Why apply a system lens to convenings?

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and partners work to achieve a system-level impact. To do this, it is essential to understand the various layers and interactions of the system, including the interests and power dynamics of different stakeholders.

Point of view on convenings

Convening is a powerful tool for bringing together people to discuss and decide on common priorities, share ideas, and take action. The Toolkit is designed to help you understand the different phases of a convening cycle, from planning and design to facilitation and follow-up.

About this toolkit

The Toolkit is divided into 'grazeable' modules. Click on each stage of the convening cycle for more detailed guidance and tools. The modules include tips on how to conduct effective engagements, host inclusive convenings, and sustain momentum.

How to use the toolkit

Tools and guidance on participatory action research, systems thinking, and stakeholder engagement are available in the Toolkit, along with a library of tools, guides, and resources. Whether you are planning, designing, or facilitating a convening, you can find the right tools to support your work.

Case studies

The Toolkit features case studies of successful convenings, including the Rethinking Agricultural Bill in Nigeria, and the Water Management Practices in Ethiopia.

See the Toolkit in Action

The Toolkit has been designed to help you tackle practical challenges in your work, regardless of your sector or location. To view the Toolkit in action, visit the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation website.