



Open Space

Purposes and results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The creation of self-managed meetings that generate high levels of ownership• Exploration of plans and possibilities• Initiation of new networks/taskforces/actiongroups around topics
When to use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resolving complex or conflict-ridden issues in a short period of time• When innovation and ownership are the desired outcomes• Creating community spirit• Exploring and planning new possibilities for action
Group size	10 - > 1000 (limited only by the size of venue)
Participants	All stakeholders interested, whoever comes are the right people
Length	1 – 3 days
Preparation time	As long as it takes to invite and get people into the venue (1 day -)
Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Central theme is predefined• Plenary session in a circle• Facilitator lays out format and ground rules• Generation of themes and making an agenda• Working in self-organising small groups• Marketplace to share results• Plenary session for prioritizing issues and developing action plans
Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimal structure, simple rules, emerging contents• Maximum self-organisation of participants• Facilitator is as much as possible “invisible”• Set of reports is ready for all participants at the end of the event
Conditions for success	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voluntary self-selection for participation• People are able to self-organise; whatever happens is the only thing that could happen• Keep it simple
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