



# OUR COMMUNITY VISION WORKSHOP GUIDE



REGENERATING  
AUSTRALIA



INNOVATE TO  
REGENERATE



# Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Welcome to the Our Community Vision Workshop Guide</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Support for Community-Led Regeneration</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Overview of This Guide and Your Role</b>	<b>5</b>
How Might You Use the Workshop Guide?	5
What Will You Find in This Guide?	5
What Is the Critical Role You Play?	5
What Role Does WWF-Australia Play?	5
<b>Planning and Setting Up Your Workshop</b>	<b>6</b>
Event Planning Guidance	6
<b>Our Community Vision Workshop Elements</b>	<b>8</b>
01 Arrival	9
02 Welcome (5 mins)	10
03 Introduction and Framing (5 mins)	11
04 Screening (20 mins)	13
05 Transition and Break (5-10 mins)	14
06 Workshop - Our Community Vision (70 mins)	16
06.1 Story Circle – “Dreaming-up Our Future” (15 mins)	17
06.2 Making the Headlines (30 mins)	19
06.3 Group Share Back (25 mins)	21
07 Closing: Turning Vision Into Action (20 mins)	22
08 Post-workshop Activities	25
09 Ongoing Support and Engagement From WWF-Australia	27
Pre-workshop Checklist	28
Workshop Session Runsheet	29
<b>Templates</b>	<b>31</b>
Introduction and Framing – Template	31
Letter to Your MP to Share Your Workshop – Template	32
Press Release – Template	33



## SECTION 1

# Welcome to the Our Community Vision Workshop Guide

**Thank you for joining the regeneration!**



The 'Our Community Vision' Workshop Guide is a comprehensive guide to hosting a successful workshop in conjunction with your screening of the short film, Regenerating Australia. The film was created by Regen Studios in partnership with WWF-Australia, and your screening is guided by the Community Screening Toolkit, from Regen Studios.

As you will have read in the Community Screening Toolkit, the film presents a compelling vision of a better Australia by 2030. It was launched in March 2022 by a national cinema tour, and hundreds of community screening events like yours.

The Our Community Vision Workshop is designed to help people lead workshops in their community. Using the film as inspiration, the goal is getting attendees to envision their future and identify ideas to regenerate their place.

In the pages that follow, you will see references to pages in the Community Screening Toolkit for specific guidelines on hosting a successful screening of the film.

### Acknowledgements

WWF-Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians upon whose ancestral lands Innovate to Regenerate is seeking to foster and support regenerative actions, and recognises their deep spiritual and cultural connections to Country and their role in caring for and maintaining Country for thousands of years.

We pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging, for their traditional knowledge of Country, developed over centuries of observing and understanding the living systems of this place, in order to make the best decisions that respect and protect the environment and community.

WWF-Australia acknowledges the contributions of the co-creators of the Our Community Vision Workshop and Guide including Claire Marshall, Lecturer at UTS; Alice Howard-Vyse, Founder of Humanise This; the Innovate to Regenerate team at WWF-Australia; and the Regen Studios team.

We would also like to acknowledge you, the community leaders across Australia, who will be hosting screenings of the film and facilitating the workshop. Thank you for your incredible efforts. WWF-Australia will strive to support you every step of the way.

## SECTION 2

# Support for Community-Led Regeneration

## Introducing the Innovate to Regenerate Campaign

### The Opportunity

To Regenerate Australia, we need to shift our economy from an extractive economy to a Regenerative Economy.

The Regenerative Economy doesn't exist yet. We need to build it together.

A bright future is at our fingertips, in which people and nature thrive, but it can only be achieved if we work together. Together, we can empower Australians to create and adapt regenerative projects to build a healthy future for people and nature.

But if we want this, we have to start now. So, how do we get there?

We need experimentation at scale, with new, regenerative business models and solutions, all around the country. A nationwide innovation lab.

Watch the video that introduces WWF-Australia's bold strategy to [Regenerate Australia](#).

### The Support

In conjunction with the film, WWF-Australia is supporting community-led regeneration through the Innovate to Regenerate Program. We are working with local communities to establish regenerative projects, from energy and food resilience to habitat restoration, landscape regeneration, circular economy and projects that celebrate and amplify Indigenous leadership and knowledge.

This support is through three main pathways:

- The Our Community Vision Workshop, that community leaders can host in conjunction with a screening of the short film, Regenerating Australia.
- That support leaders of projects progress ideas to regenerate your local area. In 2022, Labs were held in Eurobodalla Shire, Gippsland Region, and the Adelaide Hills & Fleurieu Region.
- [Innovate to Regenerate Challenge](#): In addition to the film, the Workshop, and the Local Learning Labs, WWF-Australia launched and delivered the Innovate to Regenerate Challenge, in 2022, providing \$2 million in seed funding to help local communities, innovators and experts to bring the film to life, through regenerative solutions. Inspired by the evocative vision of Australia laid out in the Regenerating Australia film, WWF-Australia is supporting the best solutions across Australia with this fund. Together, we can reverse environmental damage and create a positive impact for people and the planet.



## 'Our Community Vision' Workshop and Guide

The 'Our Community Vision' Workshop is intended to connect communities with their vision of a regenerative future and facilitate discussion about potential regeneration projects for their local area. The workshop involves a screening of the Regenerating Australia short film followed by a series of facilitated group discussions with small groups of up to 25 community members. The workshop takes approximately 2-3 hours.

This Workshop Guide is a step-by-step guide of how to plan and facilitate the workshop. It includes group processes for community members to come together for collective visioning of a regenerative future. It also encourages the exploration of ideas for regenerating community and place, and potentially seeding ideas for regenerative projects.

### The workshop focuses on:

- Building relationships and connectivity to each other and to your place;
- Creating the space for participants to imagine "our community vision" and share it with others; and
- Exploring the potential for regeneration and regenerative projects in your local area.

## Further Support and Guidance

After your workshop, or future meet-ups, your community may be ready to bring to life an idea to regenerate your community. Great work! You may wish to consider:

**Local Learning Labs:** Developed in partnership with WWF-Australia and The Australian Centre for Social Innovation, these workshops are designed to help participants develop the skills to design and/or improve their regenerative solution.

*"I am loving the Community Visioning Workshop and the resources attached. I am particularly grateful for your work [WWF-Australia] in helping shape this workshop to suit my conservative community. As you know, to get the necessary changes happening we need all communities on board and thus I am pleased to find a workshop which is informative, flexible and above all inspirational. I know great things will happen because of this workshop. Here's to the future!"*

*- Suzanne Mungall, Community Member Kingaroy, Queensland*

**Visit: [www.innovatetoregenerate.org.au](http://www.innovatetoregenerate.org.au)**

# Overview of This Guide and Your Role

## How Might You Use the Workshop Guide?

The Our Community Workshop Guide takes you from planning the workshop, through to post-workshop actions. You are welcome to tailor the activities suggested for the workshop to your community context.

The Guide is a companion to the Regenerating Australia film's Community Screening Toolkit that you will receive from Regen Studios as a host, licensed to screen the film.

## What Will You Find in This Guide?

The Our Community Vision Workshop Guide lays out what you need to run a workshop for small groups of up to 25 community members.

### It includes:

- Event planning guidance
- Arrival guidance
- Detailed instructions and session plan
- Scripts for you to use throughout
- Worksheet and templates
- Suggested survey for feedback
- Guidance on sharing your workshop

## What Is the Critical Role You Play?

As a host of the film and the workshop, you are playing three important community activation roles.

- **Catalysing:** The workshop is designed to assist you to engage your community in creative conversations inspired by the film, connect more deeply to each other and to your local place, and spark ideas for regeneration.
- **Learning:** WWF-Australia is learning more and more about community-led regeneration across Australia with you and other communities. We are keen for you to contribute your experience. You and your attendees will be invited to contribute to a post-workshop survey to share ideas, reflections and experiences.
- **Building:** After the workshop, you can play an important role of planning future meet-ups to build on the Our Community Vision Workshop. You may also create a WhatsApp group that helps you communicate and share ideas together.

## What Role Does WWF-Australia Play?

We're here to support you every step of the way, whether you are new to facilitation or an experienced facilitator. Our Regenerative Communities Project Manager, Dimity Podger, is focused on supporting, guiding and accompanying you so you feel confident to host a workshop in your community. You are likely to have had a first call with Dimity and then received this Guide. You can also book into an interactive online training session to explore and plan your workshop alongside other community organisers from across Australia.



