

World Cafe

WHAT: A technique for brainstorming and collecting many ideas about a topic.

WHY: To brainstorm ideas and generate thoughts about an important question or challenge.

HOW: Divide the participants into multiple table groups; give each table a different question to engage with. One person is the recorder and jots down all ideas offered. After a pre-set amount of time (i.e. 15 minutes) participants rotate to another table; this continues until everyone has visited each table and offers their thoughts. This information can then be posted and discussed. This technique can be adapted in a variety of ways.

WHEN: Anytime. Especially helpful with large groups (i.e. conferences).

VIRTUAL APPLICATION: *Facilitator sets up and assigns participants to breakout rooms. In each breakout room, there are 1-2 fixed participants (i.e. do not rotate to other rooms) and the rest of the participants will rotate rooms at the end of the round.*



RESOURCE: www.theworldcafe.com/key-concepts-resources/world-cafe-method