Collaborative Process Tools:

A Variety of Elements to Build Collaborative Capacity

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Today’s Presentation

• Facilitating Tips:
  • The Role of the Facilitator
  • The Zen of Facilitating

• Collaborative Process Designs:
  • Several specific strategies you can adopt and integrate for your collaborative effort
The Role of the Facilitator

• Support everyone to do their best thinking
• Encourage full participation
• Promote mutual understanding
• Foster inclusive solutions
• Cultivate a shared responsibility
The Zen of Facilitating

• Be a servant & leader
• Get people ready to learn
• Check your ego at the door
• Be a sieve
• Be the “keeper of each person’s dignity”
• Have a beginner’s mind
Community Summits

- For complex issues that need quick answers
- Common ground to support action
Public Conversations Project

- Questions & Dialogue
- “Shifts Happen!”
- “Shifts Matter!”
Community Weaving

- Neighborhood capacity building
- Grassroots networking
- Technology and web-based resources
- Linking formal & in-formal systems
World Cafe

- Conversation-based process
- Dinner Table Etiquette
- Thoughtful Questions
- Ambiance
Open Space Technology

- Stakeholders create and self-select into relevant groups
- For 5-2000
- Complex Issues
- Diverse Interests
Futures Search

- Task-focused
- Planning meeting
- Move from past to desired futures
- “Talking about the same world”
Scenario Planning

- Construct stories of plausible futures
- Quantitative or Qualitative
- Integrate Science & Social knowledge
Scenario Planning

Interactive & Creative Diversity of Perspectives

Driving Forces

Paths of Change

Alternative Futures to show what might happen, not what we want to happen.

A disciplined and powerful tool to anticipate changes in a complex environment

Today

2025
Participatory Modeling

- Systems Thinking + Modeling
- The model structures the dialogue
- Blends scientific & local data
To Make it Work...

- The right process for the problem
- Invest early
- Invite everyone
- Focus on dialogue & learning – not consensus
Find Out More!

- Public Conversations Project  
  http://www.publicconversations.org
- Community Weaving  
  http://www.communityweaving.org
- Community Summits
- World Café  
  http://www.theworldcafe.com
- Open Space Technology  
  http://www.openspaceworld.org
- Futures Search
- Scenario Planning  
  http://www.well.com/~mb/scenario_planning/
- Participatory Modeling
- Shared Vision Planning  
  http://www.svp.iwr.usace.army.mil/
### Elements of Collaboration

74 collaboration patterns that improve your teamwork, productivity and creativity

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### Legend

- **Population rank**: lower number indicates higher popularity
- **Element group**: green for people, yellow for tools, orange for collaborative software, brown for collaboration methods
- **Element symbol**: shortcut for the collaboration pattern
- **Element name**: name of the collaboration pattern