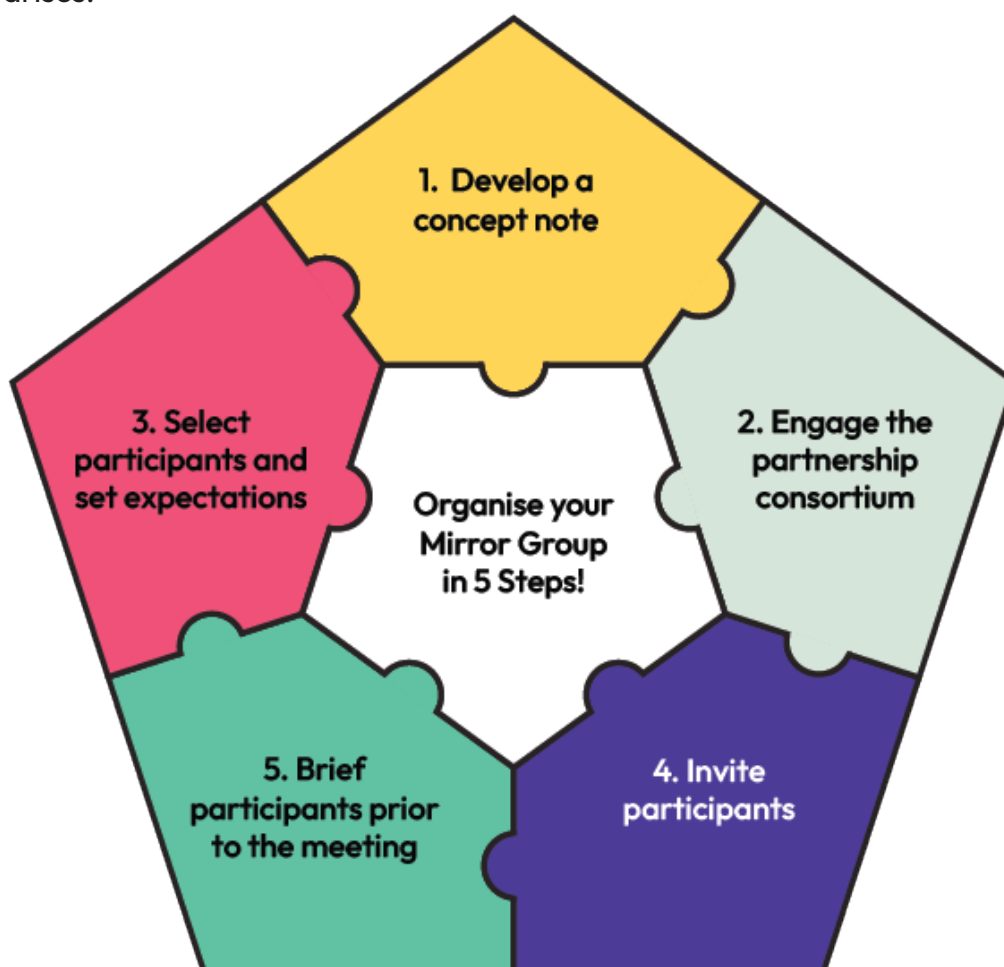


FOODPathS' Mirror Group Guidelines

A 5-step 'how to' guide to organise and facilitate Mirror Groups. The full Mirror Group Guidelines give you access to a detailed, step-wise approach, tips and tricks, templates and best practices for organising engaging and relevant Mirror Group activities.

A mirror group:

- Brings together **organizations and initiatives** that are not directly involved in a partnership but may be **impacted by it** or have **valuable experience** to contribute.
- Provides a platform for participants to **learn about and reflect on** the partnership's work, offering **input and recommendations** to enhance **inclusivity and impact**.
- Acts as a **bridge** between **stakeholders** and **EU partnerships**.
- May lead to **direct participation** in the partnership if no conflict of interest arises.



Mirror Groups Help to:

- Support **member state representatives** in liaising with **national-level actors** for European partnerships.
- Engage **organizations and networks** not directly involved in a partnership but impacted by its work.
- **Include missing perspectives** that are essential for comprehensive decision-making.
- **Recognize and reconcile** different organizational backgrounds, interests, and agendas.
- Improve **collaboration** by fostering mutual understanding and cooperation.
- Facilitate the **sharing of ideas**, development of a **common language**, and agreement on approaches for **sustainable food system (SFS) transformation**.
- **Communicate insights** from various networks (local, regional, national, global) to central organizing structures (e.g., steering committees, advisory boards).
- Help build a **broad, well-informed community** that supports the partnership or project consortium.
- Ensure **information flows outward** from the partnership to affected organizations, such as **member state ministries**.
- Facilitate **multi-level exchanges** between actors across **local, regional, national, EU-wide, and global scales**.

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