Transformative Urban Coalitions

# Transformative Urban Coalitions



## M1_ Building and supporting a place-based coalition

# Get Attention

- Did you know that climate change isn't only about rising temperatures?
- It's also about who gets heard, who gets included, and who gets left behind in decision-making.
- Communities with strong local coalitions are significantly more likely to implement successful climate resilience measures.
- In other words, collaboration isn't a "nice-to-have," it's one of the most effective enablers of real, lasting change.
- This module will show you how awareness, trust, and commitment can help your community become stronger, more connected, and better equipped to face urban challenges together.

# Learning Objectives

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- Identify the key elements that make a place-based coalition effective for addressing climate change and promoting social justice.
- Explain how tracking participation, satisfaction, and motivation tracking helps groups build trust and work better together.
- Apply practical tools, such as actor mapping, icebreakers, the climate mindset quiz and world café, to plan and enhance commitments within your own community.

# Reflection

- Think about a coalition you know or about a moment when your community came together, maybe after a storm, during a festival, or to address a local challenge.
  - What made people show up?
  - Who organized it?
  - Who else should have been there?

# Reflection




*TUC: Urban Labs Leon. Link*

**Experimental projects developed by the León Urban Lab**

The Urban Lab developed four low-cost, easy-to-implement experimental projects to address these challenges and test climate change adaptation solutions. Two of these projects focused on the equitable redistribution of public space, encouraging walking or cycling on Adolfo López Mateos Boulevard, a road currently dominated by motor vehicles and with a high rate of traffic accidents.

# Reflection

**Who took part in the Coalition in León**

- Cámara de Comercio México - E.U. Capítulo Guanajuato
- Cámara Nacional de Comecio, Servicios y Turismo de León
- Centro de Producción más Limpia del Bajío
- Ciclismo Clásico
- Colectivo URBE
- Dirección General de Desarrollo Urbano de León
- Dirección General de Gestión Gubernamental
- Dirección General de Medio Ambiente de León
- Dirección General de Movilidad de León
- Direción General de Economía de León
- EKM Consultores
- Escuela Nacional de Estudios Superiores de León
- Fab City León
- Fundación Rescate Arbóreo A.C.
- Gnosis XXI
- Grupo 330
- Instituto Municipal de Planeación de León
- Mujeres en Bici
- Observatorio Ciudadano de León
- Primero León A.C. y MOCE Movimiento CiudadanoEcologista
- Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Ordenamiento Territorial de Guanajuato
- Sistema de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado de León
- Sistema Integral de Aseo Público de León
- Universidad de Guanajuato, Campus León
- URBE Consultores

# Content Overview

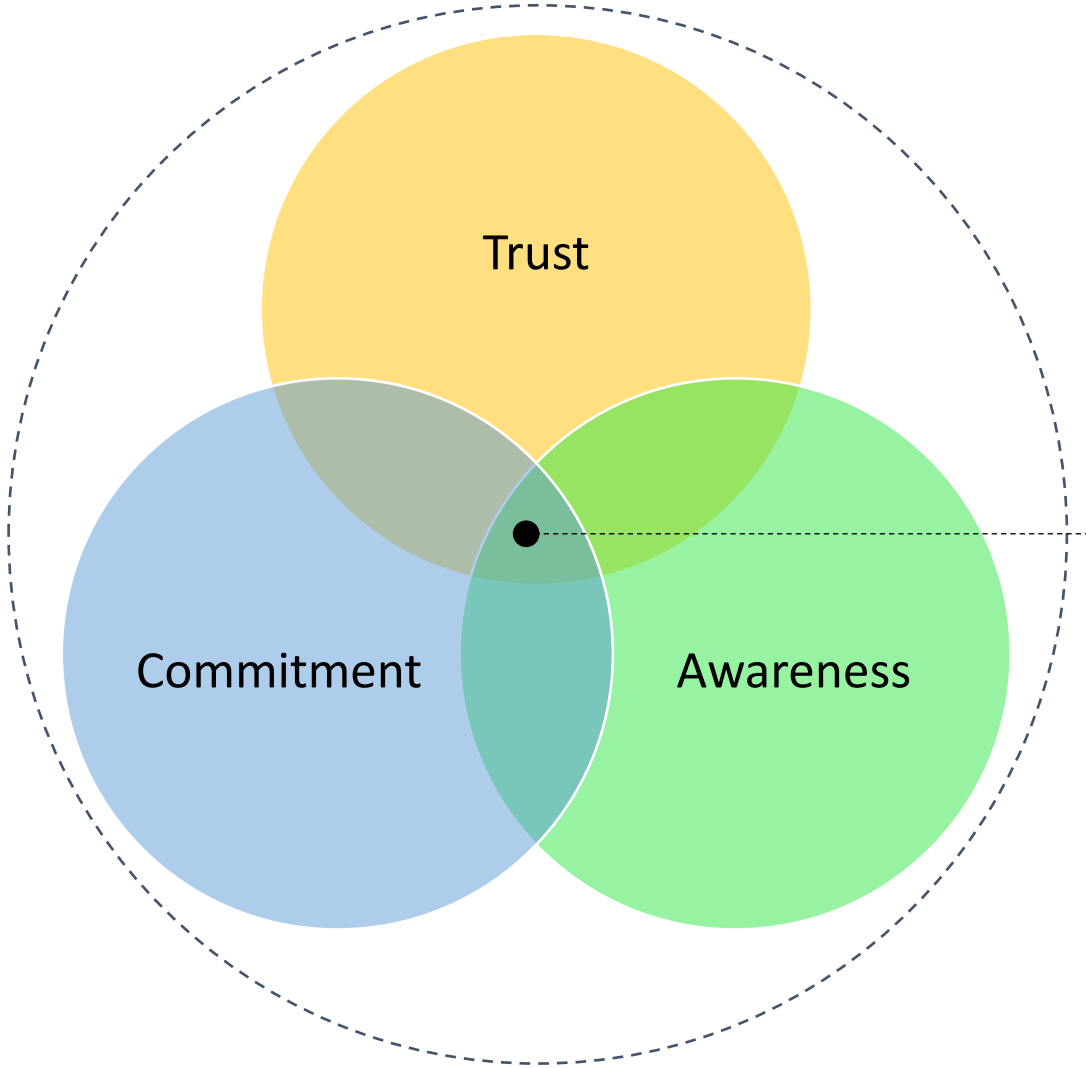
**Part 1. Awareness:** Climate and social justice actions that inspire!

