



# Joint Learning Journey

A **Joint Learning Journey (JLJ)** is a facilitated, open, question-led learning process. It provides the opportunity, support, and methods in order to enable experts to work together on burning questions. Thus, the JLJ facilitates the co-creation of innovations and solutions for complex challenges.

## How to get started with a JLJ

- The Initiating Participant (IP) drafts a burning question with a facilitator of the Academy for International Cooperation (AIZ)
- They identify other experts to join
- They plan the first workshop
- They invite the potential participants
- They start with the first face to face workshop to plan the learning activities
- They define learning questions and set learning objectives

The three **Stages** in a JLJ will be iterative, reflecting the cyclical nature of organic learning and development:

**Joint** means according to a set competence profile – experts are mandated from diverse organisations, sectors, regions and/or networks with a common interest in a Central Learning Question. They will co-create opportunities for innovative learning. Participants' learning foci and means will determine the planning of starting points, locations, time spans and media for communication.

**Effective facilitation** is critical to the success of a JLJ. JLJ facilitators are expert enablers who ensure that the group maintains the focus on the central concept of collaborative open learning, and the process to achieve set objectives.

**Learning** is essential to achieve sustainable development results as well as the ability to cope with change in complex systems. With the *AIZ Didactic Principles* the participants in the JLJ learn from each other and apply gained competences to working contexts.

**Participants of a JLJ** are experts or experienced practitioners in search of conceptual and experiential peer learning about complex issues that go beyond technical competencies. They need to have passion about finding innovations and solutions for challenging learning questions as well as respect and trust in order to interact with each other. Participants have to be brave to go for and willing to engage with open processes and need to share a common language in order to be able to work together.

**Journey** describes new learning paths that may include exposure to new ideas and environments, while the overall process will certainly go beyond traditional methods to the generation of new learning at an as yet unknown destination.

