Lab Concept

Purpose
This phase steps through the discussions required to get to a robust articulation of the Lab idea.

Goals and Outcomes
Come to a shared view of:
- Potential of Place - local needs and opportunities
- Lab mission statement
- Participant mix
- Lab concept
- Lab outcomes

LAB CONCEPT

Timing

3 hrs or
2 x 90 mins

Format

In person
or online

Resources

Agenda
Prepped activities,
eg prepared
butchers paper and
materials or online
spaces, like Miro

Instructions

Assumptions
This conversation assumes that a working group has formed, committed to hosting a Lab or other event. It also assumes the right people are in the room considering diversity, inclusion, local knowledge, and strategic partnerships.

Hello, Acknowledgement and introductions [10 min]
Check in, Acknowledgement of Country, and confirm the agenda with the group
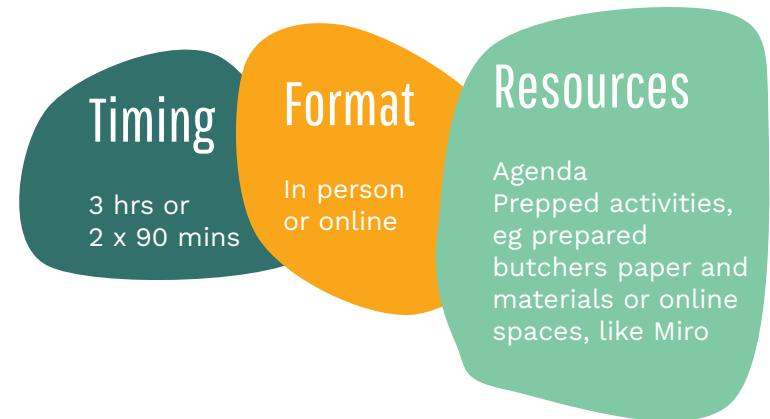
Potential of Place [40 min]
This activity is intended to ground the Lab in the local place/bio-region, and draw out some of the potential opportunities for regeneration. Host an open discussion of the topics.

Opportunity we see [40 min]
This activity gives an opportunity for the group to synthesise and draw out the highlights of the 'Potential of Place' conversation. The group works through the 'Potential of Place' notes, identifying and describing themes. Ultimately, the goal is to develop an articulation of the primary opportunity for the Lab.

Participant mix [20 min]
This discussion is intended to draw out the perspectives on participant mix and get to a shared view of the ideal participant mix. (new, early stage, mature initiatives/enterprises).

Lab Concept [20 min]
The activities we developed for Local Learning Labs are suited to three different concepts, or a combination of a couple of these concepts: 1) Initiative capacity building 2) Local innovation ecosystem capacity and 3) a specific regeneration initiative. This discussion asks the working group to choose among the concepts, or to prioritise one or two. This allows the Lab to focus and deliver value.

Lab Outcomes [30 min]
This activity follows on from the Lab Concept discussion, and connects directly back to the the 'Potential of Place' discussion and the themes and goal identified in the 'Opportunity we see' discussion. It should also draw threads from the 'Lab Potential' discussion and 'Our Regenerative Principles' discussions from the 'Starting Well' Workshop. Out of this activity you should come to a handful of core outcomes, and a description of what is meant by those outcomes. The themes in the example outcomes provided in the following pages, are drawn from the Theory of Change.

Summary of the Lab Concept [20 min]
Bring together the key discussions on a single page: What are the needs and opportunities the Lab can support? What is the Lab mission statement? What are the key Lab outcomes?

Tips

Facilitation

Breaks or multiple sessions

Test with Partners

These discussions about the Lab concept require sharing, comparing, bringing together, and negotiating different perspectives. Dedicated facilitation can support these tasks

This series of discussions requires some synthesis, decisions and commitments. This can be supported by breaking the conversation into multiple sessions, and by allowing for breaks. The facilitator may take the time during the breaks to synthesise discussion for review by the group

One advantage of breaking this set of discussions into multiple discussions is to allow the working group a chance to get feedback from potential partners

Is it landing?

Discussion Guide

On the next pages you will find the following handout:

● **Lab Concept Development -** This discussion guide steps through a series of conversations to further hone in on the concept of the lab. The discussion begins by centering the discussion in place. From there it asks about the people of this place, and the ideal participant mix. The next task is to identify the most appropriate lab concept and location for the needs of the place and people.

Key

Diverse and Inclusive

Ensure the right breadth of people are present (have enough time and reason to attend this session). It is essential First Nations advisory are onboard and present.

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

Hello

LOCAL LEARNING LAB

Lab Concept Development

Contents

Potential of place

Opportunity we see

Participant mix

Lab Concept

Lab Outcomes

Summary of the Lab Concept

Potential of place

Use the following topics to initiate an open discussion of the potential of place.