**Part 2. Trust:** Satisfaction and motivation trackers!

**Part 3. Commitment:** Capacities for a better future!

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# Our Journey




**CLIMATE ACTION!**

Based on the Climate Action Venn Diagram. https://www.ayanaelizabeth.com/climatevenn

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# Who is involved in a coalition?




- What suhttps://stock.adobe.com/de/search?k=superpower&asset_id=477418184#state=%7B%22ac%22%3A%22stock.adobe.com%22%7D&token_type=bearer&expires_in=86399perpower do you bring to the climate movement?

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# Why they collaborate or what do coalitions share?




- What suhttps://stock.adobe.com/de/search?k=superpower&asset_id=477418184#state=%7B%22ac%22%3A%22stock.adobe.com%22%7D&token_type=bearer&expires_in=86399perpower do you bring to the climate movement?

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**What do coalitions share?**

# Challenges

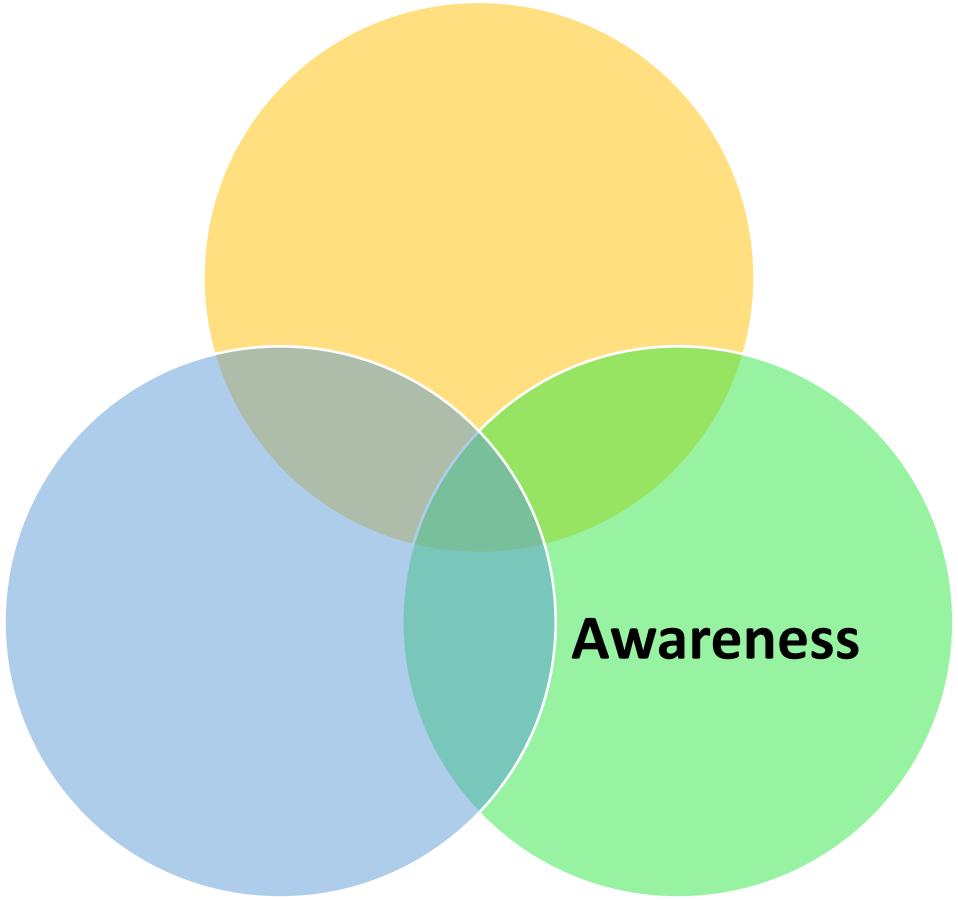
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# Part 1

## Awareness:
## Climate and social justice actions that inspire!

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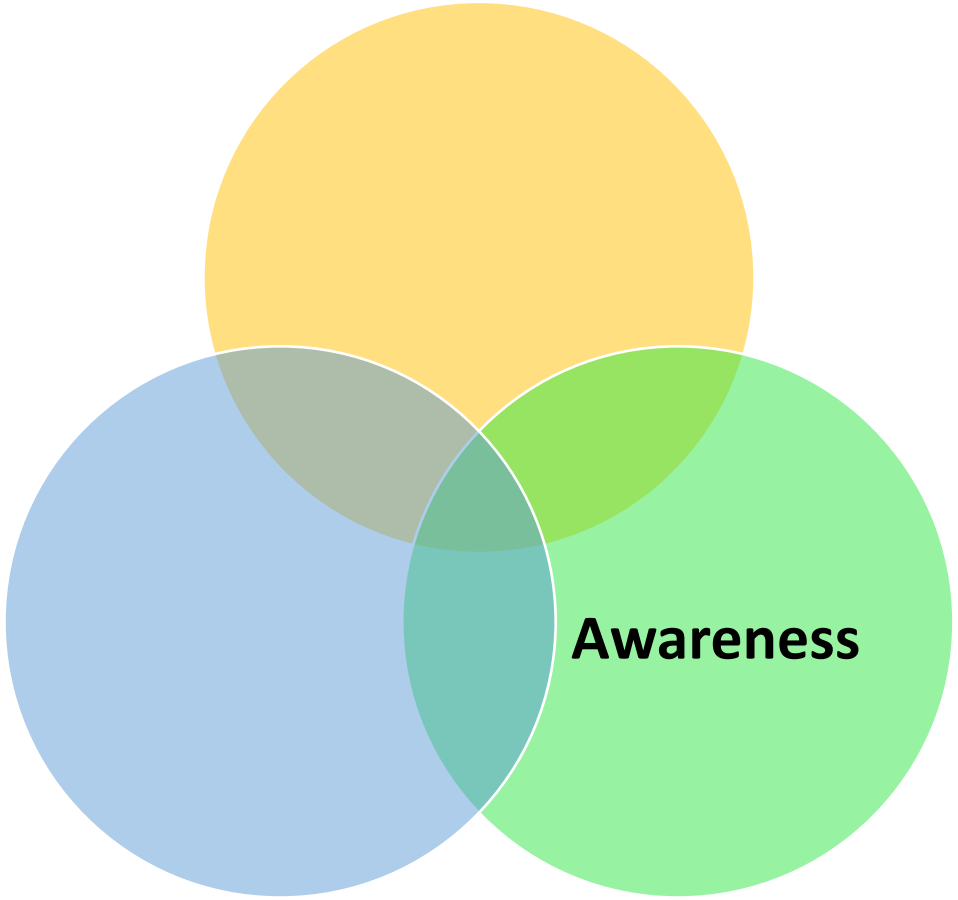
# Recommended Actions




