

Bottom-up Decisions

 **Step:** Four - Look for solutions!

 **Time:** 1 hour

 **Space and materials:**

- Room with the possibility to sit in a circle, move and work in small groups;
- Small pieces of paper or cartoons (3 per participant);
- Pens/pencils (one for each participant);
- The mind map as generated in *Virtual Mind Map*.

 **Description of the tool**

1. Display the mind map participants have created and ask them to review it once again.
2. Ask the participants to think individually and put down the three problems connected to the issue, which: 1) are important; 2) could be somehow tackled by them (pay attention – not necessarily solved, but tackled). Ask them to write down each problem on a different piece of paper.
3. Then ask participants to form pairs, present the issue and agree in the pair about three problems (three will drop out).
4. Then ask the pairs to form fours and come up with three problems.
5. Ask the fours to form eights and agree on three problems and so on until the whole group comes up with three problems. Note them down so that they are visible to everyone.
6. Ask the participants to come back and think individually about possible actions they can take as a group to tackle one of the three selected problems. If they struggle, you can list a couple of examples of actions (information campaign, event, petition, video, etc.), but better leave them to come up with their own ideas. Make them aware that their ideas should not be too big but rather realistic and doable. Repeat the whole process described above (pairs, fours, etc.) until you come up with three ideas.
7. Organise a small debate and ask participants to take the final decision which action is the most realistic and they would like to undertake. At the end of the activity, there should be a concrete idea for a realistic action the participants can undertake to tackle a problematic issue connected to technology.
8. Debrief the process if needed.

 **Additional remarks**

In deciding upon a common action, if the opinions are too polarised and the consensus is impossible to make, move to voting. If the idea seems too big or unrealistic, ask the participants to suggest changes. It is crucially important that the idea for their action is low in resources, doable and realistic!