

## **Week 6: Energy and Climate Change: Tutorial activities**

### **In-class activity**

#### **Save Wakanda by re-writing its rules and functional principle**

Consider life in a small island-city state named “Wakanda”. Wakanda enjoys warm tropical weather year-round with beautiful beaches, peaceful parks, and other outdoor areas which its small population of 3 million people enjoys. The island does not have many natural resources and completely lacks any hydrocarbon or mineral deposits (i.e., oil, gas, metals, etc.). They generate their electricity using mainly imported gas and have a somewhat functional public transport system with a sizable number of the population using cars and other motorized vehicles. Previously, Wakanda’s citizens were having a peaceful and quality life with good income prospects, and access to good healthcare facilities, education, and all other necessities of quality life. In short, everyone on the island was happy.

However, with time, the island has started facing some troubles mainly because of a recent surge in population, the threat of sea-level rise, rising CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, extreme changes in weather patterns, and various other environmental issues. Increasing social and income inequality is a crucial challenge too, i.e., the rich are getting richer, and the poor are getting poorer. Elderly, poor people, and people with no to low skills are rising rapidly too. Technological advancement is leaving Wakanda’s disadvantaged behind.

In this situation, Wakanda’s present government is intending to re-write the rule of the society, adopt new technologies, tweak their policies, and make any other necessary changes that can help to make life sustainable and peaceful on the island as it was before.

**Can you please help them with this task, can you save Wakanda?**

In addition to technology and policy aspects, you are free to re-write the general rules of the society and change the way in which Wakanda functions to solve its environmental, economic, and social problems. Some typical aspects/issues you may like to include/address in your plan to save Wakanda are as below. Nonetheless, feel free to include more aspects/issues/rules, and think about the ways your lives function today. If you had a say and a chance- would you like to change the rules/policies/technologies/methods and re-design them in a way that can change yours and your loved one’s lives for the better.

- How Wakanda should generate its electricity? (Think if this would solve their CO<sub>2</sub> issue or if leaving it as it is, would be more beneficial for them)

- Should they change their mode of transport, if yes, what this new mode of transport can be? (Think if money would be an issue? Is the technology available?)
- Should they cooperate with other countries to solve global environmental problems and other political and social issues or not? (Or it is better to save your home first- would it cost less or more money?)
- Should there be any rich and poor divide, or everyone should earn equally and have access to the same kind of facilities such as health, education, electricity access, etc.? (What would be required to make this happen? Would government policies be enough to solve this issue- any fresh ideas on this?)
- Would there be starving individuals or billionaires in the new Wakanda? (Any ideas to keep inequality low in this society will help)
- Would there exist any gender disparity, race, or religious divide? (Have you ever given it a thought that how this divide arises in a society – the actors who help facilitate this divide, can also be the ones stopping it? - who are these actors- the government? corporates, industries, or society/people themselves?)

When you are at designing the general principle of the Wakanda society, keep one thing in your mind, you and your family are going to be part of this new Wakanda, but you know nothing about your position in this new society that has brand new rules, policies, and overall way of functioning. For example, imagine that you were part of a rich household in the present Wakanda that was not really impacted by issues that were troubling poor families. In this case, you may choose not to do something to decrease the rich-poor divide and address those issues in the new Wakanda. However, you do not know if in the new Wakanda you will still be a rich household or not- you might end up being part of a poor family this time. You also do not know about your gender, race, or nationality in the new Wakanda. So, decide accordingly. Also, while you write a plan to save Wakanda and decide to change something in one sector of the economy think about how it will impact other sectors of the economy or people of the society.

Feel free to present your creation- your design of the society- in whatever you want to: present it through simple written rules, graphics, creative images, or any other way that gives a glimpse into your newly designed society of Wakanda and its rules. Use as much creative freedom as you want in this task.