

Lessons from Iraq

7. Plan in advance, plan comprehensively and in an integrated fashion, and have backup plans ready to go.

Interview on Iraq Lessons

- **STUART BOWEN** But the lesson from Iraq to draw from that waste, from that fraud is that we have to plan better. We have to execute better....
- **JUDY WOODRUFF:** But with all due respect, that sounds like common sense, plan ahead, look at all the contingencies....
- **STUART BOWEN:** Excellent point, Judy.
And you're right. Some of these -- many of these lessons do appear to be commonsense realities, but -- but the activities on the ground in Iraq drive these lessons. And the 45 interviews that I conducted with the Iraqi leaders, U.S. leaders, and congressional members framed these lessons, and they are straightforward. **They are simple, and -- but -- and they must be learned.**

YOUR GEO LESSONS (TAKE-AWAYS)

Adaptive Action to Lessons Learned		
WHAT?	SO WHAT?	NOW WHAT?
FINDINGS	INTERPRETATIONS	APPLICATIONS
<i>OBSERVATIONS</i> Facts, Evidence, Conclusions	<i>LESSONS</i> Cognitive understandings/ insights	<i>LEARNED</i> Behavior Change

Readiness to Learn

Reflective Practice Questions

- 1. What do I expect to learn at The Learning Conference 2013?**
- 2. What questions am I bringing to the conference? *(You're more likely to get answers if you come with questions.)***
- 3. What will I do at the conference to support my own learning?**

Reflection Questions for the End of the Conference

(Closing the loop of reflective practice)

- 1. What did I learn?**
- 2. What will I do differently as a result of what I learned?**
- 3. What new questions have emerged for me?**

Follow-up Learning Comminitment Cards

GEO
HYMN
to
EVALUATION

Sung to the tune of

Auld Lang Syne

**May all e-val-u-a-tions done
Be useful as they should
They tell us how to separate
What is poor from what is good.**

**We gather data near and far
To see what we can learn
The lessons help us to decide
What to keep and what to burn.**

**There comes a time for each of us
When doubts may give us pause
We wonder what results will show
Will the world see naught but flaws**

**But be assured there's naught to fear
If wisdom is what you seek
Let learning guide your every move
Listen to the data speak.**

Resources

Patton books

