



# Session 2

## Possibility and ownership

Moving from crisis and challenges  
to possibility and engagement



# Listening partners

1. What struck you about the 2 videos for homework?
2. What are you more aware of about the power of CONNECTION after session 1:

- *CONNECTION to yourself and your life stories?*
- *CONNECTION to others in your community & their life stories?*
- *How CONNECTION might shape your leadership*

## Ground rules:

- Each person has 3 minutes to answer the questions
- Your partner LISTENS. REFLECTS. ENQUIRES. No interruptions. Then partners swap and the other person SPEAKS for 3 minutes
- Once each person has had a turn (time yourselves) please return to the main room.
- Each person must use the full 3 minutes. This is a chance to work through your own thoughts and feelings.

## Objectives for Session 2

- Understand the context of why Community matters
- A reflection on what is shifting since the last session on “connection”
- How to move from the “stuck community” to the “possibility of community”
- To shift from problem solving mode to co-creation of a different future

# Our stories about our schools ....

- What are the stories that you keep hearing most often from others about our schools, learners and community ?
- What are the biggest challenges facing our schools today ? ( in plenary)-use the chat .If overcome, will transform the school



Your dreams...

- Share a story of something in your life that you dreamed of achieving and you did or did not...what did you learn from the experience about dreaming of a future not yet realised ?



The Power  
of “What if”

A process for shifting from  
challenges to POSSIBILITIES



A large orange shape on the left side of the slide, consisting of a rectangle with a quarter-circle cutout on its right side.

Possibility- a  
future just  
within reach

- Not a prediction or an outcome
- Offers us options to be creative and to tap into the collective wisdom of the community
- Calls for co creation rather than a problem to be solved.

