Role Play: Getting Comfortable in the Role of Facilitator

Purpose: This activity is intended for new facilitators to help them prepare for a situation they may be concerned about through a role play exercise designed to be conducted in a supportive environment.

Duration: This activity requires 20-60 minutes.

Directions: Convene a group of facilitators. Each participating facilitator should make a list of three situations they are concerned about. Read the situations aloud and as a group pick one scenario to role play. Assign roles and “act out” the issue of concern. Each role play should last no longer than 3-5 minutes. Following the role play, address the questions below. Repeat the process as necessary with different scenarios.

Questions: After each role play, discuss:

1. What were the major issues that posed a facilitation challenge?
2. How did the facilitator try to address the situation?
3. What are some additional strategies that can be used to manage the situation?
4. How could the situation have been handled differently?