



# World Café



<b>Purposes and results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accessing collective intelligence, by creating a living network of conversation around questions that matter; sharing knowledge and creating possibilities for action</li><li>• Bringing forth the future, by discovering shared meaning</li></ul>
<b>When to use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exploring burning questions</li><li>• Sharing knowledge to stimulate innovative thinking and create possibilities for action</li></ul>
<b>Group size</b>	12 - >1000
<b>Participants</b>	People with an interest in the questions that matter
<b>Length</b>	2 – 3 hours
<b>Preparation time</b>	As long as it takes to invite people to participate
<b>Elements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Café host explains purpose and logistics</li><li>• Progressive rounds (usually three) of conversations of 15-30 minutes each moving between small tables, exploring questions that matter, connecting diverse perspectives</li><li>• Collective visualisation of process and results, sharing in a whole group conversation</li></ul>
<b>Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Café as a metaphor for an informal web of conversations, hosted by a facilitator</li><li>• Listening together for patterns, insights and deeper questions, sharing collective discoveries</li><li>• Many variations possible: poster cafés, passion cafés, combinations with interactive creative techniques</li><li>• Simply to organise with high profits</li></ul>
<b>Conditions for success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Well-crafted questions</li><li>• Hospitable space</li><li>• Thoughtfulness, artistry and care in hosting</li><li>• Listen to other perspectives, be prepared to be surprised</li><li>• It is not about detailed action plans</li></ul>
<b>Developers</b>	Juanita Brown and David Isaacs