# Shake up the Systems – Key Actions for Change

Activity Recap:

- You will have 45 minutes in total for this breakout session
- The aim of this session is to think in detail about some of the crucial step changes needed for systems change for a fair climate future.
- Sustainability First have provided some example scenarios for you to use in your group, or you can use a scenario suggested by a member of your group. We recommend you spend no more than a few minutes deciding which scenario to focus on.

Step 1: Identify the step change you'd like to work through *(10 minutes)*
What is the situation today? How would the system have changed in your vision for the future?

*Scenario: Community opportunities for all. In this scenario, communities would be able to develop solutions for sustainable living. The step change would be all communities are funded and empowered to do so.*

- Create holistic communities – bring disparate groups together
- Collaborative work – connect communities
- Educate communities to move forward – precursor for action
- Ensure diverse needs are met
- Give people agency in their neighbourhoods and the places they live
- Keep at it – need sustained community activism

Step 2: What radical and practical actions are needed (short, medium, and long-term) – to get from the situation today to your vision for the future? *(20 minutes)*
What are the different areas in which action needs to happen? Think about the systems in which this step change is embedded, drawing on insights from the panel discussions over the past two days. Systems change takes place across different yet interconnected, nested levels of change (e.g. individual, community, ecological). Cutting across these are different flows and types of systems change (e.g. social, technical, political, financial).
What are the barriers and enablers of actions you've identified?

Short term

- Engage people, particularly young people, in something they will enjoy – e.g. through cultural events, wilding gardens, sharing info, joint exercises / activities e.g. litter picking
- Bottom-up approach - Decision makers earn the right to talk to the community about the issues they want to – need to show not working to a political agenda
- Target gate keepers – then provide support
- Technology (social media, Facebook groups etc) can help to share info and resources etc – but there can be downsides and need to ensure don't alienate people

Long-term

- Build long-term trusted relationships – this takes time
- Recognise difference – need different approaches for different communities, and different people within communities
- Community engagement teams help local groups to understand the data

Radical

- Long-term commitments from decision makers to build capacity, provide consistent support over time – e.g. this could be a ring fenced trust fund
- Ask people what the issues are for them AND what they think about your issues – it's a balance – need co-creation?
- Joined-up solutions and approaches for that community

Step 3: How do the different levels and flows of change interact in the actions you've identified? *(10 minutes)*

- What actions could be taken to link different levels and flows of change?

- Communications and multiple media channels can bring groups together, share experiences and amplify change
- Open data about communities – to give to communities, empower them, identify community needs and link with decision makers (e.g. in health services, local authorities etc)
- Marry and look for joint benefits between different groups - e.g. communities and companies
- Learn

Step 4: Who needs to be involved to make this change happen? *(5 minutes)*
Think about who this change would affect, which actors would need to be involved, and what barriers might exist for actors to enable this change.

- It needs to be diverse!
- Trusted community leaders – gate keepers
- People good with tech can help others – e.g. different generations
- Health services, local authorities (including parks teams, planning teams etc), social responsibility and recruitment teams of large companies (e.g. water and energy companies), small local businesses