

TERMINOLOGY DIVIDE:

A GAME EXPLORING CONFUSING TERMS

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WHY PLAY THIS GAME?

The problems of language and the differing use of terms is a common problem in the climate change field. It is often assumed that everyone interprets a word or phrase in the same way. This creates problems when needing to collectively implement policies or plans. This game will help ensure that everyone knows the appropriate terms within the context and are able to utilise them appropriately.



Time: This game should take 40 - 60 minutes, depending on the level of engagement by participants. It is possible that players may want to engage in long discussions. It is at the discretion of the facilitator as to how long they let the discussions go on for, noting that it is important to make everyone feel like their perspective is valuable and that less than 20 minutes per round is not adequate.



Number of players: This game is designed for 10 - 50 players.



Your kit should contain the following materials:

- Large A4 sheets that each contain one of the confusing terms i.e. Mitigation; Adaptation; Disaster Risk Reduction; Vulnerability; Weather; Climate etc.
- A number (as many or little as you wish) of smaller cards with phrases that link with the overarching confusing term. Some phrases however should not have a clear link or not link at all.
- See below for suggestions for phrases:



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Weather	It is raining today
	There is a 60% chance of thunderstorms
	Humidity
Climate	Temperature will increase by 2 degrees in 30 years
	Over the next 30 years more heat waves will occur
	Precipitation
Adaptation	Food gardens
	Contingency planning
	Vulnerability
Mitigation	Carbon trading
	Greenhouse gases
	Renewable energy plans

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THE GAME

The game consists of as many rounds as you wish. The guidelines are provided below. The group can be divided into smaller groups depending on the number of facilitators. For example, one group can unpack "Climate vs Weather" while another group unpacks "Mitigation vs Adaptation".

Materials & set up:

- Choose two confusing and aligned terms (displayed on the A4 paper) i.e. "Mitigation" for one card and "Adaptation" for the second card;
- Place these sheets at different ends of a table;
- Give each participant two or three smaller cards.

Facilitation process:

1. Set the scene by telling them about the A4 cards

For example: "We have two confusing terms here. One means this.....and the other means this...."

2. Set the scene by telling the players about the 'setting' of the game and their role in it.

For example: "Each of you have two or three smaller cards that each have a phrase that links to one of these words. Some of the smaller cards might be a bit more confusing. You need to each place your cards under one of the terms and tell the group why you have decided this."

Note: You may want to include some cards that can be placed under both terms or may not be applicable

3. Give them a time allocation

Note: 30 minutes is optimal

4. Begin

Note: Observe how the round plays out and manage the time and facilitate discussion. Use the last 10 minutes to discuss any cards that may have been incorrectly placed. Discussion may also take place as each person places their card and, as a result, cards may be moved around as the game progresses.

5. Reflection

Note: Provide some overarching comments, ensuring all understand the terms better.

NOTE: This game can be played multiple times for a number of different terms. The key lesson to get across is that the participants will never be able to all understand the terms in exactly the same way. But what is crucial is to acknowledge that everyone has a different understanding and therefore when communicating and making

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