



# The World Cafe and Open Space

Mobilizing Collective Intelligence

Case:

GEF Conference Capetown, SA, August 2007

## NBI-ATP – WBI Facilitators Workshop

Atem S. Ramsundersingh

Senior Water Management & Institutions Specialist

World Bank Institute – Sustainable Development Unit

Water and Rural Development Program

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WORLD BANK INSTITUTE

*Promoting knowledge and learning for a better world*





## A Conversation Space Setting 'World Cafe'



*The Conversation Table has sprung from the assumption that people already have within them the wisdom and creativity to confront even the most difficult challenges that lie before us today. Invite people to have open conversations and develop a “**collective intelligence**”. The Conversation Table is both a method for creating a **living network of collaborative dialogue** and a metaphor for noticing how we are already co-evolving our future together.*





# A Conversation Space Setting 'World Cafe'





# International Waters Governance

## ...Guiding Questions...

Conversation Tables, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007

1. When starting IW-projects at each scale, which **NEW gaps or obstacles** do you need to deal with? (Discuss the nature of these gaps in terms of Multi-Country, National and Local Scales and at EE, IP, OC levels?). **Please** share examples/stories.
2. What do you consider to be **critical governance areas** or **barriers to be removed** to improve IW governance? Discuss why? Please share examples/stories.
3. What top-3 **solutions/change mechanisms** did you create or **improvements** did you make on dealing with governance issues in your IW-project or program?





# International Waters Partnership

## ...Guiding Questions...

Conversation Tables, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007

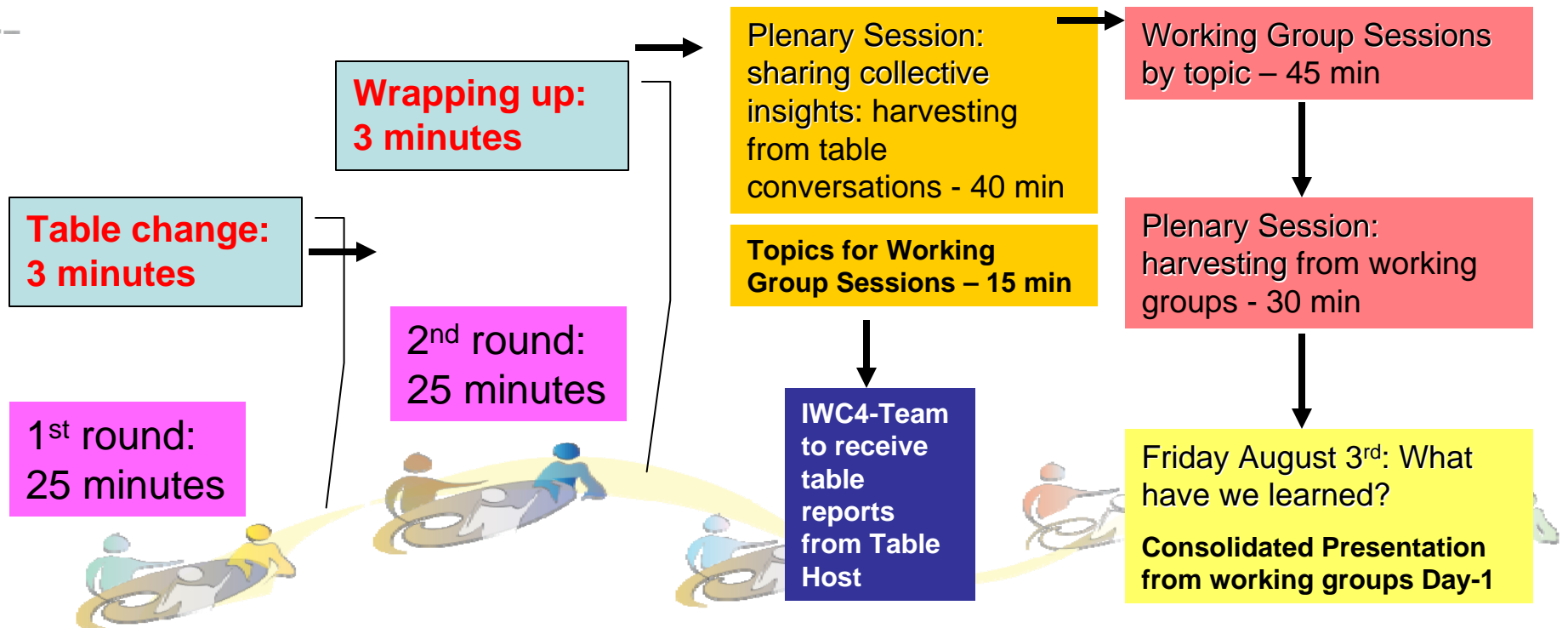
1. **Are partnerships important?** Which **purposes** are they serving or could they serve in IW context e.g. leveraging roles? Share examples of your IW partners.
2. How were **partnerships** of your IW-project **started**?
3. What do you consider to be the most **critical components in sustaining IW-partnerships**? Please share examples/stories.





