

Networks and gaps

What is it? This activity will help you to connect with groups of stakeholders that you may have left out of your engagement plan. This will allow you to include the perspective of different stakeholders in your project, have greater impact, and more sustainable outcomes.

How to use it? Start by thinking about stakeholder groups that you are already in contact with. They belong to the dark-grey circle, closest to you and your team. Then, think about the harder-to-reach groups you would like to engage with in your project, that belong to the circle further from you. Consider data disaggregated by age, sex and ability.

The next level of analysis considers the **level of** engagement of these groups. You can use three types of smaller circles to map this (see key below or invent your own). For example, if a local university is your close partner, write it down in the thick circle; if temporary residents are welcome but not specifically engaged in your project, write them down in the dashed circle. Think about the past or current interactions, or the impact that the existing projects and programmes have on each group. Consider how they and the project could benefit from engagement and prioritise your approach. This may take your project in a specific direction and towards new relationships.



actively involved, owns the project and outcomes



sometimes involved, does not feel part of the project



not engaged with or interested in the project



Format

template, team workshop



Group size small





Facilitation experience







