

# harvesting stories & images

how can recording stories  
& images contribute to  
the conversation?

Documenting a conversation / meeting / conference / happening / facilitation through **blogging, photography, audio** and **video** can be helpful for...

- > providing a record to be able to express the texture and activities to those who aren't there and for reference in the future
- > empowering participants to open their sense of engagement in the process
- > fostering self-reflexivity and as a tool for exploring various perspectives

## STORIES: tips for blogging

blogging is **good** for...

- capturing thoughts, ideas and expressing personal narrative
- distributing information quickly and broadly
- providing an on-going feed or one-time summary of events
- keeping an online, collaborative description
- fostering introspection & contemplation in the reader AND blogger

a **great blogger** is...

- descriptive, allowing the reader to BE THERE, too
- pithy, gets to the point quickly without boring the reader
- updates regularly
- quotes snippets of dialogue, uses anecdotes and makes it personal



## IMAGES: tips for making photographs

photography is **good** for...

- capturing feeling, texture and visual expression
- distributing images quickly and broadly
- providing a vivid sense of context
- keeping visual record of events
- encouraging the photographer AND the viewer to look & see more intently



a **great photographer**...

- opens & strengthens visual perception by looking, noticing & then seeing
- often gets close & is right in the action
- tries different angles & perspectives, seeing the center AND the fringe

## IMAGES & STORIES: tips for recording audio and video

audio and video are **good** for...

- capturing action, many voices, momentum and energy
- providing a layered window into the subject at hand
- keeping a visual, audio and dimensional record of events
- developing sense of the movement of the story



a **great videographer**...

- knows that recording good audio is as important as the video (gets close to the subject!)
- captures both the action and the reaction
- lets the camera roll for a little while before and after the action
- asks subjects "how" & "what" questions to get compelling insights
- is selective, gets to the heart of the matter and doesn't over-shoot



a **great audio recorder**...

- captures ambient sound for texture but doesn't let it get in the way
- asks questions that invite personal anecdotes, knowing that narrative conveys it best
- helps listeners visualize the context, transforming listening into seeing with sounds and descriptions
- pays attention to sound both big and small, recording up close AND at a distance