# Conversation Tables: Day 1

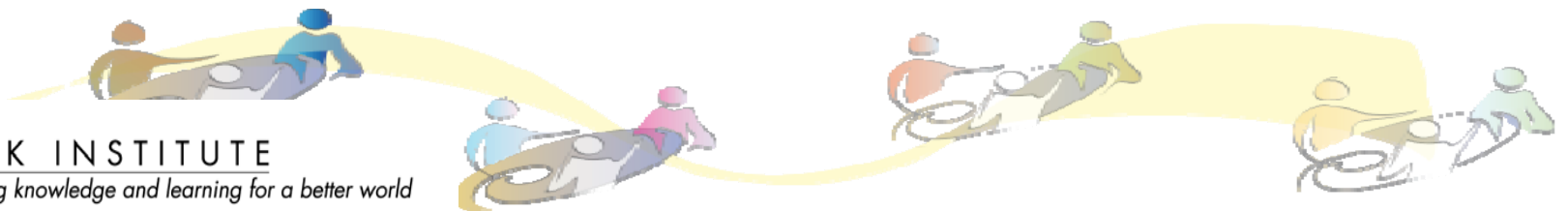
## ...the flow...





## Some guidelines...

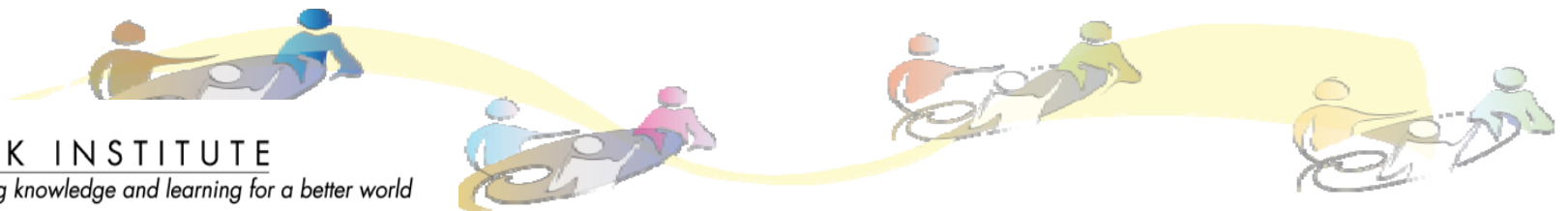
- Agree at the beginning: who to be the table host?
- Join a table with people you have not yet met?
- Change quickly (3 minutes)
- Table Host welcomes newcomers
- Table Host briefly reports table history
- Table Host to report in plenary meeting
- Table Host submits report to **Canesius Kanagire**





# Suggestions for Great Conversations and Dialogues

- Be here and in the **now**
- Listen together for **insights** and explore
- **Avoid dominance** with your own answers
- Listen reflectively, make **connections**
- Make conversations **joyful, creative** and **inclusive**
- If possible, **visualize** your knowledge and share