## SECTION 4

# Planning and Setting Up Your Workshop

## Event Planning Guidance

In addition to the Community Screening Toolkit from Regen Studios (particularly pages 13 and 14), WWF-Australia has created this Our Community Vision Workshop Guide to provide you with a comprehensive guide to assist you in organising and facilitating the workshop.

### The Basics

**The Venue:** You'll need a space that can be made dark enough for screening the film, with good visual access for everyone. (For guidance on screening the film, see Page 19 of the Community Screening Toolkit.) The space you choose needs to allow for attendees to form a circle, as well as chat to one another in small groups. You will also need a place where groups can visually share notes and ideas emerging from discussions (eg. wall with flip chart paper, whiteboard, tables). The venue will also need to have access to bathrooms and a space for people to share food that they bring.

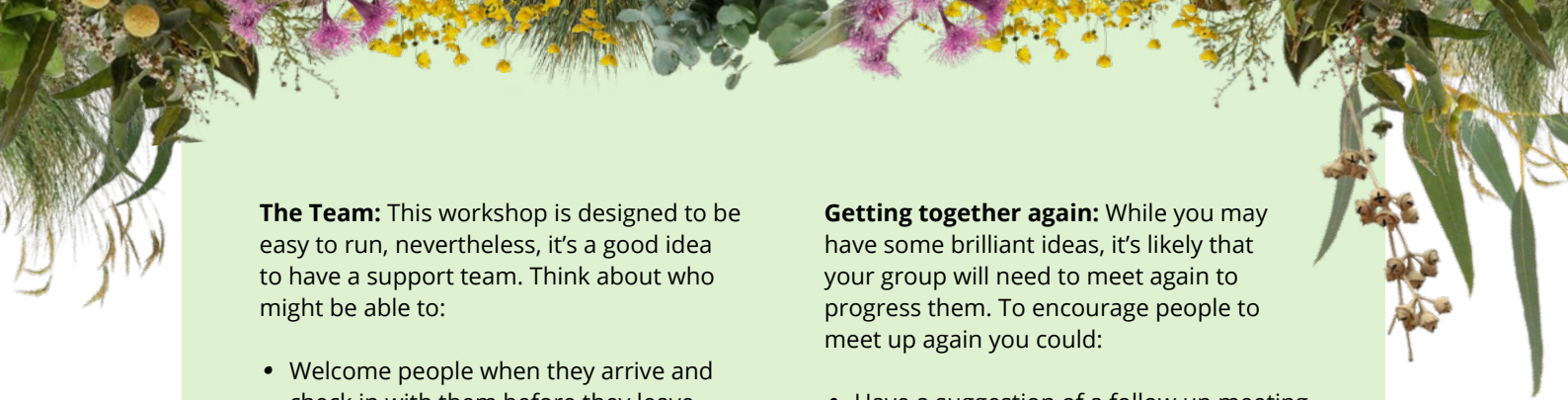
#### As you make your decision, ask yourself:

- Could you hold the screening outside, after sunset, using a portable screen and projector and have everyone sit on picnic rugs? This will allow everyone to easily move from 'watching mode' to 'talking mode'. PLUS you get to be in nature!
- Could you hold the screening in one room that has a projector set up, and then move to another room where people can sit at tables or on cushions arranged in circles for group discussions?
- Could you rearrange the room after the screening, during a break, before the community discussion?

**Registration:** Consider setting up a simple booking platform for registrations to your event, such as Humanitix. This will assist you to promote your event, manage your guest list, keep track of how many people are coming, and communicate with attendees before and after the workshop. You can also ask questions helpful to you in organising your workshop event (eg. accessibility needs).

**Materials:** This workshop is all about sharing your ideas and vision, and contributing to those of others, so you'll need a way for people to share and see ideas easily. There is a worksheet for you to use for one of the activities in the workshop. We recommend printing these at A3 size to give people more space to write in and display. You will need one print-out per 3 people attending. Make sure you have enough pens – marker pens, pencils and biros – as well as spare paper. The Workshop Checklist at the end of the Guide includes all relevant documents and materials.

**Hospitality:** We encourage you to ask your guests to bring food that can be enjoyed after the event. Invite your guests to think about this event as a 'picnic with a purpose'. Sharing food at the end of your event will encourage people to stay and chat to one another, creating more connections and helping those good ideas grow. For tips on bringing Earth-friendly food and minimising waste, check out page 14 and page 18 of the Community Screening Toolkit.



**The Team:** This workshop is designed to be easy to run, nevertheless, it's a good idea to have a support team. Think about who might be able to:

- Welcome people when they arrive and check in with them before they leave.
- Manage the AV and technical requirements.
- Facilitate the group activities.
- Collect the ideas generated and collate worksheets.
- Take photographs and record the event.

**Sharing the ideas forward:** The ideas that you are going to come up with deserve to be shared. While you have taken the time to think about the future with your attendees, other people in your community may not have had space to do this. Sharing your vision with them can be powerful. To assist in sharing the ideas:

- Plan the photos you want to take (see ideas for the best photographs to take here).
- Select a key photo of the event, then write up your group's shared vision from the workshop. Use this to:
  - Send to your local paper with a press release;
  - Send to your local MP; and
  - Post on social media with the handle #jointheregeneration.

**Getting together again:** While you may have some brilliant ideas, it's likely that your group will need to meet again to progress them. To encourage people to meet up again you could:

- Have a suggestion of a follow up meeting date and location. You could think about having a 'Purpose picnic' in an area that you all love.
- Put up a list of possible meet-up dates and a sign-up sheet for people to add their names to (pinned to wall, whiteboard, chalkboard, etc.)
- Have a way to communicate with attendees after your event. This could be a Whatsapp group, email list, Facebook group – whatever suits your attendees.
- Discuss possibilities for next steps with the Regenerative Communities Project Manager, Dimity Podger after your event, like organising a speaker for your next meetup (send an email to [dpodger@wwf.org.au](mailto:dpodger@wwf.org.au)).

**Collecting insights:** As a community leader organising the workshop, you have a valuable role to play in gathering insights around community-led regeneration. There is a feedback survey for you to share with your attendees through an easy to scan QR code, which can be printed out for completion at the end of the workshop before you close.





## SECTION 5

# Our Community Vision Workshop Elements

The following pages of this Guide lay out the purpose and instructions for every activity in the Our Community Vision Workshop, including:

- 01 Arrival
  - 02 Welcome (5 mins)
  - 03 Introduction and Framing (5 mins)
  - 04 Screening (20 MINS)
  - 05 Transition and Break (5-10 mins)
  - 06 Workshop - Our Community Vision (70 mins)
    - 06.1 Story Circle - "Dreaming-up Our Future" (15 mins)
    - 06.2 Making the Headlines (30 mins)
    - 06.3 Group Share Back (25 mins)
  - 07 Closing: Turning Vision Into Action (20 mins)
  - 08 Post-workshop Activities
  - 09 Ongoing Support and Engagement From WWF-Australia
- Pre-workshop Checklist
- Workshop Session Runsheet
- Introduction and Framing - Template
- Letter to Your MP to Share Your Workshop - Template
- Press Release - Template



## 01 ARRIVAL

### Overview:

As guests arrive, it is always nice to greet them personally. It is useful to have a 'welcome table' where attendees can:

- Sign-in, if required under Covid restrictions;
- Take a name tag (if members of the group don't know each other very well);
- Get any directions they may need, such as: where to put their food, where the bathrooms are;
- Be advised of photography taking place and granting permission;
- Be invited to take part in an activity right away – reflecting on the question "What do you love about this place?" (See Box 1 for the activity instructions and ensure the person who is greeting your attendees knows about the activity, so they can direct people to it and write their own responses.);
- Access resources they need for activities (eg. pens, scrap pieces of paper, etc.).

### Activity description: 'What do you love about this place?'

As people arrive, and before they sit down, invite them to grab a name tag and a scrap of paper/post-it note/pen from the welcome table. Ask them to write something they love about [this place], then put it in the area you have set up for this purpose. By the end of the activity, you'll have lots of different perspectives on what makes your place/town/community special.

### Purpose of the activity:

- Starts the event in appreciation of place;
- Encourages attendees to reflect on what is special about their local area;
- Encourages people to meet each other; and
- Highlights if there are common areas that people love.

