

Six-phase model of a dialogic process

The six-phase model explains the different phases a well conducted dialogue goes through. The phases are steppingstones that the facilitator needs to cross to ease the dialogic process, both when planning and when conducting the dialogue.

The six phases are built on a model of identity-based dialogue and may be especially suitable in interreligious and intercultural dialogue.

1. **Get to know each other.**
2. **Discover biases, fears, and taboos.**
3. **Identify differences and conflict issues.**
4. **Outline commonalities and agreements.**
5. **Lay out a plan of concrete action.**
6. **Maintain our dialogic relationship.**

1. **Get to know each other.** Enter into an encounter with others with an open mind, ready to know others and yourself in new ways. Be willing to listen to others' points of view and try to understand their identity.
2. **Discover biases, fears, and taboos.** Listen actively and acknowledge the issues, points, or topics where you find different perceptions, perspectives or understanding in the group. Seek out more information and ask explorative questions to find out the foundations of others' worldviews and thinking patterns.
3. **Identify differences and conflict issues.** Try to clarify the issues and find out what is at stake – how you can “agree about what we disagree upon”. Make a common decision on the starting point for the dialogue and what to put on the agenda.
4. **Outline commonalities and agreements.** Identify common purpose, needs, values and interests. Distance yourself from biases and find out any common goals.
5. **Lay out a plan of concrete action.** **Talk** about what you can do together starting from the agreed common purpose or goal. Clarify your next steps, who else should be involved, and how the common vision for change can be shared with other relevant stakeholders.
6. **Maintain our dialogic relationship.** Acknowledge the achievements of having reached a way to cooperate and support a common cause and having agreed on joint actions. Find out how to keep dialogue active and continue to strengthen the new relationships and broaden the positive change by engaging others.

Source

Building bridges - guide for dialogue ambassadors. World Scouting. (n.d.).
https://www.scout.org/Guide_for_Dialogue_Ambassadors.