

4.2.3. Tools and techniques to use in a co-creation process



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



"This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 787829". This document reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein".