

24 RISK ANALYSIS FOR ASSESSING THREATS TO YOUR ORGANIZATION



2h 20m



PLENUM AND
SMALL GROUPS

DESCRIPTION

When your organization is facing risks, it can have a significant impact on how effectively you can work.

While risks can never be entirely eliminated, you can prepare for risks and monitor risky situations and scenarios.

One part of this process is identifying situations or occurrences which alert you to changing levels of risk to your organization. When you have identified these so-called “signal points”, you should take measures to handle risk and its subsequent consequences (e.g., a forecast of severe weather in countries with high poverty is a signal point that humanitarian organizations use to prepare for floods or droughts).



PREPARATION

Complete **Method Cards**: Environmental Scanning for Detecting Unseen Risks (04) and Defining and Identifying Risk (28)



MATERIALS

- Writing Materials



TOOLS

- **Method Cards:**
 - Defining and Identifying Risk (28)
 - Environmental Scanning for Detecting Unseen Risks (04)
- **Worksheets:**
 - STEEP Analysis (15)
 - Influence Diagram (12)
- **Background Papers:**
 - Example Influence Diagram: Part 1 (17)
 - Example Influence Diagram: Part 2 (18)
 - STEEP Analysis Example (21)



GROUNDWORK



SUMMIT



RISK AND RESILIENCE

STEP 1 IN SMALL GROUPS:

Review **Environmental Scanning for Detecting Unseen Risks (04)** and choose one potential risk scenario (e.g. risk of financial instability, risk to the physical safety of staff, risk to the legal standing of the organization, etc.) that could significantly affect your organization. **[05 MIN]**

STEP 2 IN PLENUM:

Present your chosen risk scenarios, and discuss and agree on which scenarios you will work on in the small groups. **[05 MIN]**

STEP 3 IN SMALL GROUPS:

Using the categories in **STEEP Analysis (15)** ■■ as a framework, brainstorm the Social, Technological, Economic, Environmental, or Political factors that could influence whether or not this risk will become a reality. For help getting started, see **STEEP Analysis Example (21)** ■■■ [30 MIN]

STEP 4 Choose the 3 most crucial factors among those you listed in your STEEP Analysis. Starting with the present state of these factors (e.g. unknown), map each of the steps in between these factors and their possible outcomes. What steps would have to happen for a positive or negative outcome to occur? The resulting map is called an Influence Diagram. For help completing the Influence Diagram, see **Example Influence Diagram: Part 1 (17)** ■■■ [30 MIN]

STEP 5 Assess the Diagram and identify which signal points would represent a change in whether the risk will be actualized, e.g. once these signal points occur you will know for certain whether the outcome of the risky scenario will be positive or negative, and therefore whether or not you must now act to avert the threat. For help identifying these signal points, see **Example Influence Diagram: Part 2 (18)** ■■■ [20 MIN]

STEP 6 IN PLENUM:

Share your results, and discuss what signal points your organization needs to watch out for. **[30 MIN]**