

MINI-POD GATHERING EIGHT

Opening (10 minutes)

This is a chance for your mini-pod to open your gathering with intention. Here are some suggestions for what this can include:

- Performing an opening ritual together
- Choosing a host, guardian, time keeper, note taker, liaison for report back, or some other combination of roles that support the function of your gathering
- Performing a check-in to allow each person to fully arrive and be present

Purpose of this time:

[The Tactic Star](#) is an excellent tool for helping us to plan our actions in a comprehensive and systematic way. If your minipod is planning an action together, then we invite you to use this session as a workspace to refine your action plan through the lens of the Tactic Star and each of the categories that it explores. If your group is still not sure or has decided that an action is not feasible for you at this time, then we feel there is still a lot of value in the creative thinking and teamwork required to complete this exercise for a hypothetical action scenario. Imagine that you have all the time and resources needed to collaborate on a sacred direct action that is disruptive and challenging to the status quo. The real nectar here is in truly exploring the small details of what you would like to see happen and how you could potentially realize your vision--even if only hypothetical.

Discussion

- What [roles](#) will be needed to execute your action?
- Do you have enough people? If not, can you recruit enough by setting up one-on-ones and using the tool of your personal narrative to ask for the help of 5 friends, who are either active or passive allies?
- Does your group have the necessary skills to perform the required roles?
- What support do you need from the facilitators to make your action a reality?

Preparation for next session:

In session 2.5, we will begin to really dig in and do a case study on each minipod's action. Come prepared to present your action plan (or as far as you've gotten with it). This is a great chance to receive feedback, perspective and questions from our hive mind. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers in this process, only ideas and opportunities to learn and grow. Choose a liaison or two to articulate the plan, but we hope that everyone will participate in the Q&A period.

Closing (10 minutes)

This is a space to wind down your mini-pod gathering with intention. In addition to any closing rituals that you have design together as a group, you may want to reflect on the following questions:

How do you feel at the end of this session? Is there anything you want to change for next session?

Is your action beginning to seem real and tangible? How are you feeling about it: excited; nervous; anxious; eager?

Are there awarenesses in the group that feel ripe to offer to the Dharma of Resistance course leaders - insights, questions or concerns that would strengthen your mini-pod's relationship with them, and theirs with you?

We are a living system and we thrive on your honest feedback. Please continue to add feedback to the [MIRO board](#) as appropriate.

During Phase 2, we also want to draw more on your skills and experience by inviting participants to lead a short activity for the opening or closing of our full-group sessions. If you have an exercise, practice, or ritual you'd be willing to lead in 5 minutes **or less**, please tell us about it [here](#).