World Café

For creating a living network of collaborative dialogue

What is needed?

Time: 2 hours

Participants: 4-5 by table

Material support: workboard + A4 sheets + pens

- **Define the roles:** ask one person to be the table host while the others will serve as travelers. The travelers carry key ideas, themes and questions into their new conversations, while the table host welcomes the new set of travelers and facilitates the discussion.

- **Choose your question(s):** find questions that are relevant to the real-life concerns of the group. You may use the same question for one or more rounds of conversation, or you may pose different questions in each round to build on and help deepen the exploration.

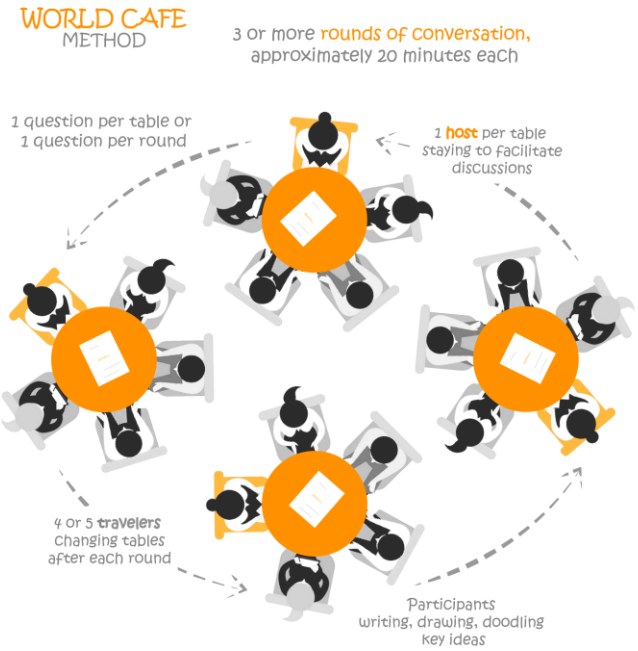
The World Café is an easy-to-use participative method to organise and facilitate meetings.

It helps creating a living network of collaborative dialogue and opening a space for the exchange of ideas.

For other methods to support semi structured conversations, check out Fishbowl!

What for?

- **To identify patterns.**
- **To grow collective knowledge:** at the end of the second or third round, all of the labels in the room will be cross-pollinated with insights from prior conversations.
- **To encourage the emergence of possibilities for action:** by providing opportunities for people to move in several rounds of conversation , ideas, questions, and themes begin to link and connect.



How to use it?

Step 1 Seat people at small Café-style tables or in conversation clusters (optimal number is 4-5).

Step 2 Set up progressive (at least three) rounds of conversation, approximately 20 minutes each.

Step 3 Engage questions or issues that genuinely matter to the work of the stakeholder group.

Step 4 Encourage participants to write, doodle and draw key ideas on their tablecloths and/ or note key ideas on large index cards or placemats in the center of the table.

Step 5 After completing the initial round of conversation, the table host welcomes a new set of travelers.

Step 6 After at least three rounds of conversation, initiate a period of sharing discoveries & insights in a whole group conversation.

Dissemination & outputs

Gather and summarise the outcomes of the World Café discussions in a document and share it with all participants

JRBACT
Co-funded by the European Union
Interreg