

Impact Circle

Guidance on implementation

Material:

Pens, Post it's

The Impact Circle provides a framework for analysing a project's stakeholders and impacts.

Individuals or teams identify relevant stakeholders and reflect on both the positive and negative impacts of their project. Participants gain a nuanced understanding of the environmental, social and economic effects and identify opportunities for more sustainable development.

Sample breakdown

5 mins Introduction: Explain the aim, procedure and scale

10 mins Phase 1: Identify stakeholders

20 mins Phase 2: Describe impacts and rate them on a scale of -5 to +5

15 mins Optional: Whole-group discussion

Total duration: 35–50 minutes

Implementation

- > In the beginning the aim and structure of the method are explained. The template is printed out or provided digitally (e.g. via a slide or Miro board).
- > In Phase 1, participants identify the relevant stakeholders or key players in their project. The Impact Circle serves as inspiration here. It can be printed in A3 format or larger, so that stakeholders can be placed directly within the Impact Circle using Post-it notes, providing an even better overview of the stakeholders.
- > In Phase 2, they describe positive or negative impacts and make an initial assessment of the impact's strength on a scale from -5 to +5. This assessment is deliberately intended as a preliminary evaluation and does not replace an in-depth analysis.
- > Optionally, key observations are discussed in a plenary session to highlight commonalities or areas of tension.