

ToP Consensus Workshop Skills Checklist

Date _____

Event _____

Observer _____

CTF Candidate _____

Context

- Did facilitator set the mood for full participation?
- Did facilitator clarify the task?
- Did facilitator give an overview of how the workshop would proceed?
- Was the purpose or aim of the workshop stated?
- Was the workshop question clarified?
- Was the workshop question posted on a flip chart?

Brainstorm

- Did facilitator ask participants to individually list answers to the workshop question and start their key ideas?
- Did facilitator ask them to read their lists to each other after breaking into pairs or small groups?
- Did facilitator ask participants to select key ideas from the individual lists and write them on cards?
- Did facilitator ask participants to pass up the first round of cards and ask for the clearest card?

Cluster

- Did facilitator help participants form 4-6 pairs intuitively?
- Did facilitator ask for cards that are different and develop clusters?
- Did facilitator quickly get participants to give each cluster a 1-2 word tag with a symbol?
- Did facilitator involve all participants in contributing insights?
- Did facilitator have participants label (with the symbol) and pass up the remaining cards?
- Did facilitator help participants discover points of agreement?

Naming

- Did facilitator read through the largest cluster first?
- Did facilitator help participants give the cluster a 3-7 word name?
- Did facilitator repeat the process for the remaining clusters and ask for other ideas?
- Did facilitator expand individuals' initial perspectives?

Resolve

- Did facilitator read all the title cards?
- Did he/she engage participants in discussing the significance of the consensus?
- Did facilitator engage participants in a discussion about the next steps and/or implications of the consensus?
- Did facilitator get participants to affirm and own the consensus?

THINGS TO WATCH FOR: *(Rank facilitator 1-5 -- 1 needs much improvement, 5 is excellent)*

- 1. Gave clear instructions: "Why" and "What" _____
- 2. Got people involved and kept them interested _____
- 3. Handled logistics invisibly _____
- 4. Effortless clustering _____
- 5. Pacing allowed ample time for naming _____
- 6. Pushed for adequate titles _____
- 7. Facilitated consensus in naming _____
- 8. Achieved insights from the group _____
- 9. Kept focus on content of the workshop _____
- 10. Brief, clear wrap-up _____

COMMON TRAPS TO BE AVOIDED: *(check if these were observed)*

- Confusing instructions
- Too much time for individuals to work alone
- Not reading cards aloud
- Facilitator re-wording participants contributions (excessively)
- Confused tagging and naming processes
- Lost focus in naming: accepted first/any suggestions or strung together run-on titles
- Let one or two people dominate the input