



Virtual 1-2-4-all







A quick and easy way to brainstorm certain topics and engage all participants in the discussion.



Objective

Engage Everyone Simultaneously in Generating Questions, Ideas, and Suggestions, in only 12 minutes



What it takes

8 - 40 persons (with more participants, it will take too long to combine breakout groups)12 minutes (can be flexible)

Process

Give a short introduction to this exercise and explain clearly how the four steps will work and how much time participants will have. Answer any questions of clarification if needed.

Introduce the question or proposal that you would like participants to think about and discuss. For example: how do you think we can use the information we have just learned?

Step 1:

Ask all participants to take 1 minute to silently reflect on the question. It may help to share the question visually as well, eg with a screen share.

For the next few steps, make sure all participants have microphone rights, and ideally have the option of turning on a camera.

Step 2:

Send the participants into virtual breakout groups of 2 (or 3) and ask them to discuss the question for 2 minutes. Tip: Broadcast a message to the breakout rooms reminding them of the task and reminding them when they have one minute left.

Step 3:

Combine participants from two breakout groups for a 4 minute discussion. It is important that this is done quite quickly. Tip! Again, broadcast a message re-explaining the task and letting people know how much time they have.

Step 4:

Invite everyone back to the plenary room. For 5 minutes ask people to share brief highlights of their discussions, or to react to what they have heard. You can ask people to raise their hand if they would like to speak.

Climate relevance

This is a good exercise to deal with a topic alone, in a team and in large groups. It also allows a quick scan of diversity of perceptions or exploration of complexity.



