**Actions Brainstorming Instructions**

## [Purpose](#_[Name_of_Chapter)

To work with other members of your community to come up with an exhaustive list of possible actions that could be taken for your community to improve equity and hazard resilience.

## What you will need

**Who:** community participants, facilitators

**Where:** in-person or virtual workshop

**How long will it take:** 45 minutes-1 hour

**Materials:** list of Action Areas and Vision Statements, Action Brainstorming Templates (below), writing materials

## Instructions

1. Divide the participants into groups, one for each Action Area. Community members can choose groups based on action areas they are interested in. Each group should have a minimum of 3-5 people (may vary depending on number of action areas, participants, and time). Assign a notetaker for each group.
2. Take a few moments to discuss with your group and familiarize yourselves with the action area and vision statement you are collaborating on.
3. Start proposing actions that will help you achieve the vision statement for your action area in the community, without considering time or funding constraints.
4. First, everyone in the group should take two minutes to write down some actions they think could help achieve the vision statement on a blank piece of paper.
5. Then everyone should share their actions, and the note-taker records them in Actions Brainstorming Template (below). As you go, clarify what kind of actions are being proposed, if needed – are they infrastructure, policy, government, community, or household actions?
6. Review your proposed actions. Add new actions & tweak actions. Take 5-10 minutes to brainstorm and record additional actions that came to mind, or modifications that might help the proposed actions expand their potential benefits.
7. What ideas do you think of if you put yourself in the shoes of different actors in the community? (e.g., local youth, city councilperson/mayor, homeowner)
8. In the remaining time, discuss the groups' reactions and opinions.

## Actions brainstorming template

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action Area #1** |  |
| **Vision** |  |
| **Actions Brainstorming** |  |
| Infrastructure actions |  |
| Policy actions |  |
| Government actions |  |
| Household actions |  |
| Community actions |  |

## Action brainstorming example

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action Area #1** | Flooding is severely impacting residents of Parkview neighborhood |
| **Vision** | In 10 years the impacts of flooding should be reduced in Parkview neighborhood and residents should be better able to prepare for and recover from flooding |
| **Actions Brainstorming** |  |
| Infrastructure actions | * Raise the levy around the neighborhood * Improve the drainage * Install green infrastructure |
| Policy actions | * Offer buy-outs to residents who want to move * Provide recovery funding for damaged homes |
| Government actions | * Improve maintenance of drainage system so water doesn't back up * Offer training on flood-proofing homes |
| Household actions | * Residents can "adopt" a drain in front of their house to make sure it is clear of debris * Sign up for training on how to flood-proof your home |
| Community actions | * Form a volunteer group to clear drains of debris before rainstorms |

## What to do next

Return to the ERB and move onto the next activity: Evaluate Actions.