

# Networking During Formal Learning

Often in formal learning events, you have opportunities to network with other participants and guests, including senior leaders. These opportunities can provide relaxation, build your people-resource list and give you exposure to members of your organization's leadership team. Use networking time as an "information-seeking journey" where you learn more about others and you share information about yourself. For those who are less experienced at networking, here are a few suggestions:



## Help in Achieving Goals

Identify people you can add to your network to assist in achieving a key project or initiative you may be involved in at work.



## Shared Experiences

Identify senior leaders and guests who have similar backgrounds to you (i.e., studied certain curriculum, worked in similar roles in career, etc.). Identify what was similar and what was different compared to your history.



## Connections to Career Aspirations

Find people in the workshop who could connect you to people who are key influencers and/or in a position to help you in the achievement of your career aspirations.



## Similarities in Working Styles

Identify people who have similar working styles and preferences as you and how this way of working has helped them in their current role (i.e., likes lots of data, enjoys collaborating more than working alone, etc.).

Remember to have something to 'give' in conversations. For instance, share about a resource, tool or article you've found helpful. Be prepared to say a sentence about you, your role and something that you are engaged in such as a project. Always show curiosity about other people and their goals, needs, interests and ways of working. A curious question is a great way to open discussions.

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