

The Aims

In this pack you will find...

1. Three module information sheets.
2. An Un:Edge poster.
3. Activity components (Instructions, cards, and a worksheet).

Welcome!

This packet contains everything you need to start exploring tactics for relational economies within your organisation or community. Relational economies foreground the interactions between people, organisations, value systems, economic flows, the environment, and any other elements that contribute to the sustainability and success of a group of people.

We have chosen mushrooms as representatives for our exploration of relational economies because of their amazing ability to form underground networks through mycelium. This mycorrhizal network creates mutually beneficial exchanges between mushrooms and plants, including trees. These root-like and often rhizome-like networks are a great way to think about how we might make and sustain relationships within our communities.

You might start thinking through this by asking yourself some basic questions:

- » How do you organise?
- » How do you make decisions?
- » How do you relate to people inside and outside of your organisation?

It is our goal to get you to the next step, exploring the tactics that you already employ or that you would be interested in undertaking as a group.

Why use these resources?

The tools provided here are exploratory. You might use them:

- » During a team away day.
- » As a team building exercise.
- » As part of a workshop offering.

This may be pertinent because you are going through a transition or just because the collective energy is a bit stagnant, but whatever the reason, the goal is to give you time to play with new ideas. Our current module focuses on relational economies and so it is particularly suited to organisations that are looking for new ways of funding themselves, or new ways of operating within economies at different scales (primarily locally and nationally).

Output

For the exploratory phase the expected output is a set of new relations between the concepts presented, and an understanding of what sorts of tactics your group members are interested in or perhaps even have experience in.

design for relational economies

Who is this for?

This resource is for any organisation, community or group who employs (or hopes to employ) democratic decision-making processes and practices and wants to think through their (economic) sustainability.

This is especially for you if you are a team that is coming together to explore new practices and reflect on what team members are interested in. This is an opportunity to come together and have conversations you might not get a chance to in your normal day to day.

The Activity

This activity is ideal for 5-10 people within an organisation or community. You should designate 1-2 people to be the scribes and record the new tactics that emerge on the worksheet (see instructions card).

The tactics are organised around three themes: How to Siphon Private Funds, How to Wean off Grant Dependency and Create Collective Pots, and How to make Disruption Fun. Each of these tactics is represented by a 'troop' of mushrooms (pink, blue, and green). Within each troop are individual tools we can use within the broader tactics.

A card is made for each individual tool.

The aims of this activity are:

- » To explore possible new tactics for democratic decision making and ...
- » To draw connections between tactics that would be useful within your organisation. Or opportunities, tensions, questions. This does not have to be definitive or discrete. It can be a discussion that creates solidarity toward action.
- » To build a shared learning resource amongst your community.

It is our hope that by the end of the activity you have a set of insights that could eventually lead to direct actions.

Feedback

We would love to hear your feedback on the activity. Please email us directly via the email address available on our website un-edge.org. We would also be happy to receive a copy of your finished worksheets to upload on our website, if you would like to share your experience.