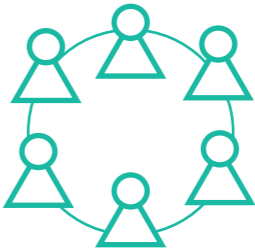






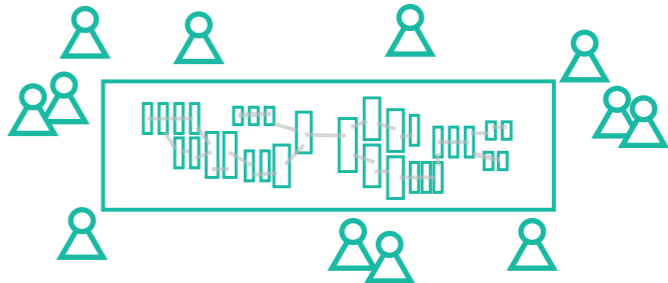


43 PARTICIPATORY METHODS AND BUILDING BLOCKS FOR WORKSHOPS

The following table offers different participatory methods, which can be used in a variety of contexts. Crucial to all of them is a question that will enable participants to have meaningful dialogue.

METHOD	WHAT FOR?	ILLUSTRATION
CIRCLE PRACTICE	<p>Adaptable to a variety of groups, issues, and timeframes. Circle practice can be the process used for the duration of a gathering, particularly if the group is relatively small and time for deep reflection is a primary aim. Circle practice can also be used as a means for “checking in” and “checking out” or for making decisions together, particularly decisions based on consensus.</p> <p>Further Reading: http://www.thecircleway.net/.</p>	
APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY	<p>Useful when a different perspective is needed, or when we wish to begin a new process from a fresh, positive vantage point. It can help move a group that is stuck in “what is” toward “what could be”. Appreciative Inquiry can be used with individuals, partners, small groups, or large organizations.</p> <p>Further Reading: https://appreciativeinquiry.champlain.edu/</p>	
WORLD CAFÉ	<p>Process used to foster interaction and dialogue with both large and small groups. Particularly effective in surfacing the collective wisdom of large groups of diverse people. Very flexible and adaptable to many different purposes, such as information sharing, relationship building, deep reflection exploration, and action planning.</p> <p>Further Reading: http://www.theworldcafe.com/</p>	
OPEN SPACE	<p>Useful in many contexts, including strategic direction-setting, envisioning the future, conflict resolution, morale building, consultation with stakeholders, community planning, collaboration, and deep learning about issues and perspectives.</p> <p>Further Reading: http://www.openspaceworld.com/users_guide.html</p>	
PRO ACTION CAFÉ	<p>A space for creative and inspirational conversation. It is a blend of “World Café” and “Open Space” technologies where volunteer hosts call sessions on what matters most to them (projects, ideas, questions, knowledge, experience, or whatever they feel inspired by) and other participants travel from table to table and engage around those issues. This helps the hosts to deepen their understanding of the matter and gain diverse perspectives.</p> <p>Further Reading: http://aositoronto.weebly.com/proaction-cafe.html</p>	

METHOD	WHAT FOR?	ILLUSTRATION
<p>RITUAL DISSENT</p>	<p>A workshop method designed to test and enhance proposals, stories, ideas, etc., by subjecting them to ritualized dissent (challenge) or assent (positive alternatives). In all cases it is a listening technique, not a dialogue or discourse. Overall, plans that emerge from this process are more robust than those surfaced by consensus-based techniques.</p>	
<p>ACTION LEARNING</p>	<p>Question-based process used to explore complex problems and come up with unexpected insights and possibilities. For use with small groups (minimum 5, maximum 8 people).</p>	
<p>COLLECTIVE MIND MAP</p>	<p>Quick and simple way to create a shared overview of issues and opportunities relevant to a particular subject or challenge. This practice always has a clear focus that can be captured in a “burning” question. Can be done either by hand on a large sheet of paper, or electronically with mind-mapping software. When all themes and issues have been recorded on the mind-map, the group can decide on which issues or opportunities they want to prioritize by voting on the map. This gives a clear indication of which themes or issues have the highest leverage for further action.</p>	

SOURCE:
The Art of Hosting and Harvesting Meaningful Conversations Workbook