What do you know about...

Go further:

- Scope with stakeholders before the workshop
- Explore what each stakeholder sees as hopes, needs, or local regeneration and innovation ecosystem gaps - eg capabilities, confidence, connections etc.

Local environmental and cultural history

Unique potential and significance of place

Bioregional context

Known projects or initiatives for reversing environmental degradation

Local aspirations and hopes

Challenges for regeneration – gaps in capability, knowledge, etc

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REGEN STUDIOS

Opportunity we see

Summarise the Potential of Place themes—the local needs and opportunities for regeneration—you see

Need / Opportunity Theme...

Need / Opportunity Theme...

Need / Opportunity Theme...

Need / Opportunity Theme...

Need / Opportunity Theme...

What do you see as the primary objective, mission, or goal for the Lab?
What is the driving need or opportunity for hosting a Lab?

Lab mission statement:

Participant mix

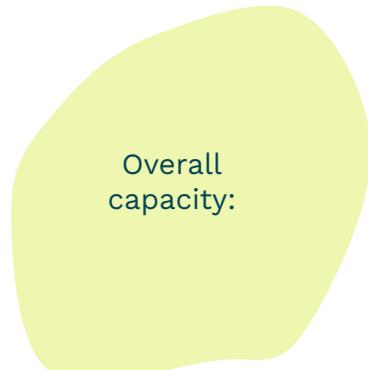Who might we design this Lab for (eg audiences)?
What is our ideal mix of participants?
How is the value proposition relevant to them?
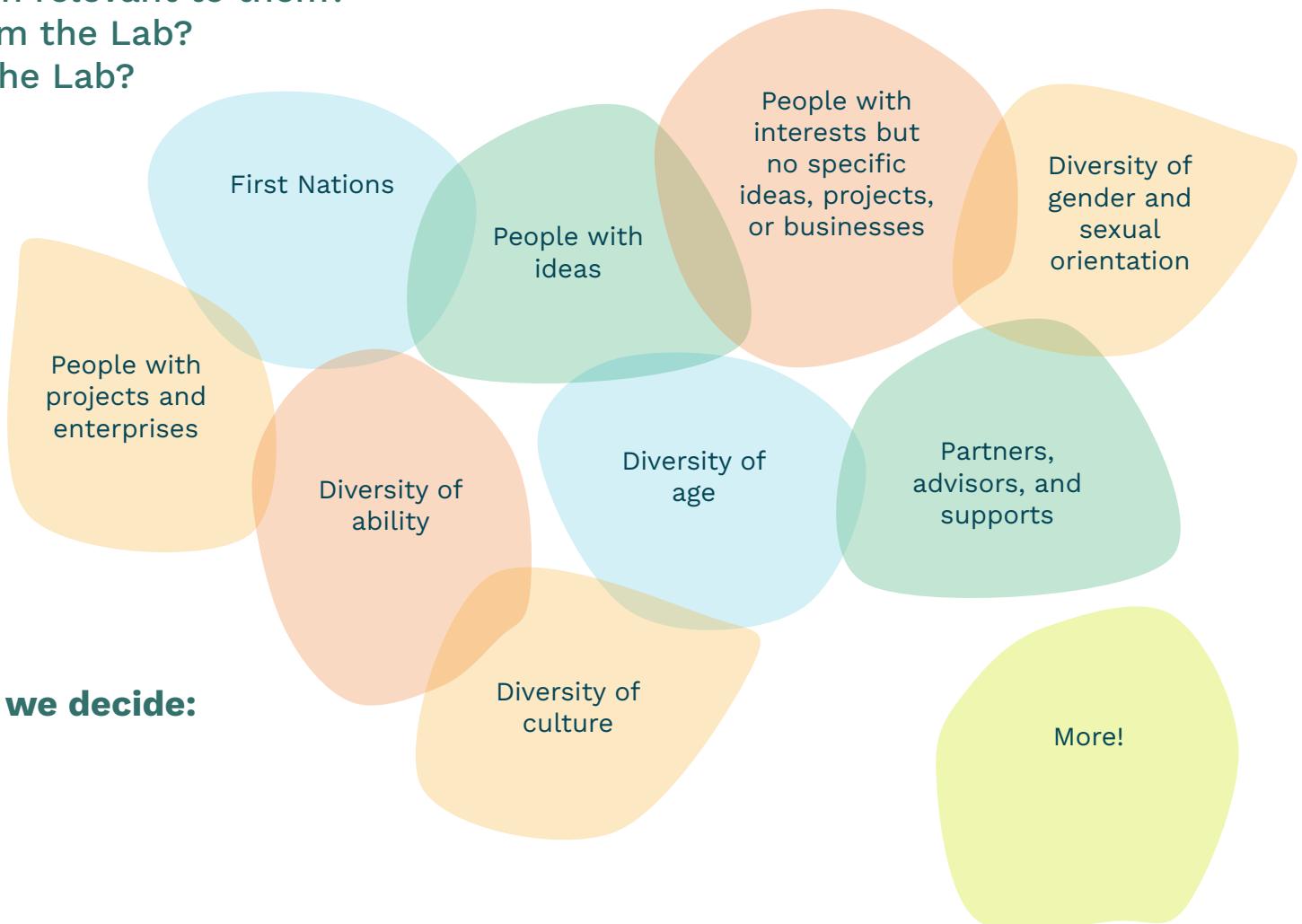How might they benefit from the Lab?
What can they share with the Lab?