## Role of Table hosts (Facilitator)

- Welcomes everyone; and explains the objectives of the session, table conversation or working group meeting or activity
- Make clear that this is (1) to collect new insights on certain challenges or questions; (2) to develop collective knowledge from the wisdom and experience of participants; and (3) etc. etc.
- Explains guiding questions for table conversations, focus area of a working groups, or a scientific session, clinic, workshop, etc.
- Reminds participants on the principles for good dialogues/conversations
- Facilitates by giving good example: listening and not dominating, creates dynamics by raising questions...why, why, why, how, how, how.....?
- Senses what is happening in social-dynamics of the group, energy-level, etc. and where possible intervenes, creates, synergizes or energizes;
- Time monitoring, and following the signs of 'ushers'
- Ensure that a brief report reaches the Chief Facilitator, through Mish Hamid.





# Reporting Suggestions

## Conversation Tables on IW-Governance

July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007

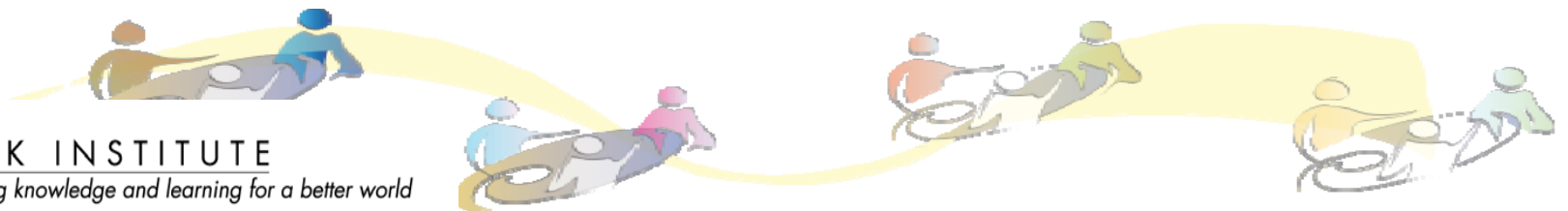
Prepare PPT (by Table Host)

Describe what happened at your table: social dynamics?

Essential answers to Questions 1, 2 and 3?

Anything that deserves special attention by IW-community?

