Envisioning sustainable futures: Adaptability

1. Description of the competence

Video link:

What is adaptability

Recommended resources:

Presentation of the competence model

Description:

Adaptability is a critical sustainability competence that involves effectively navigating changes within environmental, social, and economic contexts; making informed choices despite ambiguous or incomplete information; and developing the capacity to recover from setbacks and persist in the face of challenges.

This competence is essential for addressing the dynamic and complex nature of sustainability challenges, equipping individuals to respond proactively to evolving circumstances.

2. Workshop components

Duration: 90 minutes

Digital tools suggested:

- Mentimeter: For interactive polls and icebreakers
- Padlet: For collaborative brainstorming and scenario building. Also useful for ice breakers or energizers
- Canva: For creating visual representations
- Google forms: For collecting feedback and reflections

Competencies exercised:

Adaptability, Critical thinking, Systems thinking

3. Workshop overview

Annotation:

The Building adaptability in sustainability workshop is designed to equip participants with the skills to effectively manage transitions and make informed decisions in complex sustainability contexts. Through interactive exercises and collaborative discussions, participants will explore strategies to enhance adaptability, enabling them to respond proactively to uncertainty and drive sustainable outcomes.

Objectives:

- To introduce participants to the concept of adaptability within sustainability and engage them in reflecting on their experiences with change and uncertainty.
- To develop participants' abilities to identify, analyze, and respond to uncertainty and risk in sustainability contexts through collaborative exercises.
- To encourage participants to reflect on their learning experiences and identify personal strategies to enhance adaptability in sustainability efforts.

4. Detailed session structure

Evocation (20 minutes):

Tools:

Mentimeter

Activities:

- Introduction to adaptability (5 minutes): Brief explanation of adaptability as a key competence in sustainability. Discuss the importance of being adaptable in managing environmental and societal transitions.
- Interactive poll (15 minutes): Pose questions in Mentimeter such as *"Describe a time when you faced an unexpected challenge in a sustainability context. How did you respond?"* Collect and display anonymous responses to identify common themes and experiences.

Resources:

Video: **Tutorial for mentimeter: A quick visual guide**

Understanding (50 minutes):

Tools:

Miro or Padlet

Activities:

- Case Study Analysis (20 minutes): Present a real-world sustainability case study involving significant uncertainty (e.g., implementing renewable energy solutions in a community with unpredictable policy support). Identify the uncertainties, potential risks, and the adaptive strategies employed.
- Scenario Planning Exercise (30 minutes): In small groups, develop multiple future scenarios for a given sustainability challenge (e.g., water resource management under climate change). Discussion: Each group presents their scenarios, highlighting the decision-making processes and adaptability considerations.

Resources:

Video: **Tutorial on how to use Miro**

Video: **Tutorial on how to use Padlet**

Reflection (20 minutes):

Tools:

None

Activities:

- Personal action planning (10 minutes): Participants individually outline steps they can take to improve their adaptability in professional or academic settings.
- Group discussion (10 minutes): Facilitate a conversation where participants share key takeaways and discuss how adaptability can be fostered within their communities and organizations.

Resources:

None

5.Resources used and additional info

Links:

Video: **What is adaptability**

Video: **Tutorial on how to use Miro**

Video: **Tutorial on how to use Padlet**

Canva presentation: **Presentation of the competence model**

Suggested Reading: **GreenComp Framework**