

Process Distinctions

Processes	Focuses significantly on...				Size of Group	Type of Session (excluding prep sessions)	Participant Selection
	Exploration	Conflict Transformation	Decision Making	Collaborative Action			
21st Century Town Meeting			X		Hundreds to thousands in 1 room at small tables	All-day meeting	Open; recruit for representativeness
Appreciative Inquiry Summit	X			X	From 20 to 2,000	4 to 6-day summit	Internal and external stakeholders
Bohm Dialogue	X		x		Small group	No set length or number of meetings	Open or invitation
Charrettes			X	x	A small team of professionals and a much larger group of stakeholders	Intense work sessions last 1-3 days typically; some last 1-2 weeks	Participants represent a range of organized groups, but others with a stake in the issue are encouraged to attend
Citizen Choicework			X		Multiple small groups	1 session, ranging from 2 hours to all day	Open; recruit for representativeness
Citizens Jury			X		Small group	5-day meeting	Random selection
Compassionate Listening	x	X			2 to 200 people; usually fewer than 30	Varies between 30 min and 3 days, depending on how many people are involved	Open to whoever is drawn; often listeners are brought in to hear the stories of oppressed or oppressors
Consensus Conference			X		Large group	2 weekends for participants to prepare, 2-4 day conference	Random selection
Conversation Café	X	x			Single or multiple small groups	1 90-minute session	Open; publicize to encourage representativeness
Deliberative Polling			X		Up to several hundred people in small groups in 1 room	Weekend-long meeting	Random selection
Future Search		x	x	X	60 to 80 people	3 days	All inclusive (attempts to bring in all involved)

The Engagement Streams Framework (in Excel, PDF, and comic!) can always be downloaded from www.ncdd.org/streams.

