

INDEV 617 Field Course

Research in Practice – MDP Field Visit

Exploring the Jamaican Food System through Cuisine

WINTER TERM, 2019

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EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CONTEXT

The purpose of this field trip is to gain exposure to the Jamaican development context. Our approach to the field experience is through a 'food lens'. By looking at society through this food lens, we have the potential to gain an understanding of how the food system works, and in so doing, also to develop a perspective about food and nutrition security in the area of our site as well as more broadly in Jamaica and beyond.

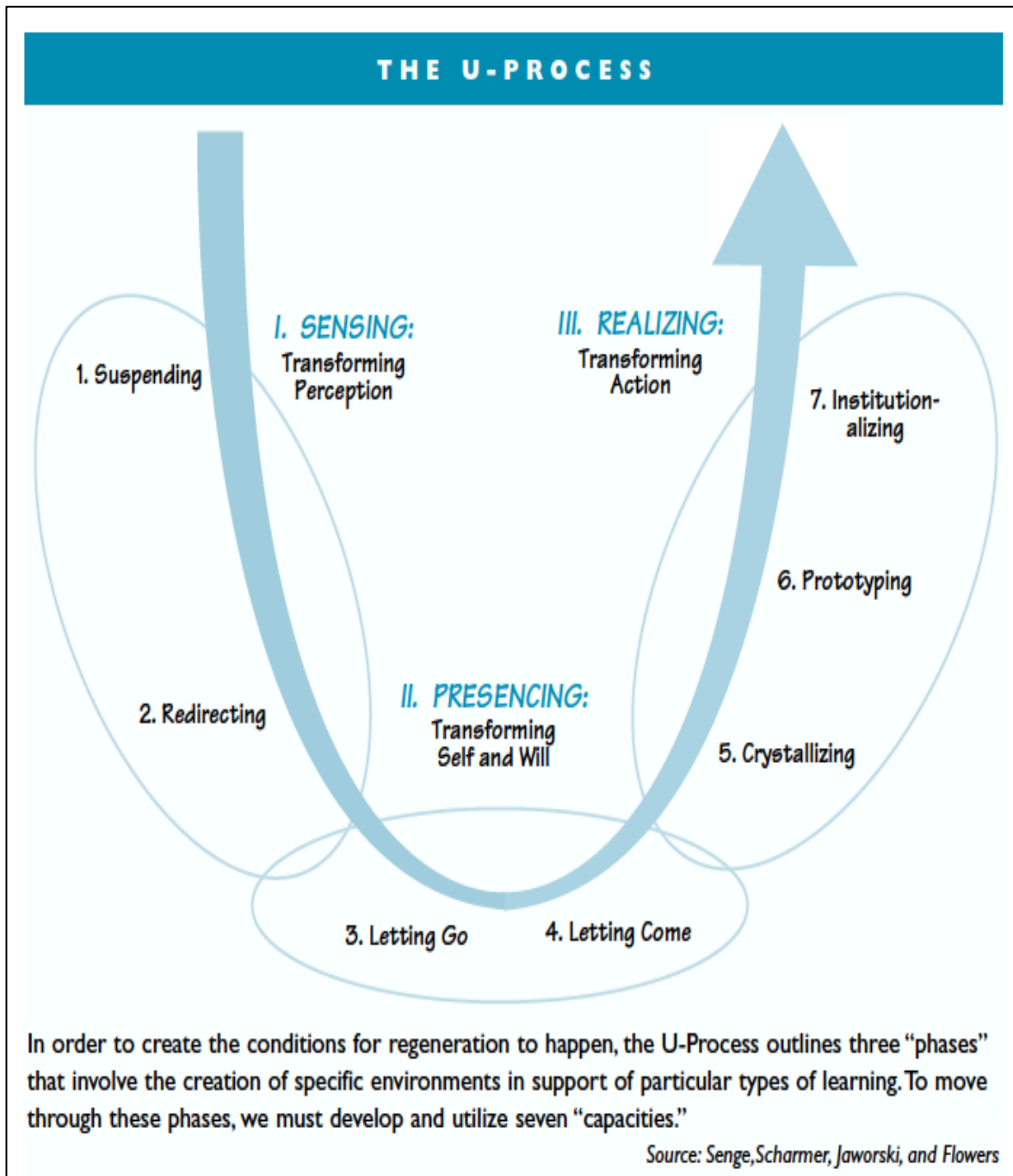
LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course is designed to provide the following learning outcomes:

