

Working in Groups

Working in groups is a great way to reduce the stress involved with preparing, planning, and writing funding applications. Two methods organisations may employ are the:

1. Nominal Group Technique
2. Brainstorming.

Nominal Group Technique

The nominal group technique is a group problem solving process involving problem identification, solution generation, and decision making. It can be used in groups of different sizes, that want to make their decision quickly, but want everyone's opinions taken into account. For more information about the nominal group technique, see:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2006). Gaining Consensus Among Stakeholders Through the Nominal Group Technique. *Evaluation Briefs*. Available at <http://www.FundAssist.flinders.edu.au>.

Brainstorming

Brainstorming is a simple technique for generating a long list of creative ideas. To obtain maximum benefit from the process, use the rules below to enhance group interaction and creativity:

1. Ask for a volunteer to act as a neutral group leader to facilitate the process (encouraging and prodding other members, checking the time etc.). Appoint one if necessary
2. Ask for a volunteer to act as a recorder. Appoint one if necessary
3. Set a time limit. Ten minutes will be plenty
4. State one question or research problem