

# Group Facilitation Methods

## Introducing the foundations of the Technology of Participation



[www.ica-uk.org.uk](http://www.ica-uk.org.uk)

*"I found Group Facilitation Methods both practical and participatory. As tools the methods allow for different ways of seeing and thinking to be incorporated, and they also enable groups to reach informed consensus and decisions with relative ease. I have used them in a variety of contexts, and would recommend them to all group leaders and facilitators".*

Ruth Moore, Upper North Belfast Community Empowerment Programme

### Who this course is for

This course has no pre-requisite, but is the pre-requisite for all our intermediate & advanced courses. It is recommended both to newcomers to facilitation, and to experienced facilitators who are new to our approach. Participants who complete this course are eligible for an ILM Development Award.

### Questions this course answers

*"How can I have more purposeful & productive conversations, bring out the wisdom of a group, encourage feedback between people, and reach shared awareness in meetings? How can I generate and weave together a diverse range of ideas, develop creative solutions and build a group consensus?"*

This course provides a structured introduction to the Focused Conversation and Consensus Workshop methods, which form the foundations of the Technology of Participation methodology.

- The Focused Conversation method provides a structure for effective communication which ensures that everyone in a group has the opportunity to participate and leads to the group achieving a shared awareness of both the topic and the different perspectives of the group
- The Consensus Workshop method enables a facilitator to draw out and weave together everybody's wisdom into a clear and practical consensus.

### Learning Outcomes

By the end of the two days participants will:

- Be able to identify when and how to use these participatory group processes:  
The Focused Conversation Method and Consensus Workshop Method
- Have gained confidence in the use of these methods
- Have recognised and explored participation, teamwork, creativity and action (the underlying principles of the methods)
- Have built links with others to promote future collaboration and support in the use of these methods

### Training style

The course presents the two methods in a practical and participatory way. Each method is first demonstrated, then analysed and discussed, and then practiced in supportive small groups

with guided reflection & feedback. Finally, participants plan how they will apply each method in their own situations.

## Agenda

<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Session 3</b>
Opening	Opening
Course introduction & overview	
Introduction to the Focused Conversation Method	Introduction to the Consensus Workshop Method
Demonstration and Explanation	Demonstration and Explanation
lunch	Lunch
<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Session 4</b>
Focused Conversation Method Practice and Feedback	Consensus Workshop Practice and Feedback
Focused Conversation Method Reflection/Applications	Consensus Workshop Reflection/Applications
End of day reflection	Closing reflection

## Further details

For further information, please contact us.