

## QuickTip – Discussion Partners

Discussion Partners is a simple technique that can be used to start a discussion on almost any question or issue.

### When to Use

Use it to gather broad input on a topic, create energy in the room, and encourage participation from everyone. It works well with a large group because it allows you to break the group into manageable small groups.

### Procedure

1. Pose question to large group
2. Break into pairs or small groups to discuss
3. Have small groups report back on what they concluded

### Considerations

1. Discussion Partners is simple and easy. It is a useful technique when you are thinking about the design of a session. You can also insert it on the fly - when the session seems to need a small group activity that encourages participants to dig deeper and hear from each other.
2. This technique is a good way to involve quiet voice and minority opinions.