

**SOCIAL  
INNOVATION  
COMMUNITY**

# DARE TO ASK

invented by the people of Durf te vragen <https://www.durftevragen.com/>

Complexity: Medium

Time required: 5-10 minutes to explain and min. 1 hour, 6-20 participants

Material required: a pen and a stack of post-its per participant, timer

## **What is it for?**

Dare to Ask is designed to show how much is possible as long as you ask the right question(s), in the right way, to the right people. It's based on the assumption and experience that people are willing to help one another and that we have more to offer each other than we might be aware of. Taking part in a Dare to Ask session demonstrates to participants that they are surrounded by abundant resources: more than one could have ever imagined. The only thing one has to do is to tap into the crowd in a certain way.

In this workshop one participant stands up to pose a 'how' question to the fellow participants. Yet, before the crowd the crowd starts answering the question— the crowd will first collectively and carefully explore the why behind the how. After this round the asker has the chance to reformulate her/his question and properly pose it to the crowd. The round of clarification is a crucial step in formulating a 'how' question that can illicit responses which can propel the asker into the next steps of her/ his aspirations.

Next to harvesting useful information, participants also take home a sense of belonging and the empowering experience of so many people willing to help her/ him.

## **How to use it?**

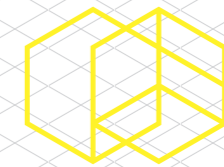
A workshop starts with the facilitator explaining the aim and process of Dare to Ask. Part of this explanation is to stress that the how question should elicit action, concrete tips and/ or help.

Depending on the time available (which is decided before starting the workshop) either some of the participants will have their questions answered or all of them will.

Count on 15 minutes per round, one round will provide answers for the question of one participant.

## **Variations**

In a one hour workshop you will have time for three participants to ask the crowd their questions. A variation of the workshop is to break out into smaller groups after one or two plenary rounds.



The workshop starts with an assignment for all participants:

**1.**  
“Think of something you need, formulate it in a how question and write this 1 question on a post-it.”  
**3 minutes**

**2.**  
One person shares her/his question (the ‘asker’) and explains why this question.  
**2 minutes**

The next part of the workshop is the round where all other participants clarify and provide input for one question (of one participant); this round can be repeated as often as there is time to do so.

**3.**  
Others ask questions to understand the why behind the how, the asker replies very briefly. **Only verifying questions are allowed, no suggestions, criticism etc.**  
**5 minutes**

**4.**  
The asker gets time to change her/ his how question, if she/he deems this necessary, and reads the final question out loud.  
**1 minute**

**5.**  
Others write on post-its help they know/ can offer these can comprise names of organizations or approaches/ methods or contact details etc.  
**5 minutes**

**6.**  
The asker receives all post-its and shares a few of the tips. **The asker is not allowed to criticize any of these.**  
**1 minute**

If time is up, wrap up with a brief moment (1-2 minutes) where everyone can express out loud or in silence gratitude for what has just happened.