- Map relevant people and organizations
- Identify existing initiatives

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# Recommended Actions

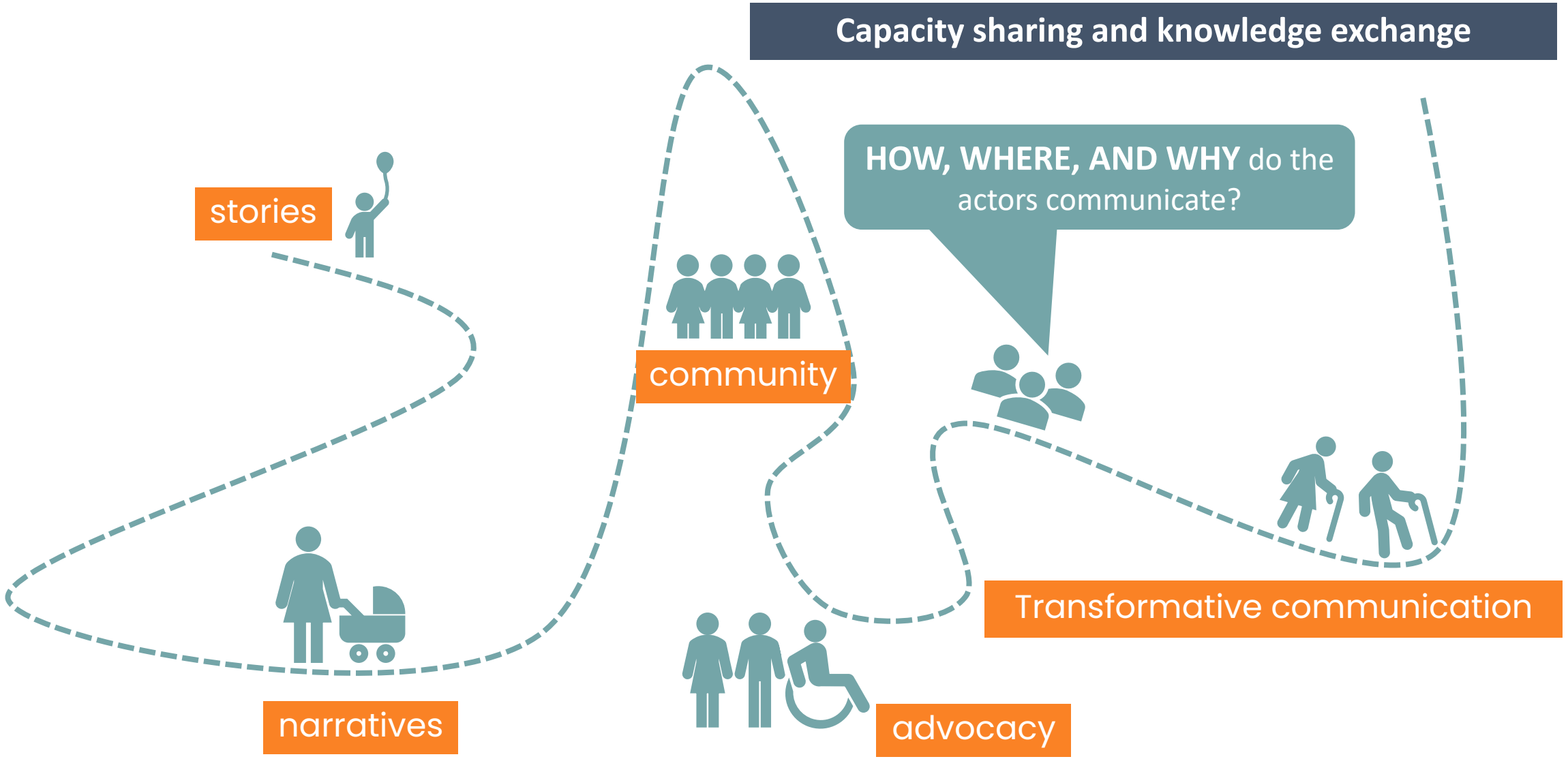



## Map relevant people and organizations

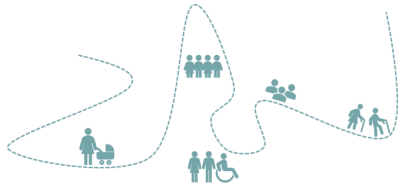
- Identify key actors shaping the territory: government bodies, civil society, businesses, grassroots initiatives, cultural groups, and marginalized communities.
- Understand their roles, interests, influence, relationships, and potential support or resistance.
- Ensure diverse voices are included from the beginning.

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# Capacity needs and Expectations



# Actor mapping



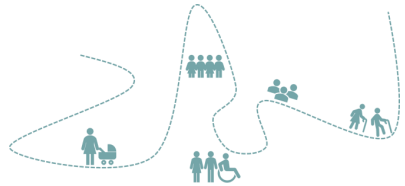
**STEP 1 – Identify stakeholders: Who should be engaged?**

Possible stakeholders and sectors to engage in climate action can include

- persons or organisations
- who are relevant at the international and global level
- but also at the local and sub-national level:

  - Local public sector institutions, including local government, national
  - Private sector actors
  - Local communities and indigenous groups
  - Non-governmental organizations, civil-society, and community-based organizations
  - (Other) technical experts
  - Others: Media and academia (researchers for science-based knowledge), multilateral organisations, socially excluded minorities, social movements, people experiencing poverty, etc.

# Actor mapping



**STEP 2 – IMPACT**
**Identify stakeholders' impact and capacity: Why should be engaged?**
How much does the challenge impact them? (Low / Medium / High)
How much capacity do they currently have (Low / Medium / High)

