

The World Café - a large scale participatory event

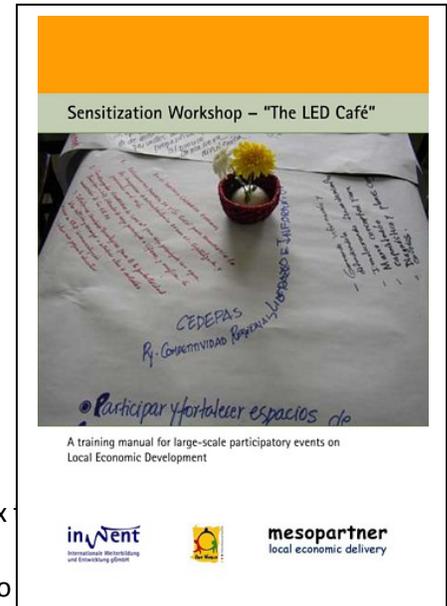
What is the World Café in general?

The World Café

- to raise awareness on a topic and create commitment
- useful when a major number of actors is involved
- create a setting that looks like a café
- participants discuss in small groups an issue for 30 min
- one participant staying back, becoming a “host”
- all others move to different tables
- ideas are linked, connected and presented
- can last for ½ - 2 days

When is the World Café useful?

- when many different people are interested in discussing a complex
- to visualize everyone’s point of view regarding a topic
- when people want to establish relationships easily and find ways to
- to kick-start a change process; or
- as a module in traditional meetings as well as in moderating large groups (e.g. Open Space Technology)



Why the World Café in your location?

- Ensure participants gain deeper knowledge on a specific topic
- Help participants define areas for cooperation and implement networking
- Motivate participants to undertake concrete activities
- Gain deeper knowledge on the economic and social issues in the location

Who is involved in the World Café?

- The Organizing Institution
- The “Stakeholder Group”
- The Facilitator Team
- The Specialists
- The Logistics Team
- The Participants

What is the target group?

- Officials of provincial or district government
- Private sector leaders and businessmen and their networks (e.g. Chambers, associations)
- Educational and technological institutions
- Civic leaders

- NGO representatives
- Media

Gather a fairly varied group of participants! The World Café method is based on the exchange of new ideas among actors from different sectors. And this is precisely what enriches the debate and discussion of ideas.

What are the World Café Rules?

- Contribute new ideas
- Listen carefully
- Link and connect ideas
- Write, doodle, and draw (freely) on tablecloths
- Cell phones are not allowed while instructions are given

What happens when the World Café starts?

Each table will designate a host, who

- Remains at the table
- Summarizes each question
- Briefs newcomers on work already done
- Presents conclusions to the whole group

The participants:

- Participate actively by sharing their experiences
- Change places after each round of discussion

Resources

<http://www.mesopartner.com>

<http://www.theworldcafe.com>