

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING: WSC 2023 COMPILED NOTES

ORGANIZING TO LAUNCH A COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY (PLANNING STEP 1)

EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT (outside of NA)

What factors (trends, issues, etc.) are shaping the environment in which NA strives to achieve its vision? (Consider factors in such areas as social/demographic/cultural, technological, economic, legislative/regulatory/political, legal, environmental, etc.)

Salon G-I

[Main ideas only – no table notes available]

Evolution of technology (+/-)

Generational/Cultural Differences (preferences, expectations, engagement, communication, etc.)

Financial Constraints (Cost, resources, inflation)

Harm Reduction Model /Approach (DRT/MAT)

Legalization of Drugs

Alternative programs for addicts (competitive/cooperative)

Political Polarization (geo and gender)

Hidden Hills

[No table notes available]

Ventura Room

[No table notes available]

Virtual Room 1

Ability to work online

Incorporating online meetings into the service structure

Harm reduction (Drug Replacement Therapy/Medical Assisted Treatment) need to be welcomed while also letting them know about abstinence

Legalization of marijuana in Thailand had members leaving the Philippines. Also coming into meetings using marijuana arguing that they are clean because it's legal.

Political unrest—ability to do PR and FD, ability to carry the message to other countries and other parts of the world

Meeting space availability post-pandemic

Nongovernmental Organization—need this recognition to perform PR and H&I. Unable to register due to corruption in government.

Get information about NA into governmental agencies—To impact laws and agency creation about the viability of NA as a program of recovery.

Philippines police were responsible for killing addicts under presidential law. PR efforts were necessary to stop it.

Treatment facilities starting their own meetings. No accountability. Not in service structure.

Virtual Room 2

Prescription medication, DRT, over-the-counter meds (psychiatric)

Members owning rehabs, diluting the NA message and Rehabs exploiting the NA message, financial gain

Social media, anonymity

- Technology
- Dating sites
- Gambling
- Porn

Religion – not supporting NA

Cultural dynamics

- not all support complete abstinence
- women not being seen

Political cooperation, societal discrimination

- Racism
- Sexism,
- Homophobia
- Gender, etc.

Lack of good PR

Virtual Room 3

Decreased stigma around addiction

Laws in Russia causing challenges – e.g. Anti-LGBT propaganda law make mean changes to Basic Text stories

Increase in Treatment “business”

Russian “foreign agent” law makes inclusion of NAWS address in literature a problem

Other options for long-term recovery – other fellowships, religion-based programs

Local government permission given for NA meetings, but they don’t have a clear understanding of what NA is

Electronic access to jails and institutions brings greater bureaucracy

Harm-reduction philosophy and DRT/MAT, lack of belief in abstinence-based program by government etc.

Growth of “sober-companion” industry

Rotation in staff at jail means relationships are lost

“Peer support” person assigned by drug court

Private DRT clinics with no motivation to stop clients using – difficult for NA to get access to these

Schools and mother’s groups and clubs are providing meeting space (Nepal)

Invention of Narcan saving addicts’ lives and giving them the chance to find NA

Treatment centers taking clients to meetings (Nepal)

Lack of meeting venues – NA has outgrown the supply! (Iran)

Treatment centers requesting H&I services (Nepal)

Pandemic created different rules for renting meeting space

Need to renew registration with Iranian Government every two years

Choose the THREE (3) factors that your table believes will most impact our ability to achieve the NA Vision over the next three years

Salon G-I

Evolution of technology – pros and cons

Geo-political dynamics

Generational/cultural differences

Harm reduction models/approach

Increasing financial constraints/crises

Legalization of drugs

Alternate programs for addicts

Recovery for profit

Hidden Hills

Global economic crisis

Post Covid situations

Geopolitics

- Local/national politics

Harm reduction

- Pharma/policy

Technology

- Tablets
- Social media
- Hybrid
- Zoom
- 7th tradition

Legal issues

- Mandatory attendance

Medication

Ventura Room

Technology

Government and Politics

Social and gender discrimination

Virtual Room 1

Harm reduction (DRT/MAT)

Needing NGO designation in order to be recognized

Meeting space availability

Virtual Room 2

Prescription medication, DRT, over-the-counter meds (psychiatric)

Cultural dynamics:

- not all support complete abstinence
- women not being seen

Political cooperation, societal discrimination:

- Racism
- Sexism,
- Homophobia
- Gender, etc.