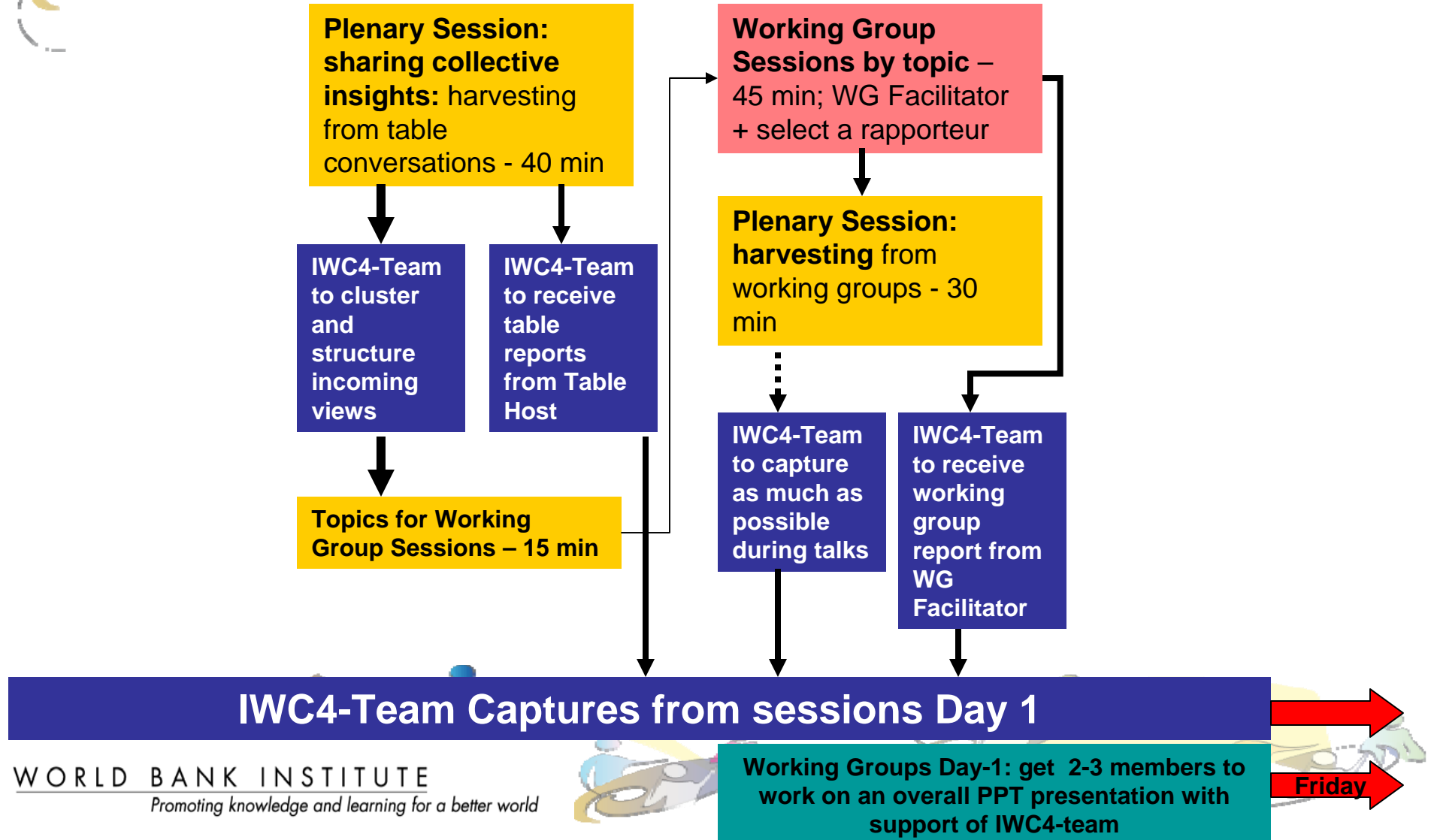
Did anyone suggested collaborative initiatives or follow-up?