**STEP 3 – Levels of Stakeholder Engagement: How should they be engaged?**

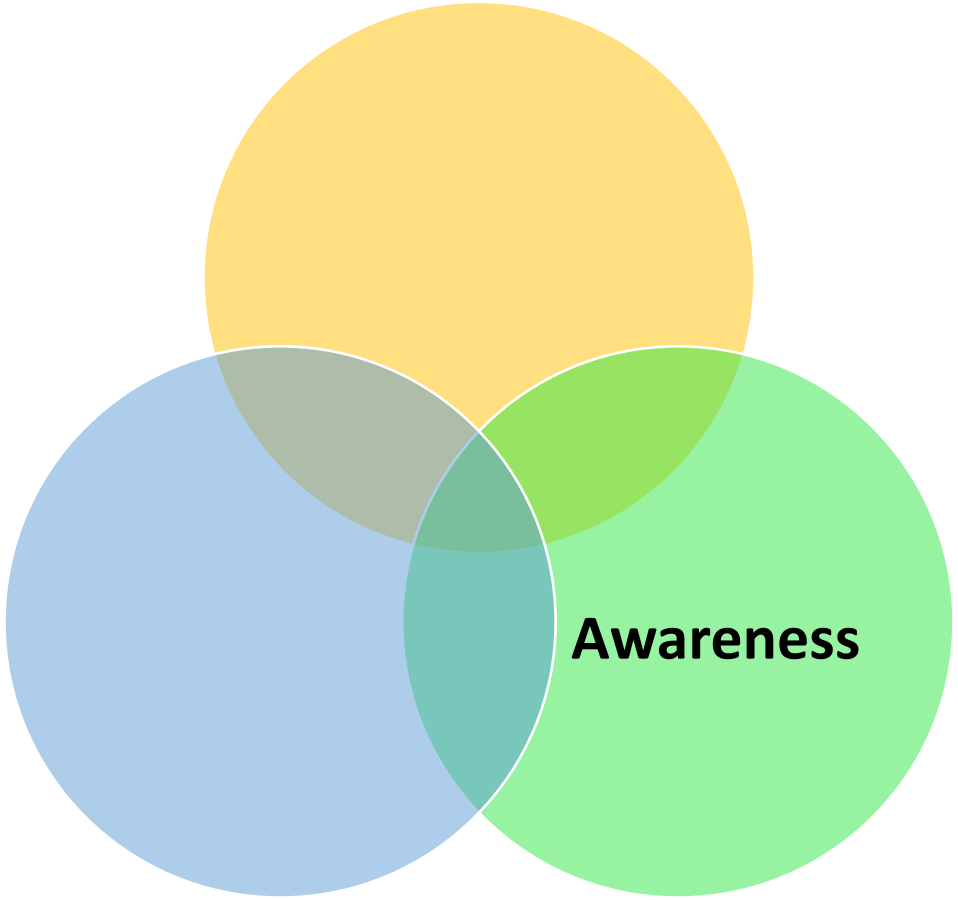
Possible stakeholders and sectors can be approached to:

1. Inform
2. Consult
3. Involve
4. Collaborate
5. Empower



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# Recommended Actions




## Identify existing initiatives

- Map initiatives already active in the area to build on trust and avoid duplication.
- Include initiatives related to climate, culture, social justice, and community well-being, even if not directly tied to the central challenge.
- Identify gaps and collaboration opportunities that the coalition could help address.

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# Practical Focus

## Top 5 Advocacy Challenges



"I'm too small and don't have any power!"

Ants



"We are acting as fast as we can!"

Turtles



"I'm doing my best but nothing is changing!"

Woodpecker



"We aren't in the same frequency, you don't get me!"

Whales

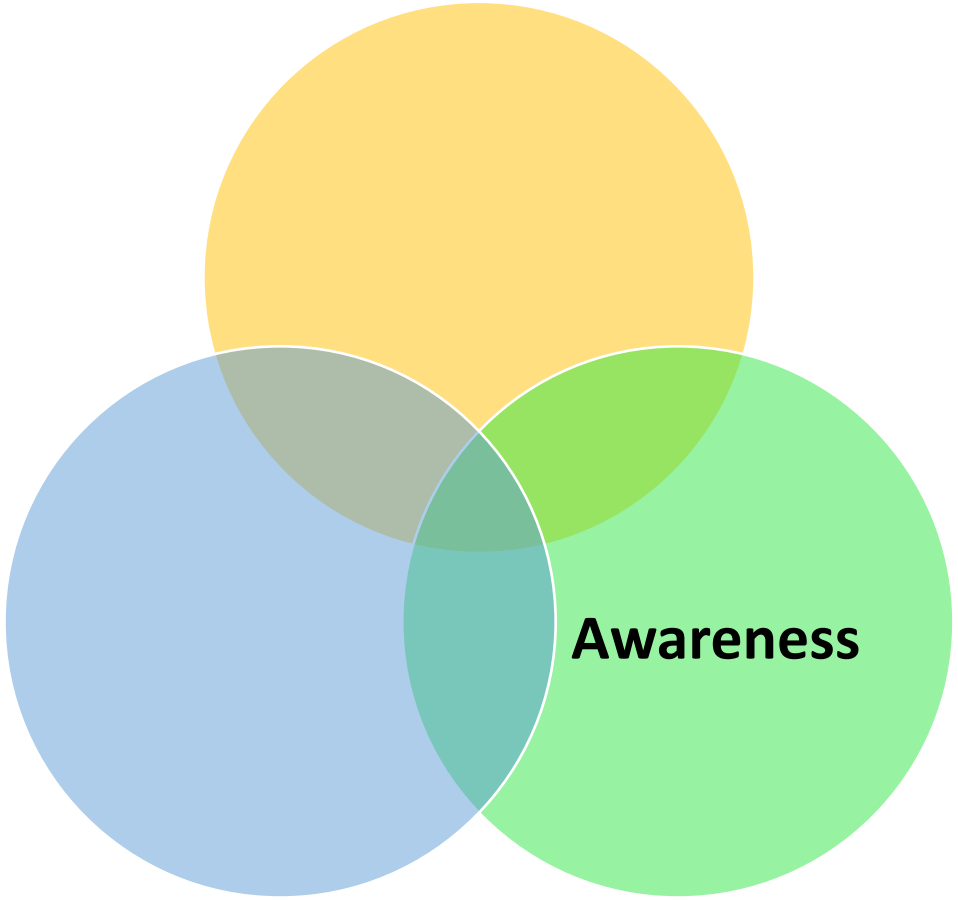


"No money no honey!"

Bees

Reflect on what you care about most and how it aligns with inclusive climate action by selecting one of the five thematic challenges and join a working group

# Practical Focus




**Climate and social justice actions that inspire!**

Which themes motivates your engagement with climate action?

What transformation stories have inspired you?

