

Process created by Caitlin Vollmer, John Stubley, Katie Stubley, Silvia Zuur and Valentin Vollmer

Money/Needs Experiment

**(Open Money Experiment/ Money Flow Experiment/
Open Money Flow/ Community Money Flow)**

Aim

The Money/Needs Experiment allows money and gifts to flow around the community. It creates a space where people can donate, ask, and gift in a held process.

Fosters:

Colleagueship
Courage
Care
Collaboration

History

Money was donated freely during Focus - International Initiative Forum, for the initiatives that would come out of our time together. During the Open Money/Needs experiment people could announce their needs (financial/non-financial) for a future project of his/her own or someone else's. The money that had been collected was divided up evenly between all participants, who could then give their share to the projects of their choice. Non-financial needs were also donated.

Process

Preparation:

Money gathered in the days before-hand if possible
Works better if there is a box where people can donate
Think about how you wish to introduce the experiment to the participants

Materials:

- A5 envelopes
- Big Markers
- Big bowl
- Money in coins (make sure to prepare this as you might need a lot of coins!)
- Bell (something to keep time with)

Roles

- Facilitator
- Time Keeper
- Scribe
- 2 x people to post things on the wall (not needed if the group is small)

Layout:

Everyone sitting in a circle – 2 + concentric circles if needed

2 wall spaces (one for financial needs, one for non-financial needs – people ready to stick the envelopes up at each wall space)

Envelopes and markers in the middle of the circle

The Rules Explained:

- When you are ready, come into the middle and write down what your initiative is
- You may come into the middle of the circle and announce your need
- The need may be financial or not financial
- You can only speak for one minute to explain what your need is, after this time a bell will chime . You are strongly encouraged to come into the circle only one time. You can come into the circle to announce your need or someone elses.
- There is a set finishing time for announcing needs

Other things:

- Good to have a 'scribe' to keep a record of projects that are written on the envelopes

Process

1. Collection of money in days prior
2. Gather in a circle
3. Facilitator describes process and rules
4. Facilitator opens the space for people to announce financial and non-financial needs
5. People come into the centre of the circle (one at a time, write their need on an envelope, announces it to the room, and then stick the envelope on the appropriate wall (financial or non-financial))
6. After a set amount of time, the facilitator announces the end of that round
7. The previously donated money is evenly split between all people in the room and handed out
8. People then have time to look at the walls and choose in which envelope they wish to place their support.