# Reporting Process - 1

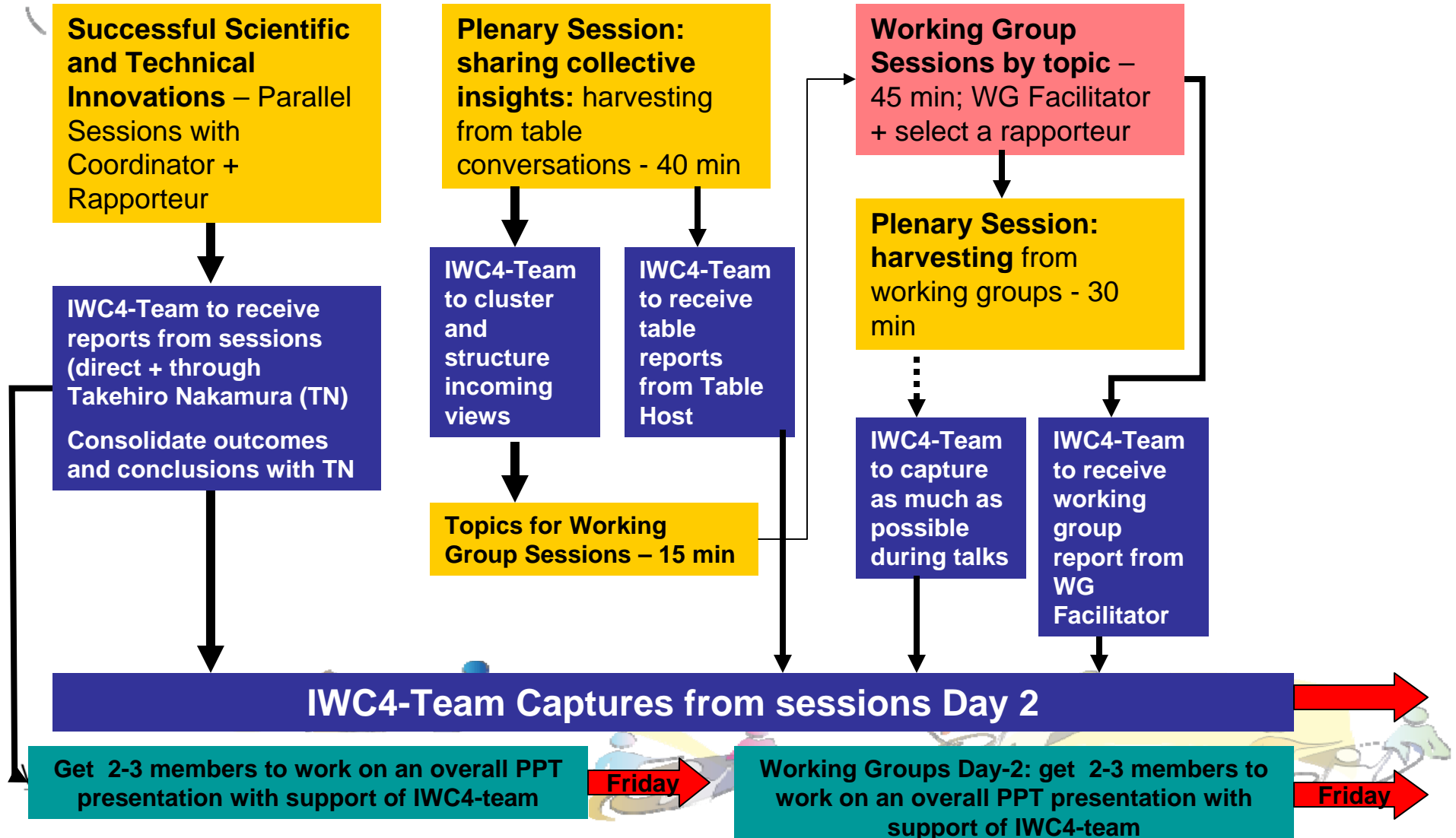
How do we get the essence of all sessions in the “collective IW-pool” ?





# Reporting Process - 2

How do we get the essence of all sessions in the “collective IW-pool” ?





# Reporting Process - 3

How do we get the essence of all sessions in the “collective IW-pool” ?

**Inter-Project Clinics –**  
Parallel Sessions with  
Coordinator +  
Rapporteur

IWC4-Team to receive  
session reports from all  
table facilitators +  
rapporteurs  
  
Consolidate outcomes  
and conclusions with TN

**IWC4-Team Captures from sessions Day 3**

Get 2-3 members to work on an overall PPT  
presentation with support of IWC4-team

**Friday**





# Reporting Process - 4

How do we get the essence of all sessions in the “collective IW-pool” ?

**Participants-Designed Workshops** – Parallel Sessions with Owner + Rapporteur

IWC4-Team to receive session reports from all Owners + rapporteurs  
Consolidate outcomes and conclusions with TN

**IWC4-Team Captures from sessions Day 4**

Get 2-3 members to work on an overall PPT presentation with support of IWC4-team

**Friday**





# Reporting Process – 4-final

How do we get the essence of all sessions in the “collective IW-pool” ?

**Working Group Sessions Day-1**

PPT presentation

**Successful Scientific and Technical Innovations**

PPT Presentation

**The Path Forward**

Plenary Discussions

**Working Group Sessions Day-2**

PPT presentation

**Inter-Project Clinics**

PPT Presentation

**Reflections and Evaluations**

Plenary Discussions

**Participants-Designed Workshops**

PPT presentation

**Closing Remarks**

**IWC4-Team Captures from sessions Day 4**

**IWC4 – Overall Report  
Conclusions and  
Recommendations**