**GENERATIVE DIALOGUE – STRUCTURE**

**Overview**

In recent history we have separated ourselves more and more from nature – from the interconnected reality of all life – and have thereby made human existence increasingly untenable. The only way to resolve our crisis is to reconnect with reality in what we are calling a New Global WE. This program hopes to assist this reconnection process through a simple method – Mindfulness Dialogue – that AI technology will bring to the necessary scale. Mindfulness that deepens awareness together with Dialogue that enables creative interaction will generate the necessary synergy for the emergence of a New Global WE. Through deeper connection that creates the conditions for deeper exploration, groups will discover deeper shared meaning that will be the foundation for a new collective identity.

**The Catalyst**

In Mindfulness Dialogue, a ***Catalyst*** is used to inspire and guide the interaction. This catalyst can take the form of a reading, a poem, or a piece of art. The ancient tradition of *lectio divina* is an example of this process, where a piece of sacred writing is read slowly, with frequent pauses to allow impact and reflection. A Mindfulness Dialogue catalyst will follow a similar process.

**Community Connect Setup**

Every creative interaction begins with **CONNECTING** which forms a *Container* – a safe space – where new shared meaning can be generated. We connect through sharing our personal stories. The deeper the story, the deeper the connection. A Mindfulness exercise can focus attention in a way that helps us access the deeper self that our personal stories carry. The sharing of these stories enables us to connect at ever-deeper levels.

So, we begin with a **CONNECTING** exercise – a Mindfulness Meditation on the chosen catalyst – that already fosters a sense of connection among participants. After this participants are divided randomly into groups of two – dyads – in order to share their experience/stories by responding to a simple question related to the catalyst. For example, what memory/thoughts, feelings – story – did this surface in you?

**Dyad Connect Guide**

10 minutes will allow the two participants to share as follows:

1. Go in sequence (4 mins each)
2. No interruption
3. Try not to ‘rehearse’ what you are going to say while you are listening
4. Use the final 2 minutes to complete the sharing.

**Dyad AI Summary**

AI technology will summarize the sharing in each dyad as well as the essential themes of all the dyads together.

**Voices From the Field: What are WE Saying?**

We will then invite a short sharing from a small representative number of dyads as a way to add to the sense of connection – the emerging WE – that has already begun to surface.

**Community Explore Setup**

**Exploring** is the stage of a Mindfulness Dialogue where we develop mutual understanding that will become new shared meaning that will be the foundation of a new – ever-expanding – WE. In this stage, we build on the connection we have established to explore the issue we are addressing. We begin – as we did in the Connecting stage – with a catalyst. Thus an appropriate poem, reading, piece of art, music is offered in a mindfulness way – meditative reading, focused observing, silent listening – to offer inspiration and guidance to the exploration of the issue being addressed.

**Triad Explore Setup**

Once again the large group is randomly divided into small groups of three – triads – to enable total engagement of all the participants. They are invited to share what the catalyst has stirred in them, with the following guidelines:

**Round 1: Hear from Everyone**

* Go in sequence
* Do not interrupt or cross-talk
* Reflect back what you heard before adding your perspective

**Round 2: Deeper Exploration**

* Engage in a more open interaction
* Notice ‘triggers’
* Share opinions as contributions rather than arguments
* Hold the tension that differences generate
  + Asking questions can assist this as well as foster deeper understanding

**Comment**

Since the focus of this stage is mutual understanding, listening and inquiry skills are critical. Practicing such skills off-line will enhance the process. However even the application of simple guidelines can help: <https://anewglobalwe.com>

**Triad AI Summary**

Once again AI technology will summarize the essential themes of each triad and of all the triads together. We will also invite a representative sharing from a few triads in order to add to the sense of mutual understanding as well as the experience of a creative tension between our differences.

**Voices from the Field: What are WE Saying?**

At this stage of the Mindfulness Dialogue, the experience of the tension between differences may be dominant. Having some voices from the ‘field’ give voice to this can help prepare us for the next stage of Discovering.

**Community Discover Setup**

This is the stage when a new WE finds initial expression. The emerging shared meaning will be the foundation for this new WE. In the Discovery stage the group listens FOR the new meaning that will have been generated out of the tension between our differences and builds this into shared meaning through a Jazz-like process in which each participant shares the inspiration they are hearing, while also listening to the sharing of the other participants. Doing so will modify and shape their next contribution, and the next, and so on, until the entire group ‘erupts’ as it were into new shared meaning in a Jazz-like fashion. This new shared meaning belongs to each individual as well as to the entire group.

**Representative Group Setup**

In this Discover stage of a Mindfulness Dialogue, the representative role of the small group is emphasized as follows:

‘You are working here in the name of and on behalf of generations past, present and future. What you generate together builds on past wisdom, relates to present insight, and prepares the way for future understanding.’

**Representative Group Guide**

A Mindfulness Meditation can help us listen FOR the new meaning that has been born out of the tension between our differences in the Explore stage. (see https://anewglobalwe.com/763-2/ for examples of such meditation)

There are also skills that can help in the building of new shared meaning that can be practiced offline (see https://anewglobalwe.com/763-2/). A general guideline to foster creative sharing in this Discovery stage is:

‘How can my sharing best contribute to the creation of new shared meaning?’

In this stage the interaction is more spontaneous and free-flowing.

**Representative Group AI Summary**

AI technology will summarize the essential themes of each representative group as well as all of the groups together. We will invite sharing from a few of these groups in order to add to the sense of emerging shared meaning and an emerging new WE identity.

**Voices from the Field: What are WE Saying?**

This is perhaps the most exciting part of the Mindfulness Dialogue process. Hearing from a small random selection of these representative groups can enrich the already emerging sense of a new WE.

**What’s Next**

It is important to harvest this rich experience and translate it into actions, however small. These ‘next steps’ can take the form of committing to a continuing process; later they may take the form of new principles and application; over time they will hopefully be part of a movement of transformation.

**Individual Answers**

The suggested questions can serve as a personal assessment of progress: what connects/still divides us, etc.

**AI WE Summary:**

The AI technology can serve in a particular way as a collective summary and archive by highlighting and storing emerging themes.

AI will provide us with the top ten themes that connect us at this stage.

THEN

AI will provide us with the top ten themes that divide us at this stage

THEN

AI will provide us with the top ten insights that have emerged so far.

THEN

AI will provide us with the top ten themes that WE hold as Questions

THEN

AI will provide us with the top ten themes that WE need to talk about

* Including the top ten themes that we CAN talk about at this stage

THEN

AI will offer the Emerging WE Story that is coming out of THIS Dialogue

FINALLY

AI will provide us with OUR Emerging Story over time.

Most importantly, AI can help give a framework to our emerging new WE story that will become the foundation for our new Global WE society.