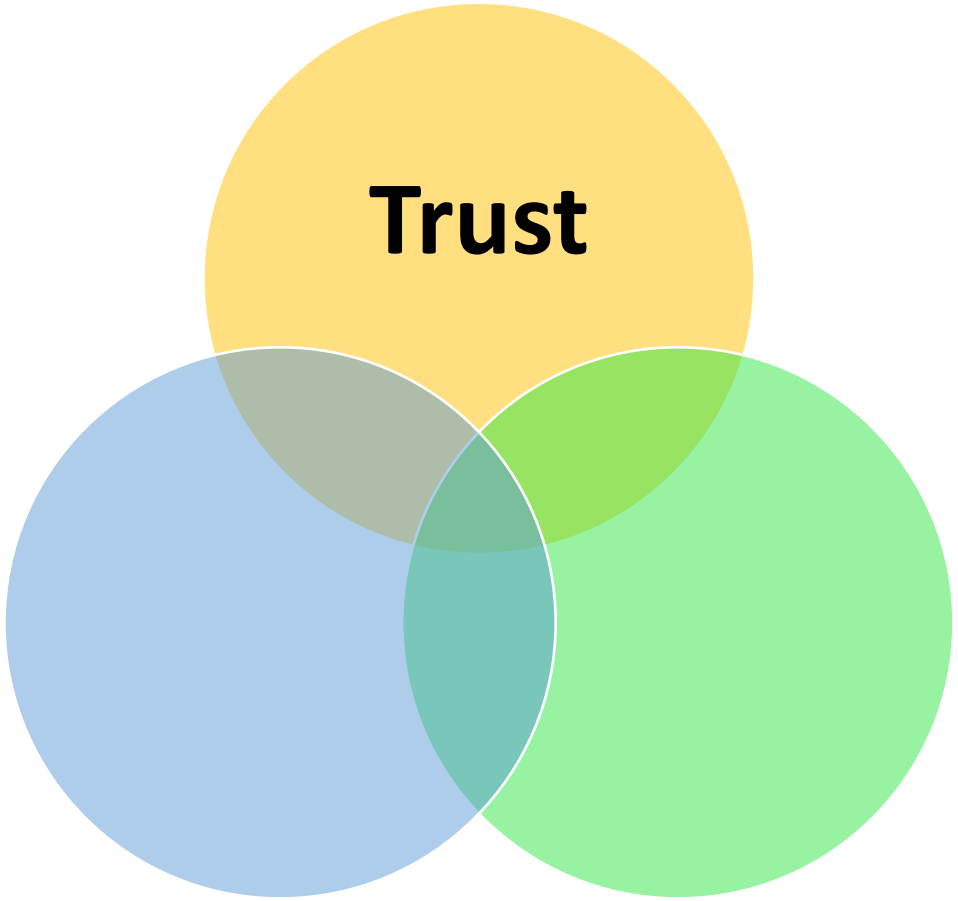
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# Part 2

## Trust:
## Satisfaction and motivation trackers!

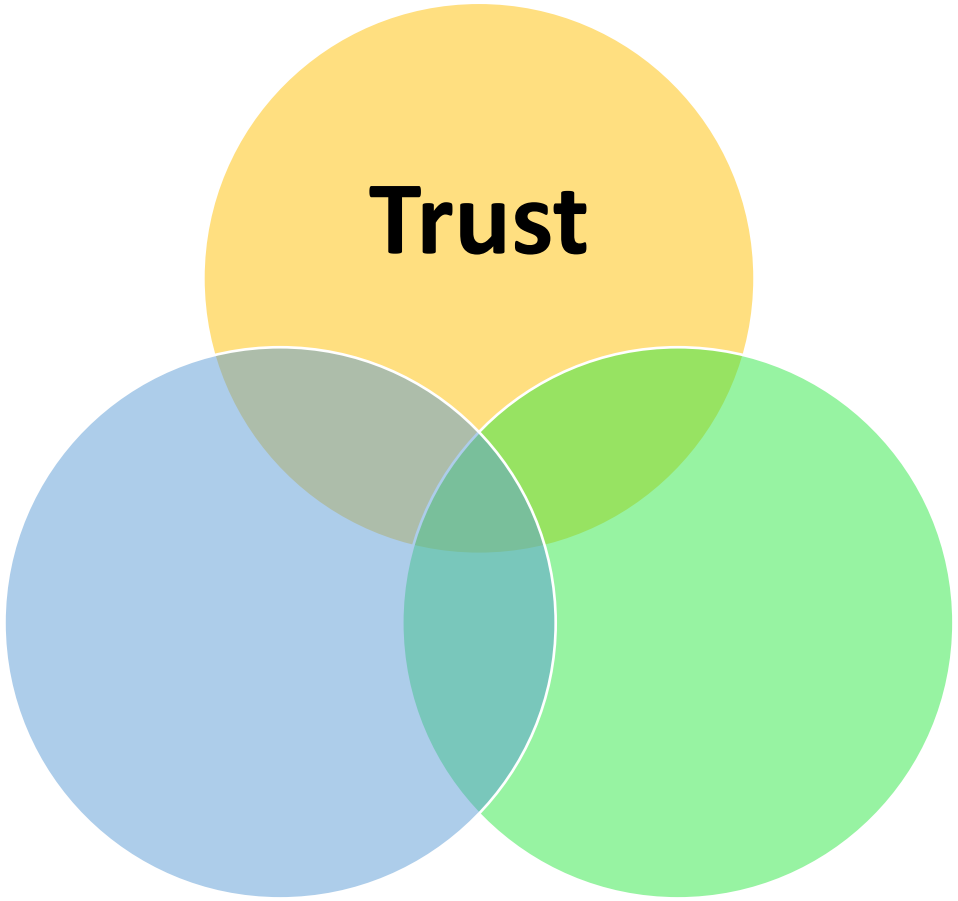
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# Recommended Actions




- Convene regular meetings
- Establish and maintain accessible communication channels