Virtual Room 3

Rise of DRT/MAT industry and treatment industry – creates multiple impacts

Rise of authoritarian governments globally making it harder for NA to operate

Virtual society creates PR and H&I and FD opportunities

INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT (within NA)

What factors (trends, issues, etc.) are shaping the environment within NA that will impact the ability to achieve our vision? (Consider factors in such areas the effectiveness of service bodies, the atmosphere of recovery, funding, unity, illicit literature, etc.)

Salon G-I

[Main ideas only – no table notes available]

Disruption of and bottlenecks in flow of resources (“pocket to basket”)

Development of trusted servants (identifying recruiting, training, supportive atmosphere, organizing onboarding)

Pro/con of virtual engagement

Sense of safety, “welcomeness”, belonging - Inclusivity vs internal discrimination (DRT/MAT) and racial separation

Literature (availability, access, affordability)

Redundancy and lack of consistency in the service system

Impact of illicit literature

Hidden Hills

[No table notes available]

Ventura Room

[No table notes available]

Virtual Room 1

Zones getting more involved in the service structure

Zones bring diversity of regions
Variety of effectiveness of leadership
Nonspiritual members in leadership roles
Lack of trusted servants due to the nonspiritual members
Good environment of recovery in service body. Inviting environment in service bod,
Personal recovery effects the service body and the message
Generational change and motive—Younger generation more connected to their phones. Communication is texts and social media. How do we use this to get younger members more involved in service?
Resistance to change. Biases.
Need approval from oldtimer to do service work even after being elected RD.

Virtual Room 2

Addict/alcoholic
Welcoming to all
Groups splitting, unity compromised
Welcoming/keeping oldtimers
Religion/government – not supporting NA
Blurry message of recovery
Lack of trusted servants
Predatory/disruptive behavior
Cultural & societal dynamics
Medication/Prescriptions
In-person vs virtual impact on attendance
Availability/accessibility of literature
Impact of illicit literature

Virtual Room 3

Influx of new addicts from treatment and use of language like “sober” in meetings creating tensions
Lack of local H&I /PR to explain what NA is to Government
Inconsistent approach from groups and members to new members on DRT/MAT
Local growth has created a broad and diverse membership – is this a cyclical factor, and how can it be nurtured
Post-pandemic NA may not look the same as it used to – some service positions are outdated or need to be reimagined
Post pandemic - NA groups are more independent from service bodies – e.g. literature supply
Regional divisions created internal tensions - Lack of personal NA principles in NA service on both sides
Very large and complex service structure
Missing women in the fellowship
Virtual NA changes who is in the meetings

Virtual NA has changed how the 7th tradition functions
Resistance of older members to adapt to new conditions
“conservative” vs “liberal” approaches to providing recovery
Virtual NA makes it easier to translate NA literature – Nepal has 80% of literature
Rumors and disinformation spread very quickly on the internet and via virtual NA
Great deal of responsibility put on the shoulders of trusted servants – lots of questions from members
Virtual NA meetings have made NA more accessible, but have also withdrawn support from in-person meetings

Choose the THREE (3) factors that your table believes will most impact our ability to achieve the NA Vision over the next three years

Salon G-I

Development and organization of trusted servants
Redundancy and lack of cohesion in the service system
Sense of safety, welcoming, and inclusivity
Generational differences / gaps
Impact of illicit literature
Disruption and bottlenecks in the flow of funds
Impact of the rise of virtual NA
Resistance to change

Hidden Hills

Apathy in service
Mentorship
Resistance to change
Atmosphere of attraction

Ventura Room

Lack of trusted servants
Lack of sponsorship
Lack of human and financial services due to lack of conscience on 7th tradition
Strong personalities

Virtual Room 1

Good environment of recovery in service body.
Zonal Forums being more involved in the service structure
Getting younger members involved in service

Virtual Room 2

Lack of trusted servants
Predatory/disruptive behavior

Availability/accessibility of literature

Virtual Room 3

Rise of virtual NA – multiple impacts: membership, 7th Tradition

Post-pandemic NA means less dependence by groups on service bodies and a need to change how services are provided

Resistance of older members to new conditions