

# SHARING OUR IDEAS



## SKILLS

Global Communication: Sharing

## LEARNING OUTCOME

Share personal stories and experiences with confidence in an honest and open manner to promote understanding.

## SKILLS OBJECTIVES

Participants are able to use 'I' statements to share their own personal experiences and perspectives and avoid speaking on behalf of other individuals and groups.

## DESCRIPTION

Participants work together in a think, pair, share strategy and practise verbal self-expression using "I" statements around a broad topic to communicate their own ideas, beliefs, values, perspectives, and experiences.

## TIME

25-30 minutes

## MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

Timer.

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Choose a topic suitable for a practise conversation and prepare a guiding question. This might be a broad topic like Intercultural Communication or Dialogue rather than a more controversial one like Human Rights or Wealth and Poverty. You might also first poll participants to see what they would like to discuss.

2. Choose a guiding question regarding the topic; it should be open-ended to encourage creative thinking and it must have the potential to generate many answers. (Ex: "How might dialogue benefit our community?" rather than "Is dialogue a helpful practise?").
3. Allow some silent individual thinking time for everyone to reflect on the question.
4. Place participants into pairs and establish who is going to start speaking first. Tell participants they each have 1 minute to share their ideas in response to the question with their partner and should speak using "I" statements like "I think...", "I believe..." or "I feel...". Explain that speaking from the individual perspective is important so we do not speak on behalf of others who may or may not think or feel the same. This creates space for other participants to share about themselves as well.
5. Set a timer where visible/audible for the group.
6. Participants then take turns sharing their ideas or responses – they must speak quickly and share as many ideas as possible. Ideally, there should be no hesitation – the idea is to share as many ideas as possible in the time allowed.
7. When the time is up, encourage participants to:
  - Reflect upon what they have exchanged.
  - Provide positive feedback to their partner.

## REFLECTION

Ask participants to journal and complete the sentence stem: "Speaking about myself made me feel... because..."