# Recommended Actions

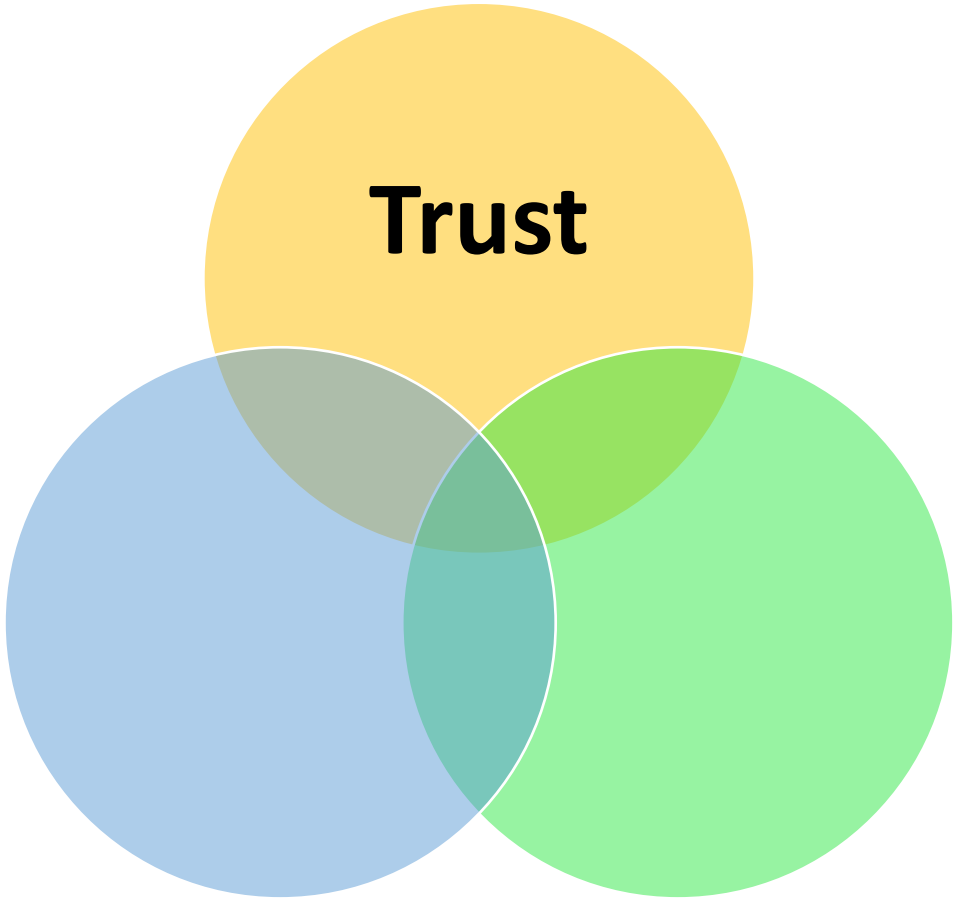



## Convene regular meetings

- Hold meetings in accessible, neutral, and welcoming locations.
- Support practical needs such as transport, childcare, or flexible scheduling.
- Use regular gatherings to share updates, strengthen relationships, and co-develop solutions.

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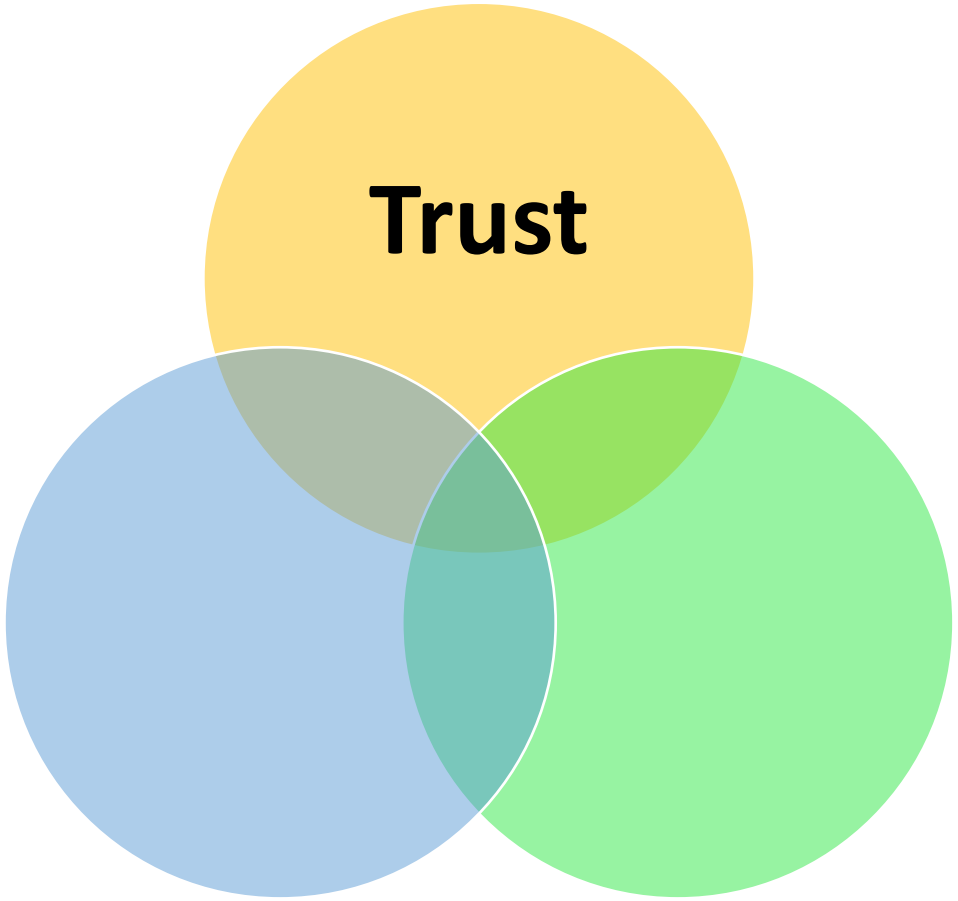
# Recommended Actions




## Establish and maintain accessible communication channels

- Use simple, familiar communication tools (community radio, messaging apps, posters, door-to-door outreach, social media platforms).
- Adapt communication to local customs, languages, and preferences (seasons, specific weekdays and timings).
- Keep everyone informed to build trust, credibility, transparency and accountability.

# Practical Focus




**Satisfaction and Joy Trackers!**

What boosts the satisfaction and motivation of climate action?