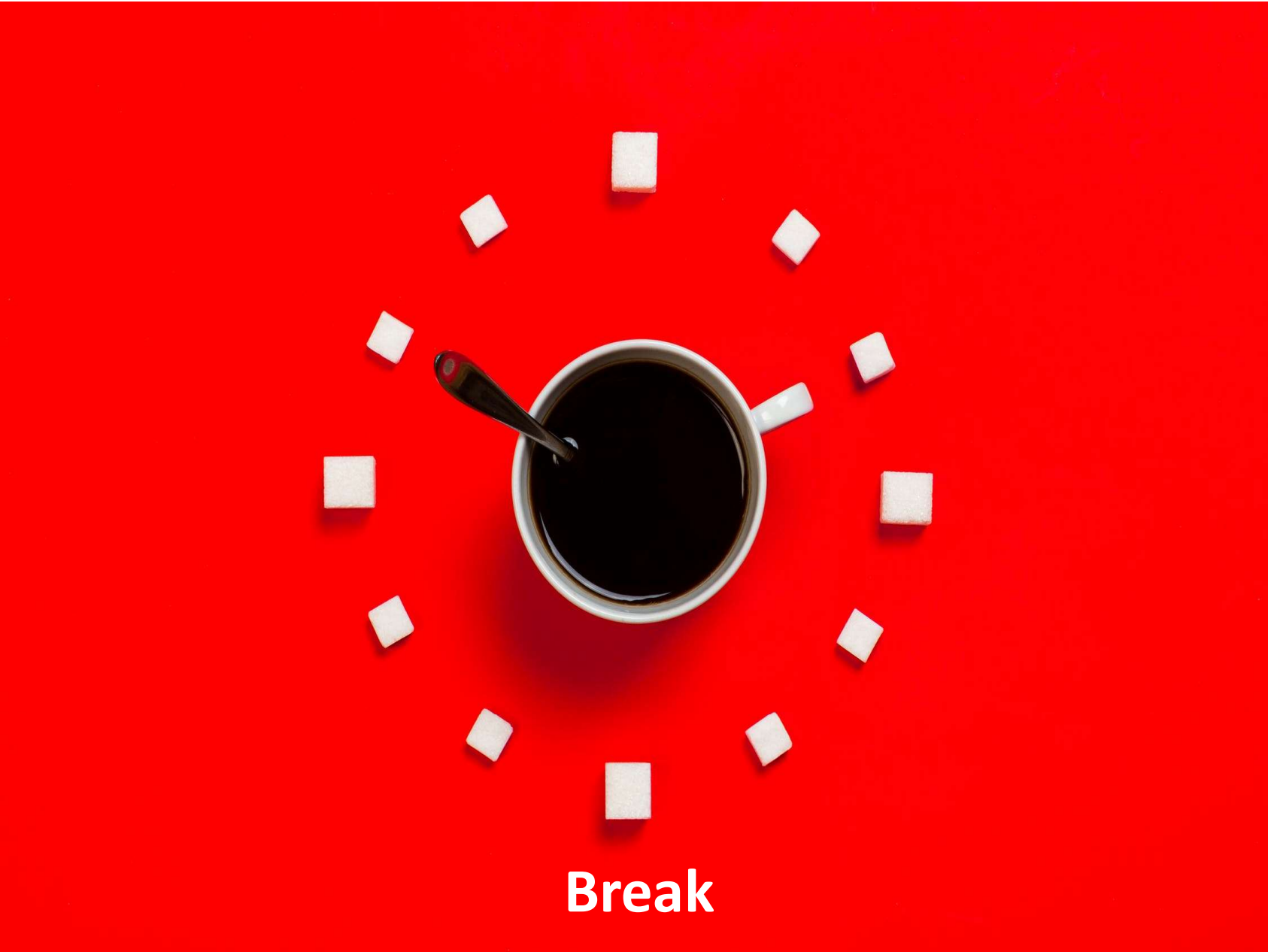



# THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE

- What is the single biggest challenge (current condition), that if overcome, will build strong vibrant communities that are deeply connected to the education of our children and our schools ? Community can be interpreted as any group of people associated with the school. Spend two minutes journaling your challenge
- In your group (10 minutes)
  - ☐ Share your challenge with the others. Identify challenges that are within your sphere of control.
  - ☐ Listen to each other to understand and connect and not to respond
  - ☐ Agree on someone who will make some notes and bring the challenges back to the main session.
  - ☐ If the challenges are common, merge them
  - ☐ Agree on a name for your group









# Questions for possibility

---

The distinction is between possibility and problem solving. Possibility is a future beyond reach

---

It takes the form of a declaration, best made publicly

---

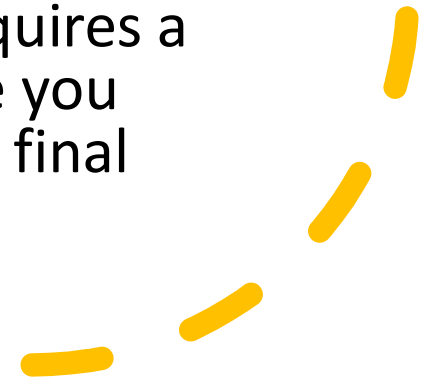
What is the crossroads you are faced with in this moment in time ? The possibility conversation works on us and evolves from a discussion of personal crossroads

---

What declaration of possibility can you make that has the power to transform the community and inspire you?

## Some guidelines for reframing What if....?

- Notice your language-clean up any negative words that speaks of deficit
- The statement must start with “What if”
- It must be concise (not too long)
- The challenge needs to be unpacked in order to get to the real issues. ( ask Why at least 2 or 3 times)
- Identify challenges that are within your control- not just about money and policies.
- In your group- The reframing requires a conversation in the group where you support each other to get to the final possibility statements



# Reframing “What if”

**Example:** Our teachers are fearful about coming to school

**Reframing:** What if we teachers felt safe to come to school

**Example:** Parents are not involved in our school

**Reframing:** What if our parents were fully involved at our school ?

# VISUALISING

## Visioning a future just beyond reach

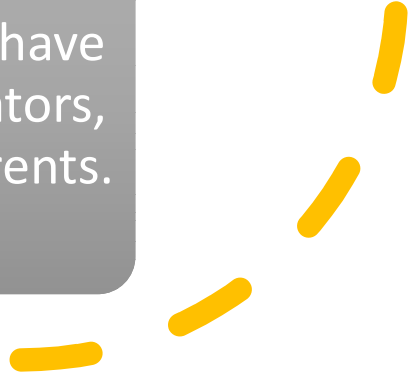
- Take one “what if” sentence from the group
- What would happen if this were true? List at least 10 **positive** outcomes that would happen if the statement were true
- Every idea is written up, no matter how crazy or silly it might sound
- No judgement of ideas



Where can  
we start the  
work ?  
What are the  
micro actions  
that we can  
take ?