### BOX 1

#### Activity instructions: 'What do you love about this place?'

##### Steps to guide you:

1. Before everyone arrives, designate an area (wall, whiteboard, picnic blanket, or table) near the entrance that you'll use for people to place their responses to the question: "What do you love about this place?" Write a header on a whiteboard or flip chart paper: e.g. "What do you love about Bellingen Shire?"
2. Ensure there are scraps of paper and/or pens available.
3. Take a moment for you, and your support team, to write your own reflection to the question and stick it up as the first responses. This way, the first person to arrive doesn't come across a blank wall.
4. As people arrive, direct them to the space you've created for this activity and invite them to note down the thing/s they love about their place.
5. Ask them to share this with at least one other person (preferably someone they don't already know).

## 02 WELCOME (5 MINS)

### Overview:

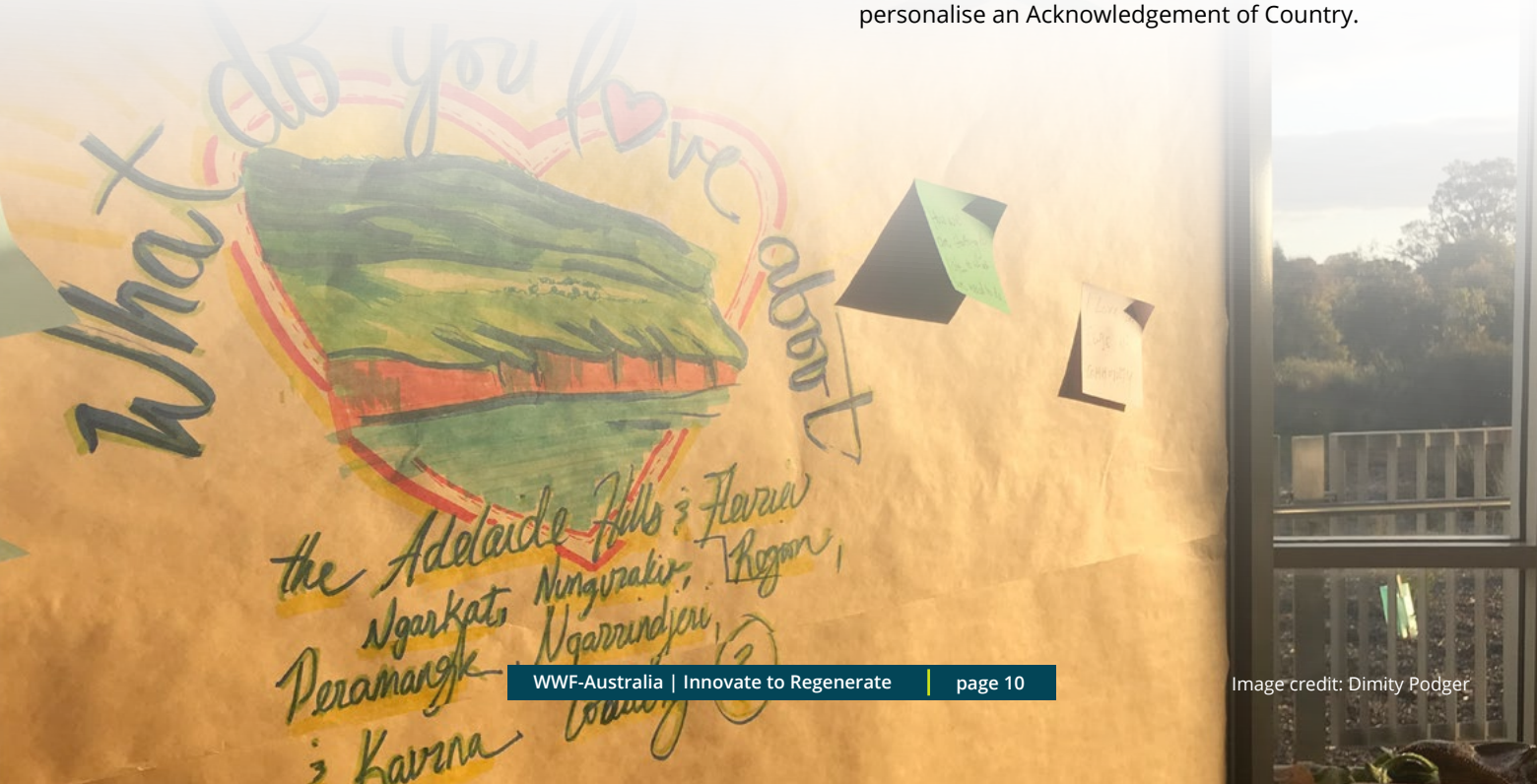
- Invite attendees to take their seats.
- Warmly welcome everyone. You could say: Thanks everyone for being here. I am really excited about this event today/tonight.
- Then, your event should start with a 'Welcome to Country', traditionally performed by an Elder of the local area to welcome people to the land of the traditional custodians of that area.
- If you are not able to organise a Welcome to Country, you can offer an 'Acknowledgement of Country' and show respect for traditional owners and the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country. It can be offered by any person, just be sincere. You can also do some research on the Country you are acknowledging to incorporate into your acknowledgement. Welcome the Elder or authorised representative providing the Welcome to Country or offer the Acknowledgement of Country.

### Purpose of the activity:

- Show respect to and acknowledge traditional owners and custodians of the land.
- Frame a relationship between people and place, as being reciprocal.
- Encourage attendees to reflect on their own connection to the land.

### Steps to guide you:

- Determine if you have a budget to engage an Elder or an authorised representative from a recognised local Aboriginal organisation or local Aboriginal land council to give a Welcome to Country.
- Review Page 15 of the Community Screening Toolkit from Regen Studios which includes guidance on organising a Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country.
- Visit [Blakworks](#) to connect with someone in your local area to perform a Welcome to Country.
- You can also read more [here](#) about a Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement, and watch [Shelley Rey's talk](#) for ideas on how to personalise an Acknowledgement of Country.





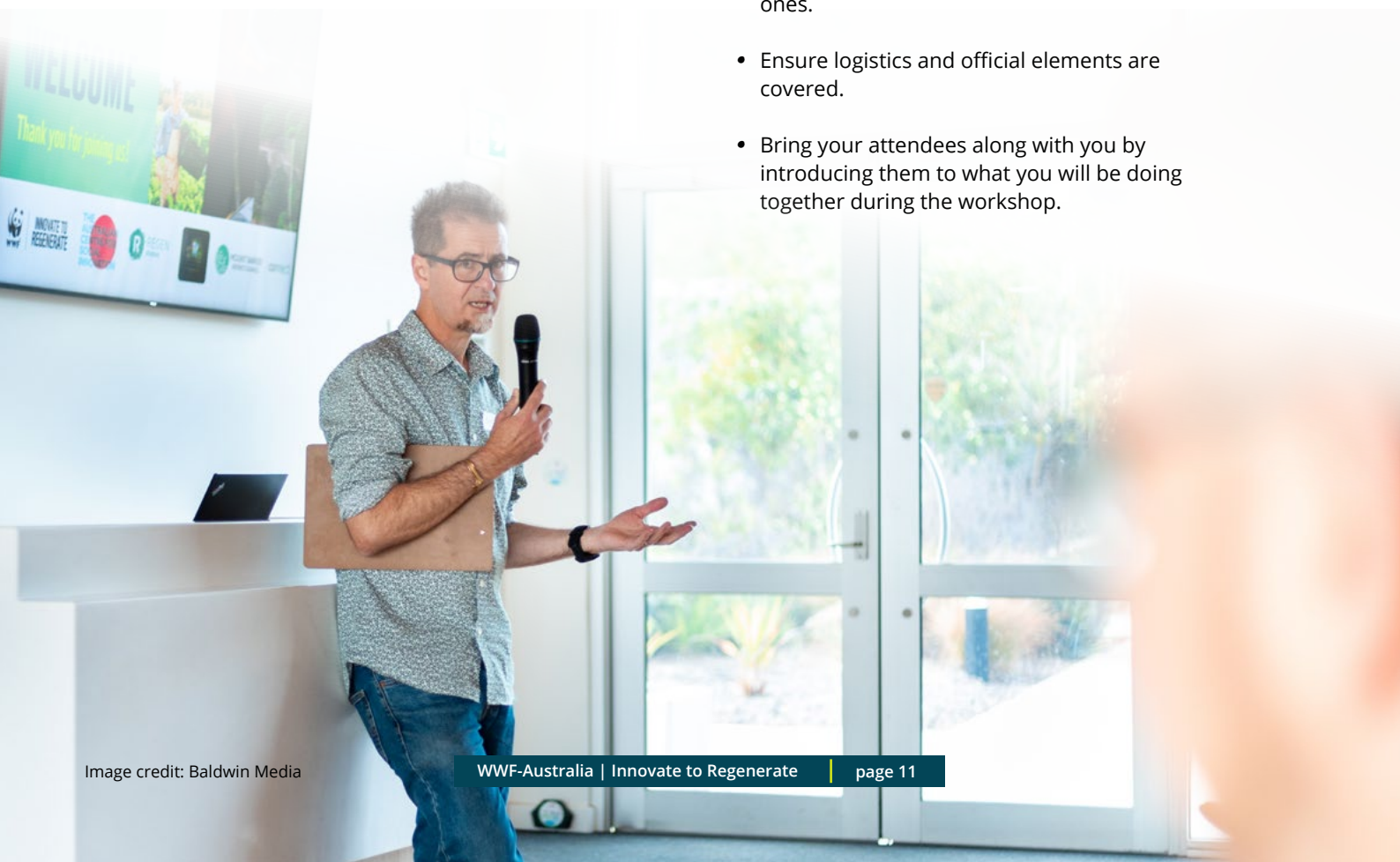
## 03 INTRODUCTION AND FRAMING (5 MINS)