1. Understand the basics of transformative scenario planning by using the U-Method in practice. This method is a useful tool in development practice, where complex, system problems are at the core of the issues under consideration.
2. Understand elements of the Jamaican food system and how these interact to create the food and nutrition security outcomes observed in the field.
3. Contextualize the food system report for Kingston, Jamaica prepared by the Hungry Cities Partnership.

FIELD METHOD

The methodology we will use is known as transformative scenario planning. In real life, this innovative methodology is used to help diverse groups of stakeholders find ways to positively influence complex development problems. On this field trip we will employ the U-process as part of transformative scenario planning. This U-process helps us to focus on development questions through the food security lens and is structured around three learning phases and the development and utilization of seven capacities.



LEARNING BY DOING

We will experience this method as we implement it in the field.

ITINERARY

The itinerary for the field experience is structured to reflect the U-process' three learning phases and the development and utilization of the seven capacities.

- 1) SENSING Transforming perception
- 2) PREENCING Transforming self and will
- 3) REALIZING Transforming action

Date 2018	Activity
18 February, Monday	Arrive in Brown's Town via Montego Bay airport
	Check in at the Hillcrest Retreat and dinner
19 February, Tuesday	Tour of the Hillcrest Retreat kitchen and participation in preparing breakfast
	Group meeting / discussion about the week, method, expectations and activities [What we think we know; suspending]
	Orientation and walk in Brown's Town
20 February, Wednesday	Herb and Health Hike in the Alps area
	Debrief at the Hillcrest Retreat [SENSING Transforming perception]
21 February, Thursday	Field trip to local farm(s), led by RADA
	Debrief at the Hillcrest Retreat [PREENCING Transforming self and will]
22 February, Friday	Visit Discovery Bay Farmers Market and the University of West Indies Marine Centre
	Debrief at the Hillcrest Retreat [REALIZING Transforming action]
23 February, Saturday	Plantation agriculture at Appleton Estate Coastal visit in the afternoon, plus dinner at Scotchies
24 February, Sunday	Travel to Montego Bay in the morning
	Flight departure at 2.20pm from Montego Bay

RESOURCES

In preparation for the field trip, please review the following resources:

Documentary Life and Debt

Available at library/online

Organization <http://reospartners.com/>

To get a better sense of how transformative scenario planning works, familiarize yourselves with Reos Partners' work around the world as examples of this method in action (hint: Reos has done scenario planning for Waterloo).

Readings

Hassan, Zaid. 2006. Connecting to the source: The U-process. *Systems Thinker*, 17(7), September. Available on Learn as a PDF.

[The Urban Food System of Kingston, Jamaica.](#) Hungry Cities Partnership.

Talk

[How To Change the Future](#) - Adam Kahane

For those of you who become interested in this methodology, you should get a copy of the following book:

Kahane, Adam. 2012. Working together to change the future: Transformative scenario planning. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc.

CONTACT DETAILS

Location Brown's Town, Jamaica

Dates 18-24 February 2019

Accommodation Hillcrest Diocesan Retreat Centre
Saint Christopher's Crescent
P.O. Box 460
Brown's Town, St. Ann, Jamaica
Phone 876.917-7892 Fax 876.917-6534
hillcrestretreat@cwjamaica.com

Travel Westjet Outbound flight WJ2702; inbound flight WJ2705

18 February Monday
Depart from Pearson International Airport, Toronto
9.20 am from Terminal 3 [check in at 7.15am]
Arrive at Montego Bay at 1.34pm
Bus transport to Brown's Town

25 February Sunday
Bus transport to Montego Bay
Depart Montego Bay Airport at 2.20pm
Arrive Pearson, Toronto, Terminal 3 at 6.30pm

Travel Agent Sonia Rooymans, Frederick Travel, 572 Weber St., North, Unit #1
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