

# DELEGATION – A DECISION AS A “LIFE-SAVER”

## 1) NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

**"A decision as a life-saver"** is a group dynamic in which participants have to agree on an important issue such as choosing the 7 objects (to be chosen from a list of 22) that they would take away from a ship in case of shipwreck.

## 2) OBJECTIVES OF THE TOOL

The following objectives are pursued with this dynamic.

- Be able to listen to the opinions of all "crew members".
- Reach an agreement that is consensual and with which the "crew" are satisfied.
- Achieving an inclusive and constructive debate, in which everyone has a say.

## 3) CONNECTION OF THE TOOL WITH THE ENEMY

One of the fundamental pillars of delegation is the ability to work as a team. The aim of this activity is that, through a debate to reach a final conclusion, this teamwork is achieved, so that, for a hypothetical situation, a consensual response can be obtained by all of us.

## 4) RESOURCES & MATERIALS

In order to be able to carry out this dynamic, it will be necessary:

- Template for the development of the activity (one per participant)
- Pen or pencil
- Number of participants: this activity can be carried out with a minimum of 2 participants and no maximum number of participants.



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### 5) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOOL

The activity is set on a ship that is about to be shipwrecked and its crew members can only take 7 objects (for all of them) to a deserted island a few metres away from the sinking ship. Each participant will be given a template with the introduction to the activity as well as a table to write down the objects that he/she personally considers most important and which, during the discussion time with the other participants, will be chosen from among the others.

- **Step 1, duration: about 15 minutes:** Each participant should number in order of priority the objects that are most important to them in the column provided in the activity template. In this way, the object with the value 1 will be the most important and 22 the least important.
- **Step 2. Duration: about 30 minutes:** It consists of pooling everyone's opinions and, from this list, the 7 objects that will finally be taken to the island must be chosen, taking into account all the opinions.

### 6) WHAT TO LEARN

This dynamic serves as an exercise that can be applied to the company when, during a decision making process, the opinion of each of the employees is heard, so that the team can get to know each other better and their feeling of belonging to the company is increased.

Getting to know the employees and knowing how to work in a team are the first steps in order to be able to delegate tasks to the right people so that they can carry them out in the best possible way.



## **A decision as a “Life-saver”**

You and your crew are sailing the waters of the Pacific when, without warning, something goes wrong with the ship's engine. You quickly gather on the bridge and realise that the ship is going to sink in the next few minutes. Faced with this situation, one of you spots an island on the horizon, which appears to be uninhabited, and you decide that the best option is to swim there.

There is only one catch, you will have to choose which 7 items to take to the island. You can only take 7 items in total for the whole group, so you will have to think very carefully before deciding between one or the other.

Keep in mind that this is a deserted island, so it may take several days before you get a rescue.

### Development of the activity:

Below is the list of available objects.

1. Order the objects according to your priorities. To do this, number them from most important (with the number 1) to least important (with the number 22) in the column: Your order of priority.
2. Next, you will have to choose among all the participants which 7 objects you will take to the island. This should take into account everyone's priorities and listen to their opinions. To choose an item, put an X in the box corresponding to that item in the column: Chosen items.



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	Objects (each box counts as 1 object)	Your priorities	Selected objects by the crew
1	Box of matches		
2	Knife		
3	Bandages		
4	2 fishing rods		
5	Wetsuit		
6	10 L. of drinking water		
7	Shovel		
8	Nail clippers		
9	Sun cream		
10	Pack of cards		
11	Radio that works as a receiver (no signal)		
12	Book		
13	Lighter		
14	Torch		
15	Tarpaulin		
16	Life jacket		
17	5 m. of rope		
18	20 tin cans		
19	Toilet paper		
20	3 mackintoshes		
21	3 bottles		
22	Binoculars		

