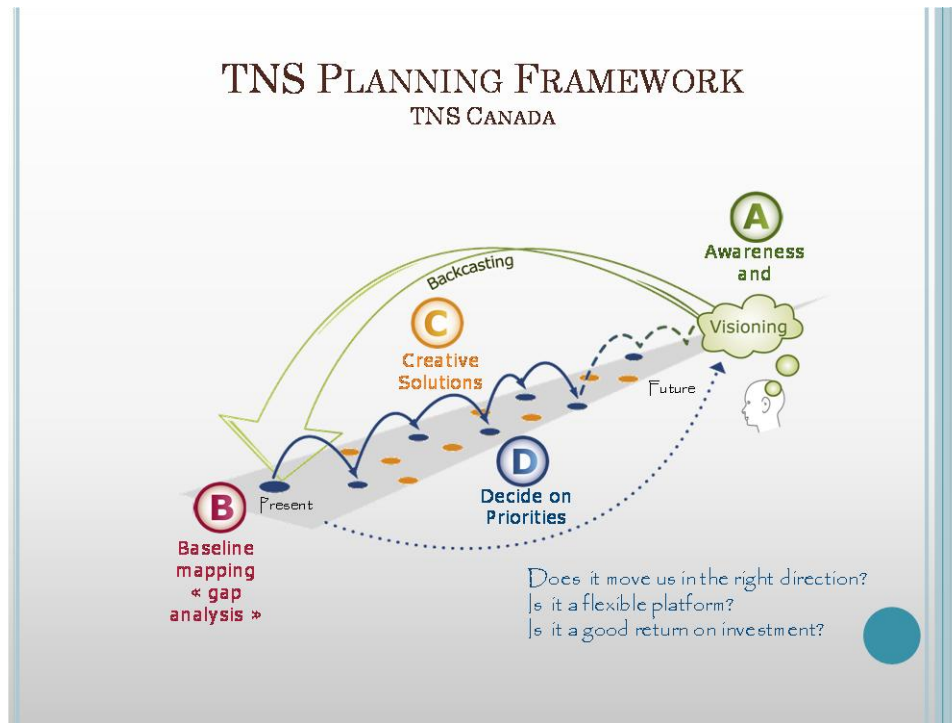


TNS ABCD Planning Framework



A - Awareness and Visioning

This first step aligns the organization/ community around a common understanding of sustainability and a compelling vision of a sustainable future.

Awareness

What are the 4 system conditions for sustainability?

Visioning

A compelling vision is vivid, engaging and concrete enough to guide decisions. It stems from a creative process. It is a future-oriented brainstorm not constrained by where we are now. It should describe an actual sustainable outcome.

What would it look like for our community to be sustainable? Be energy independent?

Have better air and water quality? Be stronger economically? Meet the needs of citizens?

What is your vision for a sustainable future?

How does the vision support sustainability principles?

B - Baseline Mapping and Gap Analysis

What is the scope of our baseline analysis? What's happening right now? What are the inputs/outputs /workflows we need to know? Can we map these inputs / outputs/ flows? Who are major stakeholders? What are the key areas for improvement? Where do we need to add things in order to close the gap to reach our vision?

C -Creative Solutions to reach the Vision

Brainstorm a number of creative solutions that will help successfully lead us towards our vision.

D - Decide on Priorities

Use the following 3 strategic questions to evaluate each of the creative solutions generated in the C step. Look for solutions that achieve positive responses to each of the 3 strategic questions.

1. Does this initiative move us in the right direction? (Towards sustainability in respect to the 4 sustainability principles, even with potential trade-offs?)
2. Does this initiative provide a stepping stone for future improvements? (Is the solution flexible?)
3. Does this initiative provide a sufficient return on investment to seed other solutions? (The return can be financial, social, political and cultural)

Create a proposed action plan.