

Facilitation 'Fishing Circle'

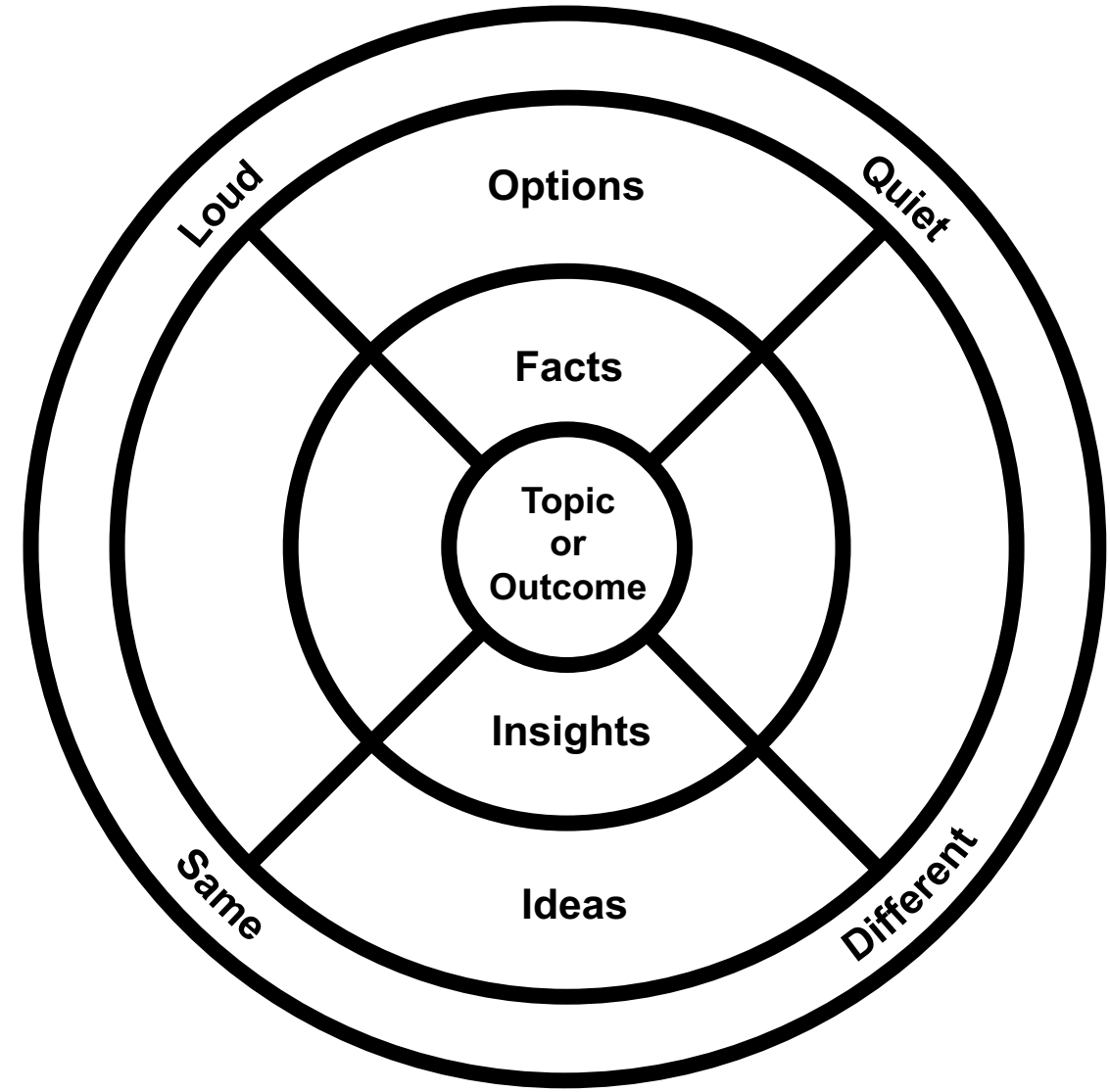
A simple and easy to adopt tool for facilitators and groups to use during events and discussions to maintain focus and topic relevance.

1. Begin with your **Topic or Outcome**, verifying and confirming agreement with participants.
2. Gather **Facts** and **Insights** from participants, tracking these back to the **Topic or Outcome**. If you've got enough information here, expand out further...
3. Begin to gather **Ideas and Options**, tracking these back to previous **Facts and Insights**, and ultimately the **Topic or Outcome** to keep conversations focused and relevant. If you've got enough, stop.
4. With what you have, **converge and conclude** on **what it means** and **what should happen next**, using your own style or approach, returning to confirm with participants the **Topic or Outcome** has been met.

As you gather Facts and Insights, Ideas and Options consider what is happening in the space. Are there **Loud** voices and groups who are **Quiet**? If there are, consider ways to bring other voices to the surface. Is what is being surfaced similar or the **Same**? If so, consider checking for **Different** viewpoints.

Q: Why is it called a Fishing Circle?

A: From an agreed starting Topic or Outcome, a facilitator and group cast out a fishing line, drawing back in relevant and related Facts and Insights. When ready, they cast the fishing line out further to Options and Ideas, bringing these back to support the Topic or Outcome of the event or discussion. It's a simple metaphor that can fit in your head, fit on a Post It or be used on a larger poster with many Post It notes.



Inspired by the Target Model, created by Caitlin Walker.