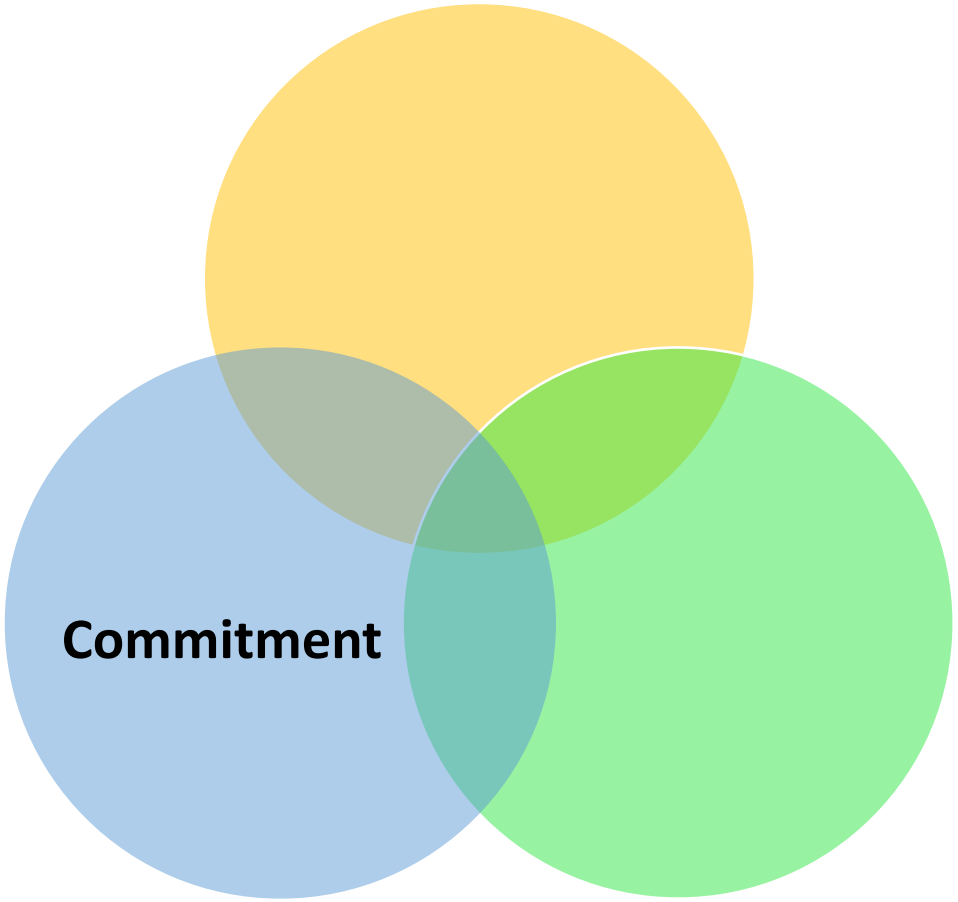
Which platforms help connect and track climate action communities?

# Part 3

## Commitment:
## Capacities for a better future!

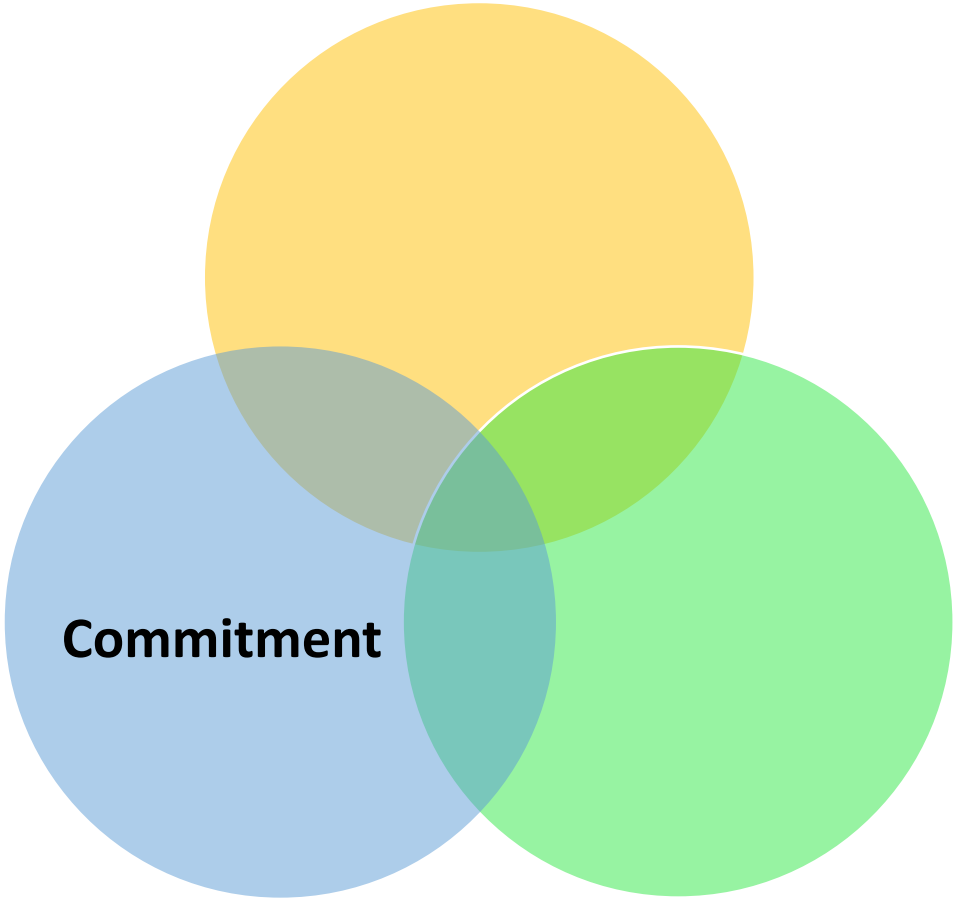
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# Recommended Actions