### Overview:

The introduction and framing section of the event allows you as the organiser to welcome people to the event and explain why you wanted to hold it. It sets the tone for the event, as well as encouraging a certain type of interaction with each other. It may be performed by the organiser, or local MC chosen by the organiser.

### Purpose:

- The Black Summer bushfires, recent floods and Covid19 pandemic have impacted many people's lives. By acknowledging this context, we acknowledge that we have had a shared experience, but that we have all experienced it differently. If this doesn't feel relevant or meaningful to your group, you could instead reflect on a time where the community came together.
- Share a personal story of your 'why' for holding this event.
- Help participants frame 'community' in inclusive positive terms, opposed to divisive ones.
- Ensure logistics and official elements are covered.
- Bring your attendees along with you by introducing them to what you will be doing together during the workshop.



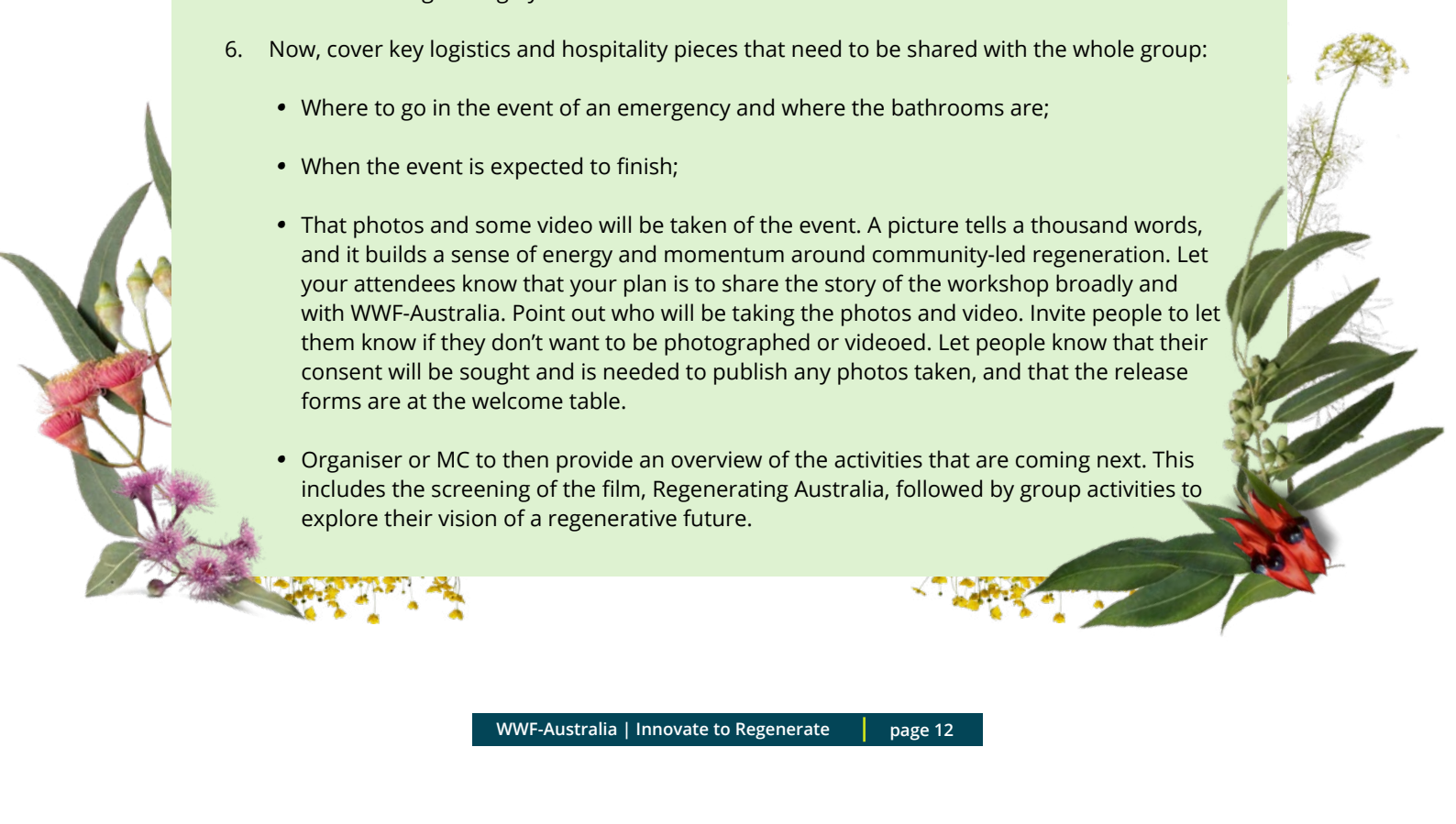


## BOX 3

### Activity instructions: Preparing and delivering your introduction and framing

The following steps provide guidance for the introduction and what to include. You are welcome to use the template in the Appendix to create your own introduction or write your own version.

#### Steps to guide you:

1. Think about whether you, as the organiser, would like to do the introduction or ask someone else to MC the event for you.
  2. Organiser and/or MC to work through the provided template to create your own introduction. In summary, consider covering the following points:
  3. Welcome everyone to the screening and workshop. In a few short sentences, share why you were moved to host this event, and what you love about this place. You may wish to:
    - Acknowledge the impact of recent events (such as bushfires, floods, Covid19) on the community.
    - Mention here that the Regenerating Australia film contains footage of the bushfires, floods and Covid-19 that could be distressing for some viewers.
    - Invite attendees to think about a moment they saw the community coming together.
    - Invite them to share with the person on their right for a few minutes about what brought them here to the screening.
    - Share your own story of community coming together in hard times.
  4. Set the intention for this workshop to harness that community spirit and local knowledge to take action on climate change.
  5. Practice reading through your introduction aloud before the event.
  6. Now, cover key logistics and hospitality pieces that need to be shared with the whole group:
    - Where to go in the event of an emergency and where the bathrooms are;
    - When the event is expected to finish;
    - That photos and some video will be taken of the event. A picture tells a thousand words, and it builds a sense of energy and momentum around community-led regeneration. Let your attendees know that your plan is to share the story of the workshop broadly and with WWF-Australia. Point out who will be taking the photos and video. Invite people to let them know if they don't want to be photographed or videoed. Let people know that their consent will be sought and is needed to publish any photos taken, and that the release forms are at the welcome table.
    - Organiser or MC to then provide an overview of the activities that are coming next. This includes the screening of the film, Regenerating Australia, followed by group activities to explore their vision of a regenerative future.
- 



## 04 SCREENING (20 MINS)

### Overview:

The Community Screening Toolkit, from Regen Studios, is your primary guide for preparing for and screening the short film, Regenerating Australia. In total, there are two videos that can be screened one after the other:

1. Video with a personal introduction to regeneration and the film by Damon Gameau, Director of Regenerating Australia (2-3 mins).
2. Regenerating Australia, the short film by WWF-Australia, in partnership with Regen Studios (17 mins).

