

# Making Group Decisions

## *Instructions:*

1. Divide the group into six small groups by counting off from 1 through 6, with each person getting a number.
2. Assign a table for each group, and identify one decision-making strategy for each group.
  - a. Group 1 — Affinity Mapping
  - b. Group 2 — Brainstorming
  - c. Group 3 — Criterion Listing
  - d. Group 4 — Data Dump
  - e. Group 5 — Envision Worst/Best Case
  - f. Group 6 — Nominal Group Process
3. Allow 15 to 20 minutes for small group work. The task is for the small group to discuss how to demonstrate the decision-making strategy for the large group. The demonstration is to be no longer than 5 minutes.
4. Reconvene the large group.
5. Allow each group time to demonstrate its strategy and answer questions about it within the large group.
6. Brainstorm about the value of a facilitator's understanding of how to utilize various decision-making strategies within groups.
7. Ask individuals to reflect about which of the strategies they currently are comfortable leading as a facilitator and which require additional information and practice.

Source: *Facilitation Resources*. Volume 5. Making Group Decisions. (BU-7434-S), University of Minnesota Extension, 2001.