- Plan for engagement
- Develop capacities for transformation

# Recommended Actions

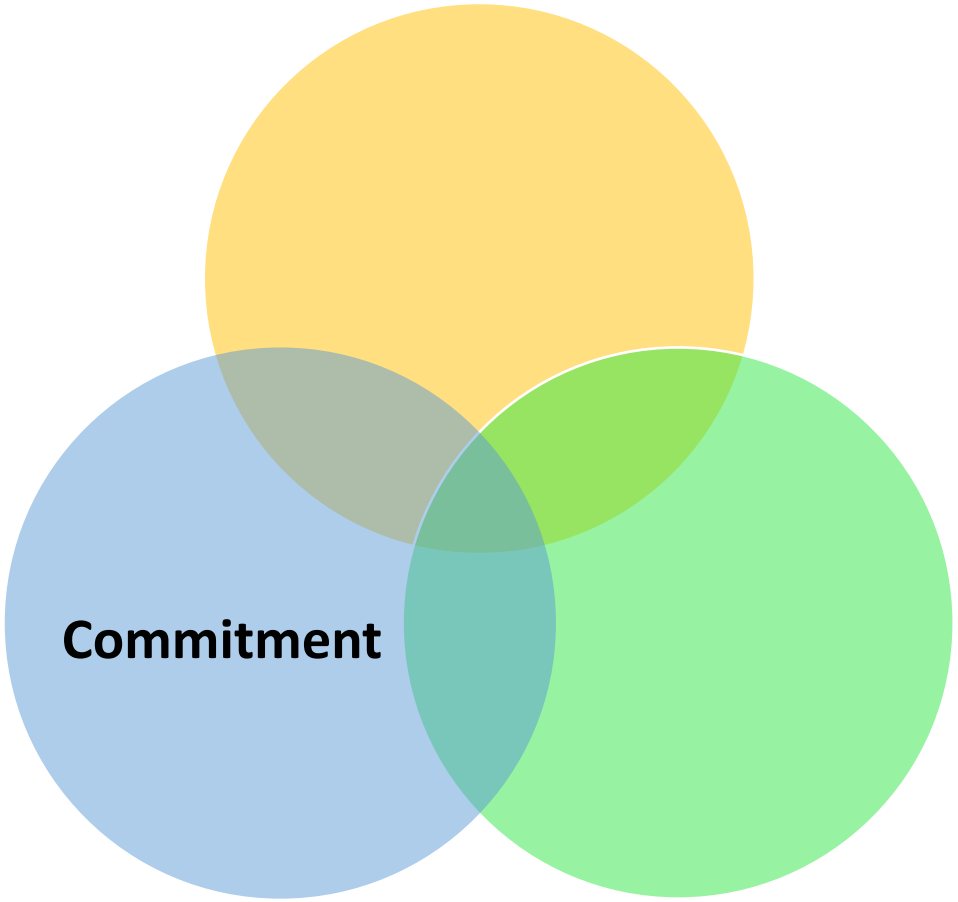



## Plan for engagement

- Include underrepresented groups and regularly assess who is participating and who still needs to be included.
- Combine formal and informal engagement methods for inclusivity and accessibility, considering skilled facilitators, language, digital literacy, and spatial conditions of meeting places.
- Take concrete steps to share power by including underrepresented voices for diversity and to share real decision-making spaces.

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# Recommended Actions

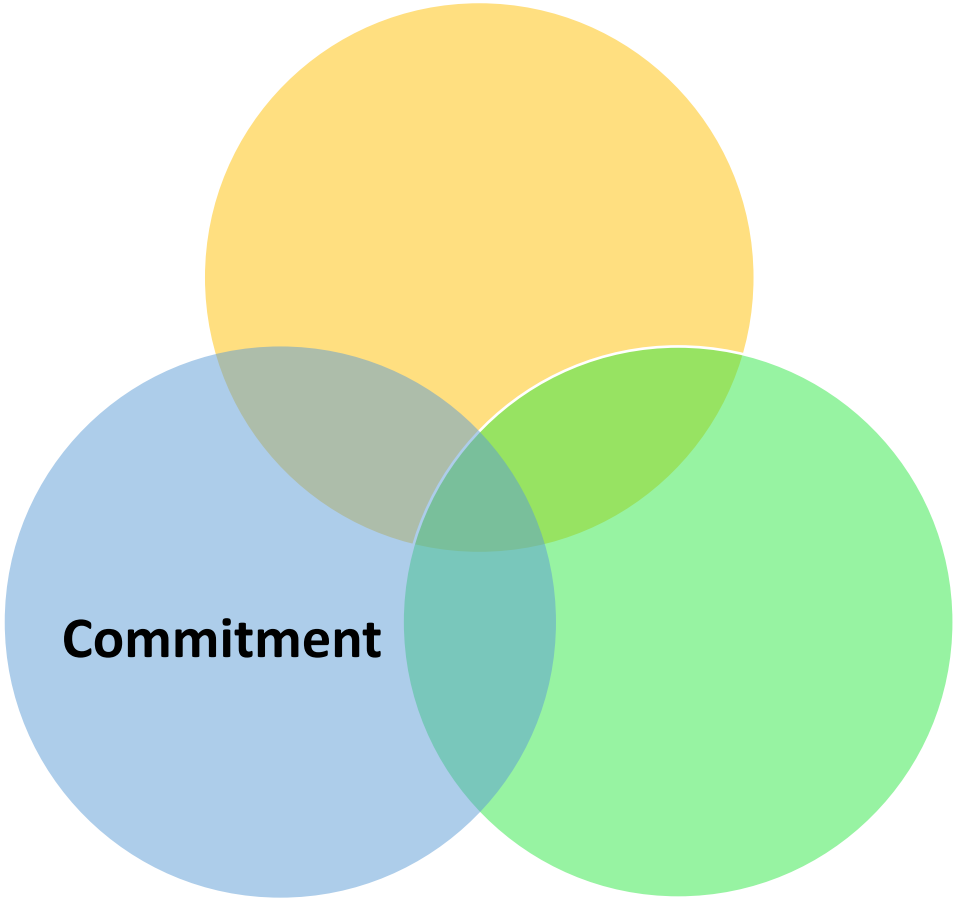



## Develop capacities for transformation

- Enhancing **individual** skills, such as advocacy, negotiation, communication and participatory governance, can help people express their needs and collaborate effectively.
- Strengthen **local groups and organizations** by improving their ability to coordinate actions, manage resources, and sustain long-term community efforts.
- Enhance **institutions** with the systems and support they need, through staff training, resources, clear policies, and knowledge management systems.

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# Practical Focus




https://d89t6934ul8.typeform.com/to/PRXwR6ra

**We are good at...**

What is your climate action mindset?

The Skeptical Activist

The Optimist Technocrat

The Bystander with Mixed Feelings

# Practical Focus

**Climate Superpowers**




https://climatesuperpowers.org/quiz

**We are good at...**

What is your climate superpower?

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# Transformative Coalitions aim to solve challenges by:




## OUR CLIMATE ACTION

Based on the Climate Action Venn Diagram. https://www.ayanaelizabeth.com/climatevenn

# Lessons Learned

- Meaningful climate action starts locally by drawing on the relationships, stories, and strengths that already exist in a community.
  - Awareness helps you see the full picture.
  - Trust creates the foundation for working well together.
  - Commitment turns shared ideas into real action.

- Although these inputs can feel abstract, they apply to everyday moments, such as meetings, neighbourhood events, community plans, and everyday decisions about how people collaborate and communicate.

# References/resources

**Who we are**

- UNU-EHS- Urban Futures and Sustainability Transformation (FAST)
- https://unu.edu/ehs/our-work/transformation/urban-transformation

**What are Transformative Urban Coalitions**

- https://urbancoalitions.org/en
- Identifying mindsets for urban sustainability transformation: insights from Urban Labs
- https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11625-023-01437-7

**Additional Links:**

- Climate Mindset Quiz https://d89t6934ul8.typeform.com/to/PRXwR6ra
- Climate Superpowers https://climatesuperpowers.org/quiz
- Climate Action Venn Diagram https://www.ayanaelizabeth.com/climatevenn

**Contact:** Dr. Andrea Ramirez, ramirez@ehs.unu.edu

# Support Materials

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