### Resources/support:

- Review the framework for the Innovate to Regenerate Program and visit the website. You can also access a [library of resources on regeneration here](#). (website: [www.innovatetoregenerate.org.au](http://www.innovatetoregenerate.org.au))

### Purpose:

1. Follow the Community Screening Toolkit to prepare, set up and screen the videos and film;
2. Ensure the links to the videos are ready to play and you have tested before guests arrive;
3. Write up the themes from the film on flip chart paper for participants to refer to after the screening including:
  - Harmonise the system
  - Rethink energy
  - Heal habitats
  - Purify air and water
  - Revive soils
  - Wild our towns and cities
  - Move lightly
  - Consume with consideration
  - Regenerate self and our communities
  - Share new stories
4. Check AV setup, sound, and ensure there is someone on your team to manage the screening;
5. Introduce the videos that attendees will now view. You might say:
  - We will now get into screening two videos and the film.
  - The first video introduces you to WWF-Australia's Innovate to Regenerate Program which is to support community-led regeneration and the transition to a regenerative economy.
  - The second video is a personal introduction from Damon Gameau, the Director of Regenerating Australia.
  - And then we will watch Regenerating Australia, the short film created by WWF-Australia, in partnership with Regen Studios.
6. Then dim the lights (or dark enough if screening outside) to ensure everyone can see the videos and film clearly.
7. Press play.





## 05 TRANSITION AND BREAK (5-10 MINS)

### Overview:

The film is evocative of different responses from attendees. Some attendees want to jump into conversations with their neighbours, whilst other attendees enter a deeper reflective state to integrate what they have just seen.

Support attendees to transition from the film to the group workshop, by delivering the script in Box 3 – Activity: Reflecting on Regenerating Australia. The script includes a reflective activity as well.

Following, the script, and if needed, invite attendees to help you move furniture to the edge of the space, so you have room enough for the whole group to form a standing circle together.

### Purpose:

- Provide attendees with space to reflect and integrate what they have seen.
- Allow for the organising team to physically arrange the room for the workshop.
- Give people a break to get comfortable.

### Steps to guide you:

1. Review Box 3 - Activity: Reflecting on Regenerating Australia and decide if you will facilitate this piece before a short break.
2. Read through the script and guide attendees in the actions the script suggests.
3. Invite the group to stand and take a short comfort break). Let everyone know what time to be back.
4. Rearrange / move furniture to the edge of the space.
5. Invite the group to form a large standing circle.





### BOX 3

#### Activity: Reflecting on Regenerating Australia

*You may wish to read this out as written, or personalise it:*

Thanks for watching this film. If you are feeling some strong emotions, you are not alone. Damon Gameau, the director of the film, shared that he has watched the film hundreds of times and is still moved by it. For him, it's because we so rarely get the chance to think about the future in such vivid detail.

Consider for a moment, what would life be like if this is the Australia we lived in? What would it look and feel like from where you are?

Let's take a moment together to imagine. You might like to close your eyes if that's comfortable for you ... (pause)

*[Sit quietly, gaze down, i.e. not interacting with the audience, making a note, drinking some tea, looking out the window etc.]*

Now, thinking about what you've seen in the film, what are three things that really resonated with you? Three things you'd like to have happen in your town/place? Take a moment now to think about what 3 things stood out for you.

[Pause with that question. Have the categories of the themes in the film written on flipchart paper or a white board visible to the group.]

Now, turning to the person closest to you, take a couple of minutes each to share those three things with each other. I'll let you know when the four minutes are up.

*[Make a sound after 2 minutes, and make it again after another 2 minutes.]*

I hope you were all able to share.

The film was kept purposefully short because the rest of it will be about what we do from here. It's worth emphasising that everything we saw in the film is possible now without any new technologies. All it needs is us -- and the visions and ideas that come from our community working together.

Thinking about "what could and can be" is important, because how we see the future shapes our decisions, and our decisions shape our future. In the workshop we're about to do, you will be invited to create a shared vision of our town together, shaping what will come next.

Now it's time for us to create our own good news stories in our local area. I invite you to think about what is the opportunity for your local area ... What is your community vision?





## 06 WORKSHOP - OUR COMMUNITY VISION (70 MINS)

### Overview:

After watching the film, Regenerating Australia, invite attendees to get into groups to share their stories of the future and co-create news headlines that reflect what they would like to see happen in their local area by 2030.

Combining inspiration from the film with local knowledge of your own local area, this activity prompts groups to identify possibilities and potential to shape different outcomes for your community, clarify their vision and goals, and then define the next steps to getting there.

### Purpose:

- Envision new possibilities and potential for their local area and define them in a framing statement (news headline).
- Create a collective vision (or visions) to unite people towards the same goal.
- Identify turning points/change needed to create this future.
- Create momentum to carry ideas into action.

### Key workshop elements:

1. Story circle: “Dreaming-up our future.” (entire group)
2. Making the headlines (small groups 2-3 people)
3. Group share back (entire group)

### Resources:

- Printed worksheets – 1 x per group of 3 people (recommend printing at A3 size)
- Pens and pencils
- Scraps of paper (cut to roughly A6) or post-it notes





## 06.1 STORY CIRCLE – “DREAMING-UP OUR FUTURE” (15 MINS)

### Overview:

This activity is for the entire group. It's time for you all to dream big! Standing in a circle and imagining yourself in 2030, in the Australia depicted in the film, each person takes it in turn to share one inspiring thing that has happened in your local area to make that dream possible. As more and more people share, your story builds and gains momentum.

### Purpose:

- Group introductions and space for all voices to be heard.
- Generate coherence among a new group.
- Surface themes and collective aspirations of the group.
- Generate ideas to take into the subsequent activity.

### Steps to guide you:

1. Invite everyone to form a standing circle. Remember to be sensitive to the mobility needs of your group – provided that everyone is in a circle and can see each other, this activity will work just fine.
2. Taking it in turns, invite each person to introduce themselves. Use the following format and ask people to keep it short and sweet (there'll be more opportunities to meet each other later):
  - name;
  - what they love about this place (from the first activity);
  - in just one breath, what brought you here today?

Start with yourself and go round to your right/ anti-clockwise. Use the 1 breath prompt to help keep people on track. For bonus points, ask people to do a movement that reflects how they're feeling. e.g., Alice \*jazz-hands\*.

3. Then, introduce the story circle activity. You can use the script in Box 4. Be sure to read the script slowly to give people's imaginations time to catch up.
4. Next, beginning with yourself again and going around the circle in the same direction as before, invite each person to share one thing that's happened by 2030. As you go round the circle, the next person will build on the previous person's idea by saying "Yes and ..."

*For example: "Bellingen becomes NSW's first circular town" ... "YES and ... every rooftop has solar" ... "YES and ... We generate all our own power" ... "YES and ... Any profits the community makes go directly back into the community projects" ... "YES and ... etc."*

5. Group size and timing: If time allows, try to go around the circle at least 2 times. The first turn can often feel sticky. But as the circle builds momentum, you're likely to see the group get more energised and inspired to share their ideas. Depending on timing, larger groups may go round the circle only 1-2 times, whereas smaller groups may choose to go round a couple or more times.

## BOX 4

### Activity: Story circle script for Dreaming-up our future

Now that we've had a chance to meet each other, it's time to go on a journey to the Australia you saw in the film. It's time for us to dream up our own story of 2030 together, just as Damon did.

Close your eyes (or lower your gaze) and picture yourself in an Australia where everything in the film has been made reality. It's 2030. Your highest hopes for our community and beyond have been realised.

Our region, our town, our community has come together to create change on a scale we never thought possible.

What does it feel like to live in this place? What can you see here, in your home, your family, your community? Take a deep breath, inhabit that space for a moment. [pause for a few breaths, to give people time to imagine.]

Now, open your eyes. We're in 2030. Welcome.

Going round the circle, we're each going to each share one inspiring thing that's happened to make this 2030 possible.

#### There are just two rules:

1. There's no such thing as a silly idea
2. Keep the circle moving – pass if you need to, and just rejoin in the next round. Feel free to build on other people's ideas, just keep it moving.



## 06.2 MAKING THE HEADLINES (30 MINS)

*"The best way to predict the future is to create it."*

*Abraham Lincoln*

### Overview:

Invite attendees to form groups of 3. In this activity, you will be imagining your local area in 2030, and what a news report on your area might contain.

### Purpose:

- Generate a shared vision and build relationships.
- Identify enablers and blockers of their vision.
- Identify pre-existing conditions/activities from within their community that support their vision.

### Steps to guide you:

1. Invite attendees to form groups of 3.
2. Hand out the workshop (printed on A3) worksheet and pens to each group.
3. Organiser or MC Introduces the activity. You might like to say:

*"Our story circle got us warmed up, but now we need to take those ideas and make some news! In this activity we will get together in groups of 3 to create a news story from 2030 – just like we saw Kerry O'Brien, Sandra Sully and Damon Gamaeu do. We'll use the worksheet to create an attention-grabbing headline and the compelling news story that goes with it. When you form your group of 3, if you don't already know each other, take a moment to briefly introduce yourselves and get familiar with the worksheet. We'll all have 30 minutes to work on this activity."*

4. Now it is over to the groups to go through the worksheet, assigning roles, keeping time, noting their names on the worksheet, and then creating the 2030 headline they would like to see in their local paper.

