

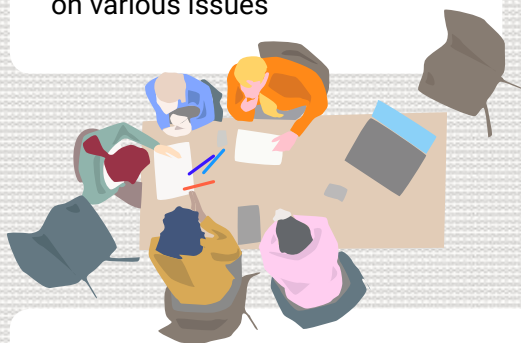
Name of the technique: **OST – Open Space Technology**

Minimum number
of participants: 5

Maximum number
of participants: 2000

Objective of the technique:

Create different working groups that are inspired and productive on various issues



Specific context requirements:

- Enough physical space for theatrical production
- No physical space between “actors” and “audience”
- Big room
- Spaces to locate the different groups
- In the room there should be a space to put the different panels created by each group
- In a part of the room, there should be a PC for instant report
- In another part, a table for the coffee break
- Safe environment for sharing personal ideas and experiences



Instructions step by step:

1. The general subject and the four rules are introduced (1. Anybody who comes is the right person; 2. Anything that happens is the only thing that could have happened; 3. When it starts it is the best time; 4. When it finishes it is over)
2. Anyone can propose a theme of the general subject and share it in a short time with the public. Different subjects are proposed
3. Each person chooses a sub-group
4. When one is tired of the discussion or feels he/she does not have any more to contribute, he/she can leave the group and can join another one

Required materials:

- Computers for report
- Food and beverage (permanent coffee break)
- Pens
- Panels
- Cards



Advantages:

- Good when there are conflicts
- It can be used with large groups (5 to 2000)
- People get very creative because they work in the subjects they want to work
- They are free to say what they want with no schemes
- A variety of points of view emerge

Disadvantages:

- If people are rude
- If they are boring
- If they do not contribute to the subject
- The theme remains “empty”
- If they lose focus

When to use:

- A concrete problem
- High complexity of the problem
- Different points of view
- Conflicts
- Necessity to find a solution

