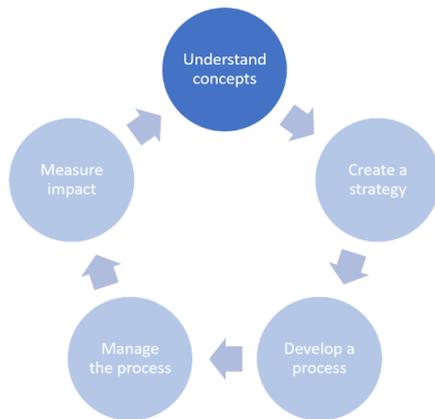


What is collaboration?



Collaboration is an activity that pools skills and resources that the organisation does not have itself, at less cost and/or by sharing risk, to contribute to a shared goal. To be successful, collaboration must be built, sustained, and grown culture-wide within firms and project teams.

Innovation can arise from interactions among people with different skill sets and experiences, who either solve problems or generate ideas that create value. Collaboration is very important to increase the potential for innovation and as such is vital to innovation.

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How do I do it?

At a very high level, you can collaborate successfully by doing the following:

- agree shared intentions
- define a single definition of success
- create a shared level of engagement
- establish common goals by negotiation
- divide the whole task into subtasks
- distribute subtasks to the appropriate people to complete, and finally,
- combine the complete subtasks to get an outcome which is better than you could have achieved by yourself.

Each person should have a clear position within a group and their roles should be related. Each must understand their specific role as well as the overall project vision, a dance that is choreographed by the team's leaders.

Productivity is all about teamwork and how people come together and work together as a team to achieve a common goal. We work in teams every day. We also regularly make and break teams, often without considering the implications of what we're doing. It is this group of people, that you collaborate with, that will ultimately determine the success or failure of your work and so it makes sense to think about how people can work together effectively and how to take advantage of that to successfully manage collaboration for success.

Collaborative management can be broadly seen as the act of working together as a team to accomplish a common goal within a given timeframe.