### Supporting materials (per group):

- Printed worksheets for groups to write on (recommend printing at A3 size).
- Spare paper for people to doodle their ideas on.

## BOX 5

### Making the headlines: Instructions for organiser's reference

#### Roles

In your groups, agree who will do each of the roles: instruction reader, timekeeper, note-writer.

#### Duration

Set a timer for 30 minutes to keep your group on track.

#### Names

Add your names on the worksheet.

#### Part 1: Headline

Reflect on all the ideas you've just heard.

- What are the things that stood out to you as a group?
- What would you like to see happen in this place?
- What ideas would you like to see brought to life in your community?

Take a minute each to share your thoughts with your group. Listen for themes that emerge.

Then write the headline you'd like to become a reality in 2030 (5-10 words).

#### Part 2: The backstory

You'll now write the news story behind your headline.

Use the spaces and prompts on the worksheet to keep you on track.

Identify 3 things that happened in your community to make this headline a reality.

- What has changed to make this headline possible?
- Who influenced this change?
- What seeds of this change already exist in 2022?

#### Part 3: Next steps

This section of the activity is completed in the large group.





## 06.3 GROUP SHARE BACK (25 MINS)

### Overview:

Next, invite the groups to re-form a large circle. Ask each group to share their headline and news story. You might like to encourage the spokesperson from each group to 'perform' their news stories like a news reader as Damon did. As the rest of the group listens to the news stories being shared, they note down on scraps of paper or post-it notes what support or connections they can offer to bring this idea to life.

### Purpose:

- Make the group's ideas about the future appear tangible and possible.
- Encourage collective wisdom and resources held by the group to be surfaced and shared through active listening.
- Make it fun! If relevant to the group, have some fun creating your own 'Regenerating Australia news story'.

### Steps to guide you:

1. Have a space prepared, perhaps on the wall, where worksheets or flip chart paper can be placed to collect responses and notes of offers from people during the share-back.
2. Invite all groups to form a large circle.
3. Make sure that everyone has some scraps of paper or post-it notes to write on, and a pen.
4. Tell your attendees that while they are listening to the groups sharing their stories, they might like to note down ideas on the scraps of paper. Invite them to think about 3 things (you may wish to write these up on flip chart paper for people to see):
  - a. What could you do to help this idea become reality? (Think about your skills, resources and connections.)
  - b. Is there anyone in this community who is doing something similar, or supportive to this idea? Write down their name and a way to contact them.
  - c. Is there someone you could share this idea with, that would be able to advance it? Or is there something you could ask your community for that would help advance this idea?
5. Then invite the spokesperson for each group to share their headline and news story with the wider group (2-3 mins per group).
  - Encourage groups to read it out like a newsreader.
  - Consider inviting someone to film each group sharing. This could be the start of something momentous!
6. Ask people to keep their notes for the next round of sharing. Also, ask group spokespersons to keep their worksheets for the next round.

## 07 CLOSING: TURNING VISION INTO ACTION (20 MINS)

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. In fact, it’s the only thing that ever has.”*

*Margaret Mead*

### Overview:

In this activity, invite all attendees to contribute to each other’s visions, by sharing offers they have written down on scraps of paper or post-it notes. Depending on time available, ask that they share only one offer. To build on this momentum of ideas, attendees will be reminded about the possibility to progress these ideas forward and make suggestions for organising the next meet-up. Lastly, everyone will be thanked for their attendance, invited to celebrate their participation, sign up for the next meet-up, and share their reflections in a survey.

### Purpose:

- Maximise sharing of ideas for actions;
- Surface the collective wisdom of the group;
- Foster collective ownership of all the ideas;
- Highlight initiatives already happening in the community; and
- Identify ways to share their 2030 forward to gather more people that can turn their vision into a reality.

## Steps to guide you:

1. To prepare for this closing:
  - Ensure the QR code for the reflection survey is printed out and available for people to scan. Also, make sure the information sheet about the survey is on the welcome table or is up on the wall.
  - Ensure all attendees have their scraps of paper or post-it notes from the previous activity.
  - Think through how attendees will place their notes of offers of support with the worksheets, e.g. pinned/stuck to a wall next to the worksheets, placed on top of the worksheets, or handed to the relevant group.

2. Still standing the circle, organiser or MC to read out:

*"It was wonderful to hear everyone's news headlines. As we draw to the close of this session, think about what it would mean to you to bring this vision to life?"*

*I'd like to invite each of you to take a moment to think about one of the ideas that speaks to you the most. It may not be your own idea or even the one you came up with in your group. What idea speaks to you the most?*

*[Pause to allow people to consider]*

*Great, now think about one thing you could do to advance this idea. What can you do to help get this idea going?*

*If you are stuck, it can be helpful to think about what you have in abundance – for instance, admin skills, time, local knowledge, community connections, tenacious attitude – we all have something to give.*

*Let's take a moment to consider what you/ we have in abundance that can progress the idea, and then we'll share that with the group.*

*[Pause to allow people to consider]*

*Great, now let's go around the circle again and I invite you, in just a few words, to share what you can offer."*

3. Allow attendees to share what they can offer or contribute. If you have a small group, you can go round the circle twice. Invite attendees to add their notes with offers and any relevant contact details to the relevant worksheet.
4. Organiser or MC to continue reading:

*"Thank you. Take a moment to look around at the faces of the people in this room. These are the people who have joined you to dream of a better 2030. But who else might you need to make it happen? We recognise that there are people missing from this room. Have a think about who should be here? Who would have liked to have been here? Whose voices are missing? Take a moment and use the space provided on the worksheet to note them down.*

*[Pause for a moment while groups make a note.]*

*The Community Vision that we came up with today is just the first step in our journey together. We will have more of these meet-ups, to continue to progress and action our ideas.*

*If you are keen to meet up again, and I hope you are, there is a sign-up sheet at the welcome desk with suggested dates. Our organising team will follow up with an email to confirm.*

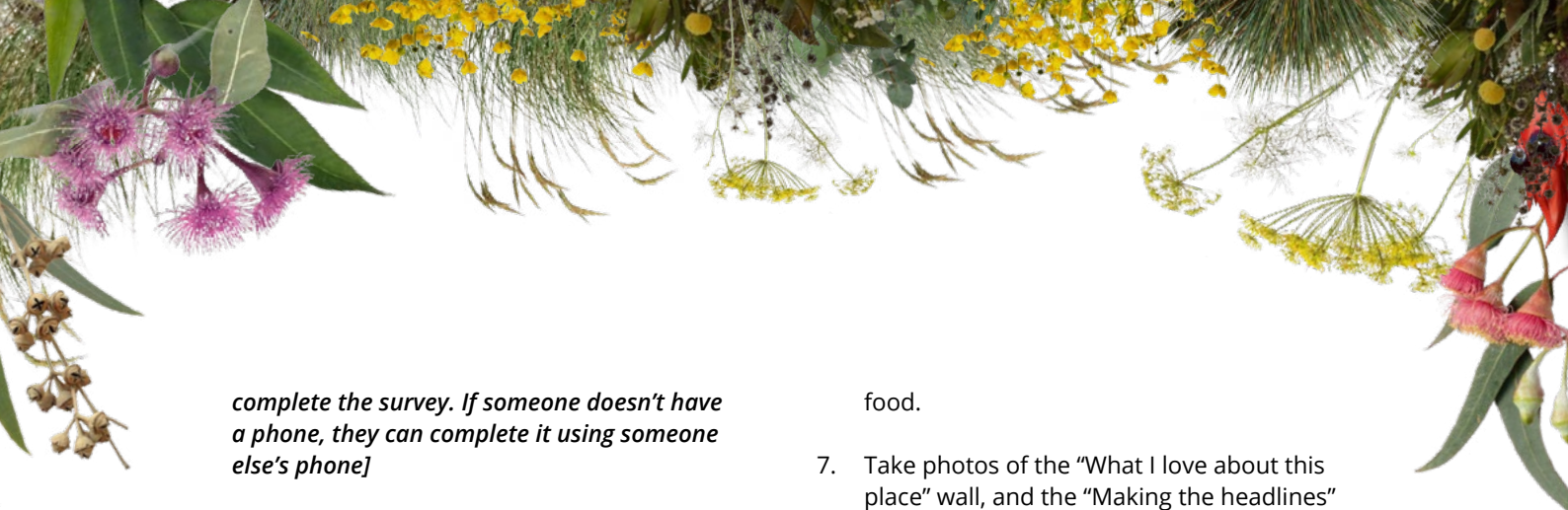
*We are also going to share our experience and insights of this workshop with other communities around Australia. We will do this by sharing photos and the story of this session.*

