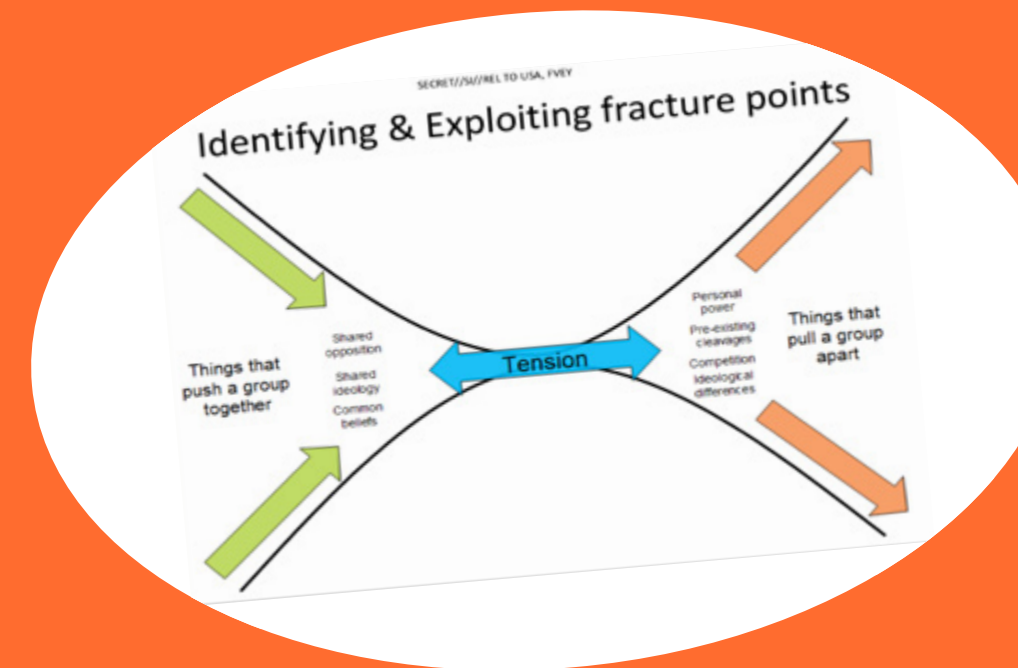
5 minutes

What techniques will they apply and what concrete things will they do to make the situation serve their goals?

We're going to design a project or experiment that uses the information we've all gathered from our observation and orientation phase in order to decide and act.

Break into smaller groups with pen and paper, preparing to take notes and report back. Create small groups determined by the size of your big group. E.g. if your group is 20 people, break into 4 small groups of 5

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List concrete problems, or crises that *could* be advantageous to us

10 minutes

The cognitive exercise we're doing here is about reframing how we encounter problems. We're used to seeing crises as something to be solved, mostly because of the ethical weight and perceived outcomes of crises, but crises and problems also impact our adversaries. Are there ways where we can take Sun Tzu's advice to "strike *with* chaos," while remaining true to our ethical commitments?

DECIDE → ACT

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Think through a project or experiment that can make use of:

15 minutes

- ☀ what practices we share
- ☀ what resources the group has
- ☀ and that exploits a problem to make the situation advantageous?

DECIDE → ACT

WHAT CAN WE DO?



Think through a challenge posed to your project or experiment by adversaries

15 minutes

how you could defeat them using all the information we learned from our OODA Loop?

DECIDE → ACT

WHAT CAN WE DO?

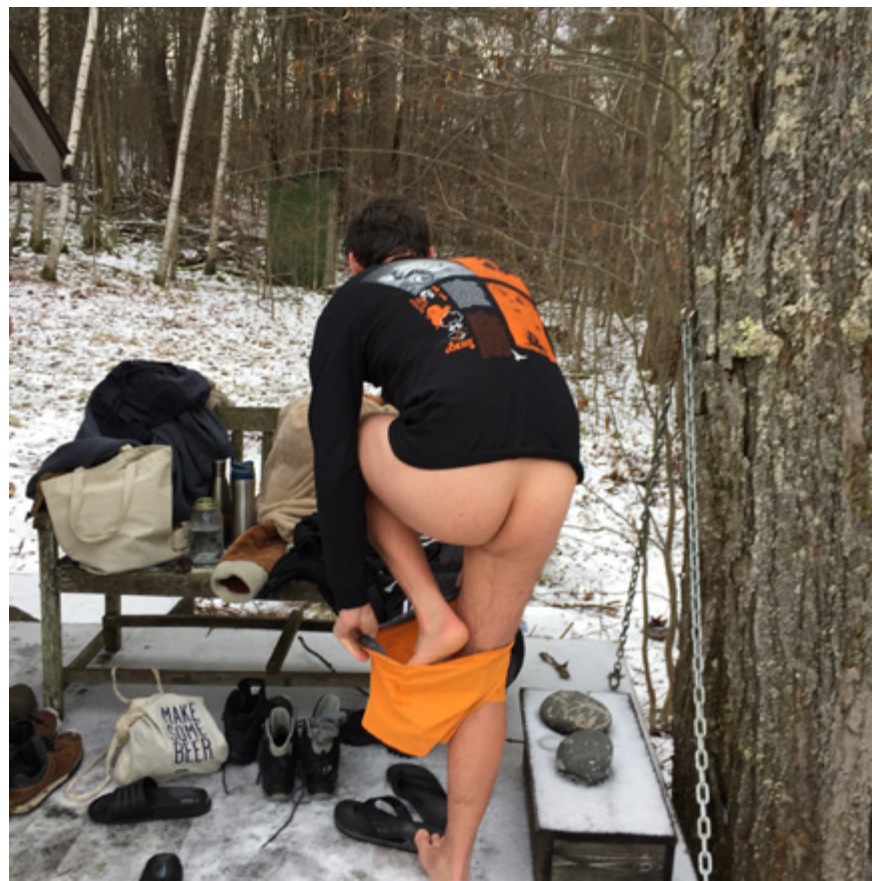
You're done!

Now take some time to reflect together on how the exercise went, and what you're going to do about the billionaire shits trying to kill all life on the planet



**If You have
any Questions
We're Here to Help**

hello@inhabit.global



PHONE SCROLL THROUGH
THE APOCALYPSE



OR GET READY
FOR A NEW WORLD

