

Consensus Workshop Practice

This afternoon, your small group will be facilitating a Consensus Workshop, with some of the rest of the class as your participants. You have until lunchtime to prepare. Each workshop will last about 50 minutes, followed by about 20 minutes of (friendly!) debrief and feedback led by your trainer. Each person should plan to act as a *participant* in the workshop during the moments that they are not acting as the *facilitator*.

Preparation

- Agree on a Rational Aim and Experiential Aim for your workshop.
- Divide the workshop among yourselves, so you know who is facilitating each section and when to hand over to the next person.
- Plan the timings for each section, possibly:
 - Context 5 minutes
 - Brainstorm 10 minutes
 - Cluster 15 minutes
 - Name 15 minutes
 - Resolve 5 minutes
- Prepare each section! Keep in mind:
 - Both the Context and Resolve sections include short ORID focused conversations.
 - Remember to “do the maths.” Plan for a total of 20-25 cards for this practice workshop.
 - Make sure your materials are ready! You will need:
 - Your focus question
 - Instruction cards
 - Enough paper, pens, and marker pens for everyone
 - Symbol or tag name cards (maybe a different colour!)
 - Final name cards (possibly yet another colour with a border!)

Your manual can help!

- Page 38 for overview
- Page 39 for Rational Aim and Experiential Aim
- Pages 41-45 for coverage of each section
- Page 51 for a blank planning sheet

Tips for making your workshop run smoothly

- Plan to have at least 12 cards on the stickywall before you start to form pairs (otherwise the pairs don't gel naturally)
- Arrange with your co-facilitators to keep track of time and write name cards.
- Spread the cards out on the wall from the beginning so you have plenty of room to move them around later.
- Relax! Remember that this is a learning environment, and if you mess up everyone will help you get back on track.