*Also, we have a reflection survey that WWF-Australia has provided, that we will do now. The survey really helps gather insights and reflections from a growing coalition of communities, taking action to regenerate their place and Australia. It also includes questions that help get a sense of who is taking part in these workshops across Australia and their experience.*

*To access the survey, you can scan the QR code [point to poster on the wall] to go directly to the survey and complete it on your phone. Please take 5 minutes to share your thoughts, reflections and responses. It is completely voluntary. If you need any more information about the survey, there is an information sheet on the welcome table.*

*[Pause while people scan the QR code and*





*complete the survey. If someone doesn't have a phone, they can complete it using someone else's phone]*

*And our futures, just like the film, are more likely to become a reality if they spread -- so please consider talking to your friends and family, local journalists or even local MP's about the futures we dreamed of today.*

*So, now please enjoy the food, and if you have any more ideas, you can put them on the worksheets which can be stuck up [insert place where you can stick up worksheets].*

*Thank you everyone again – and here's to making our Community Vision a reality."*

5. Invite the groups to place their worksheets on a wall, whiteboard, or on a picnic rug on the floor, and have a look through the other groups' worksheets. Then each person will add their 'offers'. If they are project specific, they can place them on the worksheet.
6. If you are running close to time, let the group know they can keep adding 'offers' after the session is over as they are enjoying some

food.

7. Take photos of the "What I love about this place" wall, and the "Making the headlines" worksheets with offers of support. Groups may wish to take their worksheets with them, so ensure you have a copy before they do. It will assist in next step planning and encouraging action taking. Send your photos of the activities to Dimity Podger, [dpodger@wwf.org.au](mailto:dpodger@wwf.org.au).
8. Ensure you have signed release forms giving consent for photos and videos to be shared on social media or with WWF-Australia. Send photos of these release forms to Dimity as well.
9. Invite participants to sign up for the next meeting date, complete the survey, and learn how everything will stay in touch (e.g WhatsApp, Facebook, etc.).





## 08 POST-WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

### Overview:

After the event, make sure to celebrate with the people who have helped you. Also, make sure you share your good work with WWF-Australia so it can be supported, shared and celebrated. Implement your plan to communicate with attendees post-workshop. Connect with the Regenerative Communities Project Manager at WWF-Australia.

### Purpose:

- Appreciate team members and the momentum you have created for regenerating Australia.
- Share your vision and the potential of your community with others.
- Build on the connections and unity around a collective vision created during the workshop.
- Create momentum to carry ideas into action.

### Steps to guide you:

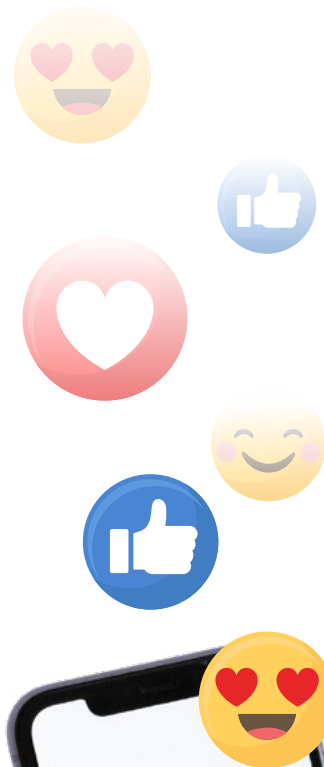
1. **Survey:** Fill in the survey if you have not done so.
2. **Confirm time for next meet-up:** Select the most popular time suggested for the next meet-up.
3. **Contact your attendees:** You may wish to include the following in your email/whatsapp message:
  - Thank them – regenerating Australia is something we can only do together.
  - Encourage them to fill in the reflection survey if they didn't fill it in during the workshop. Include the link in your message.
  - Share the date of the next meet-up if you are having one, or a planning session for next steps coming out of your workshop and how to register.
  - Share with them any media coverage or social posts.

*Tip: Set up another Humanitix page for your next meet-up for people to register for. This way they can also share it with their contacts to invite them into the process.*

#### 4. Share the vision, ideas and experience of the workshop.

- a. WWF-Australia Regenerative Communities Project Manager: Email Dimity Podger here [dpodger@wwf.org.au](mailto:dpodger@wwf.org.au).
  - WWF-Australia is keen to support you with thinking about and planning your next steps, and growing a community of practice for community-led regeneration.
  - We could assist by arranging a guest speaker for your next event.
  - We are also keen to assist in sharing the story of your workshop. We can support you to write a press release (see template section) and blog post.
  - We would also like to receive a copy of your photos/videos so we can share them on the Innovate to Regenerate Campaign page. You can send your photos and videos to Dimity - [dpodger@wwf.org.au](mailto:dpodger@wwf.org.au). Ensure you take a photo of your consent forms for the photos you upload and send those to us as well.
- b. Share your event with your MP. There is a template letter at the end of this Guide.
- c. Share your event on social media. Select a key photo or photos of the event, then write up the visions the different group's shared. When you post on social media about your event – Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter – please include the following tags and we will re-share and include on the Innovate to Regenerate website.

**@wwfaustralia**  
**#jointheregeneration**  
**#regenerators**  
**#innovatetoregenerate**  
**#regenerativecommunities**





## 09 ONGOING SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT FROM WWF-AUSTRALIA

The WWF-Australia Regenerative Community Manager will be in contact with you shortly after your workshop. We are keen to hear and share your story with other communities hosting workshops. As a community organiser, you will also be invited to ongoing learning spaces with a growing network of communities committed to regenerating their local area.



## PRE-WORKSHOP CHECKLIST

### Before you start, check that you have:

- A space to screen the film
- Breakout space for smaller groups (either in the same room or different rooms)
- Space for everyone to stand in a circle
- Usable wall/floor space for people to share their ideas (wall, whiteboard, picnic blanket)
- Organised a Welcome to/ Acknowledgement of Country (see Page 15 of the Community Screening Toolkit)
- A way to communicate with attendees after the event
- Table/area for people to place their food to share
- Suggested times for your follow-up session and location
- Organised a way for people to sign up to the next event

### Bring together a team and share these roles:

- Someone to welcome people when they arrive
- Someone to check in with people before they leave
- Someone to manage the AV and technical requirements
- Someone to collect the ideas generated and collate them
- Someone to take photographs and record the event
- Someone to coordinate the sign-up sheet for the next meet-up

### Organise the materials and resources you will need:

- Links for the videos and short film, Regenerating Australia
- Write up themes from the film on flip chart paper
- Printed copies of the Worksheet in A3 size. 1 worksheet per group of 3 people.
- Printed copy of the QR code that takes attendees to the workshop reflection survey
- Sufficient pens, pencils and paper for people to write down their ideas in groups
- Printed consent forms so you can take and share photos publicly
- Sign-up sheet for the next meet-up