Your comments here

Your comments here

Your comments here

Your comments here

Use the post-it notes to add comments

Copy, paste, and move post-it notes

First Nations

People with ideas

People with interests but no specific ideas, projects, or businesses

Diversity of gender and sexual orientation

People with projects and enterprises

Diversity of ability

Diversity of age

Partners, advisors, and supports

Overall capacity:

What do we decide:

Diversity of culture

More!

Lab Concept

The Local Learning Lab design is suited to the three concepts below. Based on the discussion of Potential of Place and participants, to what extent might the Lab focus on one or a mix of these different concepts?

	Focused on…	Lab scope	Potential topics	Ultimately, contributing to…
1 Initiative capacity building	Initiatives, enterprises and projects	**Early stage ideas, projects, and enterprises** How enterprises can contribute to regeneration Available resources Tangible steps	Social/regenerative business model canvas Regenerative business questions Regen entrepreneurship and how it is supported	**Local regen-entrepreneurship** Initiative momentum Regenerative economy
2 Local innovation ecosystem capacity	Connecting projects, entrepreneurs, partners, and other stakeholders	**Building connection and relationships among diverse stakeholders** Regenerative economy Network capacity Stages of development	Doughnut Economics Potential of place Regen innovation ecosystems and entrepreneurship, and how they are supported	**Local innovation ecosystem** Local momentum Community cohesion Regenerative economy
3 Specific regen initiative eg Local Food System, Ecological Regeneration, Renewable energy etc	Taking up a shared local regeneration challenge or opportunity	**Tangible steps for regeneration** Create shared vision, value and outcomes Elevate community voice How to support the topic and actions?	Environmental regeneration Collective initiatives Coordinated regen efforts supported by regen projects and entrepreneurship	**Nurture region through regeneration in a specific focus area** Community cohesion Targeted regeneration outcomes

Lab outcomes

Based on the Lab concept that is chosen, which Lab outcomes would you prioritise?
Use the examples below for discussion.

Understanding contribution to regeneration

- Enrich your thinking about how your project or enterprise can contribute to ecological and social regeneration
- Amplify and learn from First Nations People about how we care for country and regenerate our environment and our communities
- Gain understanding of regenerative principles and apply them to a project

Progress Initiatives and Enterprises

- Learn about regenerative business models and innovation ecosystems
- Test and strengthen your thinking and solution with peers and partners
- Identify clear next steps to progress regenerative projects and enterprises

Connection to community and place

- Learn about place and history, including the perspective of First Nations peoples
- Strengthen connection to community and place
- Mutual respect and relationship building

Strengthen regional collaboration & entrepreneurship

- Engage and support First Nations leadership, culture and innovation
- Identify barriers and needed supports for local regenerative projects and enterprises
- Learn about and link with [regional] partners ready to support businesses and community groups
- Continue walking together to develop capability, confidence, connections, and innovation ecosystems for regeneration
- Draw on the synergies, strengths and capabilities to transform new ideas into action
- Identify and build infrastructure to support local entrepreneurship and community action

Grow systemic capacity for regeneration
(ultimately)

- Strengthen self-organising capabilities, leadership, and capacity to self-determine
- Grow our capacity for stewardship and custodianship of place
- Develop a regenerative, resilient local economy

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Lab summary on a page

What do we see as the Potential of Place? Local needs and opportunities for regeneration

Need / Opportunity Theme...
Description

Need / Opportunity Theme...
Description

Need / Opportunity Theme...
Description

Need / Opportunity Theme...
Description

Need / Opportunity Theme...
Description

Lab mission statement:

How might we... so that we...?

Participant mix

- Group
- Group
- Group

Concept:

Name...

What outcomes do we hope the Lab will support?

Outcome...
Description

Outcome...
Description

Outcome...
Description

Outcome...
Description

Outcome...
Description