

ASYN- CHRONOUS E-DEBATE



WHAT IT IS

A time-bound debate, related to the learning topic, taking place asynchronously on a chat forum

IDEAL FOR

Creating a community by increasing interaction and adding local perspectives to the table



5-50



1-2 weeks



HOW IT WORKS

The moderator brainstorms a topic for an upcoming e-debate or may consider creating one if groups in a learning series have active discussions during online sessions. E-debates can be about a case study or topical issue, which is then carried out asynchronously on a chat forum hosted on the World Bank Community of Practice forum (CoP).

When the moderator first presents the e-debate in the online session, the issue is introduced, with both sides explained (pro and con). The moderator also explains the CoP forum by sharing their screen and demonstrating how to write a comment. Learners are then encouraged to select aside, with both teams having an equal number of people.

The moderator lists the teams down and displays the following on the e-debate forum:

- The topic that is up for debate (case study topic or question)
- Explanation of both sides: Pro and con
- The learners in each team

Over a 1-2 week period, learners are encouraged to post at least once by contributing to the debate with questions, thoughts, comments, rebuttals, or regional examples. Depending on how strong your community is, you can either have the moderator or 1-2 individuals facilitate the debate.

REQUIREMENTS

Roles:

- 1x moderator

Software:

- World Bank Community of Practice (CoP) forum

INSPIRATION

[1] Tool: [Kialo](#)

[2] Example: [Kialo debate](#)

[3] Article: [Organizing an E-Debate \(World Bank Collaboration for Development\)](#)

ADD ON

Conduct a short survey or live poll to give learners the chance to present their feedback on the e-debate.

preparation

social

opening

input

main

assessment

closure

reflection

follow-up

Disaster Risk Financing
& Insurance Program

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CONCLUDING THE E-DEBATE

The e-debate can conclude when the next online session is about to begin. The facilitator of the debate summarises the key points from each team and can share additional resources, if necessary. The moderator can also spend 10 minutes asking the following questions for learners to discuss and reflect as a group:

- What is it in the other team's position that gives you something to think about?
- What is it in the other team's position that interests or attracts you?
- On a scale from one to ten (one having no value at all, ten being 100% right and unassailable), how would you rate the other team's position? And your own?
- If you didn't rate the other team's position a one and yours a ten, why not?
- Can you imagine a position that might at least partly satisfy both of you?

CONSIDERATION CHECKLIST

- How does the topic of the debate relate to what you wish learners to take away from the online sessions?
- Learning happens when there is a constructive level of disagreement. When choosing a controversial topic, think about how controversial it is and whether this would be an issue for your group.