Look at all 10  
possibilities. Pick 1 or 2  
you would like to start  
working on immediately.  
Look for the low hanging  
fruit **that does not**  
**require money**

The only resources you have  
are yourself, your educators,  
the children and the parents.



A large orange shape on the left side of the slide, resembling a quarter-circle or a rounded rectangle, with a white text overlay.

How would  
you do it ?

Have a conversation about how you would go about doing it and then list the steps towards making it a reality.

Be as specific as possible



## The steps

---

1. list challenges

---

2. reframe them as possibilities

---

3. envision a different future

---

4. choose where to begin

---

5. start the work





# OWNERSHIP

WHAT IS MY CONTRIBUTION TO THE VERY  
THING I COMPLAIN ABOUT ?

# Ownership

Share a story of a time when you were personally invested in a project, task or relationship that brought you great joy and commitment. What made it so special for you ? (6 minutes-in pairs)

Discussion- What does this demonstrate about ownership ?



# Ownership

- We will own the future if we create it together





# Ownership

Asks you to turn up as a co- creator of a future distinct from the past- you are not just a spectator, you have to be engaged to take ownership



## The link to community

- Without possibility and ownership we remain stuck in problem solving mode and blaming other people. This does not change anything; we recycle the same conversations with little or no movement or action- we project the past into the future we want to create
- Possibility brings an abundance mindset and a harnessing of the power of the collective
- Ownership makes each one of us accountable for the future we want to create and my part in it.

## Naming the methodology

- Listening partners to witness your thinking
- Deep listening to connect and understand
- The power of creative thinking together
- Working in larger groups and smaller groups
- The power of ownership (“I”)



# Homework for session 3 ( 2 slides)

- Homework -session 3
- Watch the video by Chimamanda Adichie
- The danger of a single story
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9Ihs241zeg>
- Celebrate what is right with the world
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gD\\_1Eh6rqf8&t=50s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gD_1Eh6rqf8&t=50s) (optional)



# Homework for session 3

- Reflection in Your journal
- Reflecting on what you have experienced and shared in session 2, what are you realising about the power of possibility
- Reflect on the challenges you identified in the session and pick one that you feel that you want to work within your partnership. Meet virtually and complete the 5 steps
- If for some reason you cannot meet with your partner connect with anyone from your circle or join another partnership. Your LPF will support you.
- GO through all the steps to shift the challenge into a possibility and think concretely how you will start the work (be as detailed as possible)
- What will the starting point be?
- Who will be involved?
- Timeframes?
- Your role?







## Additional slides – a resource

---

In virtual sessions it is not always possible to address all our dilemmas and questions. This deck contains slides that have not been covered during our session but that we thought might be useful for you.



# The 5 Why's

- Our first response is seldom the real response to a question or dilemma that we are facing
- By asking WHY at least 5 times we get to the reason

## **Example :**

I can't sleep ? Why

I can't switch off from work Why?

I have so many responsibilities Why?

I have to do everything myself Why ?

I don't delegate to others....aah ! That's the root cause 😊

# Questions for possibility

- What is the crossroads you are facing right now in your life ?this project? This relationship ?
- What can we do together that I cannot do on my own ?
- What declaration can you make that has the power to transform the community and inspire us ?



Questions for  
ownership-  
asks people to  
act as if they  
were creating  
what exists in  
the world

- What is my contribution to the very thing I complain about ?
- How much risk am I willing to take ?
- How participative do I plan to be ?
- To what extent am I invested in the well being of the whole ?
- What is the story I keep hearing and telling about my community ? What is the cost to me and others ?



# The question

What, in your opinion, is the single biggest challenge facing schools today ?

What is your single biggest personal challenge that you are dealing with right now ?

A note: We will be working with the **first one** now :

- Think beyond the present crisis
- More than just about money

Spend 3 minutes journaling your challenges- you will be working with two other people to refine your challenges

# Questions for ownership

- It asks citizens to act as if they are creating what exists in the world
- The distinction is between ownership and blame
- In respect of a community or project:
  - How valuable an experience do you plan to have ?
  - How participative do you plan to be ?
  - How much risk are you willing to take ?
  - How much are you invested in the learning of the whole

What have I done to contribute to the very thing I complain about or want to change ?