FROM THE TREE OF PRACTICES TO THE FOREST OF KNOWLEDGE

A guide to identifying, capturing, sharing and communicating REDD+ Inspiring Practices

PURPOSE
This technique is useful for sharing REDD+ ideas and information from a variety of perspectives. It facilitates reflection and decision-making for a large group.

DESCRIPTION
- Participants are divided into two groups (A and B) that take turns in the conversation and listening. Thus, when the members of Group A speak, the others listen, and vice versa.
- Group A forms a smaller circle within a circle formed by Group B.
- The facilitator opens the debate with a provocative question, inviting participants in the inner circle to start the discussion.
- Group B members observe Group A’s discussions. They are not involved but take notes of their views, questions, etc., to use as a starting point when the roles are reversed.
- After a pre-set time, the groups switch positions. Group B moves to the inner circle and the debate continues; members of Group A move to the outside circle and become observers.

Sometimes the discussion is a “closed conversation” among the group and participants in the outer circle are simply observers. Alternatively, one or more seats in the inner circle can be open to “visitors” (i.e., members of the audience) who want to join the discussion for questions or comments.

It is important to identify a reporter to take notes on key ideas on a whiteboard or paper that all participants can see.

PARTICIPANTS
- Facilitator
- Two groups of people who alternate in their roles of speaking and listening

WHEN TO USE IT
- As an alternative to traditional debates and discussion panels
- To reflect upon an experience by incorporating diverse perspectives

REQUIRED MATERIALS
- Space that allows seats organized in concentric rings around an inner circle
- Microphones, if necessary
- Whiteboard or paper on the wall for the written or graphic report of key ideas