



Scenario planning involves creating structured images of possible future scenarios. These scenarios are not predictive models but explorations of what could happen under various conditions, such as changes in weather, political decisions, or social dynamics. They focus on key drivers of change like agricultural technology, economic trends, and environmental factors. Scenarios are typically presented as narratives that describe best-case, worst-case, and most likely outcomes. Scenario planning is essential for anticipating different outcomes of actions, decisions, or events. Its applications include business strategy, where companies prepare for market changes and technological disruptions; public policy, where governments develop policies and anticipate societal shifts; environmental planning, where impacts of climate change are forecasted; and crisis management, where readiness for unexpected changes and emergencies is improved.



Preparation: 2-3 days
Scenario Planning Session: 5-8 hours



Purpose of the task: Explore the future possibilities and challenges that the EMG members might encounter. This will help them prepare and react faster to disturbances and shocks.



Implementation steps: all the boxes should be checked by the end of the exercise!

- Meet in your Peer Group and plan out a session with EMG members, where you will prepare them to then facilitate a session on scenario planning.

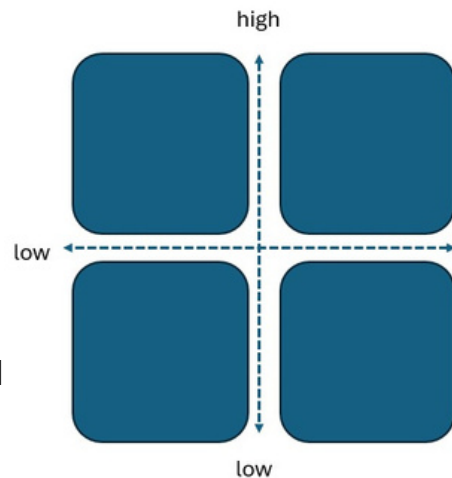
- Organise a meeting with the EMG members

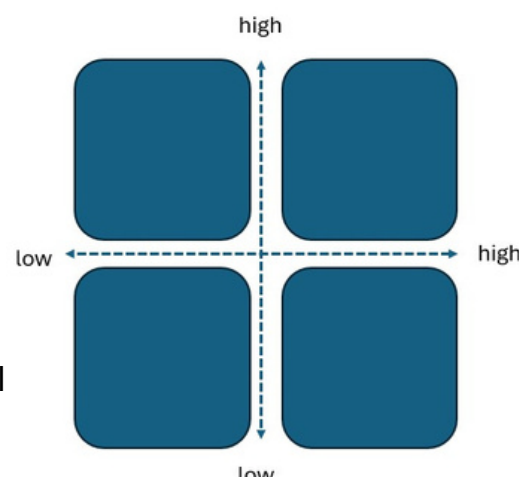
When organising meetings, please refer to the guidelines in Action Point from Unit 2, on Group Governance.

- Ask the EMG members: What are the core environmental issues relevant that should be addressed by the EMGs (forests, grazing areas, watersheds, etc)?
- Ask the EMG members: Who should be invited to a scenario planning session and who is affected by this issue? Map out the actors, encourage inclusivity (women, youth, elders, private sector, environmental experts, peace makers,...)
- With the help of EMG members, invite all relevant parties to Scenario Planning Workshop. Make sure to include the time slot that suits the participants and select a place accessible to everyone.
- Encourage the EMG members to take active roles for the Workshop. Prepare them to give an introduction of the goals during the Workshop, but also to help you facilitate the rest of the session. Together with the members, choose specific roles and tasks they will be responsible for (help can be found in Unit 2 materials: [Rules and Roles](#)).

- In your peer group, help each other prepare for your Scenario Planning Workshop, collect relevant data on environmental conditions, trends, and uncertainties: **use ARC-D, LDSF data you have collected**. If your peer group is working on a different restoration area and you will not be doing the session together, help each other with resources or share what you have found for your area.

- Greet everyone and give an overview of the basic principles of scenario planning (use the information and materials shared in Unit 4)

- EMG members should present the core objectives and why scenario planning is crucial in environmental management.
 - Choose the restoration area and let participants give their ideas and develop a vision for how it should look in future (give a specific time, for example 5 years from now).
 - Ask the participants about the driving forces that could influence this vision: clan dynamics, weather patterns, aid agencies, etc - use the information you gathered in step **3**) to facilitate this discussion and encourage input from the participants.
 - With the participants, group these driving forces into categories: social, technological, economic, political, and environmental.
 - Prioritize these driving forces based on their impact and uncertainty (low-high).
 - Create a scenario matrix. With the participants, select two critical categories for the basis: they should be high-impact and high-uncertainty.
 - Ask the participants to give ideas for how the vision they shared at the beginning of the exercise would play out under the conditions of each of the matrix's quadrants.
 - Discuss how their ideas for restoration would look under the circumstances of each quadrant. Participants should think of the future state of the environment and the implications for environmental management.
 - Assess the implications of each scenario for the EMG's strategy, and operations to achieve the vision. This involves exploring how the vision might perform in each of the quadrants.
 - Agree on the best-case, worst-case and business-as-usual scenarios, and assess how probable each of these is (very, average, low probability)
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- Discuss what went well and what could be improved in the meeting, reflect on the outcomes.
- Choose the most probable scenario that was identified. Use it in your further work for developing indicators, strategies and work plans, keep these results in an archive and use them again when planning new steps of the project.
- Develop restoration strategies for the respective scenario (this could include an adapted vision), define key performance indicators to measure the achievements towards the vision. This includes identifying early warning signals that indicate which scenario might be emerging. We will introduce more indicators and measuring techniques during the Environmental Management Sessions, check out Units 5-8.
- Develop work plans and implement the chosen strategies and continuously monitor the environment for changes that could influence the scenarios. Monitor using the Regreening App



Materials/equipment needed (these are suggestions; not all might be needed):

- Map of the area and the report template.
- See the materials from [Action Point Unit 2](#) on general meeting materials like seating arrangement, transportation, etc.
- Agenda and Informational Materials: Printed or digital copies of the meeting agenda.
- Stationery and Supplies: Flipcharts and markers, paper and pens for participants.
- A big paper for sketching the scenario matrix.

- [illegible]