### Optional items:

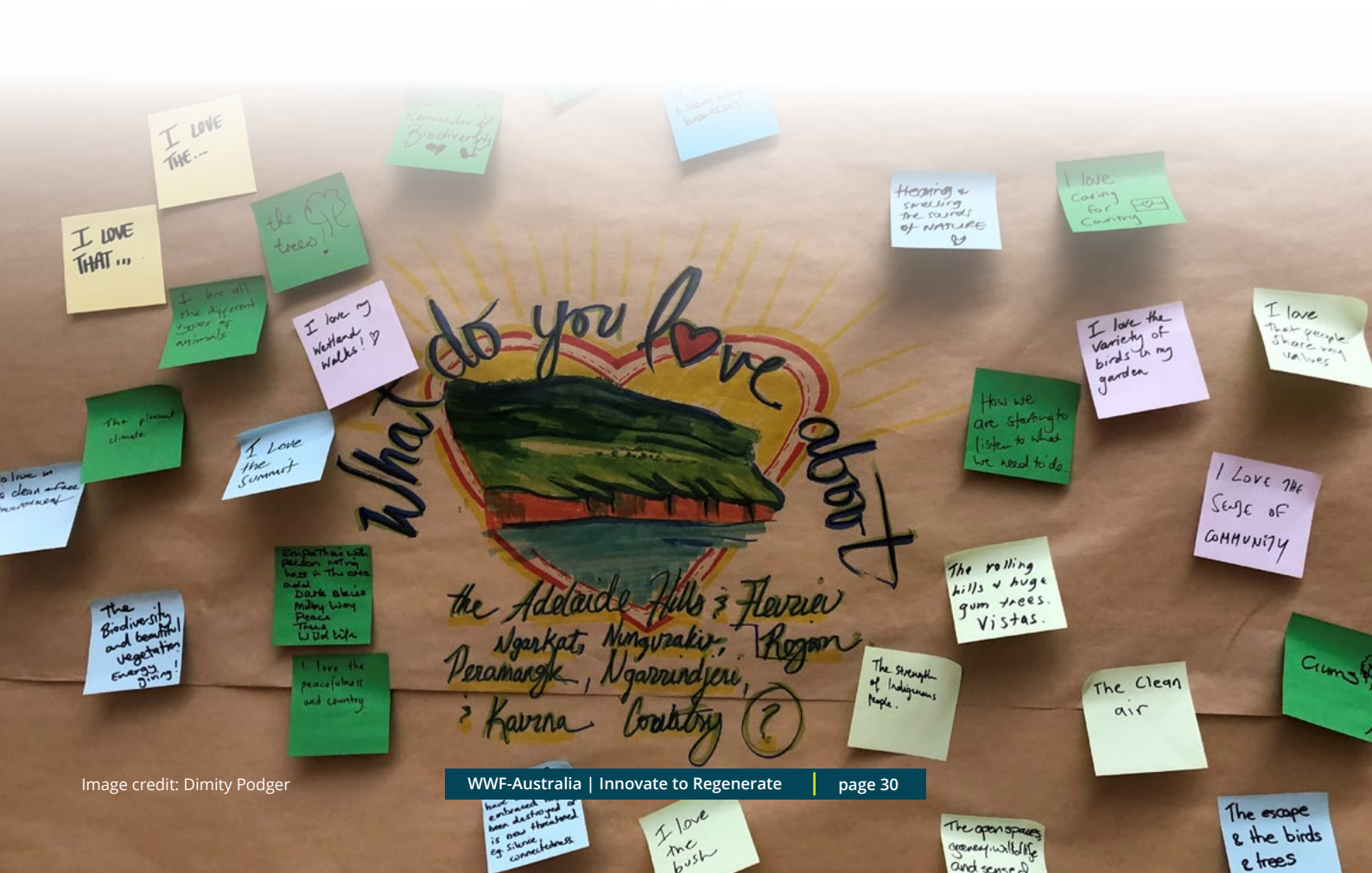
- Flipchart paper (or sheets of paper to scribble on)
- Blu-Tack
- Post-it notes
- Whiteboard markers
- Thumb tacks
- Picnic blankets
- Bell or chime to ring for attention

## WORKSHOP SESSION RUNSHEET

The Workshop as planned runs for around 3 hours. This includes the film screening and closing section. The time column is for demonstration purposes. You may wish to host your event in the evening.

Time	Timing	Activity	Description	You'll need
1:30pm	30 mins	Room setup		Photographer Helpers Workshop guide
2.00pm	10 mins	Arrival Love of place activity (Individual)	Greet people as they arrive. Invite each person to note/draw something they love about their local area and attach it to the wall. It could be a place, an initiative, a feeling ...	Space on the wall/floor Butchers' paper Sticky notes and pens
2:10pm	5 mins	Welcome (Whole group)	Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country.	Speaking notes
2:15pm	5 mins	Introduction and framing (Whole group)	Why this screening is important. Your hopes for your community. Invite the audience to reflect on a time the community has come together to effect change.	Speaking notes (see template)
2:20pm	25 mins	Screening (Whole group)	Personal introduction to the film by Damon Gameau, Director of Regenerating Australia (2-3 mins) Regenerating Australia (18 mins)	AV and screen videos lined up
2:45pm	15 mins	Transition and Break (Whole group)	Lead a transition reflection. Invite the group to stand, take a short comfort break. Let everyone know what time to be back. Movie chairs to the edges of the space. Invite the group to form a large circle (standing).	Space to move chairs
3:00pm	15 mins	Dreaming up our future (Story circle)	Refer to 'Dreaming up Our Future' in the facilitation guide for full instructions.	
3:15pm	30 mins	Making the headlines (Small groups)	Form groups of 3. Ensure groups assign roles and understand timings.	1x worksheet per group Pens and paper

Time	Timing	Activity	Description	You'll need
3:45pm	25 mins	Group share back (Whole group)	Invite attendees to form a large circle. Each group shares back their headlines and what's changed (the news story).	Pens and piece of paper/sticky notes
4:10pm	20 mins	Turning vision into action. Closing and Survey (Whole group)	Invite each person to read one of their offers (could do more if a small group).	QR code (printed) Date of next meet-up Sign-up sheet
4:30pm	5 mins	CLOSE	Invite people to refreshments, continue to add ideas to the worksheets, sign up to the next meet-up, and complete the survey.	Close the event. Acknowledge work done.
4:35pm	30 mins	Food, questions and wind down		Take photos of the worksheets and arrival activity, and send to WWF-Au ( <a href="mailto:dpodger@wwf.org.au">dpodger@wwf.org.au</a> )



# Templates

## INTRODUCTION AND FRAMING – TEMPLATE

### Organiser or MC:

- Welcome everyone to the screening and workshop. In a few short sentences, share why you were moved to put this event on and what you love about this place.
  - Acknowledge the impact of recent disasters on the community (bushfires, floods, Covid19 pandemic, etc.).
  - Invite attendees to think about a moment they saw the community coming together.
  - Share your own story of your community coming together in hard times.
  - Set the intention for this workshop to harness that community spirit and local knowledge to take action on climate change and biodiversity loss.
1. Start with a warm welcome, and tell them what you are feeling.
    - a. You could say: Thanks everyone for being here. I am really excited about this event today/tonight.
  2. Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country.
    - a. If you have someone giving a Welcome to Country, introduce them.
    - b. If you are giving an Acknowledgement of Country, refer to the resources in the Welcome section of the workshop.
  3. Tell everyone why this event is happening and why you chose to put it on.
    - a. Share a short story about why you were moved to put on this event.
    - b. You can work this through with the WWF-Australia Regenerative Communities Project Manager if needed (dpodger@wwf.org.au)
    - c. If your community has been affected by the Black Summer bushfires, floods, or by the Covid19 pandemic, it can be useful to mention this.
  4. Invite attendees to think about a time when the community came together.
    - a. You could say: We have been through some challenging times in the last few years. However, these challenges have also brought out great kindness in our community. I have seen [insert an example you can think of – people checking on elderly neighbours during lockdowns, people delivering each other food, looking after each other's houses, etc.]. What moments have you seen of the community coming together?
  5. Set the intention for this workshop.
    - a. Tell everyone what you hope will happen in this workshop.
    - b. You could say: It is my hope that this workshop is a step in this community coming together to take real action on climate change. I hope that by the end of this session we are all inspired to create change and are committed to doing it together.



## LETTER TO YOUR MP TO SHARE YOUR WORKSHOP – TEMPLATE

[insert name], MP (“The Hon” if a Minister)  
Member for [electorate] (/Senator/Minister for ...)  
[date]

Dear [MP’s name],

Introduce yourself: Say you are a member of their electorate, or if not, why you are writing to them rather than your local MP. It can also be helpful to briefly set out your relevant connections in the community, such as whether you’re a student/parent/grandparent, have lived and/or worked in the electorate for a long time, or your involvement with local organisations.

I recently took part in an event with other members of your electorate as part of the WWF-Australia Innovate to Regenerate Australia program. We spent time thinking about “Our Community Vision for the Future” and I thought you would like to know what we hope for.

Detail your news story: Write your news story here. Make sure you include those events that led to this news story.

Are you taking action: My purpose in writing you this letter is to ask: Is this the future you are shaping? Our group came up with some actions that your government could take/or could support.

List/ Detail: Concrete actions that you have identified to make this vision a reality.

Provide your contact details: Either ‘I can be contacted on [insert phone number] or at [insert email address].’ Or under your name below.

Sign off

[Your name]  
[Your address, at least suburb +postcode]  
[Your phone]



## PRESS RELEASE – TEMPLATE

The Press Release Template will be in a Google Folder of resources that will be sent to you by the Regenerative Communities Project Manager, Dimity Podger.



